Senate File 2327 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2327
BY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2232)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the publication and contents of minutes of
- 2 meetings of city councils and county boards of supervisors.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 1 Section 1. Section 331.504, subsection 1, Code 2009, is
- 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 l. Record the proceedings of the board. The In addition
- 4 to information that is required to be included under other
- 5 provisions of the Code, the minutes of the board shall include
- 6 a all of the following:
- 7 a. A record of all actions taken and the complete text of
- 8 the motions, resolutions, amendments, and ordinances adopted
- 9 by the board. Upon the request of a supervisor present at a
- 10 meeting, the minutes shall include a record of the vote of each
- 11 supervisor on any question before the board. The minutes shall
- 12 show the results of each vote taken and information sufficient
- 13 to indicate the vote of each member present.
- 14 b. Whether the meeting was a regular, adjourned, or special
- 15 meeting.
- 16 c. The date, location, starting time, and ending time of the
- 17 meeting.
- 18 d. The names of the members of the board who were present
- 19 at the meeting and the names of the members who were excused or
- 20 absent from the meeting.
- 21 e. Whether the minutes from the previous meeting were
- 22 approved as read or approved as corrected. If a correction
- 23 is made in the text of the minutes being approved, such
- 24 corrected minutes shall be furnished by the auditor in their
- 25 entirety within one week for publication in the newspaper which
- 26 published the original minutes.
- 27 f. A description of all issues addressed by the board
- 28 or raised before the board, including a list of the names
- 29 of persons who addressed the board on such issues. Matters
- 30 discussed in closed session pursuant to section 21.5 shall not
- 31 be published until entered on the public minutes.
- 32 Sec. 2. Section 372.13, subsection 6, Code Supplement 2009,
- 33 is amended to read as follows:
- 34 6. a. Within fifteen days following a regular or special
- 35 meeting of the council, the clerk shall cause the minutes of

- 1 the proceedings of the council, including the total expenditure
- 2 from each city fund, to be published in a newspaper of general
- 3 circulation in the city. In addition to information that is
- 4 required to be included under other provisions of the Code,
- 5 the minutes of the proceedings shall include the following
- 6 information:
- 7 (1) Whether the meeting was a regular or special meeting.
- 8 (2) The date, location, starting time, and ending time of
- 9 the meeting.
- 10 (3) The names of the members of the council who were present
- 11 at the meeting and the names of the members who were excused or
- 12 absent from the meeting.
- 13 (4) Whether the minutes of the proceedings from the previous
- 14 meeting were approved as read or approved as corrected.
- 15 If a correction is made in the text of the minutes of the
- 16 proceedings being approved, the clerk shall furnish such
- 17 corrected minutes in their entirety within one week for
- 18 publication in the newspaper which published the original
- 19 minutes.
- 20 (5) A description of all issues addressed by the council
- 21 or raised before the council, including a list of the names
- 22 of persons who addressed the council on such issues. Matters
- 23 discussed in closed session pursuant to section 21.5 shall not
- 24 be published until entered on the public minutes.
- 25 (6) A record of all actions taken and the complete text of
- 26 the motions, resolutions, amendments, and ordinances adopted by
- 27 the council. The minutes shall show the results of each vote
- 28 taken and information sufficient to indicate the vote of each
- 29 member present.
- 30 b. The publication under paragraph "a" shall include a
- 31 list of all claims allowed and a summary of all receipts and
- 32 shall show the gross amount of the claims. The list of claims
- 33 allowed shall show the name of the person or firm making
- 34 the claim, the reason for the claim, and the amount of the
- 35 claim. If the reason for the claims is the same, two or more

- 1 claims made by the same vendor, supplier, or claimant may be
- 2 consolidated if the number of claims consolidated and the
- 3 total consolidated claim amount are listed in the statement.
- 4 However, the city shall provide at its office upon request an
- 5 unconsolidated list of all claims allowed. Matters discussed
- 6 in closed session pursuant to section 21.3 shall not be
- 7 published until entered on the public minutes.
- 8 c. However, in In cities having more than one hundred fifty
- 9 thousand population, the council shall each month print in
- 10 pamphlet form a detailed itemized statement of all receipts and
- 11 disbursements of the city, and a summary of its proceedings
- 12 during the preceding month, and furnish copies to the city
- 13 library, the daily newspapers of the city, and to persons who
- 14 apply at the office of the city clerk, and the pamphlet shall
- 15 constitute publication as required. Failure by the clerk to
- 16 make publication is a simple misdemeanor.
- 17 d. The provisions of this subsection are applicable in
- 18 cities in which a newspaper is published, or in cities of
- 19 two hundred population or over, but in all other cities,
- 20 posting the statement in three public places in the city which
- 21 have been permanently designated by ordinance is sufficient
- 22 compliance with this subsection.
- 23 EXPLANATION
- 24 This bill amends provisions relating to the contents and
- 25 publication requirements for minutes of meetings of city
- 26 councils and county boards of supervisors.
- 27 The bill requires the minutes of the meetings of a city
- 28 council or a county board of supervisors to include whether the
- 29 meeting was a regular or special meeting, the date, location,
- 30 starting time, and ending time of the meeting, the names of the
- 31 members who were present at the meeting and the names of the
- 32 members who were excused or absent from the meeting, whether
- 33 the minutes of the proceedings from the previous meeting were
- 34 approved as read or approved as corrected, a description of all
- 35 issues addressed or raised during the meeting, and a list of

- 1 the names of persons who spoke on such issues.
- 2 The bill requires the minutes of the proceedings of a city
- 3 council to include a record of all actions taken and the
- 4 complete text of the motions, resolutions, amendments, and
- 5 ordinances adopted by the council. Under current law, county
- 6 boards of supervisors have a similar requirement. The bill
- 7 also requires that minutes of county boards of supervisors
- 8 and city councils show the results of each vote taken and
- 9 information sufficient to indicate the vote of each member
- 10 present. Under current law applicable to county boards of
- 11 supervisors, such information is only included upon request of
- 12 a member.
- 13 The bill provides that if a correction is made in the text of
- 14 the minutes being approved by a city council or a county board
- 15 of supervisors, such corrected minutes must be furnished in
- 16 their entirety within one week for publication in the newspaper
- 17 which published the original minutes.