

Ordinance No. 2021-001 \_\_\_\_\_

An Ordinance Establishing the Stookey Township Board Electronic Attendance Rules

Whereas, Stookey Township, St. Clair County, Illinois is a non-home rule unit of local government pursuant to Article 5 & 8 of the 1970 Illinois Constitution;

Whereas, the Board of Trustees has determined that it must comply with Section 7 of OMA (5 ILCS 120/7) by passage of this ordinance which supersedes the previous ordinance adopted 11/20/17;

Whereas, Section 7 of OMA (5 ILCS 120/7) specifically provides that members of a public body may attend a meeting by means other than by being physically present in the meeting room. This section expressly authorizes public bodies to permit attendance at meetings by video or audio conference, but only in limited circumstances. To allow a member of a public body to attend a meeting other than by being physically present in the meeting room, the public body and the member seeking to attend by other means must meet certain statutory requirements a) Public Body must adopt rules and b) A quorum must be physically present at the meeting.

If an elected official member is prevented from physically attending because of one of the following reasons:

- personal illness or disability;
- employment purposes or the business of the public body; or
- a family or other emergency

then they may attend the regularly scheduled or special board meeting by electronic means (landline, cellular or video conferencing 5 ILCS 120/7(a).) and vote as long as there is a quorum of the members of the public body physically present at the location where the meeting is to be conducted. If one of the above conditions exists, then the elected official shall contact the Township Clerk or Supervisor at least 2 hours prior to the meeting to ensure that electronic means are made available at the meeting location.

In addition, OMA does not require that citizens be allowed to attend meetings or address public officials remotely.

Now, therefore, be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of Stookey Township, St. Clair County, Illinois, that the following ordinance to Establish the Stookey Township Board Electronic Attendance Rules for the Board of Trustees be hereby adopted:

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Passed by the Stookey Township Board of Trustees this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021

AYES 5

NAYS \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN/ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_



Township Clerk

Passed and Approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021



Township Supervisor