

State of Wisconsin



1995 Assembly Bill 261

Date of enactment: April 3, 1996
Date of publication*: April 17, 1996

1995 WISCONSIN ACT 185

AN ACT to amend 19.82 (2); and to create 60.50 (6) and 60.77 (5) (k) of the statutes; relating to: the definition of "meeting" under the open meetings law.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 19.82 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

19.82 (2) "Meeting" means the convening of members of a governmental body for the purpose of exercising the responsibilities, authority, power or duties delegated to or vested in the body. If one-half or more of the members of a governmental body are present, the meeting is rebuttably presumed to be for the purpose of exercising the responsibilities, authority, power or duties delegated to or vested in the body. The term does not include any social or chance gathering or conference which is not intended to avoid this subchapter, any gathering of the members of a town board for the purpose specified in s. 60.50 (6), any gathering of the commissioners of a town sanitary district for the purpose specified in s. 60.77 (5) (k) or any gathering of the members of a drainage board created under s. 88.16, 1991 stats., or under s. 88.17, for a purpose specified in s. 88.065 (5) (a).

SECTION 2. 60.50 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

60.50 (6) INSPECTIONS. Gather at the site of a public works project or a highway, street or alley project that has been approved by the town board for the sole purpose of

inspecting the work that has been completed or that is in progress if, before gathering at the site, the chairperson of the board or the chairperson's designee notifies by telephone or facsimile transmission those news media who have filed a written request for notice of such inspections in relation to that project and if the chairperson of the board or the chairperson's designee submits at the next board meeting a report that describes the inspection. The board may not take any official action at the inspection site.

SECTION 3. 60.77 (5) (k) of the statutes is created to read:

60.77 (5) (k) Gather at the site of a public works project that has been approved by the commission for the sole purpose of inspecting the work that has been completed or that is in progress if, before gathering at the site, the president of the commission or the president's designee notifies by telephone or facsimile transmission those news media who have filed a written request for notice of such inspections in relation to that project and if the president of the commission or the president's designee submits at the next commission meeting a report that describes the inspection. The commission may not take any official action at the inspection site.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1993-94: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].