

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 832

By:Guthrie

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act; amending 25 O.S. 2021, Section 304, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 237, O.S.L. 2024 (25 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 304), which relates to definitions; adding deputy county commissioners to definition of public body; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 25 O.S. 2021, Section 304, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 237, O.S.L. 2024 (25 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 304), is amended to read as follows:

Section 304. As used in the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act:

1. "Public body" means the governing bodies of all municipalities located within this state, boards of county commissioners of the counties in this state, including deputy commissioners, boards of public and higher education in this state and all boards, bureaus, commissions, agencies, trusteeships, authorities, councils, committees, public trusts or any entity created by a public trust including any committee or subcommittee composed of any of the members of a public trust or other legal

1 entity receiving funds from the Rural Economic Action Plan Fund as  
2 authorized by Section 2007 of Title 62 of the Oklahoma Statutes,  
3 task forces or study groups in this state supported in whole or in  
4 part by public funds or entrusted with the expending of public  
5 funds, or administering public property, and shall include all  
6 committees or subcommittees of any public body. Public body shall  
7 not include the state judiciary, the Council on Judicial Complaints  
8 when conducting, discussing, or deliberating any matter relating to  
9 a complaint received or filed with the Council, the Legislature, or  
10 administrative staffs of public bodies including, but not limited  
11 to, faculty meetings and athletic staff meetings of institutions of  
12 higher education when those staffs are not meeting with the public  
13 body, or entry-year assistance committees. Furthermore, public body  
14 shall not include the multidisciplinary teams provided for in  
15 Section 1-9-102 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, in Section  
16 10-115 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes, and in subsection C of  
17 Section 1-502.2 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes or any school  
18 board meeting for the sole purpose of considering recommendations of  
19 a multidisciplinary team and deciding the placement of any child who  
20 is the subject of the recommendations. Furthermore, public body  
21 shall not include meetings conducted by stewards designated by the  
22 Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission pursuant to Section 203.4 of Title  
23 3A of the Oklahoma Statutes when the stewards are officiating at  
24 races or otherwise enforcing rules of the Commission. Furthermore,

1 public body shall not include the board of directors of a Federally  
2 Qualified Health Center or the postadjudication review boards  
3 provided for in Sections 1116.2 and 1116.3 of Title 10 of the  
4 Oklahoma Statutes;

5 2. "Meeting" means the conduct of business of a public body by  
6 a majority of its members being personally together or, as  
7 authorized by Section 307.1 of this title, together pursuant to a  
8 videoconference. Meeting shall not include informal gatherings of a  
9 majority of the members of the public body when no business of the  
10 public body is discussed;

11 3. "Regularly scheduled meeting" means a meeting at which the  
12 regular business of the public body is conducted;

13 4. "Special meeting" means any meeting of a public body other  
14 than a regularly scheduled meeting or emergency meeting;

15 5. "Emergency meeting" means any meeting called for the purpose  
16 of dealing with an emergency. For purposes of the Oklahoma Open  
17 Meeting Act, an emergency is defined as a situation involving injury  
18 to persons or injury and damage to public or personal property or  
19 immediate financial loss when the time requirements for public  
20 notice of a special meeting would make such procedure impractical  
21 and increase the likelihood of injury or damage or immediate  
22 financial loss;

23 6. "Continued or reconvened meeting" means a meeting which is  
24 assembled for the purpose of finishing business appearing on an  
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1 agenda of a previous meeting. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Open  
2 Meeting Act, only matters on the agenda of the previous meeting at  
3 which the announcement of the continuance is made may be discussed  
4 at a continued or reconvened meeting;

5 7. "Videoconference" means a conference among members of a  
6 public body remote from one another who are linked by interactive  
7 telecommunication devices or technology and/or technology permitting  
8 both visual and auditory communication between and among members of  
9 the public body and/or between and among members of the public body  
10 and members of the public. During any videoconference, both the  
11 visual and auditory communications functions shall attempt to be  
12 utilized; and

13 8. "Teleconference" means a conference among members of a  
14 public body remote from one another who are linked by  
15 telecommunication devices and/or technology permitting auditory  
16 communication between and among members of the public body and/or  
17 between and among members of the public body and members of the  
18 public.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.  
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