

**SCIO TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RES #2021-21
RESOLUTION TO RESUME IN-PERSON TOWNSHIP MEETINGS**

June 22, 2021

At a Regular Meeting of the Township Board of Scio Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held via Zoom, on the 22nd day of June 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hathaway, Palmer, Flintoft, Courteau, Jerome, Knol.

Members Absent: Vogel.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Clerk Flintoft, and supported by Trustee Knol.

WHEREAS, the Scio Township Board of Trustees has been meeting remotely as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the lifting of restrictions by state and county authorities and the widespread vaccination of members of the community make in-person meetings feasible for some Township residents; and

WHEREAS, in February 2021 the Board of Trustees recognized that it would not be safe for all Township residents to attend public meetings for a long time if ever; and that the pandemic has taught us that remote participation in meetings have benefits in terms of promoting transparent decision making and encouragement of public participation; and

WHEREAS, in February 2021 the Board of Trustees authorized investment of \$25,000 to allow for effective, hybrid meetings and/or in-person meetings with remote participation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined that in-person meetings will benefit both the board and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Open Meetings Act authorizes members of a public body to participate remotely if they are on actively deployed military duty or if they declare that they have a medical condition, through December 31, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Open Meetings Act further authorizes members of a public body to participate remotely *for any reason* during a statewide or local state of emergency such as that in effect in Washtenaw County through December 31, 2021;

WHEREAS, nothing in the Michigan Open Meetings Act has ever prohibited the public from participating remotely; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees respects the self determination of residents to decide how they shall participate in our Township governance, including participation of meetings;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Scio Township Board of Trustees determines to resume in-person meetings commencing July 1, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any member of the board may participate remotely as authorized by the Michigan Open Meetings Act, and any member of the public may participate remotely as provided for through Township procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Schedule of Meetings shall be amended to show that all Board of Trustee meetings will be held at the Scio Township Hall unless otherwise determined and posted.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees encourages other public bodies of the Township to resume in-person public meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and state regulations beginning August 1, 2021 and directs the Clerk to issue model procedures for adoption by each committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

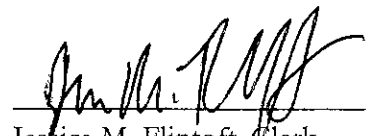
AYES: Hathaway, Palmer, Flintoft, Courteau, Knol.

NAYS: Jerome.

ABSENT: Vogel.

ABSTAIN: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Jessica M. Flintoft, Clerk
Scio Township

DATED: June 22, 2021