Chapter 54 - ROADS AND BRIDGES

ARTICLE I  IN GENERAL

Sec. 54-1  Excavation or Construction
It shall be unlawful for any person to make any excavation in, or do any construction on or over, any street or highway which is under the jurisdiction of the County Board without filing a performance bond conditioned on the restoration or repair of such street or highway to its original condition with the County Engineer. Such bond shall be in such amount as is estimated by the County Engineer to be reasonably necessary to pay for the restoration or repair of such street or highway.

(Code 1979, § 18-2)

Secs. 54-2—54-25  Reserved

ARTICLE II  CULVERTS

DIVISION 1  GENERALLY

Sec. 54-26  Installation Expense
All culverts or crossings along an existing County highway or street where there is a ditch and related appurtenance shall be installed at the expense of the applicant for the permit required in this article.

(Code 1979, § 18-16)

Sec. 54-27  Maintenance
The County will maintain and replace when necessary all culverts or crossings along County highways or streets where there is a ditch that were installed before April 20, 1977, and all such culverts or crossings that are approved by the County pursuant to this article.

(Code 1979, § 18-17)

Sec. 54-28  Interpretation; Scope
This article shall not restrict any municipality or the County in any alteration, extension or installation that is beneficial to the general public, nor does this article govern the installation of entrances in connection with the construction or reconstruction of a section of a County highway.

(Code 1979, § 18-18)

Secs. 54-29—54-40  Reserved
DIVISION 2   PERMIT

Sec. 54-41   Required
No person shall construct, build, establish or maintain culverts or crossings along an existing County
highway or street where there is a ditch without first having obtained a written permit to do so from the
County Highway Department.

(Code 1979, § 18-26)

Sec. 54-42   Application
Applications for the permit required in this division shall be made in writing upon forms furnished by the
County highway department. The application shall contain the location, type of entrance, a sketch
description showing length, size and elevation in relation to the edge of the highway and other information
as required in the form.

(Code 1979, § 18-27)

Sec. 54-43   Fee
An application for the permit required in this division shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of
$5.00.

(Code 1979, § 18-28)

Sec. 54-44   Approval Procedure
A. An application will be approved and the required permit issued or rejected by the County Engineer
within five days after application is made under this division.
B. Application shall be approved and permits issued where the following requirements are met:
   1. The application is properly filled out.
   2. The application is not in conflict with Chapter 58 of this Code.
   3. The application meets the requirements of the state department of transportation's Standard
      Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.
   4. The application meets the specifications set out in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
   5. The entrance culvert referred to in the application will not cause any unsafe condition with regard
to the traffic flow.

(Code 1979, § 18-29)

Sec. 54-45   Appeals
An appeal to the County Board's Highway Committee may be made by any person aggrieved by a
decision of the County Engineer under this division in accordance with state statutes and the following:

1. An application for an appeal shall be filed with the County Clerk within 20 days of the date of the
   action from which the appeal is being filed; thereafter the County Clerk shall forward such application
to the Committee for processing. The County Clerk shall forward to the County Engineer a notice of
   appeal specifying the grounds thereof, and he shall forthwith transmit to the Committee all the papers
   constituting the record upon which the action appealed from was taken.
2. The Committee shall fix a reasonable time for the hearing of the appeal and give due notice thereof to the parties and decide the same within a reasonable time. Upon the hearing, any party may appear in person or by agent or attorney. The Committee, by a majority vote of those present, may affirm or may reverse wholly or partly, or may modify the decision, and to that end shall have all the powers of the office from whom the appeal was taken.

(Code 1979, § 18-30)

Secs. 54-46—54-55   Reserved

ARTICLE III   HOUSE NUMBERING

Sec. 54-56   System Adopted
There is hereby established for this County a system of rural house numbering, based on the section-line identification, requiring each owner of property located in the unincorporated parts of the County to place an identifying number on his residence, business or other main building and, in some cases, at the driveway leading thereto from the public road.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 1, 3-20-1991)

Sec. 54-57   Purposes
It is the purpose of the house numbers to:

1. Facilitate the rendering of fire and police protection and assistance and the giving of medical aid in case of accident or other need, thus promoting the public health, safety and general welfare of the users of the highway and citizens of the County.

2. Expedite the delivery of merchandise, fuel and mail and the servicing and repair of farm, business and home utilities and equipment.

3. Make possible the gradual development of more efficient methods of keeping business and public records relating to rural property, residents and business.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 1, 3-20-1991)

Sec. 54-58. - Establishment of Zero Base Lines and Grid System
To provide a Countywide system of reference for numbering houses in the rural area, zero base lines shall be established and accordingly all section lines established by government land surveys shall be designated through numeric identification as follows:

1. The south County Line shall be designated as one zero base line from which all parallel east-west section lines shall establish for reference a grid system indicating a relative distance north from the immediately aforementioned zero base line and/or section lines.

2. The north-south section lines forming the western boundary of the County shall be designated as zero base lines from which all parallel north-south section lines shall establish for reference a grid system indicating a distance east from the immediately aforementioned zero base lines and/or section lines.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 2, 3-20-1991)
Sec. 54-59  Rural House Numbering System

In the unincorporated parts of the County the following rules shall govern the house numbers to be used on the principal buildings, driveways and potential land division:

1. Nine hundred ninety-nine house numbers shall be available for assignment and use within each section of land or mile, along either an east-west or north-south road or highway.

2. Diagonal and curved roads and highways or major sections thereof shall be determined by the Administrator to be either north-and-south or east-and-west depending on whether the general direction is more nearly one or the other and whether logical continuity is maintained.

3. Odd numbers shall be used on the north, west and northwest sides of highways.

4. Even numbers shall be used on the south, east and southeast sides of highways.

5. To the north of the zero base line described above in section 54-58, house numbering on the north-and-south highways shall run from south to north.

6. To the east of the zero base lines described above in section 54-58, house numbering on the east-and-west highways shall run from west to east.

7. The house numbers shall be apportioned by the Administrator according to distances measured at right angles from the section lines, making such variations as may be necessary in the case of irregular fractional sections.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 3, 3-20-1991)

Sec. 54-60  Erection of Numbers

When notified by notice published in the newspapers of the County, owners or occupants of buildings in the unincorporated parts of the County shall furnish, erect and maintain the house number identifying their properties. Numerals shall be at least four inches high and be mounted on the main building in a manner visible from the highway or at the driveway entrance in a location visible from the highway. The house number shall be displayed on each highway mailbox. The number on a mailbox which adjoins a driveway entrance shall be considered as also marking the entrance.


Sec. 54-61  Use by Public Officials

Wherever practicable, rural house numbers along with highway names or numbers may be used in the operation of and record keeping by the County planning department, County highway department, assessor, sheriff, state police, state division of highways, local fire protection districts, townships, civilian defense officials and other agencies operating in the County.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 5, 3-20-1991)

Sec. 54-62  Exceptions

Where the Administrator finds that an unincorporated area is wholly or partly surrounded by, or is closely related to, one or more municipalities and would be best served by the use of adjoining municipal house numbering, an exception from the use of the rural house numbers may be granted.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 6, 3-20-1991)
Sec. 54-63 Post Offices
The post offices established by federal authorities for the delivery of rural mail may be used in connection with rural house numbering and road names.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 7, 3-20-1991)

Sec. 54-64 Administration
The County Planning Director shall be the Administrator of this article and the rural house numbering system.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 8, 3-20-1991)

Sec. 54-65 Provisions Deemed Permissive Authority
It is intended by this article to provide an official system of house numbering which may be adopted by any municipal corporation within the County at the discretion of the authorities of such corporation. The adoption of this article by the County Board does not imply that the regulations will be imposed upon any municipal corporation, but shall be considered permissive authority to guide the establishment of such a system by those municipal corporations desiring to use it.

(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 9, 3-20-1991)