

## Chapter 51 – HOUSE NUMBERING

### Sec. 51-1 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. 51-2 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. 51-3 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 sections 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. 51-4 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. 51-5 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.

*(Ord. No. 1991-12, § 4, 3-20-1991; Ord. No. 1992-13, 5-20-1992)*

### **Sec. 51-6 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. 51-7 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. 51-8 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. 51-9 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. 51-10 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)*