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DAVIS COUNTY HOME RULE ORDINANCE NO. 8

TITLE

**Uniform Rural Address System Ordinance of Davis County,  
Iowa**

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of Davis County,  
Iowa:

**SECTION 1**

Purpose. This ordinance mandates the use of a uniform address system for residents of Davis County not otherwise included within the address system of an incorporated town or city, in order to facilitate ease of location of residents in emergency and non-emergency circumstances, and to promote the convenience, safety and general welfare of those residents. Civil and criminal penalties are provided for failure or refusal to comply.

**SECTION 2**

Definitions. For use in this ordinance, the terms or words shall be interpreted or defined as follows:

1. "Person" shall mean any individual, corporation, partnership, unincorporated association, or other entity.
2. "Subdivision" shall mean the division of a tract of land into separate lots or parcels for the purpose of transfer of ownership or building development.
3. "Building" shall mean a roofed and/or walled structure built for permanent use.
4. "Base Map" shall mean the map or computer program used by the agency coordinating the uniform address system in Davis County. Such map or program shall indicate all addresses in Davis County subject to the provisions of this ordinance.
5. "Coordinator" shall be an individual appointed by the Davis County Board of Supervisors.

**SECTION 3**

Establishment of Ordinance. The Board shall, and

does, by this ordinance, establish the street and avenue type of uniform address system to be used for Davis County. Specifics of establishment of initial street names and house or structure numbers are as stated in Section 9 hereafter.

#### **SECTION 4**

Implementation of system. The Board shall direct the Coordinator to:

1. Verify the accuracy of the base map that shall be used in the assignment of addresses.
2. Make necessary corrections and updates to the base map.
3. Assign addresses in accordance with the system selected by the Board.
4. Purchase sign assembly materials which meet specification, including numbering materials, established by the Davis County E911 Board and Davis County, Iowa.
5. Develop, print, and make available rural reference maps.
6. Notify post offices, rural emergency providers and other such providers of similar service to persons not otherwise included within the address system of an incorporated town or city, dispatchers, emergency vehicles, and county offices, located in adjacent counties whereby districts overlap into Davis County, of the effective date of the system and the address assignments.
7. Notify all residents affected by this mandatory system, by publication and posting, of all requirements and information needed to properly use the system.
8. Distribute the markers.

#### **SECTION 5**

Road Markers. The Coordinator, with the assistance of the County Engineer, shall supervise the installation of road identification markers at each road intersection in Davis County whereby the provisions of this ordinance apply.

#### **SECTION 6**

House Numbers. Davis County E911 Board will provide for every person owning, controlling, occupying, or using any residence situated on premises fronting any

public way as provided in Section 4, a permanent marker on such premises indicating the assigned number. Any house number existing at the time the provisions of this ordinance take effect, and that is different than the newly assigned number, shall be removed at the time the new number is installed.

The permanent residence marker with the house number affixed shall be placed in a visible location at the right of way line of all roads where the right of way dimension from road centerline to edge of right of way is 40 feet or less. The permanent residence marker shall be placed in a visible location on County road right of way no more than 60 feet from the roadway centerline in locations where the road right of way is greater than 40 feet from the road centerline to the edge of the right of way. In all placements, the marker shall be readily visible from the center line of the road, and upon marker placement, the property owner shall be responsible for continuously maintaining the visibility of the marker. The sign maintenance that the residence owner is responsible for includes but is not limited to keeping weeds cut around the sign and keeping snow shoveled away from the sign.

It is the property owners responsibility to replace signs that are stolen or damaged to the point of not being readable as determined by the coordinator.

Resident markers shall be placed on the right side of the driveway as one enters the driveway from the public road and it shall also be no more than 10 feet from the driveway. ( Exceptions to this rule shall be approved by the coordinator ) The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to accessory buildings, but may apply to such buildings located on a separate unit of frontage if requested by the owner and approved by the coordinator.

Structures to which this ordinance applies, which are situated on cul-de-sacs and private driveways, or other non-conventional lanes and roadways, shall have a permanent marker for each applicable structure address, at that location, on the entrance to the premise grounds that is most compatible and most conspicuous, considering the policy for otherwise

uniform placement and installation of permanent markers with house numbers.

#### **SECTION 7**

Maintenance of Uniform Rural Address System. The Coordinator or his designee shall be responsible for the enforcement and maintenance of the Uniform Rural Address System in Davis County. These duties shall include assignment of all new addresses, providing markers for new addresses, providing replacement markers, replace street markers as needed, and other system maintenance work as needed.

#### **SECTION 8**

New structures. Every person erecting a residence or other structure, as set forth under the provisions of Section 6 of this ordinance, but after the date the Uniform Rural Addressing System becomes effective shall, within 7 (seven) days of commencement of construction, notify the Coordinator or his representative who shall, within fourteen days, assign a number to such structure.

#### **SECTION 9**

##### **STREET NAMES AND HOUSE NUMBERS\***

1. Street names designated. In general, the roads and streets of the County shall hereafter be designated by the following names:
  - (1) Davis County hereby adopts the " State of Iowa, Division of Communications Uniform Street naming and property numbering system procedure manual, (P/W/COM23.USNS.1)" as the official guideline for establishing street names and addresses with the following clarifications.
    - (a) East/west streets are numbered and designated streets with the Wapello/Davis County line road being 100th Street and first section line south being 110th Street and roads in between numbered by proportion.
    - (b) North/South streets are given a name of natural earth element names such as trees, vegetation, and minerals and designated as an Avenue. The Avenues are established by alphabetical order starting at the west edge of the County with avenue names starting with "A" in the first mile, "B" in the second mile, "C" in the third mile and so on.

- (c) Diagonal roads are to be designated Boulevards (Blvd).
  - (d) Roads designated as Trails" are meandering roads.
  - (e) Other roads will correspond to the numbering system when possible.
- (3) All street names designated shall be, and are established immediately as shown on the official base map maintained by the Coordinator, and as coordinated by the County Engineer Office.
- (4) The Davis County Board of Supervisors continue to have final authority for all street names and addressing decisions in the County, unincorporated towns, and rural subdivisions.
2. Changing Street or Road Names. Street or road names may only be changed by the request for road name change submitted to the Davis County Board of Supervisors, on the recommendation of the Coordinator, or County Engineer. The Board of Supervisors retain authority on all road name and address decisions.
3. Residential and Building Numbering System. the numbering system for residence and other buildings to which this ordinance is determined to apply, to the extent such numbers are assigned and shown by the official base map is adopted and confirmed. Designation of new addresses and duties associated herewith are delegated to the Coordinator or his designee consistent with other sections of this ordinance. Address designation within new rural subdivisions shall be those assigned by Resolution of the Board of Supervisors on recommendation of the Coordinator, or the County Engineer.

#### **SECTION 10**

Penalty Refusal to use the Uniform Rural Address system, or the removal, damaging, defacing, alteration, or destruction of the Uniform Rural Addressing Marker, which indicates a premises' assigned number, or the removal, damaging, alteration, or destruction of a rural address marker, including road markers, posts, or accessories, intentionally by one who has no right to do so, is a simple misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00 or by

imprisonment of not more than 30 days. In addition, any violation of this section shall be a county infraction which is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00 for each violation or if the infraction is a repeat offense, a civil penalty not exceeding \$200.00 for each repeat offense. The above is not intended as an exclusive remedy, nor is it pre-emptive of sign and marker destruction, punishable by a more serious penalty.

**SECTION 11**

Repealer All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 12**

Severability Clause. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 13**

When effective. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

**SECTION 14**

Publication, Hearing, Approval, and Filing of:  
Rules governing the Uniform Rural Address System  
within the area of Davis County, Iowa.

Public hearing notice published on JUNE 23, 1999  
Public hearing on July 6, 1999 at Courthouse  
and ~~on~~ SECOND READING at WAIVED  
and on THIRD READING at WAIVED  
Board of Supervisors approval on July 6, 1999

Jim Bailey  
Jim Bailey, Chairman

Max Leyda  
Max Leyda

Max Proctor  
Max Proctor

Attest:

Goldie Rysdam  
Goldie Rysdam, Davis County Auditor

<sup>Supervisors</sup>  
Filed in ~~County Home Rule~~  
<sup>Minutes</sup> Ordinance Book No. 12 Pages 520-521

Publication of full text on July 21, 1999  
Bloomfield Democrat