

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING WITH VILLAGE CLERKS AND BOARDS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
MEETING ROOM #113
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998
12 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Linda Steinman, Chair
Kathy Campbell
Bernie Heier
Larry Hudkins

Commissioners Absent: Steve Svoboda

Others Absent: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Judy Adams, Lincoln Action Program
Julie Righter, 911 Emergency Center
Duane Austria, Deputy County Attorney
Mike DeKalb, Planning Department
Logan Christy, Planning Department
Jim Langtry, County Engineering Department
Larry Worrell, County Engineering Department
Chuck Zimmerman, Building & Safety Department
Rodger Harris, Building & Safety Department
Don Williams, U.S. Postal Service
Larry Loseke, U.S. Postal Service
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

Village Clerks and
Board Representatives: Buffy Cornish, Bennet Clerk
Charlotte TeBrink, Denton Clerk
Gene Melichar, Emerald Board
Paul TenHulzen, Firth Board
Craig Anderson, Hallam Board
Annette Hord, Hickman Clerk
Everett Nissen, Raymond Board
Bruce Mahler, Sprague Board
Garold Judson, Sprague Board
Shirley Bruhl, Waverly Clerk

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, explained that a uniform addressing system within the County was needed to insure proper mail delivery and prompt response to emergency calls. He stated that the County's authority to assign addresses and establish an addressing system only exists outside of the three mile zoning jurisdiction of Lincoln and the one mile zoning jurisdiction of each village and city with Lancaster County. Eagan suggested that an interlocal agreement be developed with each village and the City of Waverly to provide a uniform addressing system outside their corporate limits.

Julie Richter, 911 Emergency Center, noted that there has been confusion as to who has the authority to change addresses within the County.

Don Williams, U.S. Postal Service, explained that conflicting addresses occur as development progresses outward from the City of Lincoln. He noted that a specific address, rather than a rural route or post office box number, is needed to assure proper mail delivery in the rural areas of the County.

Larry Hudkins, County Commissioner, asked whether rural citizens within the quarter mile zoning jurisdictions, currently receiving free rural mail delivery, would be assessed a charge for a post office box, if required to change to a city street address.

Williams stated that a ruling on that question would need to be made by Lynn Borgen, Manager of Post Office Operations, at the Main Post Office in Lincoln. He noted that Borgen can be reached directly at (402)473-1693.

Larry Loseke, U.S. Postal Service, assured those in attendance that the Postal Service will make a concerted effort to avoid a disruption in service during the transitional period, which is estimated to take at least one year.

Loseke noted the following concerns:

- * Accurate deliver of mail to a rural route address when the addressee shares a last name with other families on the route
- * Ejection of mail from the automated sorting system, due to lack of a street address
- * Extended numbering of rural delivery boxes where development encompasses existing farmsteads

In response to a question from Campbell, Chuck Zimmerman, Building & Safety Department, stated that his department issues addresses to residences within the City of Lincoln, based upon issuance of building permits.

Mike DeKalb, Planning Department, noted that new houses constructed on parcels of land over 20 acres and subdivisions located within the one mile jurisdiction of incorporated towns are exempt from building and subdivision permits do not receive addresses in the same manner.

Larry Worrell, County Engineering Department, suggested that clarification of whether existing driveways within the County are used for agricultural, outbuildings or residences would assist street addressing efforts.

Several of the Clerks in attendance reported that Aliant Communications and the utility companies frequently issue addresses in the rural areas, often resulting in multiple addresses for one residence.

Campbell commented that there have been instances in which rural citizens have changed their own addresses.

Annette Hord, Hickman Clerk, suggested that the County name a contact person who could provide assistance to rural communities in addressing issues.

Jim Langtry, County Engineering Department, explained that eventually the addressing system will be included in the Geographic Information System (GIS) map.

Charlotte TeBrink, Denton Clerk, asked how addresses should be determined when multiple tracts are only accessible by one driveway.

Worrell stated that the area could be platted as a subdivision, with a private road and public access easement, with individual addresses for each tract.

DeKalb indicated that the addressing problem is greatest for tracts, more than 10 acres in size, that are set back a distance from the road, with no public road frontage.

Eagan said the County will be proceeding with development of an interlocal agreement to provide a uniform addressing system.

Brief discussion also took place on building codes and enforcement of building permits in the rural communities. Several of the representatives indicated that their villages lacked sufficient resources to develop and enforce building codes.

The County Board suggested that it may be more cost effective for villages to develop interlocal agreements with each other for building codes administration, rather than contract individually for services.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Kandra Hahn
Lancaster County Clerk