

## **MAILBOX REPLACEMENT POLICY**

Policy No. 2015-02

In order to provide a fair and uniform resolution to incidents involving mailboxes damaged by Road Commission equipment, the Van Buren County Road Commission hereby adopts upon Motion by Commissioner Chester M. Ray, seconded by Commissioner Gregory H. Kinney, the following Policy concerning repair/replacements of mailboxes or other encroachments in the County Road Right-of-Way:

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Van Buren County Road Commission to maintain the County Road Right-of-Way in a manner reasonably safe for public travel and for the exclusive use of the public, as opposed to the private use of an individual maintaining an encroachment upon the public right-of-way; and,

WHEREAS, snow being thrown by the plow can significantly impact the mailbox and cause damage. Mailboxes must be securely fastened in the ground to reduce or resist the impact of thrown snow; and,

WHEREAS, mailboxes shall be installed and constructed as set forth in the Van Buren County Road Commission's Guidelines for Mailboxes and Supports, as posted.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that if it is determined by Road Commission staff that a mailbox and/or post was struck directly by Road Commission equipment, the Road Commission will replace the existing mailbox and/or post with a standard mailbox and/or post. Custom mailboxes and posts will not be replaced in-kind.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Road Commission will replace the mailbox and/or post only when Road Commission equipment is found to have made direct contact with the mailbox; not when the box is knocked over by snow or slush that is thrown by the plow.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that if a mailbox has been hit by Road Commission equipment, it must be reported to the Van Buren County Road Commission within 24 hours, unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by the Managing Director, or his or her designee; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that other encroachments, such as sprinkler systems, ornamental plantings, fences, advertising signs and others are not permitted and will not be replaced, repaired or reimbursed by the Van Buren County Road Commission.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Managing Director, or his or her designated representative, is authorized to use reasonable discretion in resolving matters involving unusual circumstances.

POLICY ADOPTED: 04/13/1967

POLICY AMENDED: 07/22/2015; 03/05/2020