

Approved March 2, 1992  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The meeting was called to order by REPRESENTATIVE M. J. JOHNSON at  
Chairperson

1:34 ~~XXX~~ p.m. on FEBRUARY 27, 1992 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative George Gomez, excused  
Representative Jack Sluiter, excused  
Representative Robert Watson, excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research Dept.  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes  
Connie Smith, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Stevi Stephens  
Bill Barnhardt, concerned citizen  
David VanParys, County Counselor, Leavenworth Co.  
James Fendorf, a local citizen from Leavenworth  
Representative Doug Lawrence  
Ken Harder, Mayor of Cottonwood Falls  
Representative Elaine Wells  
Assistant Attorney General Jim Coder, State Fire Marshal Department  
Bill Ash, Treasurer of Tecumseh Township  
Carl Titsworth, Treasurer of the Burlingame Township in Osage Co.  
Barbara Butts, Municipal Accounting Section  
Jim Strohm, Chief of the Burlingame Fire Department  
Tim Hay, Mission Township  
Richard Nash, Fire Chief, Tecumseh Township

The Chair opened a hearing on HB 2905 - Naming and numbering county roads and streets.

The Chair recognized Stevi Stephens, sponsor of HB 2905, who appeared in support and gave background and intent of the bill. She said the bill will allow the rural residents of Leavenworth County the opportunity to vote on one important local issue, the adoption of a map. She said Representative Clyde Graeber authorized her to tell the committee that he supports this bill. (Attachment 1)

J. W. (Bill) Barnhardt, a concerned citizen, testified in support of HB 2905 and provided written testimony. (Attachment 2)

David VanParys, County Counselor, appeared in opposition to HB 2905 on behalf of Leavenworth County, Kansas and provided written testimony and a letter from Kenneth Heintzelman, Chairman, Fire Association in opposition. (Attachment 3)

Committee members addressed questions to Mr. VanParys concerning how much effort was put into notifying residents of their address change, if he had spoken to Loren Kasper, Leavenworth EMS director, in regard to locating addresses and his reaction to the map. A member also asked him if the decision to go ahead with the plan was before or after the public hearings.

In response to the above questions Mr. VanParys said the citizens were told there was a proposal giving a new address as such and the plan would be before the Board of County Commission. He said he had talked to Loren Kasper and said the emergency medical services said there is no instance any of their crews called to location reference by that map which they were unable to find in a timely fashion and he said the article said it could happen. He said Mr. Kasper had not expressed any discontent with this map. The decision to go ahead with this plan

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

room 521-S, Statehouse, at 1:34 ~~am~~/p.m. on FEBRUARY 27, 1992.

was adopted by the resolution after the hearing. A committee member stated that you received the input from the people and they basically said they had certain qualms about it but you went ahead and made plans anyway.

Mr. Barnhardt said the maps were printed six to eight months before there was a public hearing. He said the original map was disaster and they were not opposed to the grid system.

Representative Stevi Stephens said 95% of the residents on County Road 18 requested a one name road and have been ignored and that was the kind of response they were getting from their county commissioners. People are aware of the cost of an election but they still want the opportunity to vote on this matter. She said the point is to allow the rural residents to make a decision because they have not been allowed input on the county level that has been listened to.

Representative Wempe asked why they haven't talked to their county commissioners. James Fendorf, a local citizen, said there had been numerous times people have been there. He said they were referred to as "malcontents" in here complaining. A commissioner said they were not going to be governed by 30 malcontents.

The Chair closed the hearing on HB 2905.

The Chair opened the hearing on HB 2942 - Chase county; consolidation of law enforcement.

The Chair recognized Representative Doug Lawrence, a sponsor of HB 2942, who spoke in support of HB 2942. He said there was a proposed amendment which he does support and the next conferee will address. He said it makes it possible, Section 1, (c), that these counties have had this privilege since 1974 and he didn't feel that any of them have exercised this opportunity but felt that Chase co. should have the opportunity to consider this and for some very specific reasons. (Attachment 4)

Kenneth G. Harder, Mayor of Cottonwood Falls, testified in support of HB 2942 and offered a suggested amendment. (Attachment 5)

The Chair asked Mr. Harder if the county commissioners and sheriff supports the bill. He said the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners supports this bill. One county commissioner, who started the concept and discussion in the community has changed his mind and opposes it. The county attorney supports it and says the sheriff is leaning in opposition to it.

Representative Nancy Brown asked staff what kind of broad powers the board had and what kind of powers can be given to an appointed person. Also, how many counties have enacted this and have they put the official elected person on that board or did they use a designee. Staff said all the powers are related to the operation of the agency.

Representative Doug Lawrence also suggested an amendment that HB 2942 will be in effect upon publication in the "Kansas Register".

The Chair closed the hearing on HB 2942.

The Chair called for a hearing on HB 3018.

HB 3018 - Townships; fire vehicle, machinery and equipment reserve fund.

The Chair recognized Representative Elaine Wells, primary sponsor of HB 3018, who testified in support of HB 3018. (Attachment 6)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT,  
room 521-S, Statehouse, at 1:34 ~~am~~ p.m. on FEBRUARY 27, 1992

Chair recognized Jim Coder, Assistant Attorney General of the State Fire Marshal Department, and stated they support HB 3018. (Attachment 7)

Bill Ash, Treasurer of Tecumseh Township, spoke in support of HB 3018. He said he would recommend that an amendment be put in that would include other types of fire departments.

Carl Titsworth, Treasurer of Burlingame Township, testified as a proponent to HB 3018. He was the one who originally requested the bill. (Attachment 8)

Representative Brown asked Barbara Butts if they were involved with one or two townships, are they considered a district or an individual township. Barbarb Butts, from the Municipal Accounting Section, said that individual fire departments which are designated by the county already have this ability. She said she wasn't sure what your organization is but townships would not have that ability at this point and that is what she understood the bill to be, that townships regardless of the organization whether it is one township, or a city and a township or whatever could use it.

Jim Strohm, Chief of the Burlingame Fire Dept., testified in support of HB 3018 and provided written testimony. (Attachment 9)

Representative Wells said there were two proponents from Representative Hamilton's area and they are Tim Hay and Richard Mignot.

Tim Hay, Mission Township which borders the west side of Topeka, and Richard Nash, Fire Chief of Soldier Township in N.E. Shawnee co., spoke in support of HB 3018.

The Chair closed the hearing on HB 3018.

A motion was made by Representative Gayle Mollenkamp to approve the minutes of February 19, 20 and 25. The motion was seconded by Representative Tom Thompson. The motion carried.

The Chair stated on Monday the committee would work bills and on Tuesday and Wednesday would hold hearings, and on Thursday would work bills again.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.







HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES  
FORTY-SECOND DISTRICT  
LEAVENWORTH COUNTY

**STEVIE STEPHENS**

ROUTE 1  
TONGANOXIE, KANSAS 66086  
(913) 845-3036

STATE CAPITOL  
ROOM 426-S  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
(913) 296-7680

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES
- ELECTIONS
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB 2905

THIS IS A LOCAL ISSUE. BUT, I HAVE WORKED MANY HOURS WITH STAFF IN AN EFFORT TO COME UP WITH A BILL THAT MINIMIZES STATE INVOLVEMENT AND I BELIEVE WE'VE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. IF I THOUGHT THERE WERE ANY OTHER RE-COURSE TO TIMELY RESOLVE THIS ISSUE, I WOULD PURSUE IT. I BELIEVE THERE IS NO OTHER. THEREFORE, I COME BEFORE YOU TODAY TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR HB 2905.

HB 2905 REQUESTS THAT THE LEGISLATURE DO BUT ONE THING: PROVIDE THE RURAL RESIDENTS OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON ONE IMPORTANT LOCAL ISSUE. THAT'S IT.

FIRST SOME HISTORY:

ON APRIL 10, 1989 NUMEROUS RURAL RESIDENTS ATTENDED A COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING TO EXPRESS CONCERNS OVER THE INTENT TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION CHANGING RURAL COUNTY ROAD NAMES. MINUTES SHOW THEY WERE MOST CONCERNED OVER BEING "SWALLOWED-UP BY WYANDOTTE COUNTY". AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION THE COMMISSION AQUIESCED TO FORMING A COMMITTEE.

SOON AFTERWARD, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH TOWNSHIP HELD A PUBLIC MEETING, AND PRESENTED THE PROPOSED MAP UNDER THE AUSPICES OF OBTAINING CITIZEN INPUT.

THE CONCENSUS FROM TOWNSHIP TO TOWNSHIP WAS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL:

- 1) THE PRIORITY WAS TO MAINTAIN RURAL ROUTES;
- 2) IF NOT POSSIBLE THEN THERE WAS ADAMANT OPPOSITION TO EXTENDING KANSAS CITY STREET NAMES OUT; ADDITIONALLY WE DID NOT WANT NORTH-SOUTH STREETS WITH LARGE NUMBERS;

*LS*  
2-27-92  
attach. 1

- 3) THE SENTIMENT WAS VERY STRONG TO KEEP WELL-KNOWN, LOCAL, HISTORICAL NAMES;
- 4) NO MATTER WHAT NAMES WERE ADOPTED WE REQUESTED THAT THEY HAVE THE SAME NAMES THROUGHOUT THE LENGTH OF THE ROAD.

HOWEVER, ON NOVEMBER 9, 1989 THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A NEW MAP WHICH:

- 1) DID AWAY WITH ALL RURAL ROUTES;
- 2) EXTENDED THE KANSAS CITY KANSAS GRID;
- 3) DID AWAY WITH VIRTUALLY ALL HISTORICAL LEAVENWORTH COUNTY NAMES;
- 4) CHANGED NAMES AT EVERY CURVE IN THE ROAD IN ORDER TO ADHERE TO KANSAS CITY GRID.

IN SHORT, THEY TOTALLY WASTED THE TIME OF CONCERNED CITIZENS WHO HELD AND ATTENDED PUBLIC MEETINGS BECAUSE THEY IGNORED VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS OBTAINED FROM RESIDENTS DURING THESE MEETINGS.

TWO YEARS LATER, ON OCTOBER 12 OF LAST YEAR, THE COMMISSION, OVER PROTESTS OF CITIZENS IN ATTENDANCE, VOTED TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW MAP.

STARTING AROUND OCTOBER 16, 1991 RURAL RESIDENTS BEGAN RECEIVING NOTICES IN THE MAIL TELLING THEM TO STOP USING THEIR RURAL ROUTE ADDRESSES BY NOVEMBER 1, 1991 - ONLY TWO WEEKS AWAY! IN ACTUALITY, IF YOU TOOK THE TIME TO WADE THROUGH ALL THREE PAGES THERE WAS ONE SHORT, INCONSPICUOUS PARAGRAPH ADMITTING THAT THE POST OFFICE WOULD CONTINUE DELIVERING MAIL TO THE OLD ADDRESS FOR A YEAR. HOWEVER, MANY RURAL RESIDENTS QUICKLY CHANGED THEIR ADDRESSES FEARING DELIVERY WOULD STOP IN 2 WEEKS.

MANY OF THE FIRST NEW ADDRESSES WERE SIMPLY WRONG AND CORRECTIONS WERE MAILED TO MANY RESIDENTS. ADDITIONALLY, ON OCTOBER 21, 1991 THE COMMISSION VOTED TO CHANGE THE MAJOR COUNTY NUMBERED ROADS AND THE KANSAS AND U.S. HIGHWAYS TO THE KANSAS CITY GRID SYSTEM. THIS CAUSED OVER 2,000 ADDRESS CHANGES...FOR SOME RESIDENTS IT WAS THE 3RD CHANGE IN LESS THAN 2 WEEKS.

I WANTED TO GIVE THE COMMITTEE SOME HISTORY ON THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAP, BUT NOW I'D LIKE TO PROVIDE A SAMPLE OF THE PROBLEMS WITH THE MAP ITSELF.

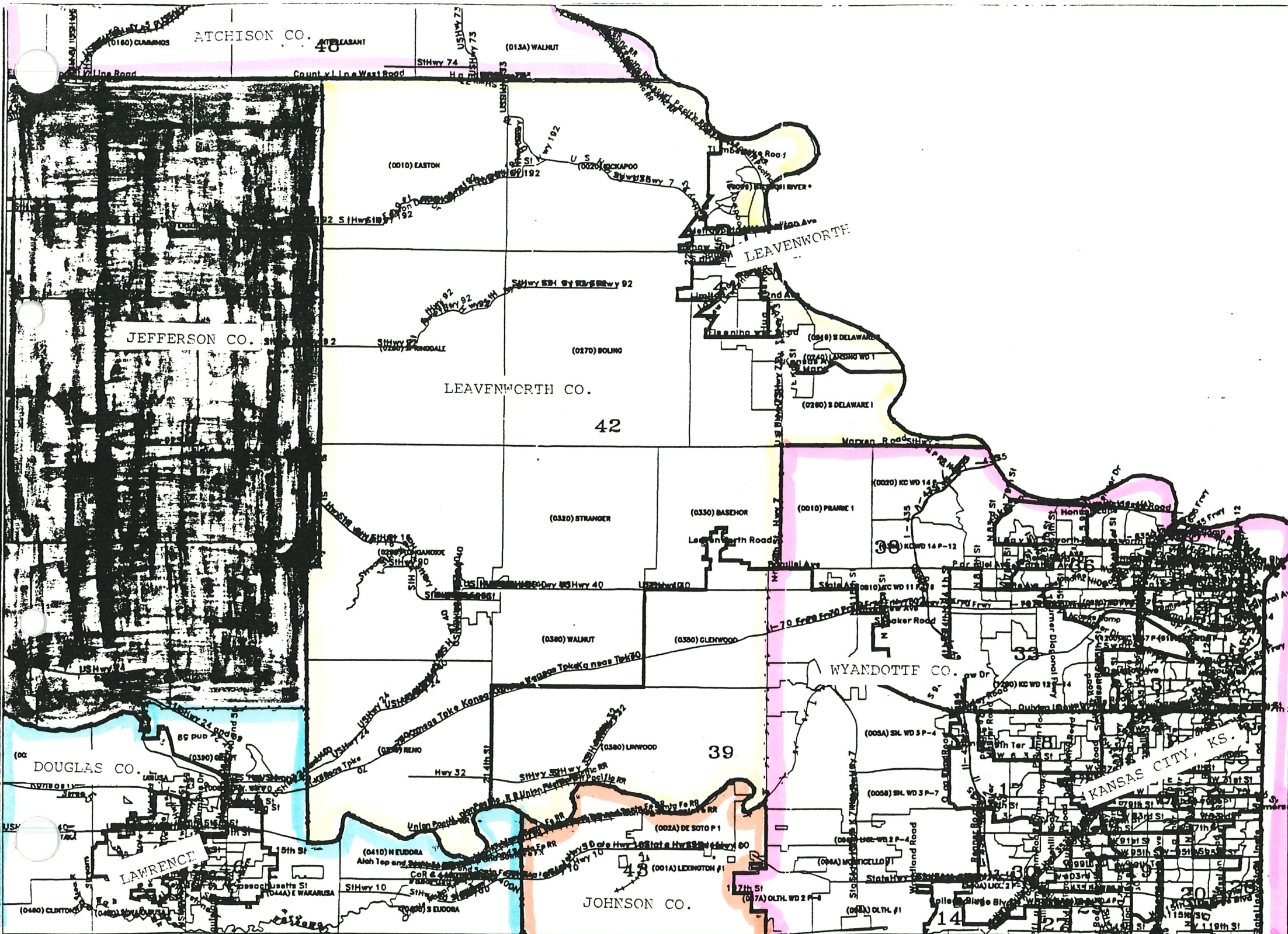
WHILE THE PRIMARY PURPORTED PURPOSE BEHIND ADOPTING NUMBERED AND NAMED RURAL ROADS HAS BEEN TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SERVICES, MANY RESIDENTS CONTEND, MYSELF INCLUDED, THAT THE MAP IS INHERENTLY UNSAFE.

I HAVE RECEIVED MORE CALLS AND LETTERS AND COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE THAN ANY OTHER. I HAVE YET TO HEAR ONE SINGLE PERSON WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS INDICATE THAT THE COMMISSION HAS DONE ANYTHING BUT IGNORE THE WISHES AND CONCERNS OF THE RURAL RESIDENTS.

WHEN CITIZENS ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN THE PROCESS AND REPEATEDLY ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE WITH OFFICIALS BUT ARE IGNORED, WE AUTOMATICALLY THINK IT SHOULD BE SETTLED THE NEXT TIME THOSE OFFICIALS STAND FOR RE-ELECTION. THE PROBLEM, IN THIS INSTANCE, IS THAT THE MAP WILL BE FULLY ADOPTED AND MAIL DELIVERY TO OLD ADDRESSES CEASED BEFORE THE CURRENT COMMISSIONERS STAND FOR RE-ELECTION.

THEREFORE I'M REQUESTING SUPPORT FROM THIS COMMITTEE TO SIMPLY PROVIDE THE RURAL RESIDENTS OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON A MAJOR CHANGE IN OUR LIVES. ONE WHICH WE CONSIDER REPUGNANT, INCONVENIENT, UNFAIR AND UNSAFE.







**COUNTY OF LEAVENWORTH**

COURTHOUSE  
4th & WALNUT  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS 66048  
Area Code (913) 684-0400



FROM THE OFFICE OF:

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS**

October, 1991

Dear Leavenworth County Resident:

Leavenworth County has been working the past two years to develop a rural property addressing system. It is our hope that this new address system will greatly enhance both emergency and non-emergency services in locating your residence or business quickly and efficiently.

Your new address is printed on the mailing label on the front of the envelope that contained this letter. Your previous address, which is also printed on the mailing label, should not be used after November 1, 1991. The rural route box & system that has been used by the Postal Service in the past is being eliminated. We realize that it is impractical to immediately change your address on all of your papers (i.e. drivers license, checks, etc). Therefore, as these items are renewed, please renew them with your new address.

The enclosed brochure more fully explains the new address system and how your new address is to be posted. If you feel that the address assigned to your property is in error, please contact the Leavenworth County Planning Department at 684-0465.

Please remember, the primary benefit of the new address system will be improved emergency service response to your property, since this new address system will make locating your property easier. Other benefits include more efficient delivery of mail, improved service from utility and delivery companies, and ease in directing newcomers to your property.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in assisting us with this enormous task.

Sincerely,

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY**

Edward E. Powers  
Chairman

Donald F. Aaron  
Member

Kevin E. Reardon  
Member

City-County Probation  
684-0760

Council on Aging  
684-0777

Emergency Medical Service  
684-0788

Noxious Weeds  
684-0494

Community Corrections  
684-0775

County Infirmary  
684-1010

Health Department  
684-0730

Sheriff  
682-5724



HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT MY NEW ADDRESS IS?

Your new address appears on the mailing label on the front of the envelope which contained this brochure. Your previous address, which also appears on the mailing label, should not be used after November 1, 1991. The label also contains your property's tax identification parcel number. If you have any questions in regards to your new address, please reference this ID number.

WHAT ARE THE PROPERTY OWNERS RESPONSIBILITIES?

As a property owner, it is your responsibility to begin using your new property address for all purposes beginning November 1, 1991. As you renew items such as your driver's license, checks etc., use your new address. It is especially important that, if you should require emergency assistance, you use your new property address when requesting help. (You may want to tape a piece of paper with your new address on your telephones to remind you of the new address in an emergency) You are required by Leavenworth County to identify your residence by your new house number within thirty (30) days from receipt of this notice. Upon displaying the new number to your residence it shall be your duty to remove any different number which might be mistaken for, or confused with, the new number assigned to your residence. The requirements for posting of your address are:

- 1: Post the number adjacent to the front entrance to the structure, with numbers that are a minimum of four (4) inches in height and are legible and can be readily distinguished from the public road; or
- 2: Post the number on the properties' mailbox, provided the mailbox is immediately adjacent to the driveway serving the property and the numbers are a minimum of two (2) inches in height and are legible and can be readily distinguished from the public road; or
- 3: Post the number adjacent to the driveway serving the property, with the numbers a minimum of two (2) inches in height, making sure the numbers are legible and readily distinguishable from the public road. When posted in this manner, the number should be located at least eighteen (18) inches above the ground and behind the roadside drainage ditch.

Please note that the US Postal Service will continue to deliver mail to your old address for one year after the new system goes into effect, and they do require that your house number be placed on your mailbox.

WHAT IS THE COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITY?

The Leavenworth County Planning Department has the responsibility of assigning a proper address to each existing home or commercial structure in the county. If you feel you have been assigned an incorrect address, please contact the Planning Department at 913-684-0465. As new homes are built in the county, it will continue to be our responsibility to assign addresses consistent with the overall system.

**NOTE: BECAUSE OF THE ADVANCED PRINTING DEADLINE FOR COUNTY PROPERTY TAX STATEMENTS, THEY WILL BE SENT USING YOUR OLD ADDRESS.** Future mailings from the County will be sent using the new address.

**WE URGE YOU TO PROPERLY POST YOUR NEW ADDRESS PROMPTLY SO THAT THE BENEFITS OF THIS PROGRAM WILL BE AVAILABLE TO YOU.**



## HOW ARE ROAD AND STREET NAMES DETERMINED?

Road and Street names in the unincorporated portion of Leavenworth County have been determined by guidelines previously approved by the Board of County Commissioners. These guidelines established that:

- \* North-South roads are assigned numbers as their names and are given the designation "Street". The incremental basis used is to increase the Street Number by eight (8) per mile as you go west. For example, 238th Street is one mile west of 230th Street.
- \* East-West roads are assigned names and are given the designation "Road".
- \* Diagonal roads are assigned names and are given the designation "Drive".
- \* Common names or names with a historical basis are used when possible.
- \* Federal and State Highways and numbered County Routes are designated as such (K-92 Highway, U.S. 73 Highway, County Road 29 for example).

Leavenworth County will be placing road name signs at road intersections within the next few months.

## HOW IS THE PROPERTY NUMBER DETERMINED?

The system of numbering property is a grid system based on section divisions.

- \* The numbers progress from South (10000) to North (35600) and from East (10000) to West (26200).
- \* Even numbers will be assigned to buildings on the north and east sides of the road.
- \* Odd numbers will be assigned to buildings on the west and south sides of the road.
- \* When a street changes direction, the numbering will reflect the change in direction when the change is drastic and for a substantial length.

Numbers are assigned based on the properties location within this grid system.

You may need to contact some of the following agencies and businesses to notify them of your change in address:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| * Drivers License Bureau   | * Insurance Companies   |
| * Pension Plan Administrators                                      | * Employer              |
| * Credit Card and Loan Companies                                   | * Utility Companies     |
| * Magazine Publisher   | * Book and Record Clubs |
| * Schools and religious organizations                              | * Social organizations  |
| * Banks, Savings and Loan , or other financial institutions        |                         |
| * Social Security Administration (toll free number 1-800-772-1213) |                         |

Your new address will be entered on Leavenworth County's computer system and will be changed on county records.

**WE URGE YOU TO PROPERLY POST YOUR NEW ADDRESS PROMPTLY SO THAT THE BENEFITS OF THIS PROGRAM WILL BE AVAILABLE TO YOU.**



# What did you say your address is?

Resident worried  
EMS won't find him

By KEITH ROBISON  
Times Staff Writer

Charles "Dave" Davis lived on Rural Route 4 for a long time.

Then, for about two weeks, he lived on U.S. Highway 73. Now he lives on Amelia Earhart Drive.

Although Davis hasn't moved, his address changed.

"My address has been changed three times in the last week-and-a-half," he said Friday. Besides being confused, Davis, who has survived two heart attacks, is worried that if he needs emergency medical help again, medical workers won't be able to find him.

His concerns stem from a letter from Leavenworth County officials sent in early October announcing a new address system for residences and businesses in unincorporated areas to take effect Nov. 1.

Previously-used rural routes and box numbers for county residences were replaced with a five-digit number and a street address.

Later in October, the Board of Leavenworth County Commissioners announced a second change to residents in a letter beginning with: "Sorry, we made a mistake . . ."

" . . . The board has decided not to use highway numbers as road names and have assigned names to roads based upon the general road naming policy," commissioners wrote.



Times Photo/D. Bates-Lamborn

Charles "Dave" Davis, above, witnessed the demolition of his home and barn by the Kansas Department of Transportation to put in the new stretch of U.S. Highway 73. Now, the county commissioners have changed his address three times in the past week-and-a-half.

B-1



in the first change, county, state and federal roads and highways were to be known by their numbers. For the purposes of addresses, they now have names.

Davis is worried that the new system is too confusing for Emergency Medical Service technicians.

"It's scary that you can't tell someone your address and have them find you," he said. "All I can do is give directions and describe our house."

Davis recently went to county commissioners and asked that the name of U.S. Highway 73 stay the same.

"The road I live on, 73, was named the Amelia Earhart Memorial Highway by the state — there's a sign at Government Hill that says that — and they (county officials) named it Amelia Earhart Drive. How is someone supposed to know it's the same



Leavenworth County Commissioner Don Aaron still displays the old address on his mail box while his neighbors across the road, bottom left, have made the change to Old Santa Fe Trail.

Continued from page A1

road? It's a mess."

The commissioners passed a motion to not take action on his letter.

"I expected that," Davis said. "Before I went, I was told by my commissioner, I won't mention his name, that there was no way in hell he'd vote to change it back." Davis lives in Commissioner Don Aaron's district.

"The commissioners are not responsive to anybody as far as I'm concerned," Davis said. "And I haven't talked to anybody they've done any good for."

Lorin Kasper, Leavenworth County EMS director, said Davis's concerns had merit.

"It's very realistic someone could call and not be found," he said. "Thank God it hasn't happened yet."

Kasper said understanding the new system was difficult.

"It's extremely confusing for us at this point," he said. "The way it is now, we have to take time to find the exact address and the exact location. For example, County Road 18 has five different names."

That confusion, Kasper said,

could prove costly.

"If someone is having a heart attack, we can't jack around for five minutes trying to figure out where in the hell we're going."

Although County Planning and Zoning director H. James Hewitt said the main goal of the new system was to enable firefighters and EMS workers to find homes quickly, EMS had limited say — three years ago — in the new system.

"Our input to the system, as it was requested and delivered from EMS, occurred just before the finalized version of the original map came out in 1989," Kasper said. "And that was the only time we were asked for input, and the only time we delivered any."

But Kasper said rural addresses aren't the only confusing addresses in the county.

"But let's be realistic," he said.

"If you look at a Leavenworth city map, Shrine Park Road as it goes north becomes Maple and then Seventh. It's just as confusing."

Hewitt said county commissioners decided three years ago to adopt the address numbering system.

"But it wasn't until February of this year that we finally got the time and the staff to get it done," he said. "It is a slow process, and there are a lot of steps we have to do that people don't

realize."

Hewitt also said he wasn't surprised that people are confused with the system.

"Everybody is," he said. "And given the timing of when the changes were made, it doesn't help in learning the system."

Leavenworth County Sheriff's Department dispatchers handle emergency calls for most of the county's township fire departments, EMS, Tonganoxie and Basehor police.

Despite the confusion, Sheriff Terry Campbell said the new numbered street address system is a good idea.

"Our position is that it's a lot easier if people, when calling with an emergency, can give us a street and road name and number," he said.

Campbell said deputies and dispatchers are currently being trained to use the new system.

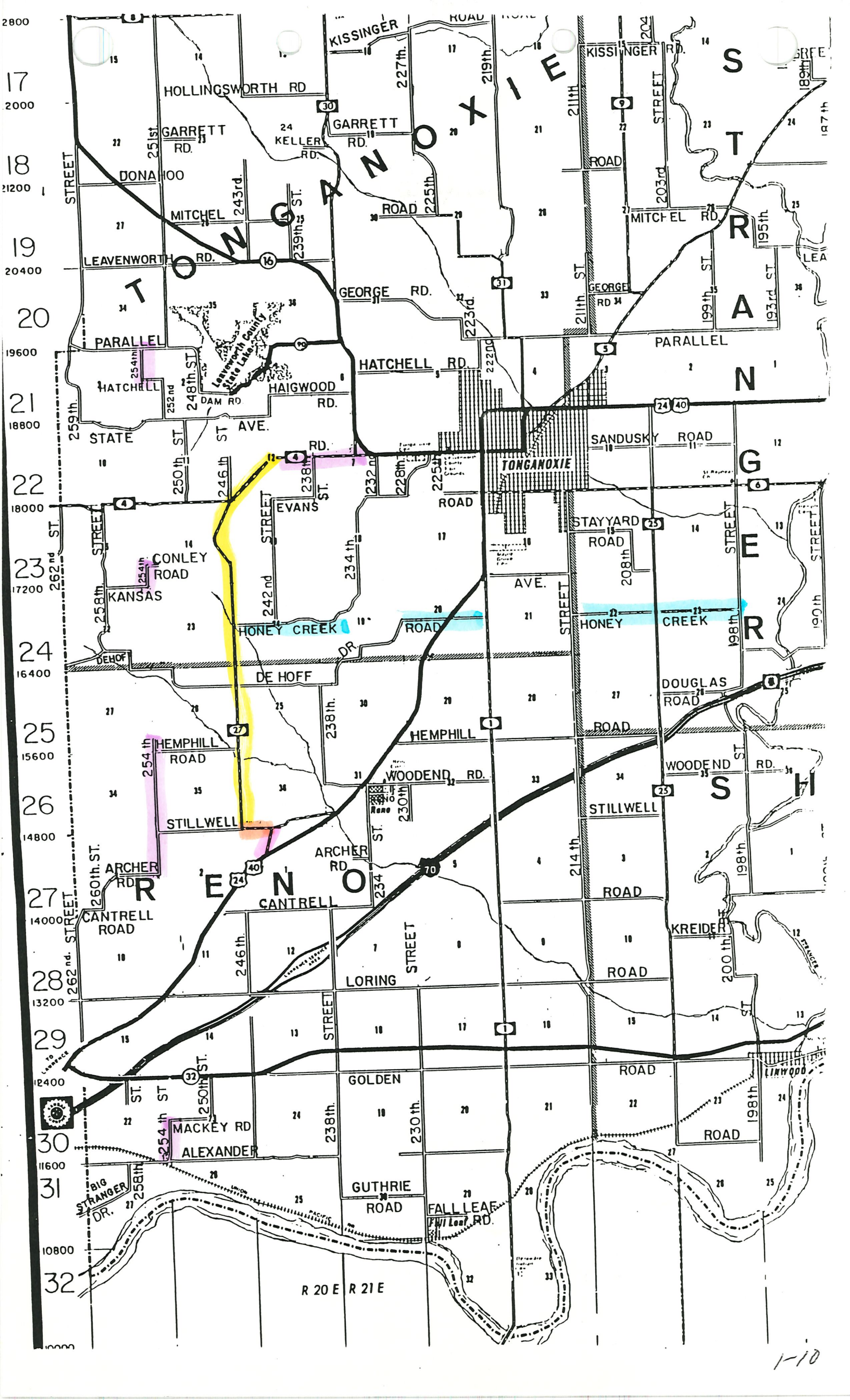
"But first it has to be finalized once and for all on what the streets are going to be called," he said. "I was under the assumption it was final a few months back."

He said until training is completed, dispatchers will give responding emergency agencies both the new numbered address and directions to the house or business.

"But once it's in place, I think it will be a better system to use to provide emergency aid to the citizens of the county, but that's months down the road."

Harvey Leaver, county engineer, said road signs throughout the county should be erected in roughly three or four months.

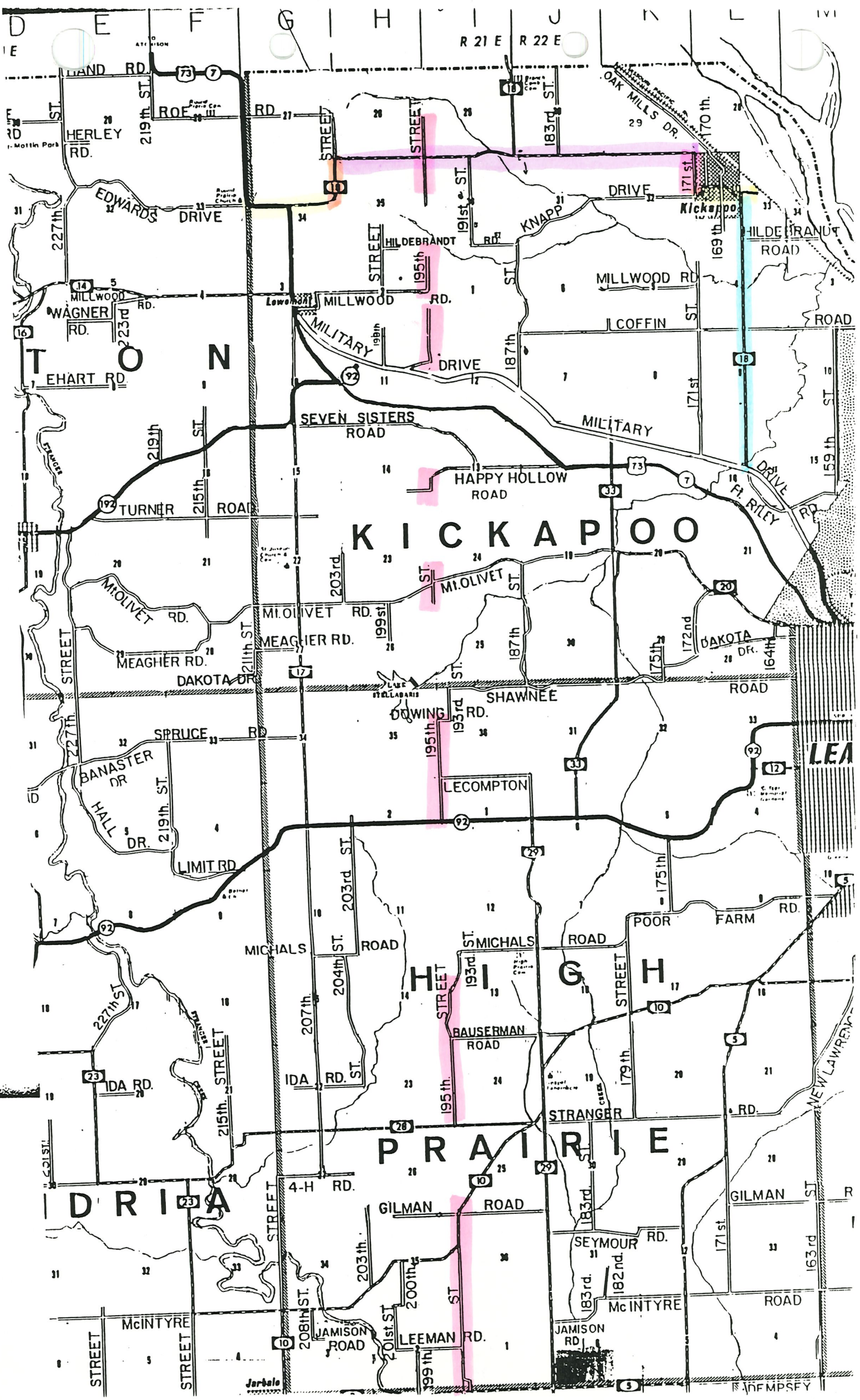




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D R I A

K I C K A P O O

P R A I R I E

FEBRUARY 27, 1992

FROM: J.W. BARNHARDT  
ROUTE #3, BOX 451  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS 66048

TO: LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
1:30 P.M. HEARING  
ROOM 521-S  
TOPEKA STATEHOUSE

As most of you are aware, Leavenworth County, being the earliest settled region of Kansas, is an area of the state which abounds in historical tradition. The names given to the local highways and roads in most regions of the state — and indeed of the nation — are almost without exception, derivatives of historical significance. Until recently, this was also true of Leavenworth County.

Now, however, due to the recent assignment of incorrect and improper names and numbers to the majority of county roads, coupled with the assignment of new mailing addresses, which are based on these incorrect road names and numbers, Leavenworth County residents suddenly find themselves “strangers in their own land.”

A glance at one of the “new and improved” maps of Leavenworth County reveals that county officials have attempted to impose a rigid checkerboard type street grid on all unincorporated areas. (This street grid is largely an extension of the Kansas City, Kansas system). Besides being historically and aesthetically inaccurate, this system is incompatible with the turning, twisting, winding road network which is the reality of rural Leavenworth County.

Nevertheless, the new system guidelines require that at every turn, even on contiguous thru routes, a new name be assigned. In other words, at every turn and bend, as the road enters a different grid line (eight grid lines per mile), the name of the road must change. The potential dangers inherent in such a flawed system are obvious.

Combined with this is the seemingly endless progression of Kansas City street numbers throughout the entire county. These numbers, in turn, clash into the cities' and towns' own street numbering systems, creating further confusion. As an example, at the western edge of Leavenworth, 22nd street suddenly jumps to 164th street.

The revised map of Leavenworth County needs much careful study and further revision. By allowing public input on this vital issue, the democratic process will thereby be restored. We are confident that the people can correct any and all errors within this dangerously flawed map.

*LH*

*2-27-92*

*Attached - 2*



TESTIMONY TO BE PRESENTED TO  
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE,  
KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
ON BEHALF OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS,  
ON FEBRUARY 27, 1992

Testimony in opposition to House Bill 2905 will be offered on behalf of Leavenworth County, Kansas, by the Director of Planning & Zoning for Leavenworth County, Kansas, Mr. James Hewitt, and the Leavenworth County Counselor, David C. VanParys. The committee will be presented with a document entitled "Summary of Project - Road Names and Property Addresses" which was prepared by the Department of Planning & Zoning for Leavenworth County, Kansas, outlining the steps taken by the Board of County Commissioners in the recent renaming and numbering of roads in the unincorporated areas of Leavenworth County, Kansas. The attention of the committee will be called to the length of the project, the need for the project and the opportunities provided for public participation in the renaming and numbering of county roads.

As of this date the resigning project is 90% complete with material costs in the approximate amount of \$25,000.00 and labor costs in the approximate amount of \$30,000.00. The new address and road name system has been in effect since November 1991.

While several petitions have been received by the Board of County Commissioners signed by citizens of Leavenworth County, Kansas, the nature of those petitions has been to request a specific renaming of a road, as opposed to opposing the entire project. As of today's date no individual, or group of individuals, has requested any meeting with the Board of County Commissioners to object to the renaming and numbering system. It is the opinion of the Board of County Commissioners of Leavenworth County, Kansas, that the majority of the citizens affected by the numbering and renaming system realize the need for the same and approve of it.

Representative Stevi Stephens, the author of House Bill 2905 has, likewise, never requested any meeting with any member of the Board of County Commissioners of Leavenworth County, Kansas, or the Planning & Zoning Office of Leavenworth County, Kansas, and never expressed any concerns or objections to the numbering and renaming plan prior to interviews in the local newspapers.

The previous system of road designation in the unincorporated areas of Leavenworth County, Kansas, was fraught with inconsistencies and was no longer compatible with the United States Postal Service delivery plans. Further, the numbering and renaming plan was specifically requested, as well, by the Township Fire Departments in Leavenworth County, Kansas, the Emergency Medical Services, the Emergency Preparedness Office and the Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office. Each township was

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Attach. 3

specifically reviewed with regards to using names for roads and recommendations were taken from residents of the townships. Public input was not only accepted, but invited and used.

If the problem perceived by Representative Stephens with regards to the numbering and renaming plan for roads in Leavenworth County, Kansas, is of great magnitude, then current remedies and solutions already exist. Specifically, persons disaffected by the plan can request a meeting with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss a further renaming of roads, which existing law would allow the Board of County Commissioners to do by simple vote, as opposed to the time and cost of a special election held in the manner of general bond law. The last such general bond law election conducted in Leavenworth County, Kansas, in the Spring of 1991, cost approximately \$35,000.00. House Bill 2905 as amended by Representative Stephens would require such an election for any corrective action taken by the Board of County Commissioners in numbering and renaming streets and would also require special election in the event that any new subdivisions are platted in Leavenworth County, Kansas, a common event.

#### CONCLUSION

The Board of County Commissioners of Leavenworth County, Kansas, on behalf of the citizens of Leavenworth County, Kansas, urge you to reject House Bill 2905 as currently written.

Respectfully submitted,



David C. VanParys  
County Counselor  
Leavenworth County, Kansas  
February 27, 1992

DCV:rw

SUMMARY OF PROJECT - ROAD NAMES AND PROPERTY ADDRESSES

- 1977 - Township Fire Departments begin effort to start the project
- 1986 - Board of County Commissioners instruct County Planning Department to prepare a preliminary Road Name Map
- 1987 - Board of County Commissioners instruct the County Planning Department to prepare preliminary policies for assigning road names and assigning addresses. Preliminary policies reviewed by Leavenworth County Mutual Aid Association (consisting of all Township Fire Chiefs, Sheriff, Emergency Medical Services Director and Director of Emergency Preparedness). Policies then presented to Board of County Commissioners and adopted.
- 1988-89 - Road Name Map reviewed by all emergency service agencies, Public Works Department, Emergency Preparedness Office and County Planning Office and then presented to Board of County Commissioners. The review by Emergency Service Agencies provided opportunity for more than 200 county residents who serve as volunteers with the township fire departments to have direct input into the project.
- 1989 - Spring, Road Names reviewed by Board of County Commissioners
- Summer, Special Committee formed which reviewed names on a township by township basis and made recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners
  - Fall, Road Names adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, Road Maps printed
- 1991 - February - September
- Post Office contacted for determination of delivery areas and explanation of address system.
  - Address system reviewed for conformance with Postal Service AIS (Address Information System)
  - addresses assigned by Planning Department
- October
- individual Post Offices provided training in address system
  - Post Offices reviewed individual addresses assigned to their delivery area
  - Fire Departments, Sheriff's Department, and Emergency Medical Service provided training in the new system
  - Address changes mailed
  - Board of County Commissioners decide to assign names to State/Federal/County highways
  - revised address changes mailed.
- November
- system implemented

## PROPERTY ADDRESSING POLICIES

1. Primary consideration in developing the property addressing system is given to the needs of the emergency services (Sheriff, Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Service).
2. System should meet Postal Service AIS (Address Information System) guidelines.
3. System should permit assigning of individual addresses to:
  - existing structures, including unusual circumstances such as one structure behind another structure,
  - future structures, including multiple use or tenant buildings,in a manner which conveys a location (Rural Route and Box Number does not convey a location).
4. System should provide sufficient capability to handle unusual situations so that renumbering of structures is not required in the future. (We do not want to do this again).
5. System must be designed as permanent address/locator system. (Rural Route and Box Number System assigned by Postal System, and each Post Office may change Rural Routes and Box Numbers as necessary to provide for delivery of mail. There is nothing permanent about the Postal System addresses.)
6. The system should be simple and as logical as possible. (no one addressing system will eliminate all confusion since the existing road system was developed over the last 130 years without an addressing system in place.)

## STATUS REPORT

### ROAD NAMING AND BUILDING NUMBERING PROJECT

April 29, 1988

Attached to this report is a copy of the Road Name map as it currently stands after extensive review by the Planning Department, Public Works Department, Sheriff's Department, Emergency Preparedness Office, EMS, and the Fire Chiefs Association.

#### GUIDELINES

The map has been prepared following the basic guidelines previously approved by the Board of County Commissioners. The most important guidelines and points of note are as follows:

1. North - South roads have been assigned numbers as their names, following the numbering system existing in Wyandotte County to the east and have been given the designation "Street". The incremental basis used is to increase the Street number by eight (8) per mile (238th Street is one mile west of 230th Street) as you go west.
2. East - West roads have been assigned names corresponding with road names existing in Wyandotte County and the Cities of Basehor, Lansing, and Leavenworth and have been given the designation "Roads".
3. Diagonal roads have been given the designation "Drives".
4. In assigning the names of Roads and Drives, common names or names with a historical basis have been used as much as possible.
5. The system for assigning numbers to individual buildings is:
  - A. All buildings (houses or commercial buildings) will have a five digit address. This will distinguish buildings in the unincorporated area of the County from buildings within the various Cities which use three and four digit numbers.
  - B. On the numbered Streets the base line for numbering begins at the southernmost point of the County (beginning with 10000) and increases by 800 units per mile.
  - C. On Roads and Drives the assigned address will be based upon its location between two numbered Streets.
  - D. Even numbers will be assigned to buildings on the north and east side of the road. Odd numbers will be assigned to buildings on the west and south side of the road.

#### PROPOSED METHOD OF ASSIGNING INDIVIDUAL ADDRESSES

The most time-consuming task remaining is the process of assigning the individual address to each building within the County. In discussions with the Fire Chiefs Association a method has been designed which will assign the addresses at minimum cost and providing the individual fire departments with first hand knowledge of the addresses within their service area.

First, each fire department is to be provided with with two sets of the most recent aerial photographs of their service area. Utilizing the departments manpower, addresses will be assigned to each building. These addresses will be written on both sets of photographs, with the department retaining one set for their use and the second set returned to the County. Assigning of new addresses after completion of this step will be done by the Planning Department at the time a building permit is issued.

Each fire department will notify the residents and/or property owners of the address assigned to their building.

The cost to the County for this procedure would be the cost of printing of the two sets of aerial photographs for each fire department. The estimated cost is \$280.00.

#### SIGNING

To fully implement this project, street signs will need to be erected at all intersections of the County.

700 intersections have been identified which will require a sign.

The cost to erect the signs is estimated at \$25,088.00

Cost breakdown:

Posts - 11 foot Channel 2#	700 @ \$ 7.70	-	\$ 5390.00
Post caps	700 @ \$ 3.90	-	2730.00
90 degree cross brackets	700 @ \$ 3.10	-	2170.00
Signs (by KSP)	1400 @ \$ 5.13	-	7182.00
Installation	700 @ \$10.88	-	7616.00
		TOTAL	<u>\$25,088.00</u>

The installation cost estimate was prepared by the Public Works Department based upon using temporary help with the sign crew.

The sign cost estimate was prepared by KSP based upon the number of signs, utilizing double sided 6 x 24 inch aluminum sign blanks with reflective lettering.

#### MAPS

A large demand for the new County maps prepared as part of this project is expected. Two sizes of maps have been prepared, a 22x34 inch map and a 42x68 inch map. Our costs to run blue-line copies are \$0.40 for the 22x34 map and \$1.20 for the 42x68 map. Better quality printed 22x34 maps can be obtained for \$2.00 each (similar to the property ownership maps currently sold by the Public Works Department). Because of the time required to run blue-line maps and the anticipated demand for the 22x34 map, it is proposed to have them printed rather than run as blue-line.



Current demand estimates for maps are:

Emergency Preparedness (for use by all of the emergency service agencies) are 1000 22x34 maps (printed) and 35 42x68 maps. Total cost would be \$2,042.00.

Distribution of maps to other County Departments and maps available for purchase are estimated at 1000 printed 22x34 and 25 42x68 maps. Total cost is estimated at 2,030.00.

Total cost for printing 2000 22x34 and 60 42x68 maps - \$4,072.00.

#### IMPLEMENTATION COST

The total cost to implement the project as outlined above is estimated as \$29,440.00.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

Before this project can proceed further, decisions regarding the method of implementation, costs, and funding are required.

February 27, 1992

House Bill 2905  
Local Government  
Committee of House of  
Representatives

House of Representatives:

As Chairman of the Leavenworth County Fire Mutual Aid Association the naming of County roads has enhanced the location and response to residents that reside within the County. The Association is compiled from Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Service and Fire Chiefs throughout Leavenworth County and it was this association that started the road naming project about 15 years ago so response to life or property could be lessened. Road naming and setting of addresses is not a project that is accomplished over night and must take important issues at hand.

To bring such an issue to vote by the people would cause further confusion with the residents of Leavenworth County. If residents do not understand how the address system and 911 system works, and was allowed to vote on road naming, could possibly not allow proper judgment for a road name to be justified.

We as an Association feel that Leavenworth County Commissioner's with input from U.S. Postal Service, Emergency Response Agenices and residents was a decision well made. With the Growth of Leavenworth County this project of road naming will prove to be beneficial to the General residents of Leavenworth County

Sincerely,



Kenneth Heintzelman,  
Chairman Fire Association

KH:law

*Doug Lawrence*

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
902 MIAMI  
BURLINGTON, KS 66839



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
MEMBER: AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS  
ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
TRANSPORTATION

I appreciate this opportunity to address the committee today. HB 2942, as proposed, is a simple piece of legislation. It provides Chase County with the opportunity to institute consolidated law, if the local voters approve.

This authority already exists for all of the other counties listed in section C of the bill.

It does design a special law board for Chase County alone. This special provision recognizes the unique nature of this county ... with twin cities ... comprising most of the population of the county. There is one other conferee to address the reasons for this bill. I will let him provide further explanation of the Chase County situation.

*LD*

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*attach. 4*

KENNETH G. HARDER  
MAYOR OF  
COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS  
TESTIFYING BEFORE THE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REGARDING HOUSE BILL No. 2942

FEBRUARY 27, 1992

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2-27-92  
attach. 5

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to appear before this Committee to testify in support of House Bill No. 2942 as it relates to consolidation of law enforcement in Chase County, Kansas.

My name is Kenneth G. Harder and I am the Mayor of Cottonwood Falls, the county seat of Chase County. Located midway between Topeka and Wichita, Chase County is the most rural county in the eastern half of the state.

The 1990 census counted 3021 residents in Chase County with over half that number distributed among the five incorporated cities as follows:

Cottonwood Falls	-	889
Strong City	-	617
Elmdale	-	83
Cedar Point	-	39
Matfield Green	-	33

Law enforcement in Chase County currently consists of a sheriff, two deputies, and one highway patrolman. There are no police officers in any of the cities to enforce city ordinances.

With our small population and limited tax base, providing local law enforcement in our cities is nearly impossible. The consolidation of services provided by House Bill No. 2942 represents our best hope for maintaining law and order throughout the county in a cost-effective manner.

Without this legislation, our cities will continue to

enact ordinances which we are unable to enforce. With this legislation we will have a mechanism for around-the-clock enforcement of all ordinances and state statutes throughout the county.

There is one change I would like to see made to the bill, however. Sec. 3. (b) which refers exclusively to the Chase county law enforcement system board composition states that one member shall be a resident of the unincorporated area of the county and elected by the voters from the unincorporated areas. I believe it would be more equitable to have this member elected by all of the voters of the county. As currently written, the residents of the three smaller cities would have no representation on the board.

I urge you to support House Bill No. 2942. This concludes my prepared remarks. I would be pleased to respond to your questions at this time.



ELAINE L. WELLS  
REPRESENTATIVE, FIFTY-NINTH DISTRICT  
OSAGE AND NORTH LYON COUNTIES  
R.R. 1, BOX 166  
CARBONDALE, KANSAS 66414  
(913) 665-7740



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
MEMBER: ELECTIONS  
INSURANCE  
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS AND  
BENEFITS

TESTIMONY ON H.B. 3018  
TO

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Thank you Madame Chairman for the hearing on this bill and for the opportunity to testify on it.

H.B. 3018 allows a township to transfer money into a reserve fund for fire equipment, fire vehicles, and machinery.

Currently a reserve fund, as I understand it, is allowed for maintenance equipment, but not for fire equipment.

The language in this bill is fashioned after the same language established for the special road, bridge or street building machinery, equipment and bridge building fund, K.S.A. 68-141g.

Since many of our fire departments are voluntary it is important for them to be able to maintain their current equipment and to be able to replace it when necessary. A reserve fund will allow them better ability to purchase new equipment when an dire need or emergency exits.

Again, thank you, and I will be happy to try to answer any questions.

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Attach. 6



Kansas State Fire Marshal Department

700 Jackson, Suite 600

Topeka, Kansas 66603-3714

Phone (913) 296-3401

FAX (913) 296-0151

*"Serving Kansans Through Fire Safety Education,  
Fire Prevention Inspections and Investigation"*

TESTIMONY OF JIM CODER  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL DEPARTMENT  
HOUSE BILL 3018  
HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 27, 1992

The State Fire Marshal supports House Bill 3018. We feel a separate township fund which could be carried over from year to year for the purchase of firefighting machinery and equipment would only enhance fire protection throughout the state.

The federal government is very interested in fire equipment safety. They have requested the states to implement some sort of fire equipment vehicle inspection system. From all the literature I have seen, I get the impression, if this system is not done the federal government will jam something down our throats. According to the studies I have seen, if firefighting equipment were held to the same standards as commercial vehicles, between 30% and 40% would not be allowed on the road. Our response to the federal request is to implement a voluntary vehicle inspection and reporting regulation. This will be going into effect sometime this summer.

House Bill 3018 would be a big step forward in helping townships replace outdated and worn out equipment. This will help meet our inspection standards. Primarily, however, this would help insure that those people protecting the citizens from fire loss have sufficient quality equipment to do the job. The State Fire Marshal supports passage of this legislation.

House Bill No. 3018

My name is Carl Titsworth and I am the Treasurer of the Burlingame Township in Osage County. After several meetings with the Chief of our Volunteer Fire Department, our Township Board agreed to contact our Representative Elaine Wells concerning the establishing of a reserve fund for our fire budget.

Burlingame Township joined with Dragoon Township in 1958 to create a Volunteer Fire Department to serve the people in both Townships. The Fire Department, like many others, started out with surplus Forestry Department Equipment. In the mid 1970's we joined with the City of Burlingame to create a Volunteer Fire Department that is one of the best in the state.

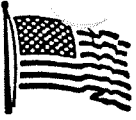
Presently we have two 3/4 ton four wheel drive brush trucks, one is a 1976 and the other is a 1978 model. We also have a 1977 Tanker and a 1974 Pumper. All of the vehicles are in fair to good condition. However, due to the type of terrain these vehicles cover in responding to brush and pasture fires, they will need to be replaced in the next few years.

The Burlingame Township yearly fire budget is \$9,800.00 of which \$7,371.55 is paid as its share in running the fire department. This leaves \$2,428.45 to spend on major repairs and expenses. The Fire budget for any Township can only be spent on fire department items. It cannot be transferred to other funds. If there is any amount left in the fund it is carried over to the following year and the budgeted amount is reduced by that amount.

At the present time, the only way to make a major purchase is by using No Fund Warrants and our taxpayers have let us know that they do not favor this method. House Bill No. 3018 would give the townships an option in planning for future replacements and major expenses without raising any taxes.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and I will be glad to answer any questions that I can.

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attach. 8



**Burlingame Fire Department**  
**Since 1876**  
**Burlingame, Kansas 66413**



February 27, 1992

Dear Committee Members;

It is my recommendation that House Bill No. 3018 be passed to allow townships to create a vehicle, machinery and equipment reserve fund.

Under current laws, a township is not allowed to transfer funds from one budget year to the next in order to build a reserve fund for fire equipment. This leaves no other choice than No Fund Warrants to acquire most fire apparatus and equipment. In several cases, some apparatus and machinery could be purchased, without No Fund Warrants, if more than one year's small equipment budgets could be combined into a reserve fund. This would allow some apparatus and machinery to be purchased without raising taxes to support No Fund Warrants. It would be more appealing to taxpayers to have their taxes stay at a steady rate that the up and down trend that would occur with the issuing and retiring of No Fund Warrants.

A reserve fund would also allow more flexibility in purchasing. For example, under the current laws, if a township wanted to purchase a piece of fire apparatus that cost \$10,000, and they could only budget \$5,000 each year for new equipment, the purchase would most likely be made during the time frame at the end of one year and the beginning of the next. This not only is a bookkeeping nightmare but it greatly decreases the townships options of shopping around for the best deal.

In short, I recommend this bill to provide townships a means of spending their taxpayers' money more economically as well as providing a means for keeping a steady stock of dependable fire equipment and insuring uninterrupted fire protection services.

Thank you for your interest and I will be glad to answer any questions that I can.

Sincerely,

Jim Strohm, Chief  
Burlingame Fire Department  
R.R. 2 box 23A  
Burlingame, KS 66413

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*Attach. 9*