

## **Ordinance 55**

Title. Uniform Rural Address System Ordinance of Union County, Iowa.

Be it enacted by the Board of Supervisors of Union County, Iowa

**SECTION 1. Purpose.** This ordinance mandates the use of a uniform rural address system for residents of Union County in order to promote the convenience, safety and general welfare of those residents and provides for penalty.

**SECTION 2. Definitions.** For use in this ordinance, the following terms or words shall be interpreted or defined as follows:

1. "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, corporation, 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 used by the agency co-ordination the uniform rural address system in Union County. Such a map shall indicate all addresses in Union County subject to the provisions of this ordinance.

**SECTION 3. Establishment by Resolution.** The Board shall, by resolution, establish the type of uniform rural address system to be used in Union County.

**SECTION 4. Extent of system.** The uniform rural address system shall extend over the entire unincorporated area of Union County except for those areas already using the system of a nearby incorporated area. Unincorporated areas using an address system not attached to an unincorporated area shall be subject to the provisions of this ordinance. Any incorporated areas, upon presentation of a written request from the governing body of such city to the Board, may also be included in the uniform rural address system.

**SECTION 5. Implementation of System.** The Board shall direct the E911 Coordinator to:

1. Verify the accuracy of the base map that shall be used in the assignment of addresses.
2. Make all necessary corrections and updates to that map.
3. Assign addresses in accordance with the system selected by the Board.
4. Purchase sign assembly materials.
5. Develop, print, and distribute rural reference maps for rural emergency providers, dispatchers, all county offices, emergency vehicles, the U.S. Post office, and the general public.
6. Notify post offices, rural emergency providers, dispatchers, emergency vehicles, all county offices and all providers and offices located in adjacent counties whereby such districts overlap into Union County of the effective date of the system and address assignments.

7. Send notifications to all residents affected by this system. Such notification shall state:
  - a. The date the system will take effect.
  - b. An explanation of the system and how to use it.

**SECTION 6. Street Signs.** The E911 Coordinator shall supervise the installation of road identification markers at each road intersection in Union County whereby the provisions of this ordinance apply. Such markers shall be in place on or before the date the system takes effect.

**SECTION 7. Private roadways.** Every private street or roadway from which an access is gained to two or more private entrance ways, or private connection street or roadway, shall be named and designated with legible reflective signs. Signs and mounting appurtenances shall be provided and maintained by the owner of the roadway. All signs shall be consistent with E911 specifications and installed at least seven (7) feet above the elevation of the roadway intersection. Sign blades shall display six inch (6") white high-intensity reflective characters on a nine inch (9") blue background. An application for the new name shall be filed with the Union County Emergency Coordinator and reviewed by the road name committee before installing any signage. A permit for a new name or notice or denial will be issued within 30 days of application.

**SECTION 8. Individual number locations markers.**

1. Each designated address shall have the address posted at the designated location with a marker approved by the E911 Board.
2. Address markers shall be purchased through the E911 Board and shall have the following specifications:
  - a. The post shall be 5'2" flexible composite material of 4" width. The color shall be blue.
  - b. The numbers shall be 4" white, reflective number with 1" spacing between numbers.
  - c. The marker shall be driven to the depth specified by the installation guide.
3. The E911 Service board shall set a fee for the markers.
4. All residences, businesses, and other occupied structures shall have the address marker installed within one year of the effective date of adoption of this provision.
5. Markers that are defaced, lost, or destroyed must be replaced within 30 days of such loss or damage.
6. Every person erecting a building, residence, or business shall within 7 days of commencement of construction, notify the E911 Coordinator who shall within 14 days of notification assign a number to such structure and install the designated marker.
7. Any house number existing at the time the provisions of this ordinance take effect and that is different than the officially assigned number shall be removed and the correct number erected.
8. Markers shall be placed as follows:
  - a. The marker shall be erected by the E911 Board or its designee.

- b. The marker shall be located at the primary entrance to the residence, business, or other structure.
  - c. The maker shall be at least 5 feet but no more than 20 feet on either side of the entrance and no more than 5 feet behind the road right-of-way line. Should this spacing not be possible the E911 Coordinator shall determine the appropriate location.
  - d. There shall be no obstruction of the marker between the marker and the road.
  - e. The E911 Coordinator with the approval of the E911 Board shall designate on an individual basis a uniform address location and number style and type on all rural apartments, condominiums, strip malls, multifamily dwellings, and other such structures where the provisions of section 8 are not practical.
9. Cost for the installations of the makers shall be paid by the owner of the residence according to the following payment schedule:
- a. Initial installation fee in the amount of \$25.00 if installed before January 1, 2024.
  - b. Initial installation fee in the amount of \$120.00 if installed after January 1, 2024.
  - c. Replacement fee for damaged and/or missing markers in the amount of \$40.00.

**SECTION 9. Maintenance of Uniform Rural Address System.** The E911 Coordinator shall be responsible for the continued maintenance of the uniform rural address system in Union County. These duties shall include assignment of all new addresses; installing replacement address markers; replacing street markers as needed, in conjunction with the Regional Board and the County Engineer; updating maps, issuing new maps to the agencies and persons provided for in Section 5, subsection 5; making periodic checks of the rural areas of Union County to insure that the provisions of this ordinance are being complied with; and any other duties necessary to insure the continued maintenance of the uniform rural address system of Union County.

**SECTION 10. Special Account – Use of Account.** All fines and other monies available or paid to the county under the provisions of this ordinance shall be placed in the E911 sign operating fund and credited to a special agency account to be designated as the uniform rural address system account under the control of the E911 Service Board.

**SECTION 11. Penalty.** Any person found in violation of this ordinance shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor. Fines levied shall be deposited into a special account.

**SECTION 12. Repealer.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 13. Severability Clause.** If any section, provisions, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional; such adjunction shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 14. When Effective.** This Ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2024.