

**SCOTT COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE**

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MEMO

TO: Dee F. Bruemmer  
County Administrator

FROM: Jon Burgstrum  
County Engineer

SUBJ: Resolution Approving Policy for Purchase of Right of Way 2015

DATE: January 29, 2015

Iowa Code Section 6B.54 requires counties to adopt a policy for the purchase of uncomplicated right-of-way parcels. Scott County occasionally purchases right-of-ways if needed around new bridge or culvert construction. In most cases right-of-way is not needed. In order to determine a fair market value the county assessor has provided a list of land purchases over the past year. We have used this list to evaluate a multiplier to determine the price of land when a right-of-way is purchased by the county. Land prices fluctuate from year to year so it's important that prices are reviewed annually.

The factor in 2014 for land by easement or deed was 4.94 times the assessed valuation per acre. The 2015 factor will be 4.55 times the assessed valuation per acre.

THE COUNTY AUDITOR'S SIGNATURE CERTIFIES THAT  
THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SCOTT COUNTY AUDITOR

R E S O L U T I O N

SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Policy for Purchase of Right of Way for 2015

January 29, 2015

WHEREAS: The uniform treatment of landowners in right-of-way is of paramount importance, and

WHEREAS: Assurance must be given to the Iowa Department of Transportation that Scott County is in compliance with the provisions of the 1970 Uniform Relocation Assistance and Land Acquisition Policies Act,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Scott County Board of Supervisors on this twenty-ninth day of January, 2015, that the Scott County Engineer is authorized to purchase the necessary right-of-way for construction and maintenance during the calendar year 2015, using the values computed in accord with the following schedule of allowances:

SCHEDULE I - AGRICULTURAL LAND:

For land by easement or deed: 4.55 times the assessed valuation per acre as it currently exists at the time an offer is made.

SECTION II - RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL LAND:

For land by easement or deed, where such land is classified by the assessor as residential, commercial or industrial for zoning

purposes - generally the appraisal method will be used.

SECTION III - FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS, FARM-TO-MARKET FUNDED PROJECTS, AND SPECIAL PURCHASES - APPRAISAL METHOD:

This section will only be utilized when the following conditions are determined to exist:

1. Where any buildings or special improvements or appurtenances exist on the parcel being taken.
2. Where there are definable damages to the remaining property.
3. Where federal funds or farm-to-market funds are involved requiring the complete appraisal method.
4. Where the parcel being taken is not representative of the total piece.
5. For properties as noted under Section II.

The County Engineer will seek two or more quotes for the service of an appraiser for the review by the Board of Supervisors prior to employment of an appraiser. The appraisal document will serve as the basis for purchase of the parcel.

SECTION IV - BORROW:

For land disturbed by reason of borrow or backslope: The value shall be based on the price per cubic yard of material taken - (\$0.30/cu.yd.). Agreement will also be made for the restoration of the area disturbed for borrow or backslope, either by removing and replacing 8 inches of top soil or by other appropriate measures, in accordance with Section 314.12, 1995 Code of Iowa. Compensation for crop loss or other land use loss in borrow or backslope areas will be determined based on the rental value for

similar land in the area. If crops have been planted, payment will be made to cover tillage cost, seed cost and fertilizer cost based on the pro-rated actual cost incurred. If the crop is harvested before the area is disturbed there will be no compensation for crop loss.

SECTION V - WATER LINES:

For existing privately owned water lines crossing the roadway: The total cost of any alterations required on the line within the new or existing right-of-way will be at the expense of the County.

SECTION VI - FENCES:

For the relocation of functional fences made necessary by the reconstruction of an existing roadway, a new fence will be allowed for all of the same type as the existing right-of-way fence. Allowances are \$25.00 per rod for woven wire, \$16.00 per rod for barbed wire. If no fence exists, no fence payment will be allowed. The length for payment will be the footage required to fence the new right-of-way. For relocating cross fences to the new right-of-way, the length of fence required to be moved shall be compensated at the rate for the same type of right-of-way fence above. For angle points introduced into the fence line by the design of the roadway, an allowance of \$166.00 for a two-post panel and \$260.00 for a three-post panel will be made.

NOTE: All salvage from the existing fence shall become the property of the property owner. Payment for fencing will be withheld until all existing fence has been removed and cleared

from the right-of-way. If the fence or any part thereof is not removed at the time of construction, it will be removed by Scott County or its contractor and a penalty of \$3.00 per rod assessed and deducted from the fence payment. For the removal of non-functional fences made necessary for the reconstruction of an existing roadway, the County will compensate the owner for his labor and equipment at the following rates:

Woven Wire	-	\$10.00 per rod
Barbed Wire	-	\$ 8.00 per rod

NOTE: All salvage from existing fence shall become the property of the owner. Payment for removal of non-functional fences will be withheld until all existing fences has been removed and cleared from the right-of-way. If fence or any part thereof is not removed at time of construction, it will be removed by Scott County or its contractor and the owner will forfeit any payment tendered for the fence.

DEFINITIONS:

Functional: In good state of repair and capable of containing livestock for which the fence was constructed.

Non-functional: In disrepair and incapable of containing the livestock for which the fence was constructed. Compensation for relocating fences of a type other than those described shall be negotiated.

SECTION VII - TREES AND SHRUBS:

For trees and ornamental shrubs which must be removed from the residence areas: compensation will be made on basis of appraisal

by an arborist or by negotiation.

SECTION VIII - INCIDENTAL EXPENSES:

A lump sum of \$50.00 which shall compensate the owner for any out-of-pocket expense incurred as a result of this transaction; i.e., abstracting fees, postage, telephone, etc.

SECTION IX - EASEMENT PRIORITY AGREEMENTS:

Scott County will pay all costs assessed by mortgage holders in executing "Easement Priority Agreements" for the easements obtained under the terms of this policy.

SECTION X:

PASSED AND APPROVED this twenty-ninth day of January, 2015, by the Scott County Board of Supervisors.

SECTION XI: This resolution shall take effect immediately.