
SUBJECT: BRIDGES AND CULVERTS

ADOPTED DATE: MAY 4, 1992

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS; Cass County has been assisting the townships with the maintenance and reconstruction of the township bridges for several years and,

WHEREAS; Cass County plans to continue to help the townships with the maintenance and reconstruction of the bridges under their jurisdiction and,

WHEREAS; all bridges on the township roads in Cass County are presently township bridges,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the Cass County bridge replacement policy for township roads shall be as follows until such time as the County Board of Commissioners sees fit to change same:

-BRIDGE REPLACEMENT-

Cass County will cause all county and township bridges to be inspected as required by law, and when in the opinion of the engineer, the structure is in such poor condition that it is considered to be a hazard, the bridges so considered shall be closed to use by the public. When such bridge is located on the township system the township board may request that said bridge be considered for replacement and after town board action these requests should be submitted to the County Engineer. The County will review each request and will determine the needs and the priority of each township structure so presented, and will determine the reconstruction program for these projects based upon the needs of the several townships and the funding available for projects of this type. If and when the county closes a township bridge due to structural conditions and elects to leave said bridge closed due to low priority or lack of funds, the affected township or townships may elect to replace the condemned structure using their own funds if the new structure is properly designed and built in accordance with minimum design standards, as outlined in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Manual for Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, and meeting HS-20 structural design requirements.

When the county agrees to assist a township in the replacement of a bridge on the township system the township shall provide the first \$500.00 of the cost for which the township would normally be responsible. The balance of the cost will be paid by the County unless other arrangements have been made between the County Board and the

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township board. All structures so replaced shall remain on the township system upon completion of the project.

-BRIDGE REFURBISHMENT (REPAIRS)-

Cass County will continue to assist the several townships in the repair of bridges on the township system. The jurisdiction for structures located on the township system shall remain with the townships. When the County elects to assist the townships with bridge repairs the first \$500 of the costs so encountered shall be paid by the township of townships involved. The County will pay the balance of such costs provided that the work is done by the County and under the direction of the County engineer. The townships may elect to repair their own structures and in so doing shall be responsible for the entire costs of repairs encountered by so doing. When repairing bridges by using this method the townships may request that the affected bridge be re-rated by the County upon the townships completion of the work.

-SIGNING OF TOWNSHIP STRUCTURES-

The County will continue to assist the several townships with signing of township bridges when the signs are placed in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, and load limits are placed in accordance with inventory and appraisal provided by the County and when the County furnishes and installs these signs with its own crews. The cost of material and labor for signs installed on township bridges shall be paid by the townships.

The intent of the Cass County Board of Commissioners "Policy Statement" is to provide assistance to the townships, so that townships may provide more safe and efficient transportation facilities for the public. Cass County has no intention of usurping any of the township jurisdiction as provided for in the North Dakota Century Code.

In the event that a township has a problem providing for their "Fiscal responsibilities" for structural projects other than those covered by this policy, they may request assistance from the County Board of Commissioners on a project by project basis. Proof of financial need will be required.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE DATE: MAY 24, 1988
AMENDED JUNE 7, 1988