



Emergency Services Communications Center

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November 1st, 2005

Rapid City Planning Commission Members
300 6th St.
Rapid City, SD 57701

Subject: Renaming of Country Road west of Haines Avenue

Honorable Commission Members,

In 1993, in preparation for Enhanced 9-1-1 services in Rapid City and Pennington County, many previously unaddressed county roads were mapped and given numerical addresses. As part of that process, "Country Rd" (the name suggested by the North Haines Volunteer Fire Department for the current road and which existed at that time entirely east of Haines Avenue) was proposed, reviewed, and forwarded to the County Commission for approval. The portion of the road east of West Nike Road was entirely in the county and the portion west of that intersection (which fell within the boundaries of the Rapid City limits) was given the same name. Subsequently, people living along "Country Rd" received, and have been using, the addresses issued to them 12 years ago without problems.

Currently, a new section of "Country Rd" is being constructed west of Haines Avenue by developer Bill Freytag. To match the existing City addressing grid, the new addresses will begin and increase westward from Haines Avenue, starting as the 500 block of "Country Rd". This will result in exact, duplicate address ranges existing both east and west of Haines Avenue and which will create serious (and potentially life-threatening) problems for emergency responders attempting to locate emergency callers. The GIS and Computer Aided Dispatch systems will not be able to recommend unit assignments when there are two different portions of "Country Rd" (some of which may be miles apart) with the exact same address ranges. If the emergency services dispatchers chose the wrong section, they will potentially send the North Haines Volunteer Fire Department and Pennington County Sheriff's Deputies to a call where Rapid City Fire Department and Rapid City Police Department personnel should have been sent or vice versa.

Initially, it was contemplated to change all affected addresses along "Country Rd", east of West Nike Road, to "E Country Rd". It was recognized that several hundred individuals (whose addresses have worked well for 12 years) would be affected. It was then contemplated that the portion of "Country Rd" west of West Nike Road be re-named "W Country Rd." However, it was learned this would have been in violation of City Ordinance 15.04.010, which specifies addressing schemes and prohibits the use of the directional identifier "West".



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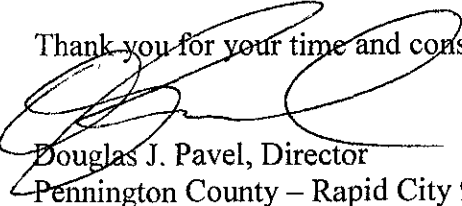
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Therefore, after a great deal of discussion between the City and County planning officials, the 9-1-1 Center personnel, and the developer, it is being recommended that the addresses currently existing along "Country Rd" east of Haines Avenue remain as they have been for 12 years (with two exceptions dealing with problems created by issues separate from the matter described above). It has been determined that those addressed will continue to work into the future and could be absorbed into any future growth and development.

It is further being suggested by all parties (including the developer) that, to avoid future public safety response problems, the portion of the street west of Haines Avenue be re-named Country Road West and designated in the GIS System as "Country Rd W". We would therefore respectfully ask your approval of this name change.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Douglas J. Pavel, Director
Pennington County – Rapid City 9-1-1
300 Kansas City St.
Rapid City, SD 57701