



Adopted April 18, 2018

Winter Maintenance on Unimproved Roads Policy

Whereas the Leelanau County Road Commission has several roads that have only received minimal maintenance by the road commission, and no maintenance during the winter months, and

Whereas many of these roads lack sufficient turn arounds, adequate width, surface, sight distance, and are too hilly and/or winding in nature to support and accommodate our equipment or 2-way traffic, and

Whereas most of these roads are simply “two track” roads that have historically provided access to seasonal cottages, and traffic on these roads is generally intermittent and infrequent, and

Whereas most of these roads have never been upgraded or reconstructed to meet current road standards for width, surfacing, turn arounds, and sight distance, and

Whereas the nature and condition of these roads often prevents our equipment from being able to safely maneuver on them to perform maintenance, particularly winter maintenance, and

Whereas performing additional maintenance on these roads may not be in the best interest of the public or the Road Commission because of the inherent danger of damage to our equipment, to the basic roadbed, or private property that may occur due to the lack of sufficient turn arounds, width, surfacing and sight distance, and

Whereas there is not sufficient funding to improve all of these roads to accommodate our equipment or 2-way traffic, and

Whereas in Leelanau County there are over 650 miles of roads that are maintained year round and most have been improved to provide adequate turn arounds, width, surface and sight distance to support and accommodate our equipment or 2-way traffic, thereby providing high quality access to thousands of parcels of land,

Therefore be it resolved that the Leelanau County Road Commission will consider performing additional maintenance, including winter maintenance, on these unimproved roads only where the entire cost to improve them to current Road Commission standards is paid by others. Whether to improve a road is solely with the Road Commission’s discretion, and will be highly dependent upon the unique characteristics of the road and the equipment necessary to efficiently maintain that road.

Be it further resolved that the Leelanau County Road Commission will consider entering into a cost sharing agreement to improve such a road to a road to a year-round maintenance standard, and will consider contributing up to 50% of the total cost, if funds are available and if the improvement results in a benefit to the Road Commission and the overall population of Leelanau County.

Commissioners

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Contacts

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