

ARTICLE III. ROAD NAMING AND PROPERTY NUMBERING

Sec. 4-76. Findings.

The county commission has determined that the adequate provisions of public services to the residents of the county, and to other public bodies, including such services as police, fire and emergency medical services, requires the establishment of a uniform road naming and numbering system for buildings and property located within the county. The county commission further feels that the article enacted herein will secure the public safety and deliver the aforementioned public services in a more efficient and effective manner.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 1)

Sec. 4-77. Preamble.

There is hereby established a uniform system for road naming and for numbering property and buildings on all roads, streets and public ways within the county. All buildings shall be numbered in accordance with the provisions set forth herein.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 2)

Sec. 4-78. Road names.

(a) The county GIS Division shall establish and assign names for all streets, roads and public ways within the county.

(b) No new road name assigned by the county GIS Division shall be a duplicate of or be similar to (either phonetically or by spelling) any existing street name within the county.

(c) Existing duplicate road names shall be changed only as necessary to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the enhanced 911 system in the county, as determined in the judgment of the county commission.

(d) Historical names shall be the prime consideration in the assignment of road names. Additionally, no two part names shall be considered for a road name, per NENA Standards, unless there is a significant history behind the name.

(e) As many segmental roads as possible shall be identified as being a continuous road, thereby eliminating as many road identifying names and numbers as possible. It is recommended that any road serving two or more structures, which may be occupied, should be named and numbered. This will apply both to public and private roads, drives, alleys, and service roads. Each named road within the county should bear a road name sign, whether private or public.

(f) The county paved roads and historical roads, whether paved or unpaved, shall be named, and as funds are available the names shall be posted. Road naming within subdivisions shall comply with the Bulloch County Subdivision Regulations and in addition be approved by the Bulloch County GIS Division prior to the final subdivision plat being approved and recorded in the office of clerk of superior court of the county. Furthermore, certain roads of historical significance, shall be named and bear the same name and number throughout.

· Cross references—Definition and rules of construction, § 1-2; street systems, § 9-84; street names generally, App. B, §§ 7.1.4, 10.4.

(g) Upon receipt of a petition in the form and format as specified by the board of commissioners seeking a change of name of an existing named road containing the signatures of the owners or their representatives as specified below of not less than 75 percent of the parcels of property abutting said public road, the board of commissioners shall take under consideration but be under no compulsion to grant said request. At its discretion, the board of commissioners may, but shall not be required to, prior to deciding the issue of the proposed name change, hold a public hearing on the issue.

- (1) The owner of the abutting property shall be deemed to be the person or entity returning the property for ad valorem taxes in the office of the Bulloch County Tax Commissioner.
 - a. If the property is returned in the name of an estate or trust, the legal representative of the estate or trust must sign the petition.
 - b. If the property is returned in the name of a corporation, a corporate officer must sign the petition on behalf of the corporation.
 - c. If the property is returned in the name of a partnership, each partner must sign the petition unless the signing partner has written authorization to sign for all other partners.
 - d. If, according to the records in the tax commissioner's office, more than one natural person has a life or fee interest in said property, each such interest holder must sign the petition unless the signing interest holder has written permission to sign for the non-signing interest holders.
 - e. After receiving the 75 percent of all land owners signatures, a certified letter will be sent, at petitioner's expense, to verify all signatures on the petition.
- (2) The determination by the board of commissioners as to the authority of the person signing the petition and the number of parcels abutting the road shall be final.

(h) In the event there is a dispute as to the proper name of an existing road or a dispute as to whether an existing road has been previously officially named, the county commission, in its absolute discretion, shall assign a name to the road under the same procedure for the naming of a new road. The decision by the county commissioners as to the name assigned to such road shall be final.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 3)

Sec. 4-79. Numbering.

(a) The county commission shall establish a new address numbering system, using NENA Standards, which shall be administered by the Bulloch County GIS Division.

(b) Any structure with a continuous roofline, which has power connected and/or can possibly be occupied, shall be assigned a separate number. A number or alphabetical letter shall be assigned for each separate and distinct occupant or division (i.e. apartment, company, etc.) within a building or other occupied structure. Furthermore, no temporary or aesthetic addresses will be assigned for any structures or bare properties in the County.

(c) Existing numbers shall be changed only as necessary to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the enhanced 911 system in the county, as determined in the judgment of the county GIS Division.

(d) All new buildings and structures must be assigned a number address by the Bulloch County GIS Division prior to the granting of a building permit. All subdivision plats must also be submitted to the Bulloch County Zoning Division before any 911 addresses will be assigned.

(e) Written notification of the address assigned under the terms of this article to each house, building or structure shall be given or delivered to its respective owner.

(f) Written notification of the address assigned under the terms of this article to each house, building or structure shall also be given to the appropriate post office of the United States Postal Service.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 4)

Sec. 4-80. Placement of assigned numbers.

(a) Except as set forth in sections Sec. 4-81 and Sec. 4-82 herein, the owner, occupant or agent of each house, building or other structure assigned a number under the uniform numbering system provided in this article shall place or cause to be placed such number on the house, building or other structure within 30 days after receiving notification of the number assignment.

(b) Any number aside from the assigned number shall be removed from the structure, mailbox, post or stanchion, to prevent confusion with the number assigned in conformance with this ordinance. No person, agency, or business shall adopt, assign, display or cite any number other than that assigned by the Bulloch County GIS Division.

(c) Cost and installation of the numbers shall be paid for by the property owner, occupant or agent of each house, building or other structure.

(d) Residential numbers shall not be less than three inches in height. Business numbers shall not be less than four inches in height. Any structure containing multiple units (i.e. apartment complex, or multiple businesses in one unit) must display the assigned number or alphabetical letter assigned in the same manner as a business. All numbers shall be made of a durable, clearly visible material and shall contrast with the color of the house, building or other structure.

(e) All numbers shall be conspicuously placed immediately above, on or at the side of the appropriate door so that the number is clearly visible from the street. In cases where the building is situated more than 50 feet from the street, the building number shall be placed near the walk, driveway or common entrance to the building, or upon the mailbox, gatepost, fence or other appropriate place so as to be clearly visible from the street.

(f) In the instance that a building or dwelling or any other property described in this article that requires numbering under this article, is not visible from the road or street for which it is located, the property number shall be posted in close proximity to the driveway for the property. The address assigned must also be placed on the structure itself as well as the driveway entrance. The numbers must be displayed in an appropriate place which is visible easily during the day or at night from the road or street. "An appropriate place" includes mailboxes, fences, curbs, gate posts, and double-faced signs that are perpendicular to the road.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 5)

Sec. 4-81. Administration and implementation.

(a) No building permit shall be issued for any house, building or other structure to be erected, repaired, altered or modified in the unincorporated areas of the county after the effective date of this article until the owner has obtained the assigned number from the Bulloch County GIS Division.

(b) It shall be the duty of the owner to attach the assigned number to that house, building or other structure as provided herein.

(c) Final, approval of any house, building or other structure erected, repaired, altered or modified after the effective date of this article shall be withheld by the building inspector until permanent and proper numbers have been attached to the structure.

(d) The county manager shall be authorized to recommend written procedures and reasonable fees to the board of commissioners for the processing by the county of petitions requesting changing of road names or property numbers.

(e) The Board of Commissioners may, by resolution, set a fee for the application and processing of requests or petitions for road name changes or assignment of property numbers.

(f) As part of the new 911 implementation, all structures will be photographed and placed in the County 911 database and on the Tax Assessors website. In the event this may or will cause harm, the resident may request in writing to the Bulloch County Chief Tax Appraiser, that their information not be listed for public viewing. However, the photograph will remain with the 911 Division for its duration.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 6; Ord. of 4-5-94)

Sec. 4-82. Existing structures.

The board of commissioners shall encourage owners of existing structures to post the assigned numbers to their structure in accordance herewith within 30 days from the effective date of this article.

(Ord. of 5-5-91, § 7)