

# The Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana

## GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 85-11, 2007

### AN ORDINANCE REGULATING TRAFFIC ON COUNTY HIGHWAYS BY THE DECLARATION OF A WEATHER ADVISORY OR A SNOW EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana, may adopt ordinances regulating traffic on any highway in the County highway system, subject to I.C. 9-21.

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a procedure should be implemented when it is believed that there is a threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the accumulation of snow and/or ice.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS NOW ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Definitions.

- 1.1. "Commissioners" shall mean the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana.
- 1.2. "Committee" shall mean the committee composed of the president of the Commissioners, the Wabash County Highway Superintendent, the Wabash County Sheriff, and the Wabash County Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, or their respective designees.
- 1.3. "Coordinator" shall mean the president of the Commissioners or his designee.
- 1.4. "Snow Emergency" shall mean a formal declaration by the Commissioners that there is a threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the accumulation of snow and/or ice during which all motor vehicle traffic on County Highways shall be prohibited.
- 1.5. "Weather Advisory" shall mean a formal declaration by the Commissioners that there is a threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the accumulation of snow and/or ice during which traffic is permitted on County Highways at the driver's risk.

2. Procedure for Declaring a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency.

- 2.1. When, in the opinion of the Committee, the actual or expected accumulation of snow and/or ice will create a threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the accumulation of snow and/or ice, the Committee shall recommend, in its discretion, to the Commissioners that they declare either a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency.
- 2.2. If the Commissioners agree with the recommendation of the Committee, they shall declare, in their discretion, either a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency.

3. Effect of Declaration of a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency.

- 3.1. If a Weather Advisory is declared, motorists may travel on County Highways at their own risk.
- 3.2. If a Snow Emergency is declared, all motor vehicle travel on County highways is prohibited.
- 3.3. If, during a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency, a motor vehicle becomes disabled, abandoned or incapable of moving under its own power, the vehicle may be removed at the expense of its owner at the direction of any member of the Committee.
- 3.4. During a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency:
  - 3.4.1 No motor vehicle shall be parked on a County highway or right of way.
  - 3.4.2 Pushing (plowing) snow on to a County highway or right of way is prohibited.

4. Procedures to be Followed upon the Declaration of a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency.

- 4.1. The Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security shall alert media outlets when a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency has been declared.
- 4.2. A Weather Advisory or Snow Emergency shall be in effect until terminated by the Commissioners.

5. Motor Vehicles Exempt from the Weather Advisory or Snow Emergency. The following motor vehicles shall be exempt from the effects of a declarations of a either a Weather Advisory or a Snow Emergency:

- 5.1. All emergency response vehicles, public utility vehicles, towing vehicles, and vehicles being operated for the sole and express purpose of caring for livestock.
- 5.2. Any snowmobiles or other off-road vehicles which are declared to be "emergency vehicles" under this ordinance by the Coordinator or Sheriff of Wabash County.

6. Penalty. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance commits a Class "C" infraction.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana, this 17th day of December, 2007.

Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana

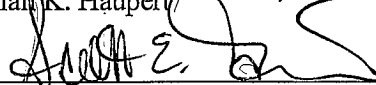
By: \_\_\_\_\_

Lester D. Templin, Chairman



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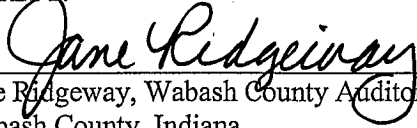
Brian K. Haupert



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Scott E. Givens

ATTEST:



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Jane Ridgeway, Wabash County Auditor  
Wabash County, Indiana