

DRAINAGE ASSESSING/FINANCING POLICY
Adopted 1/27/04

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to communicate to County Elected Officials, Department Heads, and the public the County's formal policy with respect to Drain Assessment of cost for the county of Tuscola.

2. POLICY

At the December 23, 2002 meeting of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners, the following resolution was passed regarding drain assessing and allocation of cost.

WHEREAS, apportionments to the County At-Large are based on benefit to county roads and as the means of improving the highway; and

WHEREAS, Drain-at-Large assessments to the County have significantly increased from \$70,494 in 1993 to \$491,116 in 2000 for a total 8 year increase of 596% or an average annual increase of 75%; and

WHEREAS, the increasing demands of the Drain-at-Large costs are depriving the County of the general fund revenue it needs to adequately fund necessary services such as the courts and road patrol; and

WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner is not assessing Drain-at-Large assessments on the basis of benefit, but instead is allocating a flat 25% to the County, which the Board finds does not reflect the overall benefit to the County roads of drain improvements.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners rescinds any prior policy that it might have adopted that would have directed or encouraged the Drain Commissioner to determine the County road systems' Drain-at-Large share of drain at large assessments at a flat 25% and from this date forward, on any new petition or project for which no assessment has been made, the Drain Commissioner is directed to make county Drain-at-Large assessments on the basis of benefit to the County's roads;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that for those new petitions and projects where the County road system's share of drain assessments is assessed on the basis of benefit, the Drain Commissioner is directed to comply with all state guidelines and rules pursuant to MCL §247.664a and is requested to

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make all calculations thereunder, the so-called "14a calculations," and to advise the County and the Road Commission of those calculations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County will pay its allocated share, outside the amounts to be paid by the Road Commission pursuant to the 14a calculations, from the County's General Fund, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall supersede, modify, augment or replace any previous inconsistent resolution, motion or Board action on these subjects.