

Hawkeye Townshp

Divide County

North Dakota

**Rural Development
And Comprehensive Zoning Plan**

August 31, 2001

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Preface

This Rural Development Plan was prepared by the Hawkeye Township Zoning Commission and Township Board in consultation with William J. Delmore of Mandan, North Dakota, and Sue Leake of rural Emerado, North Dakota. This plan was initiated to express the township's development plans and will be used as a basis for the Hawkeye Township Zoning Ordinance in accordance with Section 58-03-12 of the North Dakota Century Code. The scope of this "Plan" covers all of Hawkeye Township.

Hawkeye Township Board:

Landy Bummer, Chairman

Kent Unhjem, Supervisor

Duane Wenstad, Supervisor

Dorene Wenstad, Clerk/ Treasurer

Hawkeye Township Zoning Commission:

Landy Bummer

Kent Unhjem

Duane Wenstad

Mark Oppegaard

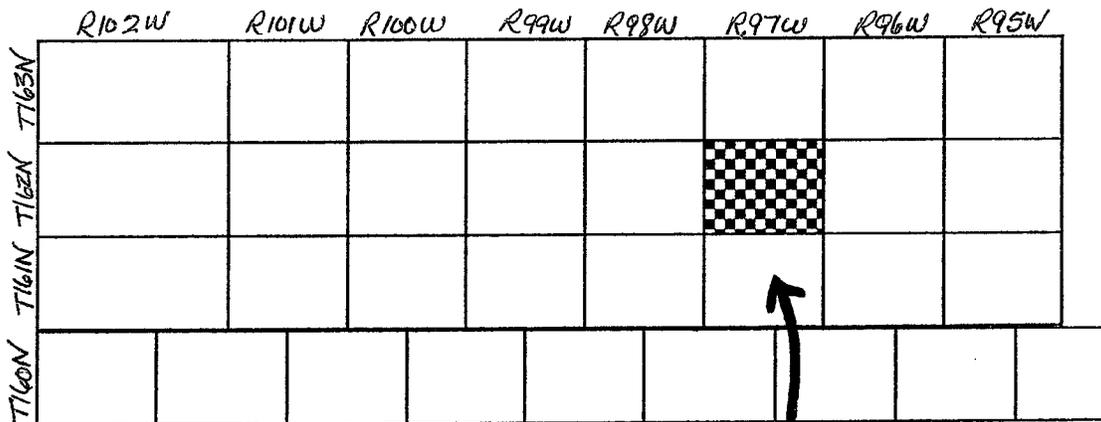
Eric Nordstog

Introduction

Hawkeye Township is located in Divide County, North Dakota. It is an agricultural area with many residents engaged in farming. Township officials have indicated a desire to preserve the rural nature of the township. They have initiated this rural development plan to present the physical background of the township and to express the township's desires for the future.

The background portion of the plan contains information primarily on the physical characteristics of the Township. The land use policy section presents the growth policy in the form of goals, objectives, and policies. This rural development plan is intended to be a general, flexible guide to the future and should be updated periodically.

Divide County, North Dakota



Hawkeye Township

Background for Planning

POPULATION

Rural areas of North Dakota have been experiencing population declines since the 1930's. Hawkeye Township has not been much different from the statewide trend.

Reasons for this population decline can be attributed first to the dust bowl and poor farming conditions of the 1930's, followed by the high efficiency of today's farms, the need for farmers to operate larger farms in order to earn a living, and the associated lack of desirable job opportunities for the farmers offspring. It is expected that Hawkeye Township's population will continue to decline for another ten years or so, and that it will then stabilize at or near that level. Township officials will strive for a land use policy which preserves the family farm, farm residences, and the agricultural nature of the township.

Hawkeye Township

Census Population and Projections

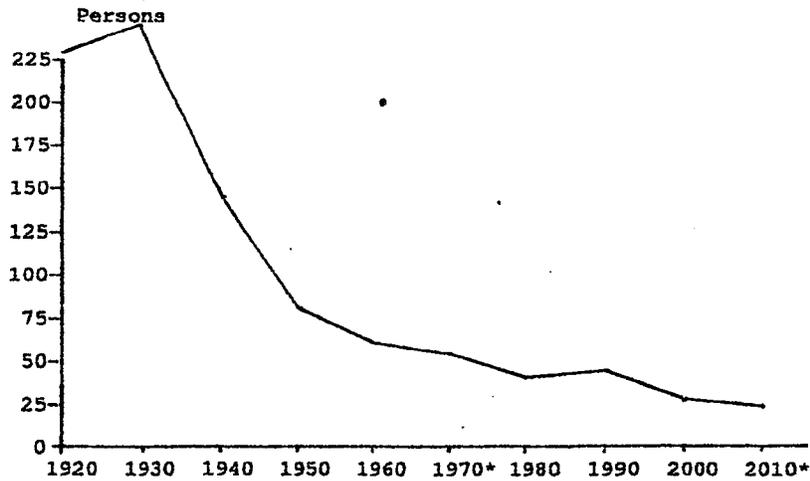
Year	Population	# Change	% Change
1920	229	---	---
1930	257	+28	+12.2
1940	147	-110	-42.8
1950	80	-67	-45.6
1960	67	-13	-16.3
1970	55*	-7	-10.4
1980	43	-12	-21.8
1990	48	+5	+11.6
2000	35	-13	-27.1
2010	30	-5	-14.3

Projections - Hawkeye Township Board

* Estimation, Hawkeye Township Board, Data not available

Source - U.S. Census of Population (various reports)

Hawkeye Township Population History



U.S. Census Population by Year

Projections - Hawkeye Township Board

* Estimation, Hawkeye Township Board, Data not available

Source - U.S. Census of Population (various reports)

LAND USE

The main land use in Hawkeye Township is farming, primarily small grains and oilseeds. Some parts of the township are also used for ranching. With agriculture being the predominant factor in the economy of the township, preservation of the rural nature of Hawkeye Township should be maintained.

Land Use Map

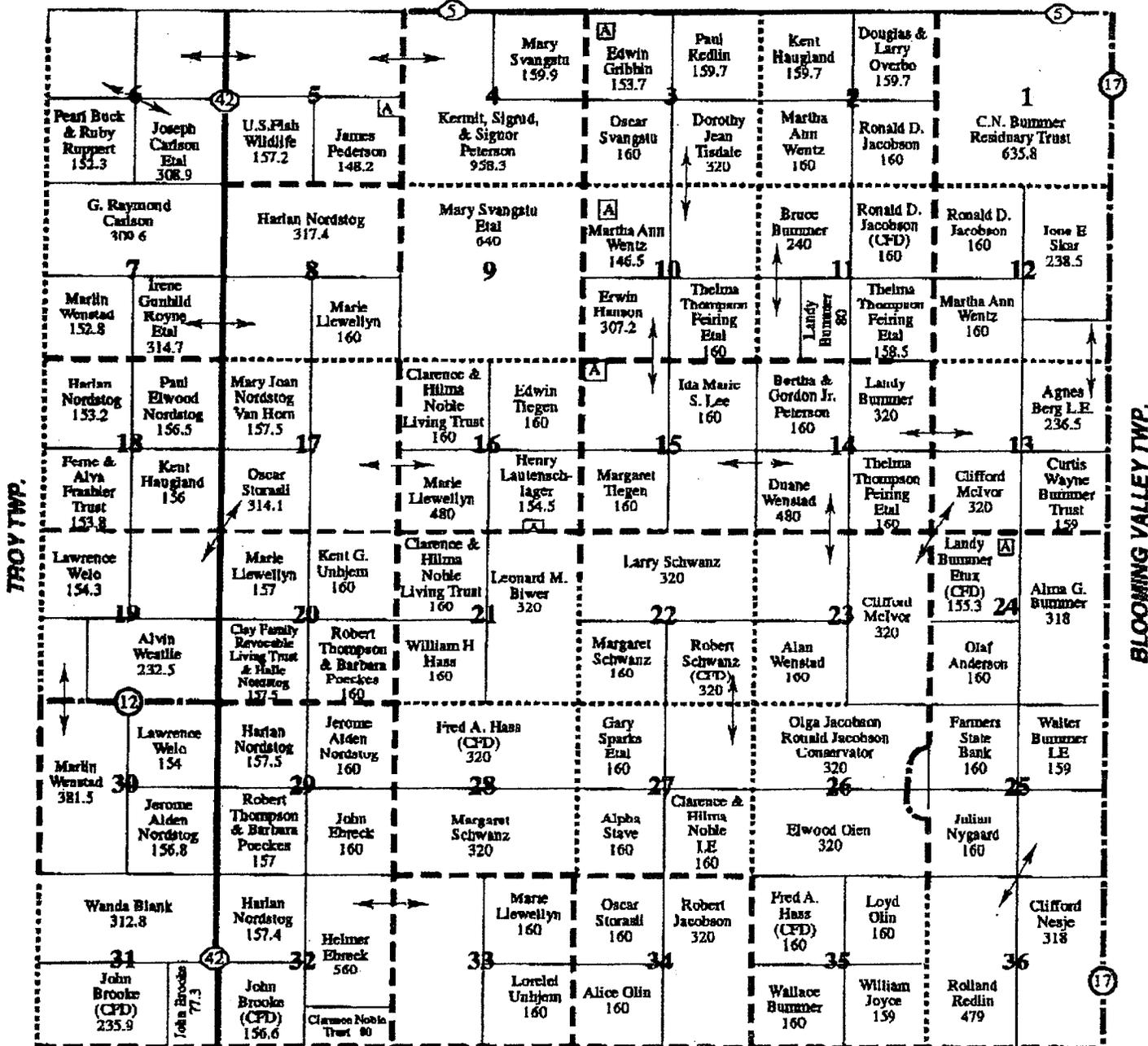
HAWKEYE PLAT

Township: 162N

Code: HA

Range: 97W

FILLMORE TWP.



FRAZIER TWP.

SMALL TRACT OWNERS

Section	Name	Acres	Section	Name	Acres
03-A	Concordia Lutheran Church	3.6			
05-A	Harvey Peterman	9.9			
10-A	Martha Ann Wentz				
	%Duane Johnson	13.5			
15-A	Ronald & Sharon Olson	12.8			
16-A	Hawkeye Township Hall	5.5			
24-A	Landy B. & Diane M. Bummer	4.7			

Received Time Aug. 23. 1:06PM

SOILS

The main soil association in Hawkeye Township is the Noonan-Niobell soil association, nearly level and undulating, which comprises about 35.6 percent of Hawkeye Township. These soil areas consist of numerous low, irregularly-shaped rises separated by shallow swales and poorly drained depressions. They are moderately well drained loam soils which are used for growing small grains and oilseeds.

The Farnuf-Marais-Alkabo soil association, level to gently rolling, makes up about 23.1 percent of the township. These soil areas are level to gently rolling, well drained loamy to silty soils which are used for growing small grains and oilseeds. Some areas are used for pasture.

The Zahl-Williams soil association, undulating to very steep, makes up about 17.5 percent of the township. These loamy, well drained soil areas are located on undulating to very steep areas with knolls, ridges, potholes, and drainageways. The steeper areas of this association are used for rangeland while the less sloping areas are used for growing small grains and oilseeds.

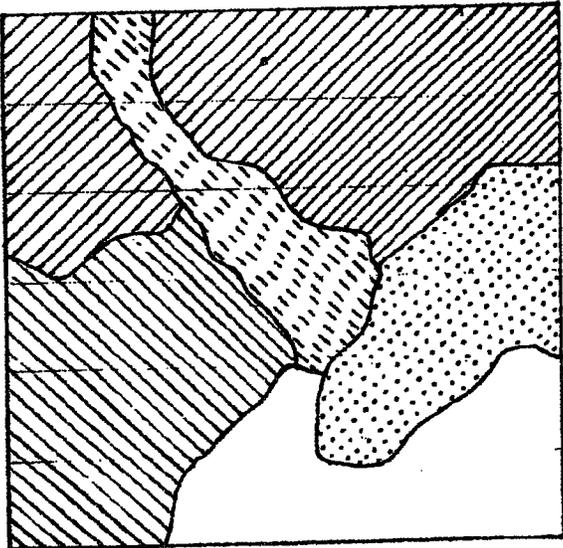
The Willaims-Zahl-Bowbells soil association, level to gently rolling, makes up about 13.7 percent of the township. These well drained, loamy soil areas are located in broad flats, swales, and drainageways. Most areas of this association are used for growing small grains and oilseeds.

The remaining 10.1 percent of Hawkeye Township is comprised of the Harriet-Miranda-Stirum soil association, level and nearly level. These loamy, poorly and

somewhat poorly drained soil areas are located on bottomlands of streams and outwash channels. Most areas of this association are used for hay and rangeland.

Soil Associations

-  Williams-Zahl-Bowbells soils association, level to gently rolling
-  Noonan-Niobell soils association, nearly level and undulating
-  Farnuf-Marais-Alkabo soils association, level to gently rolling
-  Harriet-Miranda-Stirum soils association, level and nearly level
-  Zahl-Williams soils association, undulating to very steep



NATURAL RESOURCES

The greatest natural resource in the township, by far, is its soils. The fertile soils in the township were what initially attracted homesteaders to the area. If managed correctly, the soils will continue to produce high yields of excellent quality crops for generations.

The wildlife which once flourished on the prairie finds refuge in the undisturbed prairie refuges in Hawkeye Township. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Station is located in the southwest quarter of Section 5 to protect a shallow-water habitat area for birds and other marsh animals. Birds, ducks, and other native wildlife flourish in and around the station.

There are currently no oil or gas wells in Hawkeye Township, but exploration may be possible in the future. The potential value of this resource is undetermined.

Small-scale gravel mining has been an activity in the township since the homestead days, with most gravel being removed from small, non-commercial gravel pits.

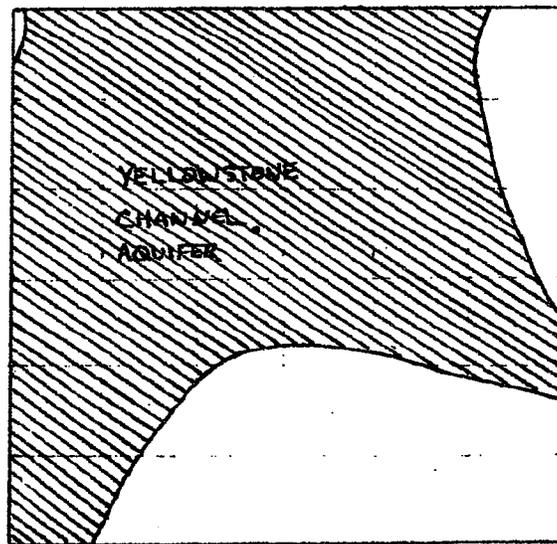
WATER RESOURCES

The coulees in the township generally drain from southwest to northeast. None of the coulees are named, and they often dry up during the hot months of the year and carry the greatest amount of runoff in the spring. Most of the coulees are located in the southern half of the township. There are numerous small lakes and several larger lakes, but none of the lakes or coulees are named. For location of the coulees, see the land use map on page 7.

The Yellowstone Channel Aquifer underlies much of Hawkeye Township, and is shown on the Groundwater Resources map, below.

There are numerous private wells located in the township.

Hawkeye Township
Ground Water Resources



TOPOGRAPHY

The Hawkeye Township has topography related to glaciated plains. The land in the township slopes downward from southwest to northeast, toward Long Creek and into the Souris River basin. Approximate elevations above sea level at the corners of the township are:

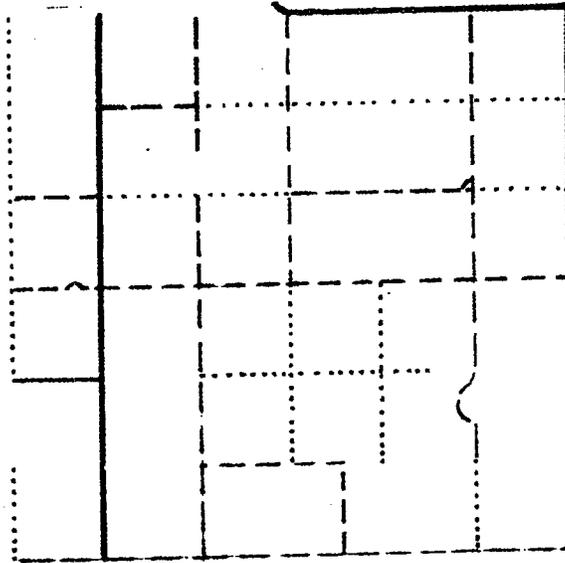
SW - 2049 ft.
NW - 2016 ft.
NE - 1942 ft.
SE - 2222 ft.

TRANSPORTATION

Currently there are approximately 9 miles of paved roads in Hawkeye Township; State Highway 42 runs north-south through the western portion of the township for 6 miles, and State Highway 5 follows the northern border of the township for 3 miles from the northeastern corner to the center of the township where it turns north into Fillmore Township. There are approximately 7 miles of gravel county roads in Hawkeye Township. County Road 17 is a gravel road which runs for six miles north-to-south along the eastern edge of Hawkeye Township. County Road 12 runs east for one mile from the western edge of the township until it joins State Highway 42. There are also approximately 32 miles of improved and graveled township roads and 19-1/2 miles of unimproved township roads and trails within the township. Road use in the township is limited to the local residents and pass-through travelers wishing to connect to other county, state, and federal highways.

TRANSPORTATION

- Paved State Highway
- Gravel County Road
- - - Improved Township Road
- Unimproved Township Road
or Trail



CLIMATE

Hawkeye Township has a semi-arid to subhumid and continental climate. It is usually quite warm in summer, but frequent spells of hot weather and occasional cool days are typical. Temperatures are very cold in winter, when arctic air frequently surges over the area. Most precipitation falls in late spring and in early summer. Rapidly changing daily weather patterns are common in both winter and summer.

The average annual precipitation is about 15 inches. Of this, about 12 inches, or 80 percent, usually falls in April through September. Winter snowfall is variable, with an average annual snowfall of about 30 inches. The distribution of the precipitation is a very significant factor in the agricultural base of the township.

LAND USE POLICY

In order to present the future desires of Hawkeye Township, the township board has developed the following issues, goals, and objectives. This comprehensive plan will be considered “the policy” of the Hawkeye Township Board as it pertains to future development. It is comprised of five sections:

- I. Agriculture
- II. Natural Resources
- III. Public Services
- IV. Transportation
- V. Public Participation

I. AGRICULTURE

Many of the residents of Hawkeye Township make their living from the land. They feel that to continue their way of life, the agricultural base of the township must be preserved.

Goal: Wise use and management of Hawkeye Township's agricultural resources for the maximum benefit of area residents for all time.

Objective: Protect the township's agricultural land from encroachment by nonagricultural activities.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Pursue road designs which compliment area farming activities and result in a minimum disturbance to the soil.
- b. When possible, deter nonfarm development from productive farmland.
- c. Guide residential, commercial, and industrial development to areas where substantial public and private investment and the provision of services already exists.
- d. Encourage nonagricultural activities to locate in areas where they will not hinder farm operations.
- e. Limit the establishment and location of nonfarm residences and include the following considerations:
 1. Lot size should meet minimum safety standards established through well/tank requirements.
 2. Residences should avoid being located on highly productive farmland and should be oriented so as not to impede nearby farm operations.
 3. Discourage the utilization of multiple septic systems absent clear technical information that soils are suitable for such systems and downgradient resources and owners will not be harmed.

- f. Restrict the location of utilities' easements to areas which will not interfere with farming activities and will disturb the minimum amount of farmland (i.e., section lines).
- g. Discourage any land use activities that could result in a significant degradation of township agriculture.

Objective: Reduce the loss of agricultural soils to alkaline soils, saline seep, and wind and water erosion.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Cooperate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Cooperative Extension Service and others in the development of educational programs on soil erosion reduction and windbreaks.
- b. Construct road ditches and control drainage to minimize saline seep.

Objective: The township encourages the continuation of family farming, including family farm ownership of land and livestock.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Non-family corporate farming should be discouraged.

II. NATURAL RESOURCES

The natural resources of the township are important to the residents and necessary for agricultural production.

Goal: Protection and conservation of the natural and man-made environment for the present and future generations.

Objectives: Identify and manage the area's water resources to assure an adequate supply of potable quality water for future generations.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Maintain rural water tables by discouraging new wells for industrial use.
- b. Deter urban development in areas of high water tables.
- c. Discourage the establishment of Confined Animal Feeding Operations in areas of ground and surface water vulnerability
- d. Discourage irrigation and chemigation in areas of ground and surface water vulnerability.
- e. Encourage Best Management Practices by farming operations to avoid ground and surface water contamination.
- f. Avoid ground and surface water contamination from solid waste disposal facilities.
- g. Ensure that any commercial solid waste disposal site provides safeguards that will unequivocally protect the Township's surface water, groundwater, and aquifers.
- h. Assure adequate lot sizes necessary for the safe separation of wells and septic tanks.
- i. Discourage any land use activities that could result in a significant contribution of pollution to the township ground and surface water resources.
- j. Ensure that any mineral exploration (oil, coal, gas, or gravel) or extraction

is done in a manner which best protects the natural resources of the Township.

- k. Provide that any disposal or injection wells are regulated in a manner that conserves and protects the Township's natural resources.

Objective: Reduce soil erosion and flooding caused by man-made and natural drainage patterns.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Encourage understanding and compliance with the drainage laws through public meetings.
- b. Cooperate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and district supervisors in the development of educational programs on farming techniques for drainage areas.
- c. Discourage channelization of natural waterways and improper drainage practices to guard against excessive erosion, gullies, sedimentation, and flooding.

Objective: Preserve the quality of water in the township's surface and groundwater resources.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Support soil conservation practices which minimize soil erosion and sedimentation.
- b. Assure adequate setback requirements from waterways for waste disposal facilities to prevent contamination of ground and surface water resources, especially those that are ultimately potable water resources.
- c. Animal waste shall be handled in a manner in which minimizes surface and groundwater contamination.
- d. Encourage Proper use of chemicals and proper disposal of hazardous wastes and chemical.

Objective: Reduce the loss of valuable topsoil by wind and water erosion

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Cooperate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Soil Conservation District board of supervisors in promoting good soil management.
- b. Encourage land practices or uses which control or limit water and wind erosion and loss of topsoil.

IV. TRANSPORTATION

Roads in the township should be maintained in good driving condition to assure the continued movement of agricultural equipment and products.

Goal: A transportation/communications system responsive to the needs of township residents and complementary to the broader regional and statewide network.

Objective: Assure utility locations are compatible with neighboring land uses.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Require utility easement locations which will minimize conflicts with farming operations.
- b. Require the location of utilities along section lines and other established right-of-way areas.

Objective: Maintain township and county roads in good driving condition.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Discourage direct development on major roads where such development would result in increased congestion and hazards.
- b. Discourage development in areas where the costs of providing or maintaining roads is excessive
- c. Require permits for any unusual traffic patterns created by construction of utilities. The Township Board shall be the sole judge for damages incurred by these practices.
- d. Establish weight limits and speed limits for loaded trucks on county and township roads to prevent damage to the road and to protect traffic safety.
- e. Encourage proper use of roads, bridges, and culverts.
- f. Ensure that any commercial facilities (i.e. landfills) will not adversely affect the Township's road systems.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public involvement is the key to success in achieving the goals set forth in this comprehensive plan.

Goal: Maintain a high level of public involvement in decisions affecting the future of Hawkeye Township and its residents.

Objective: Improve citizen knowledge and participation in planning decisions made in the township.

Policy Alternatives:

- a. Maintain a continuing program of public communication in order to keep the citizens aware of all planning activities.
- b. Hold public hearings, solicit suggestions and opinions to assure public involvement in planning decisions.
- c. Make all public documents, minutes of meetings and important planning information available for review.

SUMMARY

Hawkeye Township is well suited for agricultural activities. The climate of the township is very conducive for ranching and the farming of small grains, oilseeds, and other specialty crops.

To preserve the agricultural base and productivity of the land for future generations, the Hawkeye Township Board of Supervisors has developed this rural development plan and recommends that it be implemented by a township zoning ordinance. The township supervisors hope to manage more efficiently those land activities which are compatible with agriculture, insure that any future growth and development within the township is consistent with the needs and desires of the residents; and to be sure that these activities are not a burden on public expenditures.

Adopted by the Hawkeye Township Board of Supervisors as a guide to development on August 31 , 2001.

Landy Bummer, Township Chairman

Dorene Wenstad, Township Clerk/Treasurer