

A Resolution of the County of Grundy, Iowa - Declaring Support and Intent of the Placement of
Historic Route 20 Signage on the County/State Maintained Road
Resolution #32-2018/2019

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 20 was created in 1926 from Boston, MA, to Yellowstone National Park, WY; and

WHEREAS, By 1943, U.S. Highway Route 20 was extended to Newport, OR – a distance of 3,365 miles; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 20 extended 333 miles between Dubuque and Sioux City, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 was decommissioned in most of California in 1964, making U.S. Highway Route 20 the longest highway in the country; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, U.S. Highway Route 20 has conveyed commerce and pleasure travelers whose needs were met by nearby cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, The State of Iowa has been working since 1952 to relocate U.S. Highway Route 20 to a four lane highway; and

WHEREAS, Though largely supplanted by the four lane highway route, the original segments of U.S. Highway Route 20 remain, although most are no longer identified as such; and

WHEREAS, Former U.S. Highway Route 20 served as the main street of many Iowa cities and towns along its length and, though no longer designated as former U.S. Highway Route 20, these segments represent both state and local historic significance; and

WHEREAS, the Historic US Route 20 Association, Inc., is a nonprofit 501 (c)3 organization aimed to promote tourism and economic development along the original 1926 alignment of US Route 20; and

WHEREAS, The Historic Route 20 Association, Inc., provides historic route markers to act as a wayfinding tool to guide tourists and travelers on the 1926 alignment to a local agency; and

WHEREAS, Designation of a Historic Route and the permission of placement of historic markers on State Public Highways must come from the Iowa Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Without formal designation, the history and contribution of these segments of U.S. Highway Route 20 to the development of the state would remain less known; and

WHEREAS, Recognition of these segments will foster the economic health and cultural preservation of small communities and towns located along the highway; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that a means to designate these historic sections of former U.S. Highway Route 20 be established.

¹ The term local agency can refer to, but is not limited to, the following; Town or City Council, Mayor's Office, Chamber of Commerce, Visitor's Bureau, Convention & Visitor's Bureau, Historical Society, Economic Development Office, Organization or Business or Individual.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED That the County of Grundy, Iowa, hereby recognizes the original 1926 segment of former U.S. Highway Route 20 in the County of Grundy, Iowa, as *Historic Route 20 (Iowa)* for its historical significance and importance in the development of Iowa; and

Be it further RESOLVED That the County of Grundy, Iowa, commits to the permitting and placement of Historic Route 20 Markers within its borders, including the State DOT Highway; and

Be it further RESOLVED That all signs and installation, including maintenance, will be the responsibility of the Historic Route 20 Association, Inc.; and

Be it further RESOLVED That the Iowa Department of Transportation, upon receipt of this resolution by all interested local agencies along the original segment of U.S. Highway Route 20, will designate that section of highway as *Historic Route 20 (Iowa)*; and

Be it further RESOLVED That the Auditor of the County of Grundy, Iowa, transmit copies of this resolution to the Historic Route 20 Association, Inc., and the requesting local agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE Board of Supervisors of THE COUNTY OF GRUNDY, IOWA, that we are in support of the recognition and designation of Historic Route 20 and the placement of Historic Route 20 Markers.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th of April, 2019.




Mark Schildroth, Chairperson



Barbara L. Smith, Vice Chairperson



Charles Bakker



James Ross



Heidi Nederhoff