

RESOLUTION 25-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING THE STATUS OF OLD RANCH ROAD

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Cochise County, Arizona, is authorized to lay out, maintain, control and manage public roads within its jurisdiction pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute §11.251(4); and

WHEREAS, all highways, roads or streets that have been constructed, laid out, opened, established or which have been maintained for ten years or more by the county before January 1, 1960, and that have been used by the public for free travel for ten years or more are declared public highways pursuant to A.R.S. §28-7041(C); and

WHEREAS, in the absence of a specified width, a public highway corridor is sixty-six feet wide pursuant to A.R.S. §28-7042(A); and

WHEREAS, public highways cannot be blocked, obstructed, or damaged unless authorized by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to A.R.S. §28-7053; and

WHEREAS, on September 24, 1884, the Board of Supervisors established Old Ranch Road as a public highway per Board of Supervisor meeting minutes Volume 1, page 523, as filed in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 1912, the Board of Supervisors approved the Map Showing County Roads, depicting Old Ranch Road as a County Road, per Maps and Plats Book 0 map 131, as filed in the office of the County Recorder; and

WHEREAS, on April 19, 1994, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 94-37, removing multiple roads and highways from county maintenance, per document 940411460, as filed in the office of the County Recorder; and

WHEREAS, on August 4, 1997, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 97-62, adding a highway, previously removed by said Resolution 94-37, back into county maintenance, per document 970820053, as filed in the office of the County Recorder; and

WHEREAS, said Resolution 94-37 authorized the abandonment and conveyance of public right-of-way, pursuant to A.R.S. §§28-7201 – 28-7215, but did not alter public highway status governed by A.R.S. §§28-6701 – 28-6703, as further evidenced by said Resolution 97-62; and

WHEREAS, said Resolution 94-37 removed Old Ranch Road, referred to as Four R Ranch Road, from County maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Old Ranch Road's retained status as a public highway furthermore provides access to historic sites including the Butterfield Overland Route Dragoon Springs stagecoach stop, and the Cemetery of Confederate Graves at Dragoon Springs, the only Confederates known to have died in battle within Arizona.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that Old Ranch Road affirmative status remains a public highway and has been so since 1884.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Old Ranch Road public highway, which right-of-way is currently sixty-six feet in width, provides for public transportation activities including, but not limited to:

- Minimum 24 feet of travelway
- Off travelway parking on either side of the road which are not within the 24 feet of travelway
- Roadside drainage
- Signage to comply with Arizona Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED that Old Ranch Road, a non-County maintained public highway, shall remain open for public use.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Cochise County Board of Supervisors this ____ day of November 2025.

Frank Antenori, Chairman
Cochise County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Lara Loewenheim
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 11/6/2025

Bert Whitehead IV, Esq.
Civil Deputy County Attorney