

ty; provided that said road shall not be less than thirty feet in width, and such road so declared to be a public highway shall be kept in good order and repair as other public roads.

216 J. "Whenever any doubt exists as to the proper location or width of a road, the Road Directors may cause the same to be surveyed and make such alterations as the public convenience may require, subject to the rights of any person under the provisions contained in this Act for the opening of new roads.

216 K. "All applications for opening, altering or closing roads, shall be by petition to the Road Directors, and whenever any person or persons shall intend to petition said directors for opening, altering or closing any road, he or they shall give twenty days notice thereof in one or more newspapers, published in Allegany county, setting forth as near as may be, the length and location of said road and the reason he or they have for opening, altering, or closing the same; and counter petitions may be presented to the Road Directors at any time within fifteen days after the expiration of the twenty days notice above provided for, and when any petitions are so presented, the said Road Directors shall appoint a day when the petitioners and counter petitioners shall be heard, and shall consider the same and such testimony as may be adduced before them; and shall determine the case in such manner as in their opinion shall be right and proper. Whenever the Road Directors shall decide that it is expedient that a road be opened under the provisions of this section, they may contract with the owner or owners of the land through which the road is intended to be run, for the right of way necessary for said road, if he, she or they be competent and in case the said Road Directors shall so contract, they shall cause a plat of said road to be made by the Road Engineer and filed and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Allegany county, which said plat shall be referred to and shall be part of the Land Records of said county, and the lands so contracted for shall be conveyed to said Road Directors, and shall become henceforth the property of the county,