

DRAINAGE MEETING  
JOINT DISTRICT WARREN #11  
MARCH 21, 2024

The Story County Drainage District Trustees met in the Public Meeting Room of the Story County Administration Building in Nevada, IA. to present an engineer's report (on file in the Story County Auditor's Office) on the condition of the main open ditch in Drainage District Warren #11 to the landowners in the district's watershed. Members present were Lisa Heddens, chair, Linda Murken, and Latifah Faisal. Also present were Story County Communications Assistant Bryce Garmin and Drainage Clerk Scott Wall, Drainage Engineer Tyler Conley from Bolton & Menk, and 37 landowners/interested parties in the district watershed (see attached sign in sheets). Attending virtually via Zoom were Story County Engineer Darren Moon and Vegetation Management Biologist Joe Kooiker, Hamilton County Supervisor Rick Young, an attendee identified as BOS (Hardin County?), and attendee identified by a phone number, Scott Bercherding, Carl Sampson, Ron Risdal, Douglas Tjelmeland, Paul Teig, Anaum, and JHF.

Heddens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (MCU).

Conley gave a brief definition of a drainage district. They are commonly referred to as county districts and county tiles but this is a misnomer. Drainage districts and their facilities are owned by the landowners in the district. Districts may elect their own trustees and manage their district themselves but, under Iowa law, if districts do not elect their own trustees, management defaults to the county supervisors, acting as drainage district trustees.

Conley then reviewed the engineer's report. There was a petition to review the condition of the main open ditch and recommend options on how to restore it. There was also a call for an examination of the Warren #11 watershed. Warren #11 was established in 1907 and the open ditch was cleaned and extended in 1951 at which time the district was reclassified. There have been spot repairs over the years but no major work since 1951. The district encompasses 296 tax parcels and 8,450 acres. It also serves as the outlet for 5 interior tile districts. There has been significant siltation, bank sloughing, meandering, and tree growth in the ditch, all of which impede its ability to move water. Conley ran aerial drone footage of the ditch while he went over the report. The goal of the proposed project is to repair the open ditch to its original plan specifications. This would include the removal of trees and beaver dams and the repair of failed tile extensions entering the ditch. Conley noted that, by law, the trustees shall maintain districts to their original design capacity.

To perform the work, access is required along the ditch banks. Iowa law grants districts an access easement but, in most cases, that easement was never formally described. One of the report's recommendations is to establish a defined easement along the open ditch. The current standard is 50' on each side of the ditch centerline. Landowners must be reimbursed for any damages that occur outside the easement. It has been Bolton & Menk's practice to recommend that damages for projects like this be paid inside the easement as well. They believe it is a dis-service to landowners with CRP plantings and other conservation measures along the ditch banks to have to pay to replace specialized plantings damaged by work they did not necessarily want.

The estimates for the project are based on the costs of similar projects in scope and size and are just that – estimates. The estimated cost of construction is \$950,000 and the overall project costs are \$1,310,000.

In addition to an investigation of the open ditch a preliminary watershed review was performed. This indicates that there are approximately 6,734 acres in Story County, 3,537 acres in Hardin County, and 315 acres in Hamilton County that are benefitting from the Warren #11 facilities but are not currently on the assessment schedule. The report recommends annexation of those additional lands into the district. If annexation is considered it requires a separate annexation report which would be presented at a separate meeting. If an annexation takes place the district will have to be reclassified. Classification is the determination of how much each parcel benefits from district facilities and also requires its own meeting and report. Classification considers a variety of factors such as proximity to district facilities, distance from the district outlet, wetness/soil types, area, and land use.

Conley's recommendation is that the Warren #11 open ditch be restored to its original condition through the removal of trees and brush and the reshaping of the ditch bottom and banks. Further, he recommends that the options of annexation and reclassification be pursued.

Heddens asked what Conley meant by the pursuit of annexation and reclassification?

Conley said he would have to be directed by the trustees to pursue those options with appropriate reports. Annexation and reclassification are outside the scope of the current report.

Heddens asked, if reports are prepared, the trustees can still accept or reject those reports.

Conley said that is correct. The trustees have no obligation to accept the annexation and classification reports and may alter them if they believe there are inequities or refuse them altogether.

Murken said if we annex into Hardin and Hamilton Counties will that create a joint district?

Conley said Warren #11 would become a three-county district with the supervisors of all three counties acting as joint trustees and control of the district falling to the county in which most of the area of the district resides.

Jon Risdal, Risdal Farms, Warren Township, said he has almost a mile of the open ditch on his land. How is the cost to landowners determined? His recollection from 13 years ago is that he has 4% of the land in the district but has to pay 13% of the cost.

Conley said the costs are based on the 1951 reclassification. While he can't speak to how that classification was performed a common theme in the written concerns received prior to this meeting is a perceived inequity in that classification. There is an option to perform a pre-classification, which is less formal than the final reclassification, that would give the landowners a good idea of their share of this project.

Risdal said his question was why people on the ditch pay more? Why not just have a per acre assessment across the district. With the pattern tiling we have today everyone has equal access to drainage. He would just as soon not have the ditch on his land.

Conley said the Code does not specify how classifications should be done. It does state that they should be fair and equitable and that they should be based on the benefits received by the construction of said improvement as it affords an outlet to the drainage of such lands, brings an outlet nearer to said lands, or relieves the land from overflow and protects the land from damage by erosion. It is his opinion that because all lands benefit differently benefits are not spread equally across all of the parcels in a district.

Risdal asked if the district would be reclassified before we spend the money on a repair project? He said if there are lands that benefit they should be included then divide it by the number of owners and go from there. He didn't feel his question was being answered.

Heddens said an annexation and reclassification is needed to determine everyone's share of this project and that has to be addressed in separate hearings.

Conley said that annexation and reclassification can be done during or prior to construction.

Risdal said it seemed pretty clear to him that construction should wait until we have a handle on who is paying for that construction and how much.

Faisal said the trustees must formally receive the report at this meeting then they can make some decisions on what steps to take next.

Risdal said he was confused as to what this meeting was for. He thought it was to discuss the district and move this issue forward.

Murken said we need to have a plan to move forward and the right order to do it and that is what this meeting needs to accomplish.

Robin Pruisner, McCallsburg, said the report recommends everything that we are told not to do to protect water quality - removing trees, beaver dams, meanders. This is counter to water quality initiatives being pushed by the state. Can the district partner with ISU, IDNR, NRCS, etc. to try to minimize the environmental impacts of this project?

Jacob Handsaker, Radcliffe, asked if annexation and reclassification take place, what do those cost?

Conley said the estimated costs are \$15,000 for annexation and \$45,000 for reclassification.

Rick Young asked if the trustees intended to do the construction before the annexation and reclassification?

Heddens said that was part of what was under consideration at this meeting but probably the annexation and reclassification would come first.

Gannon Hendrick, McCallsburg, said the ditch runs alongside their family farm. He asked who had requested the repair.

Murken said the initial request was by Alan Twedt in 2011 and stated, "To make the tile outlet successful the drainage ditch needs to be cleaned and widened south of E-18 about 40 rods. This will help keep our fields from flooding as much."

Hendrick said he was concerned about the viability of small farms like his if they are saddled with unexpected costs such as this project, especially when those on the ditch have to shoulder the majority of those costs. His rough estimate has his farm paying tens of thousands of dollars while larger farms are paying less. He is not sure they would be able to pay the bill for this project without selling part of their land.

Conley said the trustees can offer landowners the option of spreading their assessments over not less than 10 not more than 20 years. For a project of this size he would expect the term to be 20 years.

Hendrick said interest rates are high right now so payment plans are not a great option.

Douglas Tjelmeland, Roland, said the engineer's report is available to anyone on Story County's website and he recommends that everyone read the full report. He agrees with Risdal and Pruisner on the water quality and conservation issues. The report has construction commencing this year. Will that really happen?

Conley said the timeline in the report is very aggressive. With the issues being raised here and his experience with how projects like this go forward he does not expect construction to occur until 2025.

Tjelmeland asked why no other engineering companies were considered. Why didn't the trustees involve the landowners sooner and solicit bids from engineering firms?

Faisal said the county did use a different engineering firm, Fox, in 2010. They moved to ISG when they became dissatisfied with the service they were getting from Fox then stayed with Conley when he moved to Bolton & Menk. It is the trustee's responsibility to select the engineer.

Tjelmeland said 2011 was a long time ago to be using one engineer. Do the trustees feel that Bolton & Menk is fair and just? Have the landowners ever been giving an opportunity to help with the decision making on who would be the drainage engineer? *(Story County was using Fox Engineering when I started working with drainage districts in 1993. They bought out a firm that had bought out Ames Engineering & Testing Service. Ames Engineering & Testing Service was the county's drainage engineer for the 1951 enlargement and cleanout of the Warren #11 open ditch. Story County changed from Fox to ISG in 2014. – STW, Drainage Clerk).*

Faisal said the purpose of this meeting was to get landowner input before deciding on next steps.

Heddens said selecting the engineer is part of the trustees' responsibilities.

Murken said if the trustees were to solicit bids for an engineer every time there was a new project it would extend what is already a lengthy process and add to the costs to the district and there would be no consistency between reports on different districts.

Heddens asked Conley, if the trustees decide to go forward with a ditch cleanout, how the construction company is determined.

Conley replied that is through a competitive bid process. Bolton & Menk prepares final plans and specifications, a bid letting date is selected, Bolton & Menk contacts several dozen firms they've worked with and the information is published in the local newspaper and on online plan rooms. He explained that the estimated construction costs in the report are based on similar previous projects. It is not what he is charging to go out and dig the ditch himself. Bolton & Menk does not receive any of the construction costs. They are transferred directly from the district fund to the contractor. Until the project is bid no one will know what the final cost will be.

Tjelmeland said he and his father have put extensive work into maintaining the open ditch where it crosses their land at their own expense. It is unfair that they should have to pay for areas where the ditch was not maintained. Story County should have been maintaining the open ditch since the 1951 extension but the landowners along the ditch should have been taking care of it too. He feels that reclassification is needed.

Jerry Hill, south of McCallsburg, said he was representing himself and 5 other landowners attending this evening. They are very concerned about the discrepancies in benefits between adjacent parcels and want the district to be assessed on a per acre basis. The rain falls equally on the entire district but it is the people on the ditch who get flooded by everyone else's water. He has two 40-acre tracts on the ditch and they will be assessed at \$27,000 each under the current schedule while his other two, adjacent 40-acre tracts will be assessed about \$700 each. That makes no sense. It is unfair that they should pay more and have to take all of the water. Beyond this project he is concerned about the district tile. That could fail any time and will be another huge expense to the landowners. He has a shelter belt of trees the county gave him permission to plant 30 years ago and now he is being told the trees have to go.

Conley said the classification method he has been taught and those used by other engineers do not spread costs equally per acre. He does believe there are inequities in the current classification. If he is directed to create a classification report for Warren #11 that is not the final word. The trustees can adjust the benefits as they see fit before accepting the final report.

Faisal said a new classification could address some of those inequities. It wouldn't be an equal area assessment but there wouldn't be such large disparities between neighboring parcels.

Hill asked if he can keep his wildlife area?

Conley said in past projects, while they weren't able to save everything, they have been able to preserve some vegetation. The primary consideration along the top of the ditch is access for construction equipment. He is willing to meet with Hill on site. He asked Hill to talk to him after the meeting.

Hill again brought up per acre assessments. Instead of going through reclassification just divide the cost up by the acres in the district.

Heddens said even if the trustees were to approve an equal area assessment it could only be done through a classification report.

Risdal asked if the landowners could get a schedule of how this project will proceed.

Heddens said that is coming up on the agenda once everyone has had a chance to speak.

Alan Knaphus, McCallsburg, asked what was the difference between an open ditch and where Indian Creek starts.

Conley said the open ditch begins at 660<sup>th</sup> Avenue where it empties into East Indian Creek and extends north for 8.5 miles.

Wall said the entire open ditch is East Indian Creek and was likely there before the district was established. The difference is that the part we call the open ditch was straightened and deepened to facilitate drainage.

Loren Tjernagel, Roland, said annexation and reclassification need to come first. He has 175 acres that flood every year. The water goes down quickly but he knows this project will help and is in favor of the project but, he has neighbors who will pay \$50,000, \$100,000, and \$400. How does that make any sense? With pattern tiling the landowners 3 miles away get as much benefit from the ditch as he does. In fact, he gets less benefit since he has to deal with the flooding.

Tjernagel asked if the trustees would move to annex before requesting a reclassification.

Murken said that would be discussed once the public discussion is closed.

Heddens said consideration of repairing the main open ditch is next on the agenda but, based on the discussion this evening, the trustees may want to focus on annexation and reclassification first.

Murken said she wants more information and those two items will help determine how the project should go.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to direct the engineer to proceed with annexation and reclassification reports for the Drainage District Warren #11 watershed. MCU.

Conley said he would anticipate filing the reports in late May with hearings to be held in June or July due to Code requirements of 40-day notice to landowners. The hearings on annexation and classification are separate but should be held as closely as possible to each other. They can be held on the same date with one immediately following the other because the annexation report dictates who benefits and the classification report says to what extent they benefit.

Heddens asked if consideration of repairing the main open ditch and establishing a right-of-way along the ditch could also be considered at that time.

Conley suggested continuing this hearing rather than closing it but with no date selected for the continuance, notification will have to be sent to all landowners again.

Faisal said typically a continuance is only used if a date is set for that continuance.

Conley said his preference for a continuance was due to consideration of the repair being a part of this evening's agenda but no decision is being made on that item.

Wall didn't see any reason why a continuance should be preferred over simply holding a new meeting.

Murken said we might have three hearings in a single evening. That might be too much for one evening.

Conley said one consideration is that, if the trustees pursue annexation, Hardin and Hamilton Counties should then have a say on the repair as Warren #11 would become a joint district between three counties.

The trustees concurred that a single evening would not be sufficient to create a joint district and attempt to address repairs to that district.

Conley also noted that annexations and reclassifications can be contentious things and resolution on those two items could delay any projects.

Faisal asked Wall about presenting the engineer's report again at a future consideration of the ditch repair.

Wall said Conley would need to go over the report again though he may not have to go into it as much as this evening. It wouldn't hurt for people here tonight to have a refresher and there will be people at the next meeting that were not here tonight.

A landowner asked what authority the trustees had to annex ground.

Conley said there is no right of remonstrance (a means for landowners to object) on an annexation. The trustees may alter the findings on the annexation and reclassification reports as they see fit based on any information the landowners might present. If landowners still do not concur with the trustees their only avenue is to appeal in district court.

Wall said the authority for annexation comes from Iowa Code Section 468.119 which states that if the trustees become convinced that additional lands contiguous to the district, without regard to county boundaries, are benefitted by the district they may adopt a resolution of necessity for the annexation of said lands. The only exception is if those lands are already in another district in which case the trustees of that district must consent to the annexation.

Wall said that several written comments/objections had been received prior to this meeting. Some of them were submitted by people in attendance here. All of them had been forwarded to the trustees and to Conley prior to the meeting. He could read them into the record (some are lengthy) or they can simply be attached to the minutes which will be done in any case.

The trustees agreed that attaching the received written documents to the published minutes was sufficient.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to adjourn. MCU. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott T. Wall

**DRAINAGE ATTENDANCE SHEET**  
**Drainage District Warren #11**  
**March 21, 2024**

Name	Address	Owner/Tenant
David Shald	14136 600 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Shald Farms
Jerry L Hill	14549 Roland 650 <sup>th</sup> AV	Jim Shankes
Alan Khaphus	14390 670 <sup>th</sup> Ave	McCallsburg IA Owner IA owner
Chuck Wellman	2101 Walnut St., west	Des Moines, IA owner
Dwayne Belmeland	4638 630 <sup>th</sup> AV	
Nick Pittand	14132 330 <sup>th</sup> st	Radcliffe IA
STEVEN RITLAND	17313 330 <sup>th</sup>	HUBBARD Iowa
Karen Cory	5675 Columbine Dr.	Johnston, IA
Ryan Cory	33975 E Ave	McCallsburg, IA
Paul Cook	32132 K Ave	Hubbard, IA PR Cook LLC
Lisle Cook	214 daere	Hubbard, IA.
Jacob Handsaker	12676 290 <sup>th</sup> st	Radcliffe IA
Phillip Ellingson	63173 110 <sup>th</sup> st.	Roland, IA
Loren Spraggel	1025 Park St	Roland

**DRAINAGE ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**Drainage District Warren #11**

**March 21, 2024**

Name	Address	Owner/Tenant
E. W. W.	66286 140 <sup>th</sup> St	Owner
B. Skene	14869-670 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Owner
Chris Smith	Hertz Farm Mgmt	Farm Mgr
John J Hinrichsen	2026 Greenbriar Cir Ames	Owner
Ruth Lundy Monroe	68655 110 <sup>th</sup> St. <sup>th Zearing</sup>	Owner
GENE JOHNSON	6015 PEARL ST ZEARING	OWNER
Merle Olson	64340 120 <sup>th</sup> St McCallsburg	Owner
NOBIN PRUISNER	655 L2600 McCallsburg	owner
Grant Hilbert	1402 NW Wagner Ankeny	Owner
Spencer Hilbert	1402 NW Wagner Blvd Ankeny	Owner
Greg Vogt	69277 130 <sup>th</sup> St Roland	owner
JIM HANDSAKER	1270 Northridge Rd. Story City	TENANT
Harry Foreney	904 Hubbel St Kelley	owner
Janet Richardson	15268 660th Ave	McCallsburg
Raylene Dorney	904 Hubbel St.	Kelley Iowa
Steven Skartvedt	1039 8 <sup>th</sup> St. Story City	Trust Executor

March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Trustees of Drainage District Warren #11, Story County Iowa,

I am writing today to express our strong opposition to the engineers report and recommendations related to drainage facility repairs in Drainage district #11. As a small Century Farm owner in Story County Warren District #11, we strongly object to the over reach of our lands. If the recommended plan is approved, the resulting financial burden will no doubt bankrupt our small Century Farm. A farm that our family has worked to protect for over 100 years. A farm that has provided three generations with income to live. I farm that has helped to feed the world. The assertion that this plan would benefit landowners is absurd at best. It will do just the opposite.

Sincerely,



Anne Armknecht  
Tom Armknecht  
dba ABT Farms  
(319) 330-8373  
grayknecht@aol.com

17720 290TH ST  
LONG GROVE, IA 52756

24 MAR -7 AM 9:57  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

FILED

FILED

24 MAR 20 AM 9:57  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

Cardinal Land Group, LLC  
3305 Ziegler Avenue  
Radcliffe, IA 50230

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Story County Iowa  
Attn: Scott T. Wall  
900 Sixth Street  
Nevada, IA 50201-2087

To the Story County Drainage Clerk:

We the owners of Cardinal Land Group, LLC are landowners in Hardin County with holdings in the area proposed to be annexed into Drainage District Warren #11 Watershed. Our properties are located in Concord Township, Section 7 and Section 6.

We have been made aware of the proposed annexation and we would like to formally object to the annexation.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



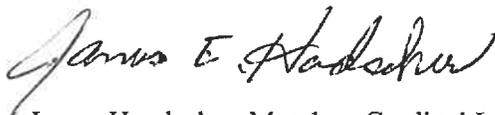
Jacob Handsaker, Member, Cardinal Land Group, LLC



Brett Handsaker, Member, Cardinal Land Group, LLC



Brian Handsaker, Member, Cardinal Land Group, LLC



James Handsaker, Member, Cardinal Land Group, LLC

To: Scott T. Wall, Drainage Clerk/Lucy Martin, Story County Auditor  
--- Lucy Martin, Story County Auditor and  
Commissioner of Elections

In response to notice received from each of you, on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, I would like to notify you that I object to making plans at this time, for Main Open Ditch Repair in DRAINAGE DISTRICT WARREN NO. 11. I believe that: Main Open Ditch Repair, at a possible cost of \$950,000.00, should be CONSIDERED **AFTER ANNEXATION OF ADDITIONAL LANDS IS CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD.**

Sincerely,

Phillip Ellingson 

63173 110th Street

Roland, Ia. 50236-8041

Section 5, 7, 8, Warren  
Township

FILED

24 MAR 21 PM 7:39

STORY COUNTY AUDITOR



## Scott T. Wall

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**From:** Dena Fisher <dgfishermaverick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 6:25 PM  
**To:** Scott T. Wall  
**Subject:** Re: Drainage District Warren #11

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FILED  
24 MAR 18 AM 8:10  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

[External Sender - Please Use Caution]

Greetings Mr. Wall:

Please consider this email an official public comment directed to the Story County Board of Supervisors regarding the Drainage District Warren #11 repair proposal to be considered at the public hearing on March 21, 2024. We request that the comments be presented to the Board members.

The following comments are presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration:

1. Richard F. Fisher and Dena-Gray Fisher's property is located at 13733 670th Avenue in McCallsburg. The property is also located within Drainage District Warren #34, beyond the legal tax assessment boundaries of Drainage District Warren #11. However, we received the county's official notice that our property is included in the proposed taxation plan for repairs to Warren #11.
2. When Iowa's Constitution and laws were amended early last century to allow drainage districts to be formed so land could be drained for farming, drainage district officials were given the authority to levy assessments on any land located **IN THE DISTRICT** to pay for the maintenance of the drainage ditches.
3. While other drainage districts (including possibly Drainage District Warren #34) may benefit from a downstream drainage district through the natural course of drainage, Iowa law is clear that drainage district officials can only levy assessments on land located in their drainage district, not to properties in other jurisdictions.
4. The Engineer's Report recommends that other properties should be annexed into District Warren #11. The report suggests that taxation inequities exist because individuals in other drainage districts are benefitting from District Warren #11 drainage's ditch, but they are not sharing in the costs to maintain it. To date, no such annexations have occurred. In fact, annexation is not prioritized in the proposal to happen prior to levying tax assessments against Story County residents to cover the full cost of the repairs. It should also be noted that there is no guarantee that such annexations could be realized. In fact, such proposals are likely to be challenged in the courts, especially since the objective of annexation is to transfer a portion of maintenance burden to upstream districts, which is contrary to state and federal law.
5. Under Iowa law, the first rule of drainage is that the dominant or upstream estate has the right (also called a servitude) to drain surface water onto the servient estate in the natural course of drainage. The second rule of drainage is the servient estate has a duty or obligation to accept the water. Under Iowa law, there is no provision for levying assessments on the upstream drainage districts for maintenance of downstream drainage districts.
6. It may be there, but we could not find any reference in the Engineer's Report to the planned annexation of Warren #34 into Warren #11. Obviously, if that happened, District Warren #11 would have to assume Warren #34's drainage maintenance responsibilities. Currently, those costs are levied against residents in Warren #34. Barring future annexation, Warren #34 property owners have no legal responsibility for District Warren #11 maintenance costs.
7. When making decisions for a drainage district, such as ordering maintenance of a drainage ditch, the Story County Board of Supervisors are acting as the drainage district trustees – not as the county supervisors.

Therefore, the Board only has authority to make levy assessment decisions regarding that drainage district, not all districts in the county. This form of drainage district management was addressed by the federal court in 2017 when the water pollution lawsuit was filed by the Des Moines Water Works against drainage districts in Sac, Buena Vista, and Hancock counties, which were upstream agricultural drainage districts.

8. Based on our observations of the condition of the drainage ditch and the Engineer's report, we believe a case could be made for some maintenance of the Warren #11 drainage ditch. However, because we are landowners outside of Warren #11, it is our contention that only those landowners within District Warren #11 should have a voice into what amount of maintenance, if any, should be approved. .
9. As fellow Story County landowners and taxpayers we sympathize with the perceived inequity, unfairness or undue burden to Warren #11 landowners for the costs of this high-priced project, In fact, if a similar maintenance need were to present itself in Warren #34 or to residents of any drainage district in Iowa for that matter, residents are likely to feel similarly negatively impacted. We are hopeful that reasonableness will prevail and that a more cost-effective approach to maintenance of the drainage ditch can be achieved to minimize the burden to our fellow taxpayers.
10. In summary, it is not within the Drainage District Warren #11 trustees' (or in this case the Board of Supervisors acting on behalf of the trustees) authority to levy assessments to residents of Drainage District Warren #34. Only if Iowa law were to be amended or annexation were to occur can the Board act otherwise.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Fisher and Dena M. Gray-Fisher  
13733 670th Avenue  
McCallsburg, Iowa 50154

On Mon, Mar 4, 2024 at 9:09 AM Scott T. Wall <[SWall@storycountyiowa.gov](mailto:SWall@storycountyiowa.gov)> wrote:

Dena,

Attached is a the engineer's report for Drainage District Warren #11. This was submitted to the Story County Supervisors, acting as Drainage District Trustees, on February 6, 2024 at which time they set a March 21 meeting to present it to the landowners in the district watershed. Drainage districts in Iowa are, by default, managed by the supervisors under Section 468 of the Code of Iowa. District facilities are held in common by the landowners in the district and the landowners pay for all costs incurred by the district based on their benefit to drainage.

The engineer's report contains several recommendations. The first is to repair the main open ditch which has been in poor condition for well over a decade. The report also took a look at the watershed of the district and found it to be significantly larger than the area that is currently being assessed for district maintenance. There are 5 tile districts that use the Warren #11 open ditch as their outlet but the majority of the lands within those districts are not a part of Warren #11 and should be. There is also a large area in Hardin County and a smaller area in Hamilton County that drain into Warren #11 but are not currently a part of it.

One of the tile districts is Warren #34, which your property is included in. Warren #34 uses the Warren #11 open ditch as its outlet which is why the entire district should be a part of Warren #11. What that means for Warren #34 landowners is they will share the costs of any work done in Warren #34 as they always have and will also share the cost

of ant work done on the Warren #11 open ditch. Unfortunately, there is no way at this time say what your share of the proposed project might be. Your benefits to drainage on a 2.7 acre parcel should be a small part of the total benefits but a small part of \$1,310,000 can still be a significant amount.

On March 21 the engineer will present his report to those in attendance and there will be time for attendees to ask questions and voice their opinions. Following that the trustees will consider next steps, including repairing the open ditch and annexing additional lands into the district.

Scott Wall

Drainage Clerk

Story County Auditor's Office

900 Sixth Street

Nevada, IA 50201

515-382-7216

[swall@storycountyiowa.gov](mailto:swall@storycountyiowa.gov)

**From:** Dena Fisher <[dgfishermaverick@gmail.com](mailto:dgfishermaverick@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Sunday, March 3, 2024 1:08 PM

**To:** Scott T. Wall <[SWall@storycountyiowa.gov](mailto:SWall@storycountyiowa.gov)>

**Subject:** Drainage District Warren #11

[External Sender - Please Use Caution]

Dear Mr. Wall:

This is a request for an electronic PDF copy of the report for the Drainage District Warren #11 Watershed annexation, reclassification, and repairs.

I would also like information regarding the prorata share of the cost that would be assessed to our property, 13733 670th Avenue, McCallsburg, if the recommendations are approved.

Thanks for your assistance,

Richard Fisher & Dena Gray-Fisher

13733 670th Avenue

McCallsburg, IA 50154

[dgfisermaverick@gmail.com](mailto:dgfisermaverick@gmail.com)

515-231-5516

### **Disclaimer**

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## Jim Handsaker

---

**From:** jerry handsaker <jerryhandsaker@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 2:19 PM  
**To:** handsake@netins.net  
**Subject:** Hardin County Farm

To: Scott T. Wall, Story County Drainage Clerk 900 Sixth Street Nevada, IA

Recently, we received a very vague notice addressed to Landowners in Drainage District Warren #11 watershed. While we are not within that watershed this notice appears to also contemplate the annexing of some Hardin county land into the drainage district Warren #1, which is presently wholly situated in Story County.

We object to any and all efforts to include our land in the Drainage District Warren #11. More specifically, our land is many miles from the Drainage Ditch needing repairs and has a higher elevation than the subject land and ditch.; Our land is located in Section 7, Concord Township, Hardin County. Iowa, and is at the northern most reaches of your proposed annexation. This land will not gain any benefit by this annexation.

The land is owned by J & J Handsaker Trust with Jerry and Janet Handsaker being the present trustees.

Dated March 18, 2024

Jerry Handsaker as Trustee of the J & J Handsaker Trust

FILED  
24 MAR 21 PM 7:39  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

## Scott T. Wall

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**From:** Paul Handsaker <pauldavidhandsaker@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 9:12 PM  
**To:** Scott T. Wall; JIM  
**Subject:** Drainage District Warren # 11

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[External Sender - Please Use Caution]

I am Paul Handsaker who along with my wife own land titled PBH Farms LLC. We have land in both Story and Hardin Counties that would be affected with what ever happens with the districts.

We are not in favor of annexing any land into the Warren # 11 district.

The problem that needs to be fixed sounds like an old old problem that should have been taken care of 10 to 20 years ago by the current Warren # 11 district. I feel that the trustees of that district did not do their job by not being on top of the problem years ago.

Thank you;  
Paul Handsaker

Sent from Mail for Windows

FILED  
24 MAR 19 AM 8:30  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR



# HARDIN COUNTY

## Board of Supervisors

1215 EDGINGTON AVE., SUITE 1  
ELDORA, IA 50627  
(641) 939-8219  
SUPERVISORS@HARDINCOUNTYIA.GOV

February 05, 2024

To the Trustees of Drainage District Warren 11,

FILED  
24 FEB - 5 AM 10:26  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

We appreciate the notice involving the recommended annexation. We are requesting to be notified when the date, time, and location for the Public Hearing for DD Warren 11, involving proposed annexation areas, is approved. This is also to inform you, that if a reclassification report is authorized by the District Trustees of Story County DD Warren 11, the Hardin County Supervisors serving as the Hardin County Trustees, are opposed to the recommended annexation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Lance Granzow", written over a horizontal line.

Lance Granzow, Chair  
Board of Supervisors  
Serving as District  
Board of Trustees

[HTTP://WWW.HARDINCOUNTYIA.GOV](http://www.HARDINCOUNTYIA.GOV)

LANCE A. GRANZOW  
CHAIR  
LGRANZOW@HARDINCOUNTYIA.GOV  
641-939-8221

BJ HOFFMAN  
VICE CHAIR  
BHOFFMAN@HARDINCOUNTYIA.GOV  
641-939-8220

RENEE MCCLELLAN  
SUPERVISOR  
RMCCLELLAN@HARDINCOUNTYIA.GOV  
641-939-8222

March 19,2024

To: Lucy Martin, Story County Auditor  
Story County Board of Supervisors

FILED  
24 MAR 20 AM 11:00  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

RE: Hearing on Drainage Facility Repairs, Drainage District Warren No. 11, Story County, Iowa

I want to make it clear that I object to the way the you have proposed making changes to Drainage District Warren #11 Watershed. I understand that repairs do need to be made, but your cost distribution is unfair and my understanding of some of your plans may destroy parts of my farm and wildlife habitat I have spent 30 years creating.

The cost distribution for this project is very unfair. Why don't you take the total cost of the project and divide it by the total number of acres in the drainage district? That would be fairer. Instead, you are attributing more of the expenses to the property owners who have creeks through their property. These are the same property owners who have for years put up with their farmland flooding as a result of the tiling from other farms. You intend to straighten the creeks which will increase the speed of the waterflow causing even more damage to my property and crops.

If this project includes taking right of way on my farmland, how will you compensate me for this? It appears you plan to increase the size of the ditch row. What other specific plans do you have for my property? I have spent 30 years, many dollars and many hours building a shelter belt for wildlife on my farm. It is 70' wide and 1,300' long. It was created with permission and supervision from Story County. It was made especially to protect wildlife during winter blizzards. It is critical for wildlife and should not be wiped out. I also have a 14-acre wildlife plot near the creek. I do not want it destroyed. What are your plans for my pond? The county designed it and it was built to their specifications.

Your lack of communication with landowners is unacceptable. You should be talking to property owners before you make plans that could adversely affect their property and their finances. This is an extremely expensive project and more input from those affected by it would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully



Jerry L Hill  
Parcel ID 0328400100, 0328400200

## Scott T. Wall

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**From:** Lisa K. Heddens  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 11:08 AM  
**To:** Bill Fribley  
**Subject:** Re: drainage ditch cleaning

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FILED  
24 MAR 20 PM 12:01  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

Bill,

Thank you for your email.  
I'll share your comments with my colleagues.  
Appreciate your input.

Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 19, 2024, at 1:03 PM, Bill Fribley <bfribley@msn.com> wrote:

[External Sender - Please Use Caution]

Lisa,

My name is Bill Fribley, residing in Ames. In 2009, I retired as an Iowa Conservation Officer of nearly 30 years with the last 14 years serving Story and Boone Counties. I am concerned about the proposed drainage ditch cleaning of DD No.26, specifically the effects on the Jerry Hill farm in Section 28, Warren Township.

Jerry, his father, and brothers have been pioneers in conservation farming. Before government subsidized conservation programs, they set aside acres for wildlife at their own expense. This is evidenced by the buffer along the Indian Creek ditch (proposed to be cleaned) with not only native grasses but more importantly trees and shrubs. Needless to say, the trees provide essential winter cover for both game and non game species. Grasses can quickly be restored but trees can take generations.

I have conducted August pheasant roadside counts in Story County as part of my duties. The counts consist of driving a thirty mile route in a county observing pheasant broods. From year to year trends in the population can be determined. The north-south gravel road on the east side of the Hill farm has provided the highest number of observations. Not only pheasants but doves, rabbits, songbirds, and other species have been observed in far greater numbers. It is

my conclusion the winter protection from the trees and cedars along the waterway are the major factor for this consistent wildlife population.

In summary, I guess I would like to see this farmer's contribution to wildlife and the environment be considered, evaluated, and weighed against the proposed project.

Thank you for your time,  
Bill Fribley

Please share this as you wish.

To: Story County Board of Supervisors

Opposition to Annexation  
Drainage District Warren No. 11 Story County, Iowa

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to the notice we received concerning the  
Drainage District Warren No. 11 Story County, Iowa.

We are opposed to the possible annexation of more land into  
Drainage District Warren No. 11. The larger the drainage district the  
more land there is that is not directly affected by it. The cost of fixing  
the Main Open Ditch repair of \$950,000.00 should not be imposed on  
those that are not affected by it.

Sincerely,

Alan Knaphus



Karen Knaphus



STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

24 MAR -5 PM 1:52

FILED

FILED

24 MAR 19 PM 2:03

STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

March 19, 2024

Scott Wall  
Drainage Clerk

Dear Mr. Wall,

We are opposed to the Warren #11 Watershed proposal.

We feel this is a large expense on landowners that will have little or no benefit from the project.

Without knowing the expense to each landowner, it looks to us that many landowners are included so that the expense can be spread out to everyone in the area.

Please consider our opposition.

Sincerely,



Dan Richardson



Janet Richardson

15268 660<sup>th</sup> Ave  
McCallsburg, IA 50154

## Scott T. Wall

---

**From:** Jon Risdal <jkrisdal@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:13 PM  
**To:** Scott T. Wall; David and Kristen Risdal  
**Subject:** Drainage District Warren 11

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FILED  
24 FEB 27 PM 12:22  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

[External Sender - Please Use Caution]

Scott,

I received the information on the upcoming meeting on March 21, 2024 and are hereby submitting my protest regarding the upcoming proposal to make improvements to the district. This came up in 2011 and no action was taken and I have questions regarding the current proposal. I am not opposed to making improvements, but am seriously opposed to the current way they have apportioned the cost. Under the old 2011 proposal I owned a small amount of the acres included in the district (320 acres), but was responsible for 10% of the total cost based on and outdate apportionment schedule which would have cost me over \$3000/ac. This new one at 1.3M would cost me over \$4000/acre. This seems highly unfair to me and anyone who has land along the ditch based on the current apportionment.

I would be support the project if:

1. The land left out of the old apportionment be annexed in as it should have been originally.
2. The district is reapportioned fairly before any money in spent on repairs. Making all the repairs under the old apportionment and assessment is unacceptable and unfair.

Please pass my concerns to the appropriate parties. I plan to be available by Zoom for the meeting on March 21st.

Sincerely,

Jon Risdal  
417-839-1622  
jkrisdal@aol.com

CONCERNING DRAINAGE DISTRICT WARREN #11

MAIN OPEN DITCH REPAIR

DATED MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

BY: DWAYNE TJELMELAND

AND

DOUGLAS TJELMELAND

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED TO:

- SCOTT WALL – DRAINAGE CLERK
  - STORY COUNTY AUDITORS OFFICE
- FOR PURPOSE OF MARCH 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING AND TO BE ON RECORD AS STATED IN  
SERVED NOTICE FROM STORY COUNTY BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS

REGARDING PARCEL NUMBERS -----

0318200300, 0308100300, 0307400100  
0307200300, 0318100160, 0318100400  
0308300405, 0307400200, 0318100300  
0318200200, 0308300305, 0318100210  
0318200400, 0318200100, 0308100400  
0308300200, 0308300100 AS PART OF  
DRAINAGE DISTRICT WARREN #11

## CONCERNING BOLTON & MENK ENGINEER'S REPORT

Filed: 2-6-2024 to Story County, Iowa – 0T7.130925

### Appendix C: Right of Way Calculations

- 1) On the list of Tjelmeland, Dwayne PARCEL ID – 0307400200 Existing Ditch ROW is at 0.00 and proposed Ditch ROW is at 3.44 – This proposed amount seems to be in error as there is sufficient footage at SECTION:07 twp-85 RANGE 22 NE SE on each side of and the whole distance along that section of drainage ditch for Right of Way.

### Appendix B: Opinions of Probable Costs

- 1) When will the proposed annexation be done since the proposed repair project is estimated to commence the summer of 2024?
- 2) Does the future proposed annexation from Appendix D help pay the total estimated costs of the repair project and be assessed for this project?
- 3) Why were there no other Engineering companies other than Bolton & Menk (who were appointed by the Story

County Board of Supervisors) made known to the landowners of DD#11 for bid letting to view other engineer's opinion of probable costs for this project??  
EXAMPLE – CON-STRUCT – INC. OR OTHER FIRMS

- 4) Explain Mobilization costs – Line 123 - I assume to move equipment to sites from the beginning to end of project? \$40K? WHEW !! A bit exorbitant.
- 5) Explain and itemize the Construction Contingency – Line 124 – Is this \$82,450 kept in an escrow account while on reserve to make interest for the landowners of DD#11? OR does Bolton & Menk get to keep funds in their account??
- 6) Non-Construction Costs - \$360,000 ??? AGAIN – WHEW!! Very exorbitant. Please explain these “fill in number” costs and again it would have been great if DD#11 landowners knew of the other engineering companies for bid letting that were contacted by the Story County Board of Supervisors, acting as trustees, instead of them appointing Bolton & Menk?

PROPOSED REPAIRS THAT CONCERN DWAYNE TJELMELAND GREATLY AND THE COST OF PROJECT TO BE ACCESSED TO DWAYNE TJELMELAND WHEN COMPLETE.

Spread out cost to our Parcel ID's along our drainage ditch for this project should be considerably less than what will be accessed to us versus others that have not maintained their drainage ditch and the extensive work done for this project. We have cleaned and cleared many hours along most of our drainage ditch border for years and also contracted outside excavation companies at our cost. HENCE, we will not need as much work done by Bolton & Menk for proposed project as much as other landowners who have not cared for their drainage ditch portion and allowed overgrowth let alone Story County . Bolton & Menk will have considerably more work at these other properties clearing and grubbing areas than at our property in which these landowners should pay much more for the excessive hours needed at their property.

IMAGE EXAMPLES OF OUR SELF-WORK TO OUR CLEAR DRAINAGE DITCH





Total self-hours of our equipment and the operation of equipment clearing and cleaning over the past 5 years – INCLUDES : section 07 – NE SE, section 07 – NW SE, section 18 – NE NW, section 18 – NW NW, section 18 – SW NW

69 TOTAL HOURS OF EQUIPMENT OPERATION AND MAN HOURS @ \$100.00/HR = \$6,900.00

32 TOTAL HOURS OF LOADING, IN DUMP TRUCK, CONCRETE CHUNKS FROM DEMOLISHED GRAIN BIN FOUNDATIONS AND HAULING TO DUMP AT OUR DRAINAGE DITCH WASHOUT SITES @ \$100.00/HR = \$3,200.00

TOTAL \$10,100 OF OUR WORK THAT STORY COUNTY SHOULD HAVE DONE COMPLETELY AND NOT JUST HALF OF THE JOB FOR THE MAINTANENCE TO KEEP THE DITCH WATER FLOWING FROM JUST OUR DRAINAGE DITCH SECTION BECAUSE THE POOR CONDITION WAS PLUGGING UP OUR TILE.

# Hall Excavation – Roland, Iowa - COST - \$9,768.71

Hall Backhoe and Trenching LLC  
110 Progressive Ave.  
P.O. Box 1  
Roland, Iowa 50236

**PAID**  
04/30/2019

## Invoice

Date: 4/30/2019  
Invoice #: 422

**Bill To:**  
Duke Trenching  
11828 85th Avenue  
Roland, Iowa 50236

P.O.#: 648  
Terms: 0/30  
Due Date: 4/30/2019  
Other:

Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
1 Man Truck Hour Labor	8.5	52.00	442.00
1 Man Labor	12	15.00	180.00
1 Man Backhoe	10	18.00	180.00
1 Man Trencher	1	100.00	100.00

Amount due upon receipt: 10% deposit on invoice after 30 days

Subtotal: \$1,002.00  
Sales Tax (IOWA): \$114.42  
Total: \$1,116.42  
Prepayment Credits: \$2,357.71  
Invoice Due: \$1,241.13

Hall Backhoe and Trenching LLC  
110 Progressive Ave.  
P.O. Box 1  
Roland, Iowa 50236

**PAID**  
05/07/2019

## Invoice

Date: 4/30/2019  
Invoice #: 423

**Bill To:**  
Duke Trenching  
11828 85th Avenue  
Roland, Iowa 50236

Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
1 Man Truck Hour Labor	10.5	52.00	546.00

Amount due upon receipt: 10% deposit on invoice after 30 days

Subtotal: \$546.00  
Sales Tax (IOWA): \$60.06  
Total: \$606.06  
Prepayment Credits: \$606.06  
Invoice Due: \$0.00

Hall Backhoe and Trenching LLC  
110 Progressive Ave.  
P.O. Box 1  
Roland, Iowa 50236

**PAID**  
05/10/2019

## Invoice

Date: 4/30/2019  
Invoice #: 424

**Bill To:**  
Duke Trenching  
11828 85th Avenue  
Roland, Iowa 50236

Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
1 Man Truck Hour Labor	17	52.00	884.00
1 Man Labor	20	15.00	300.00
1 Man Backhoe	24	18.00	432.00
1 Man Trencher	1	100.00	100.00

Amount due upon receipt: 10% deposit on invoice after 30 days

Subtotal: \$1,716.00  
Sales Tax (IOWA): \$188.76  
Total: \$1,904.76  
Prepayment Credits: \$926.06  
Invoice Due: \$978.70

Hall Backhoe and Trenching LLC  
110 Progressive Ave.  
P.O. Box 1  
Roland, Iowa 50236

**PAID**  
05/05/2019

## Invoice

Date: 4/30/2019  
Invoice #: 425

**Bill To:**  
Duke Trenching  
11828 85th Avenue  
Roland, Iowa 50236

Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
1 Man Truck Hour Labor	5.5	52.00	286.00

Amount due upon receipt: 10% deposit on invoice after 30 days

Subtotal: \$286.00  
Sales Tax (IOWA): \$31.46  
Total: \$317.46  
Prepayment Credits: \$317.46  
Invoice Due: \$0.00

CON-STRUCT, INC. - Ames, Iowa - COST – \$1920.00

Con-Struct, Inc.  
305 S Dayton Av  
Ames Ia 50010

ORDER DATE: 12-17-20  
CUSTOMER: Dwayne Tjelmeland  
ORDER NUMBER: 1000000000

Order	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Amount
10-01-20	Excavation	8.00	Hours	240.00	1,920.00
Subtotal					1,920.00
Sales Tax					0.00
Total					1,920.00

Our proposal is to deduct my monies spent (over the years to clear, clean and contract outside excavation to keep up my portion of the drainage ditch) from the assessed cost to Dwayne Tjelmeland from proposed project and transferred to those where those excessive hours are used by Bolton & Menk.

OUR TOTAL COSTS -- \$21,788.71 TO DEDUCT FROM OUR PORTION OF FUTURE PROJECT WHEN ACCESSED TO US FOR THE DD #11 PROJECT.

OUR ADDED CONCERN IS THAT WE HAVE HAD TO CLEAN AND CLEAR OVER THE PAST YEARS OURSELVES VS. THE COUNTY MAINTAINING TO THE EXTENT IT SHOULD BE DONE PROPERLY OVER THE YEARS AND THEN THE DERECHO PUT AN EXCLAMATION MARK ON HOW BADLY THE DD WARREN #11 HAS NOT BEEN KEPT UP. THE COUNTY HAS CUT TREES ALONG THE DRAINAGE DITCH AND LEFT STUMPS AND NOT KILLED THE ROOTS AND THEN COPPICING/REGROWTH HAPPENS INTO LARGE TREES AGAIN. DEFEATS THE PURPOSE!!

FOR EXAMPLE – IN 2023 WE PAID STORY COUNTY \$4475 TO MAINTAIN THE PROBLEM AREAS OF THE DRAINAGE DITCH. STORY COUNTY MAINTANENCE CAME OUT AND TOOK OUT PART OF THE DEAD TREES AND LEFT AND WE STILL HAD TO SELF CLEAN AND ATTAIN OUTSIDE EXCAVATING SERVICES FOR THE BEAVER DAM INFESTATION ESPECIALLY AFTER THE DERECHO.

PICTURES BELOW OF TREES STILL LEFT IN PART OF OUR DRAINAGE DITCH SECTION 07- NWSE BY STORY COUNTY



ALSO, SOIL BREAKS DOWN AROUND THE ROOTS OF CUT OFF TREES BY STORY COUNTY IN THE DRAINAGE DITCH AND WASHES AWAY CAUSING LARGER PROBLEMS. ALSO SPRAYING THE OVER-GROWTH MORE OFTEN BY STORY COUNTY NEEDS TO BE DONE TO KEEP CLEAR ON ANY LANDOWNERS PROPERTY ALONG THE DRAINAGE DITCH

ITSELF. PROPER MAINTENANCE NEEDS TO BE DONE  
BETTER BY STORY COUNTY ESPECIALLY AFTER THE  
PROPOSED UPCOMING PROJECT FOR RESTORED  
DRAINAGE EFFICIENCY AND TO KEEP THE INTEGRITY OF  
THE DD#11 FOR THE FUTURE.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

DWAYNE TJELMELAND

DOUGLAS TJELMELAND

MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

3/14/24

Story County Supervisors  
RE: Warren #11 Drainage Ditch

STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

24 MAR 14 AM 10:27

FILED

We are pleased to see concern into adding 3850 Acres to district, as we know 4 miles into Hardin County are not included.

We are concerned how land owners that take care of their ditch will be treated.

2023 We spent \$4475 to the county.

They came and took out part of the dead trees + left. So I hired company to take rest of trees + sand out to clear water flow. \$1900 Dec 22

In 2023 I have spent week clearing trees along ditch and hired a Dig Back hoe to clear water way, another \$815 - We removed several beaver dams

shored up banks + wash outs, took care of tile outlets.

We are concerned about banks caving off due to tree roots changing water flow, that are left after trees are cut and then they grow back larger.

Dwayne Johnson

March 19, 2024

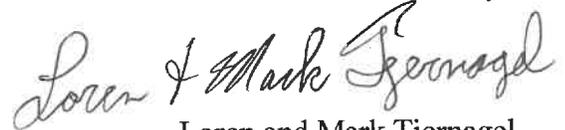
To: Lucy Martin, Scott T. Wall, and Story County Board of Supervisors

Received your letter and notice Feb. 20, 2024. My son and I, Loren and Mark Tjernagel, farm, own and rent 560 acres in Section 13 of Howard Township, 10 miles north of Nevada, west of the dredge ditch.

1. Our attention goes to the annexation of the additional land must be considered by the board immediately!
2. Reclassification the board must consider reclassifying with appropriate adjustments of assessments, immediately!
3. A very simple way to reclassify is to divide the total amount of acres in the drainage district into the amount spent each year. We could all manage that amount easily.
4. Over the years we have had crop loss from our area and also from what I call Garden City or Hardin County water.
5. It's not fair that some of our neighbors have to pay \$57,000 to over \$100,000 under this plan while others pay very little.
6. Again I say we have to say annexation of additional land and reclassification of our acres.
7. Until these items are solved, there's no reason to continue.

FILED  
24 MAR 20 PM 2:44  
STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

Sincerely,



Loren and Mark Tjernagel  
(515) 231-6700

## Scott T. Wall

---

**From:** gvoga@iowatelecom.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 4:20 PM  
**To:** Auditor Internet Group; Scott T. Wall  
**Subject:** Drainage Facility Repairs

[External Sender - Please Use Caution]

Story County Auditor, Board of Supervisors and Scott Wall

I am submitting concerns and objections to the information I received in the mail.

Annexing all additional land into Warren #11 open ditch and reclassification of the district in which each parcels benefit to drainage should be recalculated BEFORE assessments are made. ALL acres should be charged on a per acre basis that includes the additional annexed acres in Hamilton and Hardin Counties. Those are the acres benefiting from the drainage.

I object to the purposed costs and to the fact that your annexation and reclassification may be done, not will be done, later and not included in your proposed plan for district #11. I'm quite positive you would not reimburse the land owners in district #11 being charged now in your proposed plan. Including ALL acres across three counties benefiting would spread the costs if calculated on a per acre assessment.

Thank you,

Greg and Lana Voga  
62277 130th St  
Roland, IA 50236