

DRAINAGE MEETING  
LEVYING MULTIPLE DISTRICTS  
MAY 28, 2024

The Story County Drainage District Trustees met in the Public Meeting Room of the Story County Administration Building in Nevada, IA to consider levies against five internal and seven joint drainage districts (see attached levy sheets). Members present were Lisa Heddens, chair, Linda Murken, and Latifah Faisal. Also present were Story County Communications Assistant Bryce Garman, Vegetation Management Specialist Tyler Kelley, and Drainage Clerk Scott Wall.

Heddens called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

Wall said there were five internal and seven joint drainage districts to be levied. He has grouped them into the internal districts and the joint districts by the counties they are shared with on the agenda and would like a separate motion on each grouping. First are the five internal districts. Warren #11 is in the early stages of a proposed open ditch cleanout and has accrued substantial engineering fees to date. It will continue to accrue engineering fees which is why the recommended ending balance is so high. Richland #20 Sub #3 had a collapsed tile replaced under the railroad just south of Fernald. One owner has spread their payments from that project over 10 years and Story County Bookkeeping projects a shortfall when the last payment is made in 2029. Levying now will reduce the total interest billed to the district and end 2029 with a positive balance. Grant #35, Colo-New Albany #9 & 48, and Indian Creek #82 all have negative balances due to repairs performed by Story County Secondary Roads.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to approve levies against Drainage Districts Warren #11, Richland #20 Sub #3, Grant #35, Colo-New Albany #9 & 48, and Indian Creek #82 as recommended by the Story County Drainage Clerk, said levies to be due and payable on or before September 30, 2024. MCU.

Wall said the four joint districts with Boone County would be considered by the Boone County Drainage Trustees at a separate meeting, likely tomorrow. He has been working with the Boone County Drainage Clerk to confirm that she concurs on the proposed levy amounts. This is not uncommon for joint districts levying for normal maintenance. That is the case for Boone #28-Story #1 and Boone #80-Story #3 where Story County Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (IRVM) is requesting funding for open ditch spraying to prevent tree and brush regrowth. Boone #93B-Story #4 had a project in 2020 to reroute the main tile and additional funds are required to cover accumulating interest. This levy is at the request of Boone County. The project was approved in a joint meeting with landowners so covering the remaining costs can be done by the two sets of trustees acting separately. Boone #143-Story #8 is similar in that it is a tile replacement approved in an earlier meeting between the trustees and district landowners. Construction has not begun but we have a contract for the work and an estimate of remaining engineering fees so we can levy now and save the district interest.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to approve levies against Joint Drainage Districts Boone #28-Story #1, Boone #80-Story #3, Boone #93B-Story #4, and Boone #143-Story #8 as recommended by the Story and Boone County Drainage Clerks, said levies to be due and payable on or before September 30, 2024. MCU.

Murken noted that most of the construction costs for Boone #143-Story #8 would be paid by Story County Secondary Roads and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. The district's costs are for realignment of the main tile north of 170<sup>th</sup> Street and the engineering fees, which amounts to about one-third of the total project cost.

Wall said Hardin #35-Story #1 and Hardin #58-Story #3 will also be considered in a separate meeting by the Hardin County Trustees. Both are being levied because Story County IVRM wants to spray the open ditches to prevent tree growth. Hardin #5-Story #1 also has a large negative balance due to unpaid claims dating back to 2018. Hardin County has experienced a high rate of turnover in the drainage clerk position and the current clerk only started in May of 2023 and is dealing with a backlog of districts that were not levied in a timely fashion. Wall spoke to the Hardin County Drainage Clerk last Thursday to confirm that they are on board with these levies, Again, the expenses in these districts are for maintenance to address normal wear and tear.

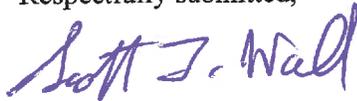
Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to approve levies against Joint Drainage Districts Hardin #35-Story #1 and Hardin #58-Story #3 as recommended by the Story County Drainage Clerk, said levies to be due and payable on or before September 30, 2024. MCU.

Wall said Polk-Story #1 had an engineer's report prepared in 2020 due to landowner concerns about a collapsed tile under a road on the Polk/Story line and possible clogged tile in an abandoned railroad right-of-way. The report found that the district tile was undersized but there was no evidence of roots in the tile. Ultimately, it was decided to only replace the collapsed tile which is a Secondary Roads expense. This levy is to cover the engineering costs incurred by the district and the Polk County Trustees approved the levy at a meeting on May 21.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to approve a levy against Joint Drainage District Polk-Story #1 as recommended by the Story County Drainage Clerk, said levy to be due and payable on or before September 30, 2024. MCU.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to adjourn. MCU. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott T. Wall

**DRAINAGE DISTRICT LEVY WORKSHEET**  
**May 28, 2024**

<u>DRAINAGE DISTRICT</u>	<u>CURRENT BALANCE</u>	<u>EXPECTED BILLINGS</u>	<u>NEW BALANCE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>PARCELS</u>	<u>% ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT LEVIED</u>	<u>CARRY FORWARD</u>
1 WARREN #11 Last levied on 06/28/2023 at 113%. Warren #11 is facing a large emergency repair, an engineer's report, possible annexation & reclassification, and a repair of 8.5 miles of open drainage ditch. This levy is to cover the costs incurred to date, primarily for the engineer's report.	(57,524.66)	Ongoing	(57,524.66)	30,999.82	296	218	67,619.40	10,094.74
2 RICHLAND #20 SUB 3 Last levied on 07/28/2023 at 22%. Richland 20 Sub 3 has one landowner who is in the 5 <sup>th</sup> year of a 10-year payment schedule. The outstanding balance owed is \$3,768.70 including interest and \$3,114.70 without. Bookkeeping has calculated that interest on the outstanding debt is accumulating more quickly than the remaining waived payments can cover. They recommend a \$3,000 levy this year which will leave the district with a reasonable carry forward at the end of the payment plan in 2029. Note that the current district balance will continue to accumulate interest until the next waived payment in September 2024.	(2,795.48)	Interest	(2,795.48)	10,000.00	92	30	3,000.00	204.52
3 GRANT #35 Last levied on 05/24/2022 at 82%.	(2,745.58)	0.00	(2,745.58)	4,462.28	23	106	4,778.00	2,032.42
4 COLO-NEW ALB #9 & 48 Last levied on 07/24/2019 at 51%.	(262.34)	0.00	(262.34)	7,512.65	404	30	3,833.20	3,570.86
5 INDIAN CREEK #82 Last levied on 07/09/2018 at 35%.	(50.02)	0.00	(50.02)	9,865.00	34	31	3,074.30	2,024.28
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>757</b>		<b>82,304.90</b>	

**BOONE-STORY DRAINAGE DISTRICT LEVY WORKSHEET**

May 28, 2024

<u>DRAINAGE DISTRICT</u>	<u>CURRENT BALANCE</u>	<u>EXPECTED BILLINGS</u>	<u>NEW BALANCE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>PARCELS</u>	<u>% ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT LEVIED</u>	<u>CARRY FORWARD</u>
1 <u>BOONE #28-STORY #1</u> Last levied on 06/28/2023 at 19%. Story County IRVM is requesting \$6,000 for contract ditch spraying.	0.00	6,000.00	(6,000.00)	39,774.87	102	28%	11,136.96	5,136.96
2 <u>BOONE #80-STORY #3</u> Last levied on 07/22/2023 at 23%. Story County IVRM is requesting \$8,000 for contract ditch spraying and there is a \$375 claim pending from Bolton & Menk for District Watchman services.	7,089.77	8,375.00	(1,285.23)	96,785.15	198	7%	6,774.96	5,489.73
3 <u>BOONE #93B-STORY #4</u> (55,963.55) Last levied on 07/22/2020 at 140.5%. There is a shortfall in this district due to accumulated interest on waived payments from a main tile relocation project.	(55,963.55)	0.00	(55,963.55)	100,000.00	214	60%	60,000.00	4,036.45
4 <u>BOONE #143-STORY #8</u> (31,092.00) Last levied on 06/28/2023 at 100%. There is a pending tile repair for which we have accepted a bid of \$36,565.00 (assessible cost). The engineer estimates another \$15,000 in project administration and I recommend a \$5,000 carryover after bills are paid.	(31,092.00)	51,565.00	(82,657.50)	21,060.71	81	417%	87,823.16	5,165.66
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>595</b>		<b>165,735.08</b>	

Parcels are for Story County only.

HARDIN-STORY DRAINAGE DISTRICT WORKSHEET

May 28, 2024

<u>DRAINAGE DISTRICT</u>	<u>CURRENT BALANCE</u>	<u>EXPECTED BILLINGS</u>	<u>NEW BALANCE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>PARCELS</u>	<u>% ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT LEVIED</u>	<u>CARRY FORWARD</u>
1 <u>HARDIN #35-STORY #1</u> (23,232.68) Last levied on 07/22/2020 at 27.302%. Story County IRVM has contracted for open ditch spraying in 2025. Estimated cost is \$3,000.	3,000.00	3,000.00	(26,232.68)	32,960.78	30	95	31,312.74	5,080.61
Levy breakdown by county (Hardin is control county)								
Hardin County				23,792.82			22,603.18	
Story County				9,167.96			8,709.56	
2 <u>HARDIN #58-STORY #3</u> 3,989.84 Last levied on 07/09/2018 at 19%. Story County IRVM has contracted for open ditch spraying in 2025. Estimated cost is \$7,500.	7,500.00	7,500.00	(3,510.16)	61,282.21	259	14	8,579.51	5,069.35
Levy breakdown by county (Story is control county)								
Story County				56,427.57			7,899.86	
Hardin County				4,854.64			679.65	

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POLK-STORY DRAINAGE DISTRICT LEVY WORKSHEET

May 28, 2024

<u>DRAINAGE DISTRICT</u>	<u>CURRENT BALANCE</u>	<u>BILLINGS</u>	<u>NEW BALANCE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>PARCELS</u>	<u>% ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT LEVIED</u>	<u>CARRY FORWARD</u>
POLK-STORY #1	(12,820.06)	0.00	(12,820.06)	33,777.25	53	53	17,901.94	5,081.88
Last levied on 06/28/2023 at 217%. Current shortfall is due to engineering fees for repairs that were proposed in the district. No additional expenses are expected.								
Levy breakdown by county (Story is control county)								
Story County				20,610.27			10,923.44	
Polk County				13,166.98			6,978.50	
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>53</b>		<b>17,901.94</b>	

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