

DRAINAGE MEETING  
MULTIPLE DISTRICT LEVIES  
MAY 25, 2021

The Story County Drainage District Trustees met in the Public Meeting Room of the Story County Administration Building in Nevada, IA to consider levies for deficiency against Drainage Districts Grant #5, Howard #27, Grant #35, Gilbert #70, and Lincoln #91 (see attached levy sheet). Members present were Lisa Heddens, chair, Latifah Faisal, and Linda Murken. Also present were County Outreach and Special Projects Manager Leanne Harter, Engineer Darren Moon, Drainage Clerk Scott Wall, and, via Zoom, a participant identified only by their telephone number.

Heddens called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and stated that access was being provided via Zoom per Iowa Code Section 21.8.1 due to room capacity limits imposed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Wall said that drainage district levies are approved by the trustees in May every year because the Code of Iowa mandates that those levies be certified to the County Treasurer prior to May 31 in order to be due on September 30 of the current year.

Wall noted that there were eight drainage districts on the levy sheet but he is only recommending that five of them be levied in 2021. Of the other three Richland #20 and Richland #20 Sub #3 include properties that are paying recent assessments on a payment plan and the amounts still to be collected exceeds the debt of those districts. Howard #46 is in the midst of a tile improvement and will be reclassified before it can be levied next year. Typically, we levy 12-15 districts every year so 5 is a relatively low number.

Wall said Howard #27, Grant #35, Gilbert #70, and Lincoln #91 are all running a fund deficit due to repairs performed by the Secondary Roads tile crews. These repairs were all due to normal wear and tear on district facilities. Wall calculates the size of the recommended levies based on the fund deficit and the original assessed value of the district. For small districts like Grant #35 the levy is such that there will be roughly \$2,000 in the district fund once the outstanding claims are paid. For most districts Wall recommends a \$3,000 carryover and for large districts like Gilbert #70 he likes to see a \$5,000 carryover.

Wall said the current deficit in Grant #5 is from legal fees the district expended in defense of its annexation of additional lands. Drainage Attorney Robert Goodwin, Drainage Engineer Kent Rode, and County Civil Attorney Ethan Anderson had, last Friday, realized that the lawsuit the district had recently lost over annexation of additional lands applied only to those lands whose owners had been plaintiffs in the lawsuit plus any lands that were no longer contiguous with the remaining annexation because of the removal of the plaintiffs' land from that annexation. Until the remaining lands in the annexation can be classified they cannot be levied. Wall is recommending that the trustees approve the dollar amount of the recommended levy against Grant #5 but not the percentage of that levy which is based on the original classification. If the annexed lands can be classified before levies are mailed in mid-July they can be included in the levy. Wall recommended proceeding with the levy now to avoid the current \$56,000 deficit from accumulating interest for another year.

Heddens asked if she understood correctly that Grant #5 be levied under one motion and the other 4 districts be levied under a separate motion.

Wall said that was correct.

Moon wanted to confirm that a \$4,000 repair in Grant #35 that was originally billed to Grant #5 had been correctly attributed to Grant #35, which is a tile district within Grant #5 that uses the Grant #5 open ditch as its outlet.

Wall replied that it had.

Faisal asked about Grant #5. Is she correct that we are levying it by the amount and not the percentage?

Wall said that was correct. It may end up being that percentage but if the annexed areas can be classified it will add to the original assessed value of the district which would reduce the percentage required to generate a \$68,000 levy.

Faisal asked if \$68,000 was too much.

Wall replied that it was not. The next step in Grant #5 is to clean the open ditch so he expects to be levying the district again in 2022 to pay for that project.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to approve the drainage clerk's recommendation for levies against Howard #27, Grant #35, Gilbert #70, and Lincoln #91, said levies to be due and payable on or before September 30, 2021. MCU.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to approve the drainage clerk's recommendation to levy Grant #5 at a percentage that will generate a levy of \$68,000, said levy to be due and payable on or before September 30, 2021. MCU.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to adjourn. MCU. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott T. Wall

**DRAINAGE DISTRICT LEVY WORKSHEET**  
**May 25, 2021**

<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 GRANT #5 Last levied on 07/22/2020 at 3,350%.	(61,296.45)	Ongoing	(61,296.45)	7,841.14	380	867	68,009.94	6,713.49
2 RICHLAND #20 Last levied on 07/01/2017. 2021 is the 5 <sup>th</sup> of 15 years of waived payments. The remaining waived payments (\$22,337.95) will cover the remaining debt and leave money for future repairs - do not levy in 2020.	(17,118.41)	0.00	(17,118.41)	420,000.00	357			
3 RICHLAND #20 SUB #3 Last levied on 07/22/2020 at 1,045%. 2021 is the 2 <sup>nd</sup> of 10 years of waived payments. The remaining waived payments (\$8,438.76) will cover the remaining debt - do not levy in 2021.	(7,598.85)	0.00	(7,598.85)	10,000.00	92			
4 HOWARD #27 Last levied on 07/22/2020 at 75%.	4,470.89	(9,857.09)	(5,386.20)	11,527.44	44	73	8,418.63	3,032.43
5 GRANT #35 Last levied on 07/01/2014 at 108%.	(7,775.96)	0.00	(7,775.96)	4,462.28	24	219	9,774.05	1,998.09
6 HOWARD #46 Last levied on 07/01/2010 at 31%. Ongoing improvement project w/reclassification. Do not levy in 2021.	(48,832.78)	Ongoing	(48,832.78)	40,051.49	139			
7 GILBERT #70 Last levied on 07/01/2011 at 2%.	(113.29)	0.00	(113.29)	60,241.21	602	5	5,261.90	5,148.61
8 LINCOLN #91 Last levied on 07/02/2012 at 49%.	(2,302.90)	0.00	(2,302.90)	9,969.60	43	53	5,293.87	2,990.97
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>1,093</b>		<b>96,758.39</b>	

Numbers 2, 3, and 6 are not being levied. Totals do not include those 3 districts.