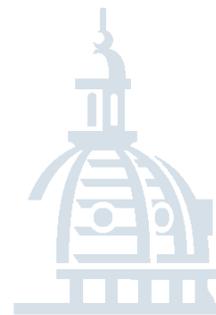




**LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES AGENCY**

*Serving the Iowa Legislature*

Tim McDermott, Director



December 4, 2025

**TO: STORY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**CC: SECRETARY OF STATE**

**FROM: IOWA LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY**

**RE: STORY COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING REPORT - FIRST PLAN**

**I. PLAN “THREE” COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS.**

Pursuant to 2025 Iowa Acts, ch. 15, a county with the main campus of an institution of higher learning governed by the state board of regents is required to use plan “three” for the election of supervisors. In accordance with Code section 331.206(1)(c), a plan “three” representation plan requires board members to be elected from single-member equal-population districts, in which the electors of each district shall elect one member who must reside in that district. Story county submitted a precinct plan to the state commissioner of elections who forwarded the precinct plan to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA). 2025 Iowa Acts, ch. 15, requires LSA to draw and publish the representation plan map by January 1, 2026.

After the LSA has drawn the plan, the LSA shall submit the plan to the governing body for the county and shall at the earliest feasible time make available to the public copies of the legal description of the plans, maps illustrating the plans, a summary of the standards prescribed by law for development of the plans, and a statement of the population of each district included in the plan, and the relative deviation of each district population from the ideal district population.

Upon receipt of the first plan, the governing body shall comply with the duties required by Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph “c”, to the extent applicable. After the requirements of Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraphs “a” through “c” have been met, the governing body shall review the plan and either approve or reject the plan. If the plan is rejected, the governing body shall give written reasons for the rejection and shall direct the LSA to prepare a second plan. The second plan may be amended by the governing body in accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph “d”. After receiving the second plan, the governing body shall approve the second plan, the first plan, or an amended plan.

## **II. STORY COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING.**

### **A. PLAN SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS.**

**PRECINCTS.** The proposed precinct plan for Story county, as submitted and approved by the state commissioner of elections, complies with legal standards applicable to precincts and allows for the drawing of a valid supervisor redistricting plan. In accordance with Iowa Code section 49.3(1)(c), the boundaries of all precincts follow the boundaries of areas for which official population figures are available from the most recent federal decennial census.

**POPULATION EQUALITY.** Pursuant to the 2020 federal decennial census, the total population of Story county is 98,537 persons. Story county elects three county supervisors. As a result, the ideal population size for each county supervisor district is 32,846 persons. To avoid the requirement that a county board of supervisors has the burden of proof to justify any supervisor district that deviates from the ideal population by more than 1 percent or 328 persons, each county supervisor district in the plan has a population of between 32,783 and 32,894 persons.

**CITIES.** Iowa Code section 49.3, subsection 2, paragraph “e,” provides that cities shall not be divided into two or more county supervisor districts unless the population of the city is greater than the ideal size of a district and cities shall be divided into the smallest number of county supervisor districts possible. Based on this requirement, cities that did not exceed the ideal size of a district were not divided into two or more county supervisor districts in the plan. At least one city in Story county exceeds the ideal size of a district.

### **B. STORY COUNTY SUPERVISOR DISTRICTS PLAN “THREE” DESCRIPTIONS.**

**FIRST PLAN.** The first proposed county supervisor redistricting plan for Story county is as follows:

District 1 Precincts: Ames 10, Ames 11, Ames 12, Ames 21, Ames 22, Ames 24, Ames 7/Franklin Twp 2, Ames 8, Ames 9, Franklin Twp, Gilbert, Story City 1, Story City 2/Lafayette Twp/Howard Twp 2

District 2 Precincts: Ames 2, Ames 3/Grant Twp, Ames 6, Cambridge/Union Twp, Collins/Collins Twp, Colo/New Albany Twp, Huxley 1, Huxley 2/Palestine Twp, Kelley, Maxwell/Indian Creek Twp, McCallsburg/Warren Twp, Milford Twp, Nevada 1/Richland Twp, Nevada 2/Grant Twp 2, Nevada 3, Nevada 4/Nevada Twp, Roland/Howard Twp, Slater/Sheldahl, Washington Twp, Zearing/Lincoln Twp/Sherman Twp

District 3 Precincts: Ames 1, Ames 13, Ames 14, Ames 15, Ames 16/Washington Twp 3, Ames 17, Ames 18, Ames 19, Ames 20, Ames 23, Ames 4, Ames 5/Washington Twp 2

**C. FIRST PLAN PUBLIC NOTICE.** The requirements of making information about the plan available to the public shall be met by making this report and the attachments available through the Legal Topic Publications section on the Iowa General Assembly’s website located at the following link: [www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/legalPubs](http://www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/legalPubs).

**D. FIRST PLAN APPROVAL OR REJECTION NOTIFICATION.** If this first plan is approved by the board of supervisors, the plan shall be submitted to the state commissioner of elections for approval as required by Iowa Code section 321.210A, subsection 2, paragraph “e.” If this first plan is rejected, the board of supervisors shall notify the state commissioner of elections of the rejection, including reasons for rejecting the plan, which the state commissioner of elections will provide to the LSA.

### **III. ATTACHMENTS.**

Attached to this Report are the following:

- 1** — Standards for plan “three” county supervisor redistricting.
- 2** — Map of proposed county supervisor districts - first plan.
- 3** — Information including populations and population variance statistics for each county supervisor district in the first plan.

## ATTACHMENT 1

### STANDARDS FOR PLAN "THREE" COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING

Several Iowa Code sections prescribe standards for establishing county supervisor districts for counties that elect supervisors under plan "three."

Iowa Code section 49.3 establishes requirements for election precincts and all election districts, including city wards and county supervisor districts. Specifically, Iowa Code section 49.3, subsection 2, establishes the following five requirements that are applicable to plan "three" county supervisor election districts:

1. All boundaries shall follow precinct boundaries.
2. All districts shall be as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal population for the districts as determined by dividing the number of districts to be established into the population of the county.
3. All districts shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as practicable.
4. Consideration shall not be given to the addresses of incumbent officeholders, political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, or demographic information other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.
5. Cities shall not be divided into two or more county supervisor districts unless the population of the city is greater than the ideal size of a district. Cities shall be divided into the smallest number of county supervisor districts possible.

Iowa Code section 331.210 governs plan "three" supervisor districts. The Iowa Code section provides that supervisor districts shall be drawn as provided in Iowa Code section 331.209, except that the boundaries of supervisor districts shall follow voting precinct lines. Iowa Code section 331.209, governing plan "two" supervisor districts, provides that supervisor districts shall be drawn, to the extent applicable, in compliance with the redistricting standards provided for senatorial and representative districts in Iowa Code section 42.4, including the requirement of justifying any population variance of a district in excess of 1 percent. If a supervisor redistricting plan with a variance in excess of 1 percent is adopted, Iowa Code section 331.209 requires the county board of supervisors to publish the justification for the variance in one or more official newspapers.

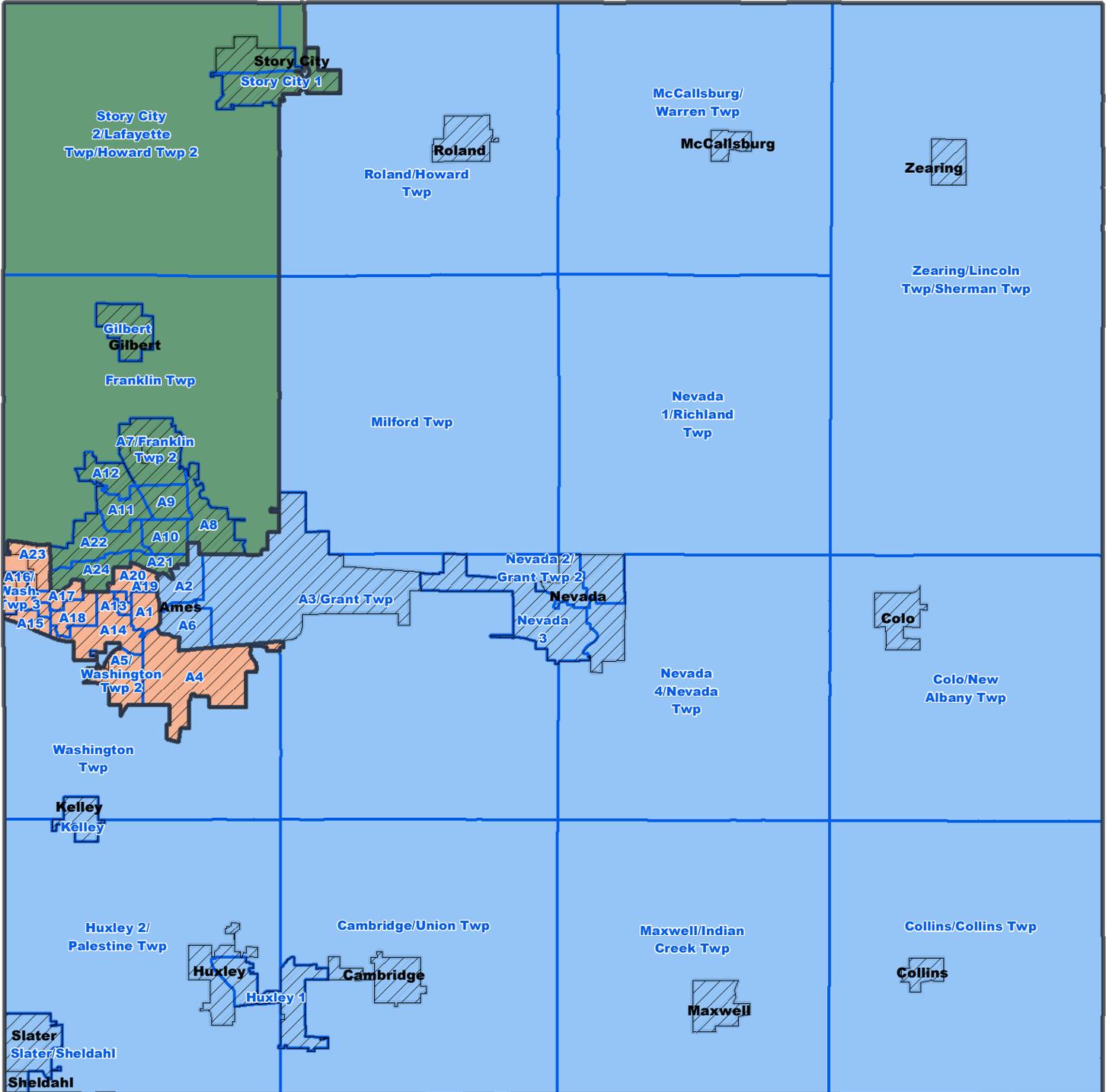
Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph "f," governing plan "three" county supervisor plans drawn by the Legislative Services Agency, also provides that plans shall be drawn in accordance with Iowa Code section 42.4, to the extent applicable.

Iowa Code section 42.4, governing congressional and state legislative redistricting and made applicable to plan "three" county supervisor redistricting, prescribes, in relevant part, several redistricting standards to be used in the preparation of congressional and legislative redistricting plans. The Iowa Code section provides that legislative and congressional districts shall be established on the basis of population; that, subject to population requirements and to the extent possible; the number of counties and cities divided among more than one district shall be as small as possible; that districts shall be composed of convenient contiguous territory; that districts shall be reasonably compact in form; and that no district shall be drawn for the purpose of favoring a political party, incumbent legislator or member of Congress, or other person or group, or for the purpose of augmenting or diluting the voting strength of a language or racial minority group. In providing that no district shall be drawn for the purpose of favoring a political party, incumbent legislator or member of Congress, or other person or

group, or for the purpose of augmenting or diluting the voting strength of a language or racial minority group, Iowa Code section 42.4 provides that no use shall be made of any data concerning the addresses of incumbent legislators or members of Congress, the political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, and demographic information, other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

ATTACHMENT 2

Proposed Story County Supervisor Districts – First plan



**ATTACHMENT 3**

**FIRST PLAN POPULATION SUMMARY  
STORY COUNTY**

<b>DISTRICT NUMBER</b>	<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	<b>% DEVIATION FROM IDEAL DISTRICT POP.</b>	<b>DEVIATION FROM IDEAL DISTRICT POP.</b>
1	32,783	.19%	- 63
2	32,894	.15%	48
3	32,860	.04%	14

Total County Population: 98,537

Ideal Supervisor District Population: 32,846

Maximum Allowable Population Deviation: 328 persons

Absolute Mean Deviation: 19 persons

Overall Range

	<b>LARGEST DISTRICT POP.</b>	<b>SMALLEST DISTRICT POP.</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
<b>ABSOLUTE</b>	32,894	32,783	111
<b>RATIO</b>	1.003		