

DRAINAGE MEETING  
DISTRICTS NEVADA #17 & ALL DISTRICTS  
JULY 29, 2025

The Story County Drainage District Trustees met in the Boardroom of the Story County Courthouse in Nevada, IA to consider issues in Drainage District Nevada #17 and to hear a presentation on drainage district services by a new engineering company. Members present were Lisa Heddens, chair, Linda Murken, and Latifah Faisal. Also present were Story County Engineer Darren Moon, Communications Assistant Bryce Garman, and Drainage Clerk Scott Wall, along with Tyler Conley, Drainage Engineer with Bolton and Menk (attending virtually), Jordan Cook with the City of Nevada, and Tyler Buman and Jacob Hagen with AgriVia Ag Engineering Services.

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

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

Moon said there are two issues in Nevada #17. The first is the Main District Tile where it runs under Harrington Park in the City of Nevada. The city was building a wetland in the park and Moon met with Conley and requested that Bolton and Menk get the tile jetted through their Drainage District Watchman Program after an attempted video of the main district tile by the city encountered tree roots and could not be completed. Conley told Moon that he has been having difficulty finding a contractor to do the jetting. Moon has had several district landowners, Scott Henry in particular, asking him for updates on getting the tile cleaned out.

The second issue is with flooding in a mobile home park owned by Flummerfelt (see attached letter) in the northeast corner of Nevada. There have been improvements made to the park, and they have been having problems with ponding. The ponding is worse this year than in past years. There is a district branch tile that parallels the railroad and runs past a retention pond at the southeast corner of the mobile home park. Moon believes the park relies on this lateral tile but does not know if the retention pond is tiled into the tile. District tile is not designed to handle urban runoff in the way that a storm sewer could, but Moon believes that is what is happening here. His office did some checking last week and couldn't find any intakes for the lateral tile near the pond. They did find an intake at another location, and it appeared to be functioning normally though the water was moving really slow, probably because of runoff in the main tile from the agricultural lands to the north. Jeff Clendenan from Flummerfelt Homes is demanding action but Moon said relying on the district tile is not going to work as it is not designed to drain quickly.

The county investigated the lateral last year and tried to jet it. In aerial photos of the area you can see there are trees along the tile, and it could probably benefit from additional jetting. Tree roots will continue to infiltrate the tile as long as the trees remain. The trees are in the railroad right of way and the district cannot work in the right of way without coordinating with the railroad. If the trees are not removed, we'll probably be jetting that tile every other year. The primary focus should be on cleaning out the main tile through Harrington Park and, possibly, under the railroad before working on the lateral tile.

Heddens asked if cleaning the roots out of the lateral tile will solve the issue.

Moon said no, not at all. The coefficient of drainage in the district branch tile is either ¼" or ½." With a ½" coefficient if we get a three-inch rain it will take six days for the water to drain.

Murken said a person who called her about the water in the mobile home park got back to her a day or two later to say the water had gone down quickly. The caller didn't know where the water had drained to and wondered if it was the storm sewer.

Cook said, with the heavy rainfall over the last several months, Nevada has noted a lot of I and I (Inflow and Infiltration) in their system so there probably is some storm water draining into their sanitary sewer. There is a possibility that some of the water was draining to Harrington Park which was quite flooded even with the wetlands the city had installed. Nevada is looking into the storm and sanitary sewer issues as they have had problems throughout the city that they need to mitigate.

Murken said the county is getting phone queries about drainage in Nevada. Can we direct those calls to Cook?

Cook said yes. He confirmed that the paving of roads in the mobile home park has caused more runoff than in the past. While there is no storm sewer in that area, they have not been able to determine where the pond is draining to. The new roads and infrastructure have been beneficial, but it does cause more water to run to the south.

Moon said they can look once the water goes down to see if there are visible tile inlets or drains.

Murken said the district can address the trees in the railroad right of way and that is really all they can do.

Moon said that and jetting the main tile.

Conley said he has found a jetter who is local and interested in the job. Conley has been waiting to be sure the district was still authorizing the work because of the length of time this has taken.

Murken asked what the scope of that work would be.

Conley said the first work would be jetting the main tile through Harrington Park and possibly under the railroad and then to jet the branch tile even before the trees are removed to free up as much of the capacity of the system as possible.

Murken said the City of Nevada had intended to pay for the video of the tile. Are they still willing to do that?

Cook said the city had agreed to pay for the video but not the jetting. They are still willing to pay for the video and to share that video with the district.

Moon concurred that the agreement earlier was for the district to pay for jetting and the city to pay for video.

Murken said she wanted to make it clear who was paying for what.

Conley said his priority was to jet the main tile through Herrington Park while working on getting consent from the railroad about the work to done in their right of way.

Cook said to let Nevada know as soon as the main tile has been jetted and the city will do the video. Nevada has seen their capacity almost triple during heavy rain events, and they can't support that, even with the new water treatment plant. They typically get around four million gallons a day and they are getting ten million gallons pushed through.

Murken asked if the tile to the north, which drains agricultural land, was working.

Moon said he was not aware of any issues to the north. No landowners had contacted him about that area and there are no trees close to the tile there.

Murken asked that she be kept informed of any progress in Nevada #17 since people have already contacted her about the issue. She would also appreciate it if people are not told to call the county.

Cook said he and Moon can coordinate on that.

Murken asked if Cook would call Jeff Clendenen from Flummerfelt who had first raised the issues in their mobile home park.

Cook said he would do that. Flummerfelt might be under the impression that everything drains to the district tile and, at this point, we just don't know. Once we can figure out where the water is going, we can resolve the issues in the trailer park.

The second agenda item was a presentation of drainage district services available from AgriVia Ag Engineering Services. The company was started three months ago in Perry, IA by Tyler Buman and Jacob Hagan. Both grew up on farms – Buman near Harlan, IA and Hagan still lives on his family farm near Bayard, IA. Because it is just the two of them, they manage every step of the project – surveying, drafting and design, and construction oversight. Their philosophy is that they should know every project like the back of their hand.

Buman said they worked for a larger firm before deciding to leave to start AgriVia. He has three years of experience and Jacob has about ten years of experience doing similar work. AgriVia will specialize in drainage work which allows them to have more direct contact with the people affected – the landowners. Because they are a small company they have very low overhead. Their rate is \$100 an hour. There is no additional charge for equipment, mileage, meals, or other incidentals.

Heddens asked if they had an engineer on staff.

Hagan said he has been a licensed engineer for five years. Buman has passed the tests for licensing and must work for one year under Hagan before he can receive his license.

Heddens asked what kind of experience they have working with drainage districts?

Hagan said during the ten years at his previous firm he worked exclusively in ag drainage. He worked on improvement projects, repair projects, reclassifications, and annexations from start to finish.

Heddens asked if they are working with any counties now?

Hagan said they are currently working on a job with Greene County, and they have been appointed the watchman for Dallas County. They have a joint project with Wright and Webster Counties and a small watchman job in Hamilton County.

Faisal asked, with just the two of them, how much capacity do they have to take on projects?

Hagan said they are available for calls seven days a week and can work from their business or from their homes because of the way their software is set up. They have a former contractor who will help them with

construction work as needed. They feel they have adequate capacity to take on several major projects concurrently. Their preference is to focus on central Iowa, within a reasonable driving distance from Perry. Story County is just 45 minutes away and well within that geographical area.

Buman said they have been pleased with how their Greene County tile improvement project is going and, once that is complete, they will be able to use it as an example of their work for prospective clients. He also stated that they have a licensed land surveyor who has agreed to work with them on any projects that require survey work.

They would love to do work in Story County and appreciate the trustees giving them the time to present their company and services.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to adjourn. MCU. Meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott T. Wall

FILED

25 MAY 19 AM 10:15

STORY COUNTY AUDITOR

Flummerfelt Homes  
837 W. Maple Ave.  
Nevada, IA 50201  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Story County Auditor  
Story County Administration Building  
900 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Nevada, IA 50201

Dear Lucy,

We are writing to formally request the review and analysis of the existing drainage district tile adjacent to Sunridge Estates.

It has come to our attention that the tile providing drainage for Sunridge Estates is not functioning properly. We believe that this drainage issue is connected to the County district tile. Given the importance of effective drainage for the community and the potential implications for property owners, we kindly ask that you evaluate the condition and capacity of the existing drainage district tile and make any necessary repairs/upgrades to maintain drainage for our site.

Your expertise and timely intervention in this matter will be greatly appreciated. We are looking forward to your review and any plan you may have to resolve this issue.

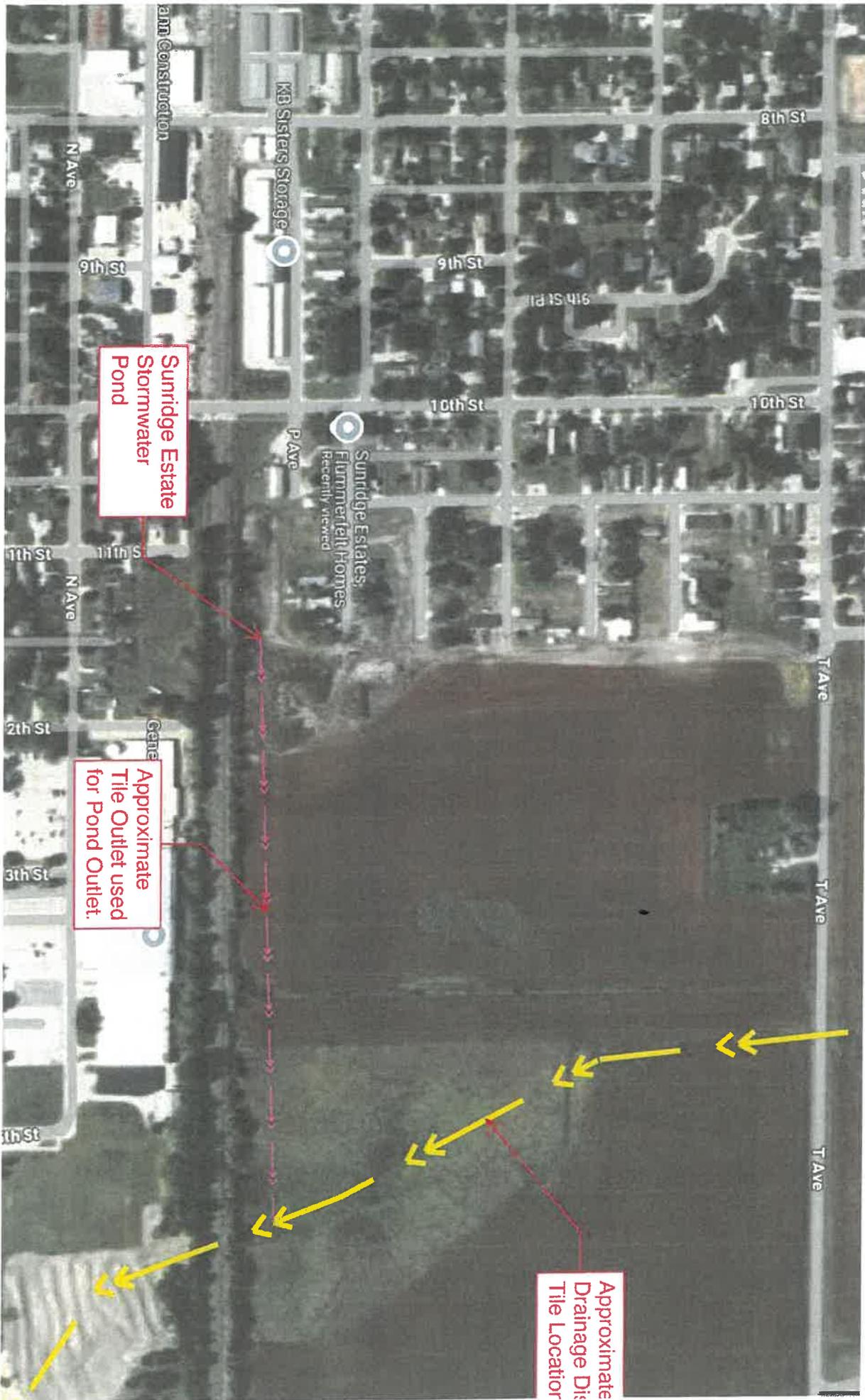
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jeff Clendenen  
Flummerfelt Homes  
General Manager  
515-290-4887  
flummhomes@gmail.com

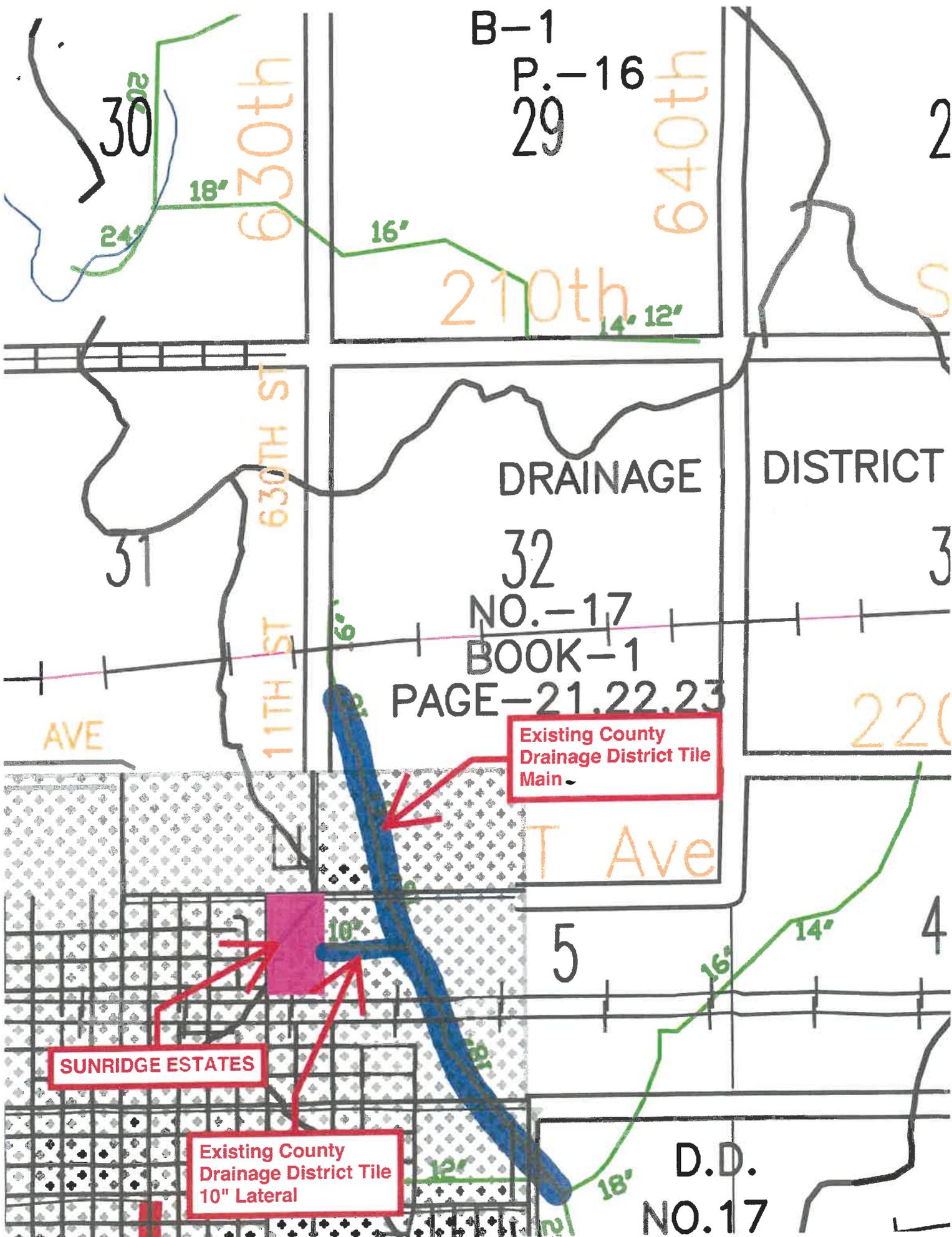
# Sunridge Estate - Drainage Exhibit



Sunridge Estate  
Stormwater  
Pond

Approximate  
Tile Outlet used  
for Pond Outlet.

Approximate  
Drainage Dis  
charge Tile Locator



B-1  
P.-16  
29

630th

640th

210th

DRAINAGE DISTRICT

32

NO.-17  
BOOK-1

PAGE-21.22.23

220

Existing County  
Drainage District Tile  
Main

T Ave

SUNRIDGE ESTATES

Existing County  
Drainage District Tile  
10" Lateral

D.D.  
NO.17

30

2

S

3

4

5

31

11TH ST  
630TH ST

AVE

24'

18'

16'

14' 12'

6'

10'

12'

14'

18'

16'

14'



AG ENGINEERING SERVICES

## *Schedule of Fees*

ALL SERVICES HOURLY RATE - \$100

\*Includes all mileage, meals, survey equipment, office and field supplies and other regular expenses incurred by AgriVia

\*Hourly rate is effective through 12/31/2025



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Tyler Buman E.I.T. Phone: 712-579-5296 Email: tyler.agriuvia@gmail.com