

DRAINAGE MEETING
DISTRICT PALESTINE #115
AUGUST 5, 2025

The Story County Drainage District Trustees met in the Public Meeting Room of the Story County Administration Building in Nevada, IA to consider rescinding a levy made against Drainage District Palestine #115. Members present were Lisa Heddens, chair, Linda Murken, and Latifah Faisal. Also present were Story County Communications Assistant Bryce Garman and Drainage Clerk Scott Wall.

Heddens called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

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

Wall said that on May 20, 2025, the trustees approved levies against several drainage districts including Palestine #115. The fund for Palestine #115 had a negative balance because a residential development in the City of Huxley had re-routed the main district tile where it crossed under a planned city street. When a landowner in Huxley contacted the Story County Engineer in September 2024 about the tile re-location the tile had been moved and, while the street was not paved, the curb and gutter was finished.

In September 2024 Wall, Murken, County Engineer Darren Moon, County Attorneys Crystal Rink and Theron Christensen, Drainage Engineer Tyler Conley from Bolton and Menk, Huxley Mayor David Kuhn, and Developer Representative Erin Ollendike from Civil Design Advantage met in the City of Huxley to discuss having the city sign an easement for crossing a district facility. Rink is still pursuing getting an easement signed by the city, but it was agreed that the district should not have to bear any financial burden because of the work. It was also agreed that Conley would be retained to review the as-built plans to ensure that the work had not impeded the capacity of the drainage district.

Conley's review showed that the district's capacity was not impeded and his firm, Bolton and Menk, Inc, submitted two bills, for \$1,368.00 and \$225.00 for engineering services. Those bills exceeded the amount in the district fund. When Wall prepared a list of districts to be levied in 2025 he mistakenly included Palestine #115. Conversations with district landowners and Crystal Rink after drainage assessments were mailed revealed the error.

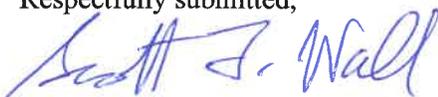
Rink advised Wall to send the claims from Bolton and Menk to Huxley City Administrator David Haugland. Haugland forwarded those claims to Jensen Design Group on August 4, 2025. Jensen was requesting that the city accept the improvements at their council meeting the week of August 11 and Haugland advised them that the district needed to be reimbursed before the city would accept the improvements. A Jensen representative brought a check for the full amount to the Story County Auditor's Office before noon on August 4.

Because the district had been levied in error and the payment from Jensen Design Group had restored the fund to a positive balance there is no need for the levy against Palestine #115. Wall is recommending that the levy be rescinded and that the Story County Treasurer's Office refund all assessments collected to date. Wall will send a letter to district landowners advising them that the assessments have been rescinded.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to rescind the May 20, 2025, levy against Drainage District Palestine #115 and to direct the Treasurer's Office to refund all payments made by district landowners. MCU.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to adjourn. MCU. Meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott T. Wall