

DRAINAGE MINUTES  
MULTIPLE DISTRICTS  
OCTOBER 7, 2025

The Story County Drainage District Trustees met in the Public Meeting Room of the Story County Administration Building in Nevada, IA to consider approval of a letter (copies attached) intended to protect water quality infrastructure in drainage districts when district facilities are being repaired or improved. Members present were Lisa Heddens, chair, Linda Murken, and Latifah Faisal. Also present were Story County Watershed Coordinator Sara Carmichael, Communications Assistant Bryce Garman, and Drainage Clerk Scott Wall.

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

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

Carmichael said they've had concerns from a landowner in a drainage district who is installing a water quality improvement project and wants reassurance that the project won't be damaged by a pending drainage district repair or by future district maintenance. He requested the letter being considered today and Carmichael is proposing that the same letter be approved for future water quality improvements in drainage districts. Carmichael worked with Wall, Tyler Conley of Bolton & Menk, and Story County Civil Attorney Crystal Rink to draft the letter.

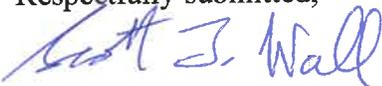
Murken said she had suggested this process so the trustees would not have to meet every time water quality infrastructure is installed in a drainage district. If the trustees approve the use of the letter now for a project in a specific district and for use in similar situations in the future, they will not have to meet every time a landowner requests a letter.

Carmichael said these projects have been done in other drainage districts and this is the first one where a landowner requested assurances that his water quality improvements would be protected so the template may not be needed again but it is good to have it available.

Faisal moved, seconded by Murken, to approve the letter covering the disposition of water quality infrastructure impacted by drainage district repairs or improvements. MCU.

Murken moved, seconded by Faisal, to adjourn. MCU. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott T. Wall



Board of Supervisors  
Administration Building  
900 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Nevada, Iowa 50201

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~~October 7, 2025~~ ~~October 1, 2025~~

To Gannon Hendrick,

The Story County Board of Supervisors acting as trustees of Drainage Districts within Story County are supportive of water quality installations along the Drainage District Right-of-Ways. These installations include but are not limited to saturated buffers, bioreactors, and/or wetlands. These installations are allowed and will be avoided during drainage district maintenance to the extent possible. However, an instance could arise that may necessitate disturbance of the installations to some extent. It should also be understood that these installations cannot limit access or working areas in such a way that would make district projects more difficult or more expensive as a result. While the districts are not actively pursuing the destruction, removal, or barring of water quality practices, drainage districts and the maintenance thereof are governed by Iowa Code 468 with implicit requirements for maintenance activities. If these water quality practices are impacted during maintenance of the district, the landowner should contact the local NRCS office to get the practice back to original function.

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Signature

Date

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Signature

Date

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Signature

Date



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Administration Building  
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To whom it may concern,

The Story County Board of Supervisors acting as trustees of Drainage Districts within Story County are supportive of water quality installations along the Drainage District Right-of-Ways. These installations include but are not limited to saturated buffers, bioreactors, and/or wetlands. These installations are allowed and will be avoided during drainage district maintenance to the extent possible. However, an instance could arise that may necessitate disturbance of the installations to some extent. It should also be understood that these installations cannot limit access or working areas in such a way that would make district projects more difficult or more expensive as a result. While the districts are not actively pursuing the destruction, removal, or barring of water quality practices, drainage districts and the maintenance thereof are governed by Iowa Code 468 with implicit requirements for maintenance activities. If these water quality practices are impacted during maintenance of the district, the landowner should contact the local NRCS office to get the practice back to original function.

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_