

IN THE MATTER DRAINAGE DISTRICT No. 14  
WORTH COUNTY, IOWA

MINUTES

The Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa, acting for and on behalf of Drainage District No. 14, Worth County, Iowa met at the Worth County courthouse at 9:30 A.M. CST, November 27, 2023.

Members present:       Enos Loberg, Chairperson  
                          A.J. Stone, Vice-Chairperson  
                          Mark Smeby, Supervisor

Also present:           Jacki Backhaus, Auditor  
                          Valerie Paulson, Clerk  
                          Bolton & Menk: Jacob Hagen & Colton Cunningham  
                          Landowners: Doug Moehle, Erbin Anderson, Roger  
                          Dahlby, Dan Dahlby, Millard Anderson, Cynthia  
                          Anderson, Josh Duvall, Jim Hanson, Jim Meland,  
                          Randi Johnson, Kris Rugland  
                          Via Zoom: Mike & Angie Wilkins, Mike Hanson, Dennis  
                          & Barb Walser, Ronald & Debra Reuvers, Mike, Larry

Public Hearing for the proposed improvements DD No. 14 at 9:30 A.M.

Colton Cunningham with Bolton & Menk, Inc., lead the with a power point presentation. The reports presented today are good for 10 years. This is for improvements only, not repairs. Remonstrance was discussed which takes 50% of the landowners with 70% of the land who object.

Jacob Hagen advised they are not proposing work south of 450<sup>th</sup> Street. When the tile main went in back in 1976 it split the district it relieved everyone downstream. The main areas they are proposing improvements has poorly drained soil.

Standard since the 1950's is ½" coefficient. When this tile was installed in 1912 it was undersized. This is one of the more undersized tiles they have seen.

South portion will still use the 1977 tile and save the district some money.

Lower main proposed improvement will be 36" tile for approximately 3,126 feet. Estimated construction cost is \$299,000, \$254 per acre.

Upper main proposed improvement will be 24" tile for approximately 5,240 feet. Estimated construction cost is \$318,000, \$681 per acre.

Public comment asking if they will leave the old tile. Jacob said they will evaluate it and they will either crush it or leave it and allow private connections for supplemental drainage. The tile is 110 years old so they will more than likely crush it.

Public comment asking if they will connect all private tiles. Jacob said they will make sure all tiles get connected and if for some reason they miss one they have a year to send the contractor back out to fix issues.

Lateral 4 proposed improvement will be 18" tile for approximately 3,354 feet. Estimated construction costs are \$163,000, \$663 per acre. This tile will connect to the lower main and run NE.

Not all of the proposed improvements need to be completed. But you cannot do Lateral 4 without doing the Lower main.

Lateral 5 proposed improvement will be 24" tile for approximately 1,600 feet and 18" tile for approximately 1,009 feet. Estimated construction costs are \$146,000, \$579/acre.

He suggests intakes on every property line and points of connection to help the system function properly.

Lateral 8 proposed improvement will be 18" tile for approximately 2,025 feet. Estimated construction costs are \$102,000, \$603/acre. They propose cutting off this area and sending it to DD 5.

Discussion about bored crossings. For the Lower Main, US 65 crossing would be an estimated \$100,000 and Railroad crossing would be an estimated \$162,000. These costs would be the responsibility of the DOT and the Railroad. It will take some time to get the proper permits for the railroad crossing.

Total project costs are estimated at \$1,3683,000, estimated average \$1,031/acre.

They recommend concrete instead of plastic. Plastic has an average lifespan of 50 years and requires a lot of rock. Concrete has an average lifespan of 250 years. Plastic also requires more on-site inspection which increases the engineering costs.

Landowner in Lateral 8 area said he already has a 10" tile and he knows it is undersized, but he is happy with the way it is.

Public question via Zoom asking how this will benefit them? They are North of Kuennen's Quarry. Jacob said they are currently relying on the 1977 tile which is undersized. By installing the new lower main tile, it will have a ½" drainage capacity. This will also provide an outlet for all the water coming to their property now. Landowner has concerns about going against the natural flow of the water. Jacob said this route is cheaper than going south unless they can dump into the quarry which they will need permission from the DNR. Landowner said this is destroying his crop. Discussion about having objections filed in writing.

If they move forward with the project they will send letters, post in the paper and post online for bids. They typically get 5-6 contractors that submit bids, and they are recommending summer construction to help keep the bids lower.

Landowners will receive a letter before construction begins. There is a 50' right-of-way each side of the tile.

They recommend the supervisors approve a 20-year waiver for assessments on a project of this size.

There will be a separate hearing for reclassification and annexation. The assessment schedule currently being used is from 1914. The entire district will pay reclassification costs. After reclassification there will be multiple assessment schedules.

If improvements move forward each landowner will need to contact the NRCS/FSA office and request Wetland Determination. This is the landowner's responsibility and could lead to possible penalties.


Objection letters were read. The majority of the letters were for objection of annexation. This will be taken into consideration at the annexation meeting since they were filed ahead of time.

Public comment made that this would be a great time to get the Lower Main done now since the DOT and Railroad have to pay their portion.

Motion at 10:51 A.M. by A.J Stone, second by Mark Smeby, carried to continue the public hearing for 2 weeks. Continued public hearing will be set for Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M.

  
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Enos Loberg  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
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Valerie Paulson  
Drainage Clerk