

**AGENDA**  
**REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:30 AM**  
**Large Conference Room**

**This meeting will be held electronically and in-person.**

**To access the meeting call: 1-(312)-626-6799, when prompted enter meeting**

**ID code: 820 7567 2007**

**You can also access the meeting online at:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82075672007>

1. Open Meeting
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes

Documents:

[07\\_14\\_21 - DRAINAGE MINUTES.PDF](#)  
[07\\_21\\_21 - DRAINAGE MINUTES.PDF](#)

4. DD 56 - Discuss W Possible Action - Right Of Way Easements
5. Discuss W Possible Action – Open Ditch Brush Spraying 2019 Bid Cycle Work
6. Discuss August Meeting Schedule W Possible Action
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn Meeting

**REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, July 14, 2021 9:30 AM**

**This meeting was held electronically and in-person.**

7/14/2021 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage Trustee Chairperson BJ Hoffman opened the meeting. Also present were Trustee Renee McClellan; Trustee Lance Granzow; Jolene Pieters, Auditor; Lee Gallentine of Clapsaddle-Garber Associates; Michael Pearce, Network Specialist and Denise Smith, Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion by McClellan to approve the agenda. Second by Hoffman. All ayes, motion carried.

3. Approve Minutes

Motion by McClellan to approve the minutes of Drainage Meeting dated 07-07-2021. Second by Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. DD 167 - Discuss W Possible Action - 2021 Assessment/Waiver

Smith stated we have a signed copy of the Balvanz request for waiver, Balvanz stopped in last week and signed that and we had it on the agenda today for official approval.

Motion by McClellan to approve the 2021 Drainage Assessment Waiver for Larry and June Balvanz. Second by Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Discuss W Possible Action - Open Ditch Brush Spraying

Smith stated in your packet, you have a copy of a timeline here that goes backwards, you can start at the bottom and work your way up, Smith went through and briefly reviewed the minutes from DD 3 and DD 148 to try to track down where we were at on prior approvals to open ditch brush spraying in those Private Trustee districts. Smith stated, DD 3, the earliest electronic minutes Smith could find in the computer were from Private Trustee elections in 2012, so they have been a private Trustee district for quite awhile. in 2014 we paid a claim for DD 148 for B&W that they sprayed, and we paid \$513.78, it would have been from the 2013 bid cycle. Smith stated the packet that she has is kind of sparse that we had on some of this for the open ditch brush spraying and in 2016 Tina had emailed Wright County regarding joint districts that had open ditches, Tina had some hand written notes on her list of districts, next to DD 3 she had written Gary says yes as of 10/2013. DD 18 which is a private Trustee district is noted as a yes, DD 55 Div 2 was a yes, DD 110 is noted as a no, a couple of days later in that communication, Gallentine had communicated with Schlemme, and she had asked how to find out more information on which districts were labeled as open ditches, when Schlemme noted that B&W spray had their information listed the other ones that Schlemme was asking for help on, and asked if Gallentine had any background information on about those private Trustee districts. Schlemme saw that DD 8 had B&W spray in the past but other landowner districts had spraying done and if not Schlemme would send them an informational letter on it. Smith could not find any copy of a letter sent to private Trustee districts in any correspondence sent between 2016 and 2019. Smith stated Gallentine's recommendation at that time, which was a good one, was that CGA recommends spraying on all open ditches to prevent tree and beaver issues. Smith stated we move on to October of 2016, there was a list of all open ditch locations in the file, that list included DD's 3, 18, 55 Div 2, 118 and 148. In November of 2016 those districts were also included on the bid notices that Schlemme generated and sent out, those private Trustee districts. Smith stated in 2016 those bid awards were awarded, including DD'3 3, 18, 55 Div 2, 118 and 148 to B&W, that bid was awarded for a total of \$118,000, of that \$41,000 were noted as Trustee Districts and \$77,000 were noted as County districts. In January of 2019, in DD 148 there was a Hearing on an Engineer's Report, on improvements to the main open ditch and in discussion at that meeting, the minutes state that Schlemme should let B&W Control know that the drainage district facility extends 400' east of T Ave and to be sure that they are spraying it. Smith stated that is the last reference she has for DD 148 in open ditch brush spraying and they held their elections in June of 2019. Smith stated her issue really comes down to the information in the file for the bid

process, that we bid these open ditch spraying districts on was sparse, Schlemme did not have any references to bidding done prior to 2016, Smith could not find record of that. Smith stated she thinks when we bid it, she used the same bid list that Schlemme used in in 2016, so if there was an error in communicating that to Smith, that this was different for private Trustee districts, Smith had simply followed what had been done prior, and that is probably where we have had some miscommunication. Smith thinks there probably needs to be some approval by these districts for the open ditch brush spraying and Smith is open to some instruction in how the Trustees would like her to handle these invoices. Smith apologized, and this was a tough situation. Gallentine asked what districts do we have invoices on. Smith stated she has one on DD 148 for \$1,100 and one for DD 3 for \$9,350. Gallentine stated if you would like his opinion, from before they became private Trustees, the Trustees, you the Supervisors, committed to a contract, that contract was still in effect regardless of who the Trustees were, they should have researched when they became Trustees what they were obligated and bound to do, so in Gallentine's mind DD 148, that is their bill, Gallentine is sure those guys won't like that but they don't care for Gallentine anyway.

McClellan stated they need to be sprayed one way or another. Hoffman stated he would talk to Seward, they need to be brush cut and remove the junk otherwise. Smith stated Seward had noted on his invoices in several districts that we have paid on and there are notes that there are some remaining issues that there are some trees and brush that needs removed. Gallentine stated the big thing is when you brush cut them, you have to treat the stumps or you are going to spread them, depending on what they are, and Gallentine would agree, you go on some of those out there and look around and ask if nothing has been done. Hoffman stated he thinks we should instruct Smith to send the claims to the districts, and let them know that contracts have been entered into before they became private Trustee districts and it is their obligation. Gallentine stated that is for DD 148, for DD 3, that has been a private Trustee district since the 1980's, but Gallentine cannot believe those guys wouldn't want it sprayed. Smith stated that is where she got confused, because on Schlemme's notes in 2016 on the 2016 bid she had noted that Gary in DD 3 said yes, if they sprayed in 2016 and that was changed, and their stance on that changed maybe they could have communicated that to us as well. McClellan asked if this was something that has to be done every year. Smith stated it is on a 3 year cycle. Gallentine stated it rotates. Hoffman stated when we get reports back from Seward or whoever is spraying, that additional stuff is needed, we should probably let the landowners know somehow that hey, this needs to be done, because some of the stuff he assumed B&W may have neglected prior. Gallentine stated he thinks the problem is on a 3 year rotation if you have something that grows pretty aggressively, after 3 years, the best you are going to do is stun it. Hoffman stated yes. Gallentine stated and then B&W just kept doing their thing, Gallentine thinks there was one year that B&W skipped all together didn't they. McClellan stated yes. Gallentine stated they didn't even show up. Smith stated we didn't even have invoices, it was in 2019. McClellan thought it was a different year. Smith stated we awarded to Seward in December of 2019, in October of 2019, you had asked me to look into that and we realized we hadn't had any invoices from B&W. Gallentine stated that is because they didn't show up. McClellan asked if it was this year they said they weren't going to come and they didn't make it. Smith stated it was in 2019. McClellan stated but then Taylor Roll hired for it. Hoffman stated but that was for roadside vegetation, McClellan stated then Roll hired another guy. Hoffman stated they didn't have the manpower and the time to commit to coming down and doing it. Gallentine stated they used to be johnny on the spot and they did a ton of it. McClellan stated so she is thinking of the roadside spraying. Gallentine stated it was interesting. McClellan stated to her it would be that this is part of the maintenance of the district and they are required to do, and if they aren't going to do it, should we be doing it and just charging them to do it she thinks. McClellan stated the only thing is if we include them in our spraying, we don't want to double spray either. Smith stated maybe she can ask for a copy of their minutes in which they elect not to participate in the County wide spraying, maybe Smith can ask them to agenda that in one of their meetings. Hoffman stated some of Seward's other comments is hat some of this stuff is close to tillable, maybe he is surprised that some of these people don't take a little more pride in their property as well, maybe they think it is drainage district so they are not going to go out and spend \$100 in chemical and \$50 in fuel. Gallentine stated the thing is on DD 148, they still have wooden surface drains, and they didn't want to spend money to replace them, they just took boards and made a square tube and replaced the surface drains and they still don't want to pay to replace them. Gallentine stated he would agree, it does not take much on landowner effort to get to take this stuff out long before the district does it.

Motion by McClellan to have the Clerk contact the private Trustees, let them know and send them the invoices. Second by Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

McClellan stated going forward for future years, are we going to include them or leave them out. Smith stated she has it separated now so that all of those private Trustee districts are off of the open ditch brush spraying bid and Smith will send a letter out that indicates prior to our bid process that if you would like to be included, that we need to know that and I will add them back into the list. Hoffman stated maybe give them a hard deadline. Smith stated yes, Hoffman stated it will be cheaper to do it as a bundle than it will be to do it individually. Smith stated she thinks as we look ahead, you will be looking at doing the bid cycle for spraying again in 2022, so if we send a letter out the first of the year and let them know our bid process will begin in April, we need to know if you are going to participate or not. McClellan stated she thinks that is a good idea.

Hoffman left the meeting to bring in Granzow. Gallentine asked if we still record during closed the closed session. Smith stated she records and then the audio of the closed session has to go into a sealed envelope in the vault along with the minutes. Gallentine asked if we would continue with the online portion of the meeting. Hoffman returned and stated you can end the zoom portion of the meeting as we have no participants. Smith stated we do not have anyone else joining us via zoom.

6. Enter Closed Session To Discuss W Possible Action DD 56 ROW Easements

Motion by McClellan to go into closed session to discuss with possible action the DD 56 Right of Way easements as allowed under Code of Iowa Section 21.5 (1) (c). Second by Granzow. Roll call vote as follows: McClellan - Aye; Granzow - Aye; Hoffman - Aye. All ayes. Motion carried and closed session entered at 9:46 AM.

7. Enter Closed Session To Discuss Drainage Clerk Performance Review

Pieters joined the meeting. The meeting remained in Closed Session to discuss the Drainage Clerk Performance Review as allowed under Code of Iowa Section 21.5 (1) (I).

Motion by Granzow to exit Closed Session. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried. Closed session exited at 10:06 AM.

The Trustees thanked Pieters for joining the meeting.

8. Other Business

9. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by McClellan to adjourn. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, July 21, 2021 9:30 AM**  
**This meeting was held electronically and in-person.**

7/21/2021 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage Trustee Renee McClellan opened the meeting, also present were Trustee Lance Granzow; Lee Gallentine, Clapsaddle-Garber Associates; Michael Pearce, Network Specialist; and Denise Smith, Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion by Granzow to approve the agenda. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Approve Minutes

Motion by Granzow to approve the minutes of Regular Drainage Meetings dated 06/16/2021 and 06/23/2021. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. DD 121 WO 295 - Discuss W Possible Action - Investigation/Repair Summary

Gallentine stated this was originally a work order that was turned in, where we had went out and it was going to need more investigation, it wasn't just a simple sinkhole, there was spots where there was tree stumps, clay shards, it was really shallow and there was water percolating out of the ground so Seward went out and did that, Gallentine stated what we found, we dug it up in a couple of spots, was there was some previous repairs, it was 14" clay and previous repairs were 15" metal or 15" single wall, also very shallow in spots, some spots were plugged with tree roots, Gallentine stated all told there was 800' that needs replaced. Granzow asked if this was previously done by our Secondary Roads if it was metal. Gallentine stated he would guess but he did not know. McClellan asked where DD 121 was located at. Granzow stated it was in the southern part of the County, we had a landowner meeting on this at one time. Granzow asked who turned in the work order. Gallentine stated it was Tom Gilmore. Granzow did not recall that one, Gallentine stated that may be because it was from a year ago, we had a landowner meeting where the only one that showed up was Brent Perry, before we did the investigation and Perry said to go ahead and do the investigation and if it needs to be repaired go ahead and repair it. Gallentine stated we are looking at 800' of 15" tile that needs replaced and we are guessing that at current costs that is going to be \$40,000 to \$60,000, so he does not know how the Trustees would like to proceed on that. Granzow stated a landowner meeting, bring them in, it is still under the threshold. McClellan asked how many landowners were in that district. Gallentine stated not very many it is not a big district, and we have already had one landowner meeting. Granzow stated he would like to call them back in with the results of what we have found, obviously we can do it. Gallentine stated it is just over 1,300 acres. Granzow stated let's let them know what we are thinking, that is his notion. McClellan agreed. Gallentine stated he has no problem with that, he would not be surprised if we don't have much better attendance. Granzow is aware of that and still thinks they should have an opportunity to speak. Granzow stated we can schedule at the Clerk's recommendation. Smith asked if the middle of September was too late or too soon, we can go the first week in September. Granzow stated the first week. Smith asked if they preferred September 1st or September 8th. McClellan stated let's go with September 1st. Smith suggested 10:00 am on September 1st, right after Regular Drainage Meeting. Gallentine confirmed his availability.

Motion by Granzow to hold a DD 121 Landowner Meeting on September 1, 2021 at 10:00 AM in the Large Conference Room of the Courthouse. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Granzow stated along with the card you send out, Granzow wonders if you should have attendance check marked, call ahead if you are going to attend, if your response is fix it, move on, Granzow is okay with the 10:00 meeting, but it could be a 2 minutes meeting, Granzow stated never mind, let's just go ahead with the 10:00 meeting. Gallentine stated they can always contact the Clerk with comments. Smith stated she would include on the postcard that landowners can contact us with comments or concerns before the meeting if they can't attend.

5. DD 131 WO 310 - Discuss W Possible Action - Investigation Summary

Gallentine stated this was on a plugged district tile on the south side of 110th Street, the landowner had Secondary Roads come out there and replaced a couple of intakes in the road right of way, but it still was ponding so downstream of that we did a little bit of work, it was an 8" concrete tile, we found the blockage, it is a new one a dead raccoon in the tile, so Gallentine imagines before the intakes were replaced, the raccoon got in there, so Seward pulled the raccoon out in pieces. Granzow asked if it blasted through and water runs. Gallentine stated and then the water was running, the one interesting thing is this was done earlier this year when it was pretty dry, there was about 2" of sediment and stagnant water in the tile, there is something going on downstream, either a belly or a dip in the tile, an obstruction or a broken tile. Gallentine stated if the Trustees would like, we can do some televising, 8" tile is not the easiest to televise unless it is laser straight or we can do some potholing at intervals, Gallentine stated this tile from looking at the maps, was put in before the district was established, because this was a private tile turned into district tile when the district was established, so this thing has been out there for awhile, but other than the 2" in the 8" pipe, it is flowing, you have 3/4 of your pipe available for flow. McClellan asked if we have just not had enough rain to flush it out. Gallentine stated that is the other thing, those intake tops were gone and a raccoon could get in there, it is possible that it could have sucked in some silt too and it may flush. Gallentine stated we are just making you aware, that you have 1/4 of the pipe restricted. Gallentine stated he does not think he wants to do anything at the present time, without a complaint, the complaint was it was plugged, we fixed the plug, Granzow stated let's see if it flushes, if there are more issues leave it on file. Gallentine stated sounds great.

Motion by Granzow to acknowledge the Investigation Summary and place Summary on file and wait and see what happens. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### 6. Discuss W Possible Action - New Work Order Requests

DD 88 WO 315 - Smith stated this is the one we had on last week, we put this on this week under New Work Order Requests, which Smith will try to leave on every week on the agenda, this was from landowner Robert Winter who reports a blowout on DD tile at this location, at the edge of his yard, just north of the drainage outlet structure in the treeline. Smith stated we are looking for official approval and some action today on this work order. Granzow asked if Gallentine had a chance to get out there yet. Gallentine stated he had not had a chance to get out there yet, this last week has been pretty busy for us. Granzow stated he would like to send CGA out to take a look at it, investigate, one Granzow wants to know if that is a closed tile all the way or if that is open, if we have to fix that tile, maybe we just fix it to the treeline, let's find out what the investigation is we will probably end up with a landowners meeting over this if this is tiled all the way through. Gallentine stated the tough thing is if we are starting to eat our way upstream it may be a decent length of tile, especially if we are talking about a headwall, with the prices of steel, things are not cheap. Granzow stated but it beats tearing all those trees out. Gallentine stated it sure does, if it is a 10' sinkhole we just have to fix a little spot, you usually have to have something to stop that erosion again. Granzow stated right, but if that tile is supposed to go all the way through those trees, Granzow thinks a headwall at the fenceline would make sense, where it can dump and let it go, rather than an open ditch. Gallentine stated that made sense. McClellan asked if the water flows through towards the trees, Gallentine stated yes it does, that is the outlet down there. Granzow asked and it is an open ditch from that point. McClellan asked if it looks like it is already got a gully in there. Gallentine stated yes, a gully wash, because if you look at the older aerial, it doesn't have that. Granzow stated so it is back-flowing. Gallentine stated it may be. Granzow asked does that connect or does it dump at the end. Gallentine stated it goes a little bit farther south and then it dumps out. Granzow asked if it dumps in the field. Gallentine stated no it ends in that patch of trees. Granzow stated he hates to say this. and used himself as an example, if I am entitled to pipe all the way through there, today's prices of corn, I don't care about the pasture, I am going to till it up, because once you fix that, that pasture could have been created by a broken tile line, Granzow has that in field, but if it is drainage tile that is supposed to have been fixed all the way through, that is a possibility. Gallentine stated it may be possible to look at the old map, it may indicate it ending at that property line and not going any farther south. Granzow stated which he is assuming is what it is. Gallentine stated then maybe it is a matter of the old map not quite matching 100% what the aerial says, we have seen that on a few of them. Granzow is curious what it is. Gallentine stated we will look at it and report back, if that is your motion.

Motion by Granzow to have CGA investigate the blowout on DD 88 tile, and report back the finding to the Trustees. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### 7. Other Business

IRUA - Smith has gotten some confirmation from Todd Rosendahl of the IRUA that Drainage Utility Permit 2021-01 has been completed and this was one that they worked on that did not actually cross drainage district tile or facility, they are just communicating to us that their work is complete, and this would have been near H Ave and 270th, Smith stated she believed it was DD 55-Div 2. Smith wanted to bring this to the Trustees just to look at closing the work order if the Trustees are satisfied with that, we had not had CGA go out and look at this one as there was no drainage facilities crossed.

Motion by Granzow to acknowledge the IRUA's communication that Drainage Utility Permit 2021-01 work is complete. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

August Meeting Schedules - Smith stated she is off the first week in August, so the August 4th meeting would need coverage from someone other than Smith, if the Trustees would like to continue with drainage for that meeting, Smith can prepare an agenda and post it the Friday before the meeting or we could cancel the Drainage Meeting for that week. McClellan stated she would be gone that day too, she is out the 4th through the 11th. Granzow stated so August 4th, August 11th and August 25th are out. McClellan stated yes the 25th is ISAAC Week. McClellan stated she may be able to call in on the 11th but may be driving, and is not sure that would be safe driving, the 11th we were going to do away with that meeting or change it because evidently Hoffman is gone too. Granzow stated so we will have two people gone for some of these dates. McClellan stated August is vacation time for some people. Gallentine stated you can decide that next week. Smith stated if you would like me to agenda that next week, Smith sure can. Granzow may not be available some of these dates. Gallentine stated drainage and it's problems will still be here. Granzow stated if you are not going to be here, he would prefer not having a meeting. Smith will put it on the agenda for next week. Granzow stated if Smith is gone, he would just prefer not having a meeting. McClellan stated change or cancel. Granzow stated we have done that before. McClellan stated if we do have to change our meeting form the 11th to the 12th, which was what Hoffman mentioned doing might be a possibility, McClellan asked if Smith would be there on the 12th. Smith stated of course, she is just off the first week in August, and Smith can work around any other day of the week the Trustees would like, Smith just needs to know in advance so she can get the agenda up. McClellan stated if Smith will be here on the 11th, it just sounded like Hoffman would not be so we if we can move Drainage to the 12th. Gallentine suggested any day but the 13th, Granzow is not available the 12th. McClellan stated the 4th you will both be here, if you want to change Drainage to the 5th that s up to you guys. Granzow stated he thinks cancel, in if Smith is going to be gone, in all honesty, he would rather Smith be here for the records. Gallentine stated it isn't like we have a lot going on this week. Smith stated that sounds good. Granzow stated if we don't have a regular drainage meeting on the 11th, McClellan stated possibly, Granzow stated if we don't have a regular meeting we won't have a drainage meeting, so let's put that on the agenda as well, unless we move it to the 12th, let's just make sure we move both meetings to the same day.

DD 56 - Smith will agenda the DD 56 easements, and will get that per acre crop damage dollar amount on the agenda. Gallentine stated it is what we talked about last week in closed session.

#### 8. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Granzow to adjourn. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.