



Pete Ricketts, Governor

March 31, 2021

Dodge County
Attn: Bob Missel
435 N. Park, Room 204
Fremont, NE 68025
via email: sales@sampters.com, zoning@dodgecone.us

Subject: Floodplain Management Ordinance Violation on Properties
270-114-534 (Lone Tree Rd LLC; Duane Muller) - *Dodge County jurisdiction*,
270-117-579 and 270-117-663 (Roger and Carol Vacha) - *City of Scribner jurisdiction*,
270-117-565 (Muller Farms Inc.) - *City of Scribner jurisdiction*, and
270-117-593 (Lone Tree Road LLC; Duane Muller) - *City of Scribner jurisdiction*

Board of Supervisors, County Staff,

On May 20, 2020, the Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) Floodplain Management Section notified your jurisdiction and the City of Scribner of suspected unpermitted development in the floodway of your respective jurisdictions. Both City of Scribner and Dodge County confirmed that the development had occurred without benefit of permit. Since that time, NeDNR has been in frequent communication with Scribner's floodplain administrator and legal counsel and Dodge County's floodplain administrator to resolve the violations. The following timeline captures key dates and actions since the violations were identified:

May 20, 2020: NeDNR notifies communities of violation and requests permitting documents or a plan for bringing properties into compliance¹. Jurisdictions are made aware of the requirement for no-rise analysis as part of the permitting process.

May 22, 2020: Dodge County notifies Muller Farms Inc. of violation and requests compliance.

May 29, 2020: City of Scribner notifies Muller Farms Inc. and Roger Vacha of violations and requests compliance.

June 8, 2020: Dodge County again notifies Muller Farms Inc. of violation and requests compliance.

June 24, 2020: Dodge County again notifies Muller Farms Inc. of violation, reminds them of no-rise requirement, and requests compliance by December 1, 2020.

¹ Letter from NeDNR to Dodge County, May 20, 2020

July 6, 2020: City of Scribner confirms location and extent of Site 4² dike via site visit.

July 30, 2020: A public hearing is hosted in Scribner. Attendees include: violating property owners and legal counsel, City of Scribner floodplain administrator, City of Scribner legal counsel, Dodge County floodplain administrator, NRCS staff, Lower Elkhorn NRD staff, and NeDNR staff. Locations of 4 violations are presented, LiDAR analysis demonstrating elevation gains is presented, and the no-rise certification process is explained in detail. At this meeting all four violation locations are discussed, and it is specified that they all must be included in the no-rise certification analysis.

November 12, 2020: Dodge County again notifies Muller Farms Inc. of violation and requests compliance.

November 16, 2020: Muller Farms submits incomplete no-rise analysis showing a rise in base flood elevations.

November 16, 2020: City of Scribner informs Muller Farms that the full scope of dikes needs to be included in the no-rise analysis and that the dike on parcel 270-117-593 needs to be included.

December 17, 2020: Lower Elkhorn NRD provides letter to City of Scribner committing to use "a large portion, if not all" of the Vacha dike.

December 28, 2020: City of Scribner authorizes City Attorney McNally to, *"contact the offending parties that unless a plan of action to remedy the flood plains violations, along with a timeframe for compliance, is received by the city by January 25, 2021 that legal action would be started to either fine the offenders by filing complaints for violation of the ordinance or by asking the courts to impose a mandatory injunction against the offending parties to force compliance."* Minutes, City of Scribner City Council meeting, December 25, 2020.

December 29, 2020: City of Scribner requests time extension to continue to work towards resolution of the violations, citing the LENRD project and cooperation from Dodge County Attorney.

December 30, 2020: City of Scribner directs Muller Farms Inc. to correct the violation before spring planting and to submit no-rise analysis by January 25, 2021.


January 20, 2021: NeDNR informs City of Scribner of ramifications and risks of not resolving the violations.

January 21, 2021: Muller Farms submits incomplete no-rise analysis excluding existence of the dike on parcel 270-117-593.

January 25, 2021: City of Scribner City Council directs Scribner legal counsel to "proceed with enforcement of City of Scribner's Floodplain Ordinance."

February 2, 2021: NeDNR provides comments on the no-rise analysis submitted January 21, 2021, and reiterates deficiencies in the analysis, specifically noting the continued absence of the full scope of unpermitted dikes. Information was provided to engineer and both jurisdictions.

² Map, "Known Unpermitted Dike Locations"



February 17, 2021: Muller Farms re-submits same incomplete no-rise analysis as that submitted on January 20, 2021.

March 1, 2021: Dodge County Attorney resigns.

March 16, 2021: Email from Muller Farms representation considers including only east-westerly portion of dike 4 in no-rise analysis.

March 17, 2021: NeDNR reiterates that the model needs to include the pre and current conditions of dike #4.

March 23, 2021: LENRD confirms that the Section 14 Project repair permit has not been obligated by FEMA and that the alternate project option be utilized. The alternate project option only allows funding to restore to previous conditions. A 404 permit has not been applied for, and the project scope is now in question due to lack of funding obligation. Removal of Vacha dike remains in question. No no-rise analysis has been performed supporting it's potential permitting.

Since August of 2020, NeDNR has been providing technical assistance through regular check in meetings with both the City of Scribner and Dodge County. These check in meetings occurred on:

August 20, 2020	December 4, 2020	February 17, 2021
September 3, 2020	December 9, 2020	March 3, 2021
September 10, 2020	December 18, 2020	March 19, 2021
September 24, 2020	January 7, 2021	March 25, 2021
October 13, 2020	January 22, 2021	
November 17, 2020	February 4, 2021	

The list does not include the numerous emails and informal telephone calls via which technical assistance was also provided.

To summarize the status of the violations:

- There is no indication of cooperation on the part of the violating property owners to submit a no-rise certification analysis that is complete-enough to warrant review.
- There is no evidence that necessary permitting documents (floodplain development permit applications and grading plans) are in development for any of the four locations.
- No legal action has been initiated by either jurisdiction.
- There is no timeline for bringing these violations into compliance.

At this point in time, there is no indication that the violations will be resolved by planting season and every indication that they will continue to threaten the health and safety of downstream community members.

In January, NeDNR provided City of Scribner and Dodge County with an informal extension of three months, and will grant an additional 30 days to come into compliance with the NFIP. The deadline is April 30, 2021. If the properties are not in compliance by that time, the violations will be advanced to FEMA.



If you or any County staff have questions or require technical assistance on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact Adele Phillips at Adele.Phillips@nebraska.gov or (402) 471-9244; or me Katie Ringland at Katie.Ringland@nebraska.gov.

Sincerely,



Katie Ringland, PE, CFM
Chief of the Floodplain Management Section
State NFIP Coordinator

CC: Emily Hatcher, CFM; FEMA Region VII
Erin Cobb, CFM; FEMA Region VII
Shandi Teltschik, PE, CFM; FEMA Region VII
Adele Phillips, CFM; NeDNR

Encl: Letter from NeDNR to Dodge County, May 20, 2020
Map, "Known Unpermitted Dike Locations"



NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Water.

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

May 20, 2020

Jean Andrews
Dodge County Zoning Administrator
435 N Park
Fremont, NE 68025
via email: zoning@dodgecone.us



Pete Wickelits, Governor

Subject: Floodplain Management Ordinance Violation on Properties
PID 270-117-880, S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4 & TL 6 151.5A 33-30-7, and
PID 270-114-534, N1/2 NW1/4 & TL 2 110.51A 4-19-7

Dear Ms. Andrews,

The Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) Floodplain Management Section is in receipt of a report of unpermitted development on the subject properties. The report, compiled by NeDNR's Norfolk Field Office, includes photographs and maps of substantial earthwork having been conducted within Dodge County's Special Flood Hazard Area (see enclosed). The scope of development is described as a dike approximately 8 ft. wide, ±1,500 ft. long, and varying in height from 5 to 10 ft. This development is defined as an *obstruction* under Title 455 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 1, § 002.16, Minimum Standards for Floodplain Management Programs:

"Obstruction' shall mean any wall, wharf, embankment, levee, dike, pile, abutment, projection, excavation (including the alteration or relocation of a watercourse or drainway), channel rectification, bridge, conduit, culvert, building, stored equipment or material, wire, fence, rock, gravel, refuse, fill or other analogous structure or matter which may impede, retard, or change the direction of the flow of water, either in itself or by catching or collecting debris carried by such water, or that is placed where the natural flow of the water would carry such structure or matter downstream to the damage or detriment of either life or property."

The report also describes similar scales of dikes having been built without a permit, possibly by the same individual(s), and within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of Scribner nearby.

Per my conversation with you on May 19, 2020, NeDNR learned that no floodplain development permit applications were received nor were any issued by the County allowing the aforementioned development. Additionally, you informed me that a concerned citizen has already brought the issue to both your attention and the attention of the County's Highway Superintendent, Scott Huppert. However, the County has taken no action as required under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 31-1019.

Jesse Bradley, Interim Director

Department of Natural Resources

301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94676
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

OFFICE 402-471-2363
FAX 402-471-2900

dnr.nebraska.gov

The obstruction on the subject properties lies within both floodplain and floodway designated areas. Pursuant to Title 455 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 1, § 004.01, Minimum Standards Governing Location of Obstructions and Substantial Improvements in the Floodplains for the Base Flood:

"No new construction, substantial improvements, or other obstruction (including fill) shall be permitted unless it is demonstrated that the cumulative effect of the proposed new construction, when combined with all other existing and anticipated new construction or substantial improvement, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location."

Also, pursuant to Title 455 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 1, § 005.01, Minimum Standards Governing Location of Obstructions and Substantial Improvement in Floodways:

"No new construction, substantial improvement or other obstruction (including fill) shall be permitted within the floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed new construction would not result in any increase in water surface elevations along the floodway profile during the occurrence of the base flood."

Additionally, pursuant to Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations, § 60.3(d) and § 60.3(d)(3):

(d) "When the Federal Insurance Administrator has provided a notice of final base flood elevations within Zones A1-30 and/or AE on the community's FIRM and, if appropriate, has designated AO zones, AH zones, A99 zones, and A zones on the community's FIRM, and has provided data from which the community shall designate its regulatory floodway, the community shall:"

(d)(3) "Prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practices that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge;"

Given the above, NeDNR has determined that a Violation has occurred. Dodge County is expected to resolve the violation. **Within two weeks of the date of this letter, provide this office with the applicable permitting documentation or a written plan for bringing the development into compliance.**

At minimum, the permitting documents should include the floodplain development permit, the no-rise certification, engineering models, site plan, and all other necessary documentation. If providing a plan for compliance, it should include at minimum a timeline with specific actions to be taken by Dodge County and those responsible for the unpermitted development.

If Dodge County takes no action within two weeks of the date of this letter, the State will advance the violation to FEMA. Dodge County's failure to rectify the unpermitted development constitutes a violation of its floodplain management ordinance, and threatens the entire County's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). If the County is suspended from the NFIP, flood insurance would become unavailable to its residents and certain federal funding would be limited.

If you or any County staff have questions or require technical assistance on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at Adele.Phillips@nebraska.gov or Katie Ringland at Katie.Ringland@nebraska.gov.

Sincerely,



Adele Phillips
Flood Mitigation Planner, Floodplain Management Section
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

CC: Bob Missel; Chairman, Dodge County Board of Supervisors; via email: sales@sampters.com
Lon Strand; District 3, Dodge County Board of Supervisors; via email: lonstrand@yahoo.com
Austyn Houser, NeDNR Norfolk Field Office; via email: Austyn.Houser@nebraska.gov
Bill Birkel, NeDNR Norfolk Field Office; via email: William.Birkel@nebraska.gov
Katie Ringland, PE, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator and Chief, Floodplain Management Section

Encl: State of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Report of Field Investigation
Resolution No. 2020-017 of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors



**STATE OF NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION**

Complainant's Name and Address:

Thomas K. Johnson
1491 County Road F
Scribner, NE 68057

Name and Address of Owner of Complaint Site:

Muller Farms Inc.
517 Lone Tree Road
Scribner, NE 68057-0000

Stream: Cumming Creek & Elkhorn River

Location(s): SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.33-T20N-R7E and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ & S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.29-T20N-R7E and
S $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.29-T20N-R7E

Within the first full week of May, 2020; our department received a complaint by telephone from Thomas (Tom) Johnson concerning the construction of several dikes East of Scribner, NE. William (Bill) Birkel scheduled a meeting with Tom at his property on Tuesday, May 12th, 2020 at 11:00a.m.

On May 12th, 2020 Austyn Houser and Bill Birkel of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted a field investigation at the points of interest. Tom Johnson, Robert Johnson, and Roger Vacha escorted us to each individual site and stated their complaints with these structures.

The first site was along the Elkhorn River within the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.33-T20N-R7E. A dike was constructed utilizing river sand from the March 2019 flood. The structure appeared to be several hundred feet long, estimated eight-feet wide, and varied in height (from five-feet to ten-feet). It followed along the curve of the river. The second structure followed along Lone Tree Road and County Road F within the E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ & S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.29-T20N-R7E. This structure was similar in construction as the first. It appeared to have utilized sand from the March 2019 flood, several hundred feet long, varied in height (five-feet to ten-feet), and estimated eight-feet wide. Tom and Robert Johnson stated that these dikes were constructed from November of 2019 to April of 2020. A dozer and scraper were utilized, and the work was contracted by Muller Farms Inc.; specifically by Scott Muller and Dwayne Muller. Roger and Tom stated that Muller Farms Inc. had not received approval of construction from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District (LENRD), or the Dodge County of Nebraska Floodplain Management personnel.

The third dike was constructed within the W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.29-T20N-R7E. This too appeared to have utilized sand from the March 2019 flood. The structure appeared roughly five-feet to eight-feet in height, and had a curved-form that redirected excess water flow into a culvert that runs under County Road F. The culvert feeds the water into a "flood channel" that displaces the water back into the Elkhorn River. This "flood channel" is heavily woven with trees of various sizes that

would weaken its ability to properly displace excess flow. This dike was constructed by Roger Vacha and his nephew Brad Vacha. Roger and Brad stated that they had received approval to construct this dike, and that later the Army Corps of Engineers would be back to move it closer to the Elkhorn River.

A phone conversation was held with Curt Becker of the LENRD on May 12th, 2020 at roughly 3:00p.m. He informed me that the third dike (installed by Roger and Brad Vacha) was not approved by either the LENRD or the Army Corps of Engineers. Curt further stated that the LENRD assisted with the installation of jetties on the east bank of the Elkhorn River in 2015. The March flood of 2019 severely damage these structures. The Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA, and LENRD were requested to examine and repair or improve the jetties for future use. Curt Becker is also working with the town of Scribner to expand the existing culvert system underneath County Road F.

A phone conversation was held with Jean Andrews of the Dodge County, Nebraska Planning and Zoning Department on May 12th, 2020 at roughly 2:50p.m. She stated that she oversees floodplain management activities for the county and regulates permits of building within floodplains and prohibits building within flood courses. She further stated that her department does not oversee the permitting, approval, or construction of dikes, levees, or other similar structures due to a lack of specialized personnel and a lack of "manpower". She redirects any interested parties to local Natural Resources Districts and to the Army Corps of Engineers for assistance.

A phone conversation was held with Chuck Chase of the State of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources on May 13th, 2020 at roughly 10:10a.m. When questioned on permitting, approval, and installation of dikes; he informed me that those processes are primarily overseen by county officials, with the exclusion of a few projects. He further stated that a dike or levee project (although not constructed within a water course) would still require a floodplain permit and said permit should be acquired on a county level. He then stated that should a county lack specialized personnel; they could submit inquiries of a requested project to the Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Management Division for review. He finalized the conversation by stating Katie Ringland of the Floodplain Management Division would be the individual to send these projects to; since she is the NFIP coordinator for the State of Nebraska.

The Johnsons would like for the dikes to have some sort of gaps or culverts constructed within to assist in displacing water and reducing flow velocity. The Johnsons fear that the dikes would aid in channelizing flood flows, redirect the flow toward their property, and result in increased velocity and loss of their property (located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec.32-T20N-R7E). The Johnsons and Vacha stated that they have attempted to relay their concerns with Muller Farm Inc., but to no avail.

Attached to this report are photos taken of the various dikes and copies of aerial imaging that outlay approximate location and size of the dikes.

Names and addresses of others named in this report are:

Thomas K. Johnson
1491 County Road F
Scribner, NE 68057
Phone: 402-380-3027

Robert A. Johnson
1247 County Road 12
Scribner, NE 68057-2129

Roger J. Vacha
1528 County Road F
Scribner, NE 68057-1320

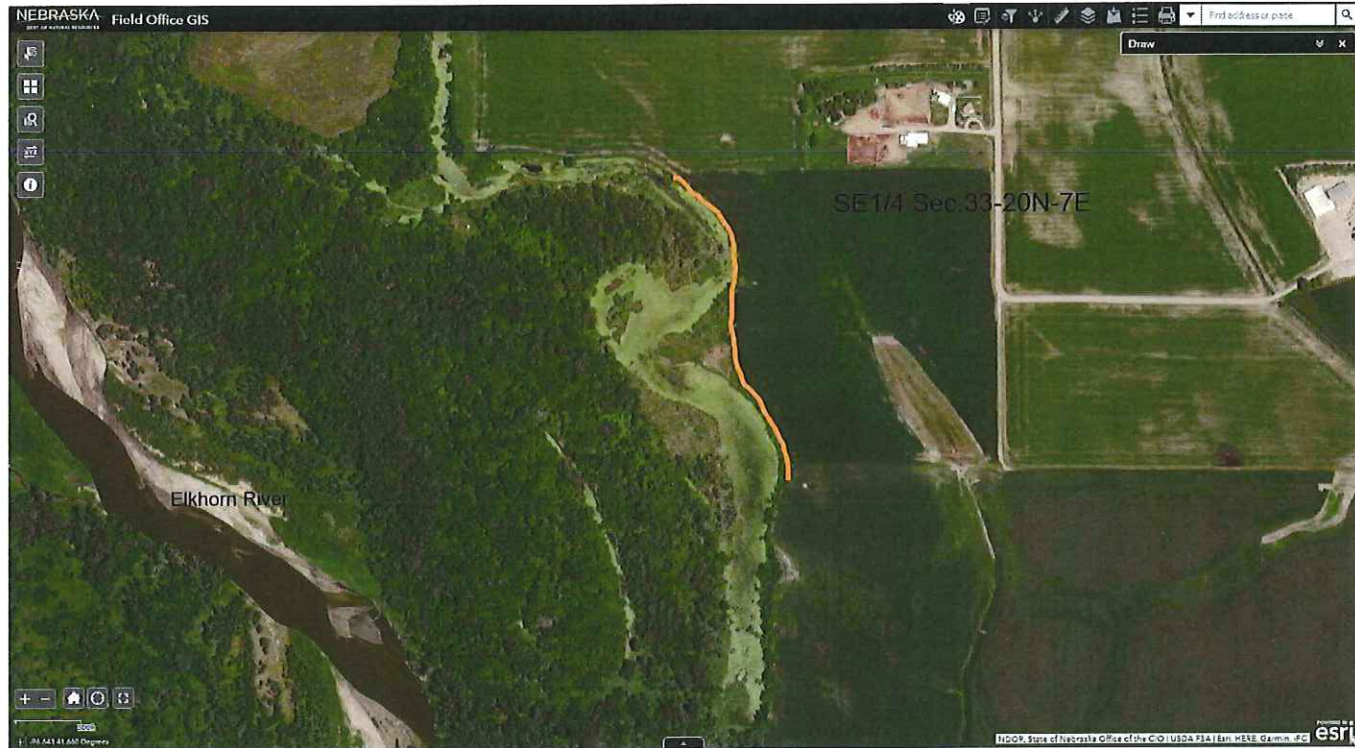
Muller Farms Inc.
517 Lone Tree Road
Scribner, NE 68057-0000
Phone: 402-664-3351

Curt Becker
LENRD, *Project Manager*
1508 Square Turn Blvd.
Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: 402-371-7313

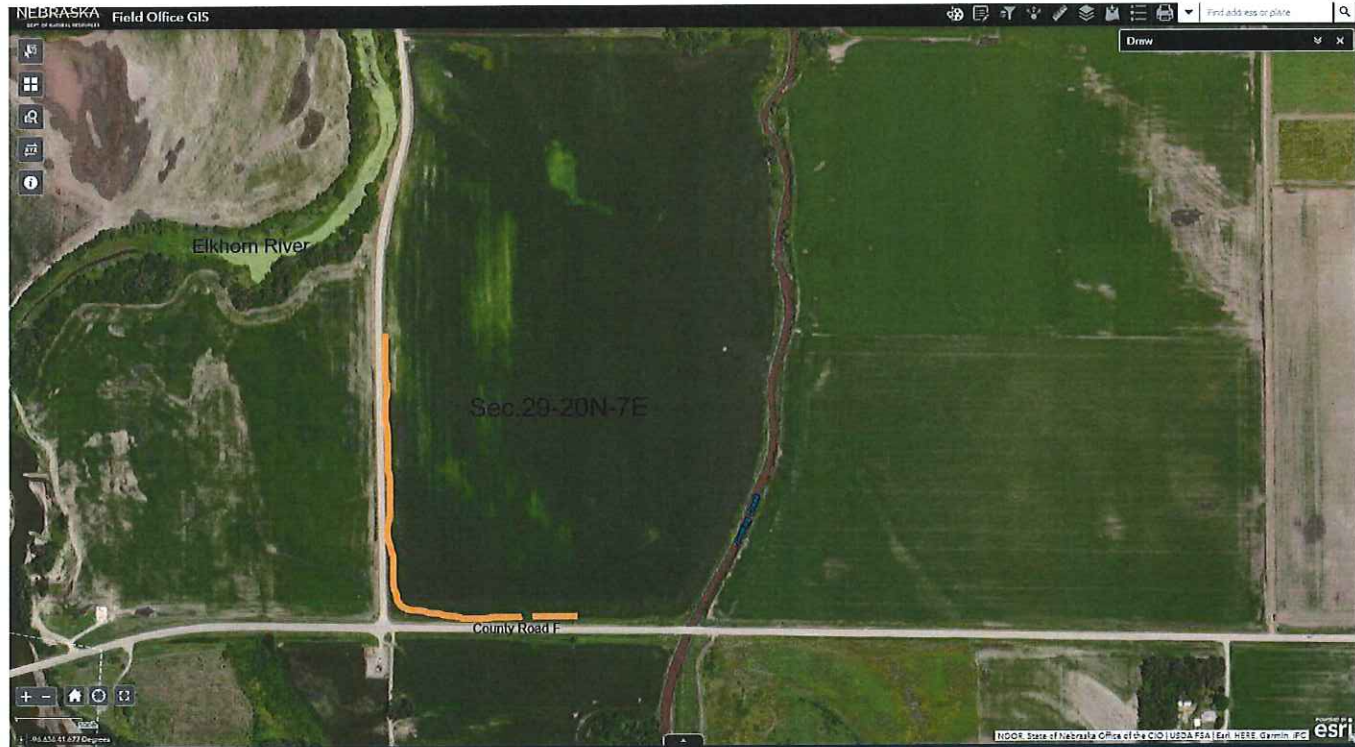
Jean Andrews
Dodge County, *Zoning Administrator*
435 N Park
Fremont, NE 68025
Phone: 402-727-2724

Chuck Chase, CFM
DNR - Floodplain Management, *Natural Resources Planner Coordinator*
301 Centennial Mall S
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: 402-471-9422

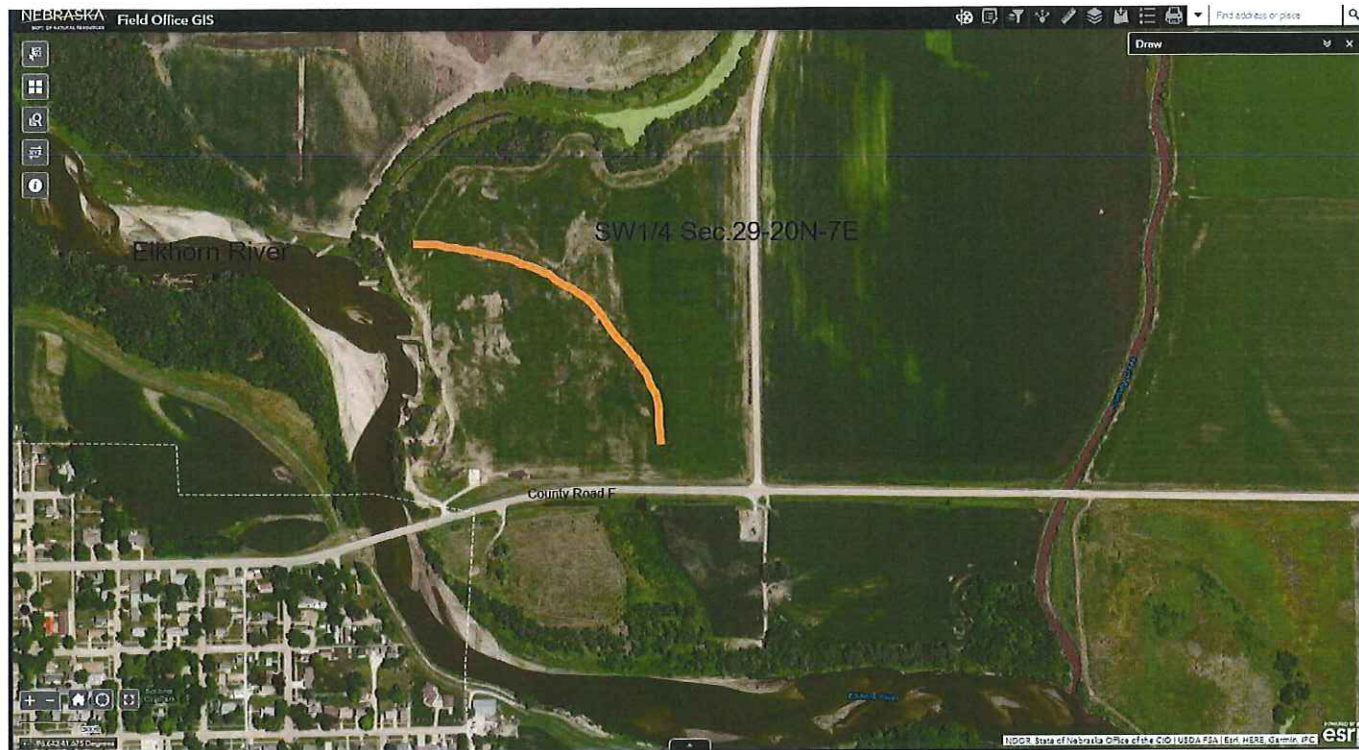
Katie Ringland, P.E., CFM
DNR - Floodplain Management, *Head of Floodplain*
301 Centennial Mall S
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: 402-471-2094



Location of Dike 1: Built by Muller Farms Inc. Length of dike is estimated.



Location of Dike 2: Built by Muller Farms Inc. Length of dike is estimated. Where the gap is located, the dike has been reduced to ground level.



Location of Dike 3: Built by Roger and Brad Vacha. Length of dike is estimated. Built with the intention of flow going through the culvert that runs north to south underneath County Road F, and then goes into a flood channel toward the Elkhorn River.



Picture 1: Dike 1, general view



Picture 2: Dike 1, zoomed in view.



Picture 3: Dike 2, general view looking from East to West



Picture 4: Dike 3, general view. Note: curvature of dike



Picture 5: Dike 3, looking East to West. Note: dike stretches to Elkhorn River bank



Picture 6: Dike 3: looking at South side of culvert toward "flood channel"

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 017
OF
THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS: The Dodge County Board of Supervisors have general supervision of the implementation of floodplain regulations of Dodge County, and

WHEREAS: The Dodge County Board of Supervisors did hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 9:30 A.M. for the purpose of amending the Dodge County Floodplain Ordinance and

WHEREAS: The ordinance has been approved by Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and by FEMA Region VII and

WHEREAS: The Dodge County Board of Supervisors took testimony both for and against such ordinance, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Dodge County Board of Supervisors do hereby approve said Dodge County Floodplain Ordinance effective April 20, 2020.

Supervisor Strand moved to adopt said Resolution.

Roll Call Vote showed 7 aye and 0 nay.



Fred Myhr
Fred Myhr, *Michelle Selby*
Dodge County Clerk
Dep.

Bob Missel
Bob Missel, Chairman
Dodge County Board of Supervisors

March 11, 2020
March 11, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE
OF
DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors will be held during their regularly scheduled meeting, March 11, 2020 at 9:30 A.M. and will be held in the Dodge County Board of Supervisors Rm, 3rd floor of the Courthouse, Fremont, NE for the purpose to hear testimony of support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations for the approval of the Dodge County Floodplain Management Ordinance. If the ordinance is adopted, it shall become effective April 20, 2020.

Questions or comments concerning the public hearing and proposed ordinance should be directed to the Zoning Administrator at (402) -727-2724 and the Dodge County Clerk's Office at (402)727-2767. All interested parties may offer oral comments at the public hearing and/or may file written comments with the Zoning Administrator or County Clerk concerning the petition and such comments shall be considered by the Board, provided such written comments are received prior to the public hearing date.

DODGE COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNING BODY CREATING FLOODWAY AND FLOOD FRINGE DISTRICTS DEFINING THE SAME AND SETTING FORTH REGULATIONS THEREOF.

SECTION 1.0 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION, FINDINGS OF FACT AND PURPOSES

1.1 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION

The Legislature of the State of Nebraska has delegated the responsibility to local governmental units to adopt zoning regulations designed to protect the public health, safety and general welfare. The Legislature, in Sections 31-1001 to 31-1022, R.R.S. 1943, has further assigned the responsibility to adopt, administer, and enforce floodplain management regulations to the county, city, or village with zoning jurisdiction over the flood-prone area. Therefore, the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of DODGE COUNTY, Nebraska, ordains as follows:

1.2 FINDINGS OF FACT

1.21 Flood Losses Resulting from Periodic Inundation

The flood hazard areas of DODGE COUNTY, Nebraska, are subject to inundation which results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare.

1.22 General Causes of the Flood Losses

These flood losses are caused by: (1) The cumulative effect of obstructions in floodplains causing increases in flood heights and velocities, (2) The occupancy of flood hazard areas by uses vulnerable to floods or hazardous to others, which are inadequately elevated or otherwise unprotected from flood damages.

1.23 Methods Used to Analyze Flood Hazards

This ordinance uses a reasonable method of analyzing flood hazards which consists of a series of interrelated steps.

- A. Selection of a regulatory flood which is based upon engineering calculations which permit a consideration of such flood factors as its expected frequency of occurrence, the area inundated, and the depth of inundation. The base flood is selected for this ordinance. It is representative of large floods which are reasonably characteristic of what can be expected to occur on the particular streams subject to this ordinance. It is in the general order of a flood which could be expected to have a one percent (1%) chance of occurrence in any one year, as delineated on the Federal Insurance Administration's Flood Insurance Study, and illustrative materials dated April 17, 2020, as amended, and any future revisions thereto.
- B. Calculation of water surface profiles based on a hydraulic engineering analysis of the capacity of the stream channel and overbank areas to convey the base flood.
- C. Computation of the floodway required to convey this flood without increasing flood heights more than 1 foot at any point.
- D. Delineation of floodway encroachment lines within which no obstruction is permitted which could cause any water surface increase along the floodway profile.
- E. Delineation of floodway fringe, i.e., that area outside the floodway encroachment lines, but which still is subject to inundation by the base flood.

1.3 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this ordinance to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare and to minimize those losses described in Section 1.21 by applying the provisions of this ordinance to:

- 1.31 Restrict or prohibit uses which are dangerous to health, safety, or property in times of flooding or cause undue increases in flood heights or velocities.
- 1.32 Require that uses vulnerable to floods, including public facilities which serve such uses, be provided with flood protection at the time of initial construction.
- 1.33 Reduce financial burdens from flood damage borne by the community, its governmental units, its residents, and its businesses by preventing excessive unsafe development in areas subject to flooding.
- 1.34 Assure that eligibility is maintained for property owners in the community to purchase flood insurance in the National Flood Insurance Program.

1.4 ADHERENCE TO REGULATIONS

The regulations of this ordinance are in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program Regulations as published in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations and the Nebraska Minimum Standards for Floodplain Management Programs as published in the Nebraska Administrative Code Title 455, Chapter 1.

SECTION 2.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 LANDS TO WHICH ORDINANCE APPLIES

This ordinance shall apply to all lands within the jurisdiction of the **County of Dodge** identified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), as listed on **FIRM Index #31053CIND0D dated April 17, 2020**, as numbered and unnumbered A Zones (including AB, AO and AH Zones) and within the Zoning Districts FW and FF established in Section 4.0 of this ordinance. In all areas covered by this ordinance no development shall be permitted except upon the issuance of a floodplain permit to develop, granted by the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** or its duly designated representative under such safeguards and restrictions as the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** or the designated representative may reasonably impose for the promotion and maintenance of the general welfare, health of the inhabitants of the community and where specifically noted in Sections 5.0, 6.0, and 7.0.

2.2 THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

The **Zoning Administrator** of **Dodge County** is hereby designated as the community's duly designated Enforcement Officer under this Ordinance.

2.3 RULES FOR INTERPRETATION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of the floodway and flood fringe overlay districts shall be determined by scaling distances on the official zoning map or on the Flood Insurance Rate Map or Floodway Map. Where interpretation is needed to the exact location of the boundaries of the districts as shown on the official zoning map, as for example where there appears to be a conflict between a mapped boundary and actual field conditions, the Enforcement Officer shall make the necessary interpretation. In such cases where the interpretation is contested, the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** will resolve the dispute. The regulatory flood elevation for the point in question shall be the governing factor in locating the district boundary on the land. The person contesting the location of the district boundary shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present his case to the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** and to submit his own technical evidence, if he/she so desires.

2.4 COMPLIANCE

Within identified special flood hazard areas of this community, no development shall be located, extended, converted or structurally altered without full compliance with the terms of this ordinance and other applicable regulations.

2.5 ABROGATION AND GREATER RESTRICTIONS

It is not intended by this ordinance to repeal, abrogate or impair any existent easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where this ordinance imposes greater restrictions, the provision of this ordinance shall prevail. All other ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency only.

2.6 INTERPRETATION

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be minimum requirements and shall be liberally construed in favor of the governing body and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other powers granted by state statutes.

2.7 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this ordinance is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on engineering and specific methods of study. Larger floods may occur on rare occasions or the flood height may be increased by man-made or natural causes, such as ice jams and bridge openings restricted by debris. This ordinance does not imply that areas outside floodway and flood fringe district boundaries or land uses permitted within such districts will be free from flooding or flood damage. This ordinance shall not create liability on the part of **Dodge County** or any officer or employee thereof for any flood damages that may result from reliance on this ordinance or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

2.8 SEVERABILITY

If any section, clause, provision or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

2.9 APPEAL

Where a request for a permit to develop or a variance is denied by the **Dodge County Zoning Administrator**, the applicant may apply for such permit or variance directly to the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors**.

SECTION 3.0 DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

3.1 PERMIT REQUIRED

No person, firm or corporation shall initiate any floodplain development or substantial improvement or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a separate permit for development as defined in Section 12.0.

3.2 ADMINISTRATION

- A. The **Dodge County Zoning Administrator or Building Inspector** is hereby appointed to administer and implement the provisions of this ordinance.
- B. Duties of the **Dodge County Zoning Administrator or Building Inspector** shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) Review all development permit applications to assure that sites are reasonably safe from flooding and that the permit requirements of this ordinance have been satisfied.

- (2) Review applications for proposed development to assure that all necessary permits have been obtained from those Federal, state or local governmental agencies from which prior approval is required.
- (3) Notify adjacent communities and the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (4) Assure that maintenance is provided within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.
- (5) Verify, record and maintain record of the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new or substantially improved structures in special flood hazard areas.
- (6) Verify, record and maintain record of the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which new or substantially improved structures have been floodproofed.
- (7) Verify, record and maintain record of all improved or damaged structures to ensure compliance with standards in applicable sections. Track value of improvements and market value with permits. Also, ensure consistent market value estimations to evaluate against damaged or improved values.
- (8) Ensure comprehensive development plan as amended is consistent with this ordinance.
- (9) In the event the floodplain administrator discovers work done that does not comply with applicable laws or ordinances, the floodplain administrator shall revoke the permit and work to correct any possible violation in accordance with this ordinance.

3.3 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

To obtain a floodplain development permit, the applicant shall first file an application in writing on a form furnished for that purpose. Every such application shall:

- 3.31 Identify and describe the proposed development and estimated cost to be covered by the floodplain development permit.
- 3.32 Describe the land on which the proposed development is to be done by lot, block, tract and house and street address, or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed building or development.
- 3.33 Indicate the use or occupancy for which the proposed development is intended.
- 3.34 Be accompanied by plans and specifications for proposed construction.

3.35 Be signed by the permittee or his authorized agent who may be required to submit evidence to indicate such authority.

3.36 Give such other information as reasonably may be required by the **Dodge County Zoning Administrator**.

3.37 If any proposed development is located entirely or partially within a floodplain, applicants shall provide all information in sufficient detail and clarity to enable the floodplain administrator to determine that: All such proposals are consistent with the need to minimize flood damage; All utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, water, electrical and other systems are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage; Structures will be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement; Construction materials are flood resistant; Appropriate practices to minimize flood damage have been utilized; and Electrical, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing and any other service facilities have been designed and located to prevent entry of floodwaters.

3.38 For all new and substantially improved structures, an elevation certificate certifying the elevation of the lowest floor, including the basement, and other relevant building components shall be provided to the floodplain administrator and be completed by a licensed surveyor, engineer or architect.

3.39 For all development proposed in the floodway, no-rise certification shall be provided to the floodplain administrator and be completed by a licensed professional engineer.

SECTION 4.0 ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONING DISTRICTS

Along watercourses where a floodway has been established, the mapped floodplain areas are hereby divided into the two following districts: A floodway overlay district (FW) and a flood fringe overlay district (FF) as identified in the Flood Insurance Study [and accompanying map(s)]. Within these districts all uses not meeting the standards of this ordinance and those standards of the underlying zoning district shall be prohibited.

SECTION 5.0 STANDARDS FOR FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT

5.1 No permit for development shall be granted for new construction, substantial improvements and other development(s) including the placement of manufactured homes within all numbered and unnumbered A zones (including AE, AO, and AH zones) unless the conditions of this Section are satisfied.

5.2 All areas identified as unnumbered A zones on the FIRM are subject to inundation of the base flood; however, the water surface elevation was not provided. The unnumbered A zones shall be subject to all development provisions of SECTION 6.0. If Flood Insurance Study data is not available, the community shall utilize any base flood elevation or floodway data currently available from Federal, State or other sources.

- 5.3 Until a floodway has been designated, no development or substantial improvement may be permitted within special flood hazard areas unless the applicant has demonstrated that the proposed development or substantial improvement, when combined with all other existing and reasonably anticipated developments or substantial improvements, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one (1) foot at any location as shown on the Flood Insurance Study.
- 5.4 New construction, subdivision proposals, substantial improvements, prefabricated buildings, placement of manufactured homes and other developments shall require:
- 5.41 Design or anchorage to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy.
- 5.42 New or replacement water supply systems and/or sanitary sewage systems be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharges from the systems into flood waters, and on-site waste disposal systems be located so as to avoid impairment or contamination.
- 5.43 Construction with materials resistant to flood damage, utilizing methods and practices that minimize flood damages, and with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding.
- 5.44 All utility and sanitary facilities be elevated or floodproofed up to the regulatory flood protection elevation.
- 5.5 Storage of Material and Equipment
- 5.51 The storage or processing of materials that are in time of flooding buoyant, flammable, explosive, or could be injurious to human, animal or plant life is prohibited.
- 5.52 Storage of other material or equipment may be allowed if not subject to major damage by floods and firmly anchored to prevent flotation or if readily removable from the area within the time available after flood warning.
- 5.6 Subdivision proposals and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks or subdivisions, be required to assure that (a) all such proposals are consistent with the need to minimize flood damage, (b) all public utilities and facilities, such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems are located, elevated and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage, (c) adequate drainage is provided so as to reduce exposure to flood hazards, and (d) proposals for development (including proposals for manufactured home parks and subdivision) of five (5) acres or fifty (50) lots, whichever is lesser, include within such proposals a site specific determination of the base flood elevation.

SECTION 6.0 FLOOD FRINGE OVERLAY DISTRICT
- (Including AO and AH Zones)

6.1 PERMITTED USES

Any use permitted in Section 7.0 shall be permitted in the Flood Fringe Overlay District. No use shall be permitted in the district unless the standards of Section 5.0 are met.

6.2 STANDARDS FOR THE FLOOD FRINGE OVERLAY DISTRICT

6.21 Require new construction or substantial improvements of residential structures to have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated to or above **one (1) foot** above the base flood elevation.

6.22 Require new construction or substantial improvements of non-residential structures to have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated to or above **one (1) foot** above the base flood elevation or, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, to be floodproofed so that below that level the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy. A registered professional engineer or architect shall certify that the standards of this subsection are satisfied. Such certification shall be provided to the **Dodge County Zoning Administrator** as set forth in Section 3.2 B(6).

6.23 Require for all new construction and substantial improvements that fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria: A minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided. The bottom of all openings shall be not higher than one foot above grade. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

6.24 Within AH zones adequate drainage paths around structures on slopes shall be required in order to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.

6.25 **Manufactured Homes**

A. All manufactured homes shall be anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Manufactured homes must be anchored in accordance with local building codes or FEMA guidelines. In the event that over-the-top frames ties to ground anchors are used, the following specific requirements (or their equivalent) shall be met:

- (1) Over-the-top ties be provided at each of the four corners of the manufactured home, with two additional ties per side at intermediate locations and manufactured homes less than 50 feet long requiring one additional tie per side;
 - (2) Frame ties be provided at each corner of the home with five additional ties per side at intermediate points and manufactured homes less than 50 feet long requiring four additional ties per side;
 - (3) All components of the anchoring system be capable of carrying a force of 4,800 pounds; and
 - (4) Any additions to the manufactured home be similarly anchored.
- B. Require that all manufactured homes to be placed or substantially improved within special flood hazard areas on the community's FIRM on sites:
- (1) Outside of a manufactured home park or subdivision,
 - (2) In a new manufactured home park or subdivision,
 - (3) In an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision, or
 - (4) In an existing manufactured home park or subdivision on which a manufactured home is at or above **one (1) foot** above the base flood elevation; and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.25A.
- C. Require that manufactured homes to be placed or substantially improved on sites in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision within special flood hazard areas on the community's FIRM that are not subject to the provisions of Section 6.25B be elevated so that either:
- (1) The lowest floor of the manufactured home is at or above **one (1) foot** above the base flood elevation, or
 - (2) The manufactured home chassis is supported by reinforced piers or other foundation elements of at least equivalent strength that are no less than 36 inches in height above grade; and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.25A.

6.26 Recreational vehicles placed on sites within the special flood hazard areas on the community's official map shall either (i) be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, and (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or (iii) meet the permit requirements and the

elevation and anchoring requirements for "manufactured homes" of this ordinance. A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick-disconnect type utilities and security devices, and has no permanently-attached additions.

6.27 Located within the areas of special flood hazard established in Section 2.1 are areas designated as AO Zones. These areas have special flood hazards associated with base flood depths of 1 to 3 feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist and where the path of flooding is unpredictable and indeterminate; therefore, the following provisions apply within AO Zones:

- A. All new construction and substantial improvements of residential structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as **one (1) foot** above the implied two foot floodwater elevation specified if no depth number is specified in community's FIRM (at least three feet if no depth number is specified),
- B. All new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
 - (1) Have the lowest floor elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as **one (1) foot** above the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
 - (2) Together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities be completely floodproofed to or above that level so that any space below that level is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy. Such certification shall be provided to the official as set forth in Section 3.2B(6).
- C. Adequate drainage paths around structures on slopes shall be required in order to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.

6.28 Appurtenant Structures of 400 square feet may be exempt from Flood Plain Development Permits and may have their lowest floor below one foot above the base flood elevation provided:

- (1) *Can not be used for human habitation*
- (2) *Use of the structure must be limited to the storage of motor vehicles or other items readily removable in the event of a flood warning.*
- (3) *The structure must be built using unfinished and flood damage resistant materials.*
- (4) *The structure must be adequately anchored to prevent floatation, collapse, or other later movement which may result in damage to other structures.*
- (5) *No utilities shall be installed except any electrical fixture in the structure must be elevated or floodproofed **one (1) foot** above the base flood elevation.*

- (6) *The structure shall be constructed and placed on the building site so as to offer the minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters.*
- (7) *The structure shall be capable of withstanding hydrostatic and hydrodynamic forces caused by the base flood*
- (8) *If the structure is converted to another use, it must be brought into full compliance with the minimum standards governing such use.*
- (9) *The structure must comply with the floodway provisions of the County's Regulations and address floodway encroachment provisions in 44 CFR 60.3(c) (10) or (d) (3).*

{Amended by Resolution No. 2013-028 }
December 10, 2013

SECTION 7.0 FLOODWAY OVERLAY DISTRICT

7.1 PERMITTED USES

Only uses having a low flood-damage potential and not obstructing flood flows shall be permitted within the Floodway District to the extent that they are not prohibited by any other ordinance. The following are recommended uses for the Floodway District:

- 7.11 Agricultural uses such as general farming, pasture, nurseries, forestry.
- 7.12 Residential uses such as lawns, gardens, parking and play areas.
- 7.13 Non-residential areas such as loading areas, parking and airport landing strips.
- 7.14 Public and private recreational uses such as golf courses, archery ranges, picnic grounds, parks, wildlife and nature preserves.

7.2 STANDARDS FOR THE FLOODWAY OVERLAY DISTRICT

New structures for human habitation are prohibited. All encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements and other development must be prohibited unless certification by a registered professional engineer or architect is provided demonstrating that the development shall not result in any increase in water surface elevations along the floodway profile during occurrence of the base flood discharge. These uses are subject to the standards of Section 5.0 and 6.0. In Zone A unnumbered, obtain, review and reasonably utilize any flood elevation and floodway data available through Federal, State or other sources or Section 5.6(d) of this ordinance, in meeting the standards of this section.

SECTION 8.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURES

- 8.1 The **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this ordinance.
- 8.2 The **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged that there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the **Dodge County Zoning Administrator or Building Inspector** in the enforcement or administration of this ordinance.
- 8.3 Any person aggrieved by the decision of the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** or any taxpayer may appeal such decision to the District Court as provided in Section 25-1901 Et Seq R.R.S. Neb.
- 8.4 In passing upon such applications, the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** shall consider all technical evaluation, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this ordinance, and:
- 8.41 The danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
- 8.42 The danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
- 8.43 The susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
- 8.44 The importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
- 8.45 The necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
- 8.46 The availability of alternative locations, not subject to flooding or erosion damage, for the proposed use;
- 8.47 The compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
- 8.48 The relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program for that area;
- 8.49 The safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
- 8.491 The expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the floodwaters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and,
- 8.492 The costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions including maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems, and streets and bridges.

8.5 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- 8.51 Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (8.52-8.56 below) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- 8.52 Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon a determination that the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure and the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- 8.53 Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels along the floodway profile during the base flood discharge would result.
- 8.54 Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- 8.55 Variances shall only be issued upon (i) a showing of good and sufficient cause, (ii) a determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant, and (iii) a determination that the granting of a variance will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, create nuisances, cause fraud on or victimization of the public, or conflict with existing local laws or ordinances.
- 8.56 Any applicant to whom a variance is granted shall be given a written notice that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from the reduced lowest floor elevation.

8.6 ENFORCEMENT

A. Violations

Failure to obtain a floodplain development permit or the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the provisions of this ordinance shall constitute a violation. A structure or other development without a floodplain development permit, elevation certificate, certification by a licensed professional engineer of compliance with the regulations, or other evidence of compliance is presumed to be in violation until such time as documentation is provided.

B. Notices

When the floodplain administrator or other authorized community representative determines, based on reasonable grounds, that there has been a violation of the provisions of this ordinance, the floodplain administrator shall give notice of such alleged violation as hereinafter provided. Such notice shall: Be in writing; Include an explanation of the alleged violation; Allow a reasonable time for the performance of any remedial act required; Be served upon the property

owner or their agent as the case may require; and Contain an outline of remedial actions that, if taken, will bring the development into compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.

C. Penalties

- i. Violation of the provisions of this ordinance or failure to comply with any of its requirements (including violations of conditions and safeguards established in connection with grants of variances or special exceptions) shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person, firm, corporate or other entity that violates this ordinance or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall upon conviction thereof be fined not more than **\$100.00**, and in addition, shall pay all costs and expenses involved in the case. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.
- ii The imposition of such fines or penalties for any violation or non-compliance with this ordinance shall not excuse the violation or non-compliance or allow it to continue. All such violations or non-compliant actions shall be remedied within an established and reasonable time.
- iii Nothing herein contained shall prevent Dodge County or other appropriate authority from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation

SECTION 9.0 NONCONFORMING USE

9.1 A structure or the use of a structure or premises which was lawful before the passage or amendment of the ordinance, but which is not in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance may be continued subject to the following conditions:

9.11 If such use is discontinued for ~~twelve (12)~~ consecutive months, any future use of the building premises shall conform to this ordinance.

9.12 Uses or adjuncts thereof that are or become nuisances shall not be entitled to continue as nonconforming uses.

9.2 If any nonconforming use or structure is destroyed by any means, including flood, it shall not be reconstructed if the cost is more than 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred except that if it is reconstructed in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance. This limitation does not include the cost of any alteration to comply with existing state or local health, sanitary, building, or safety codes or regulations or the cost of any alteration of a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a State Inventory of Historic Places, provided that the alteration shall not preclude its continued designation.

SECTION 10.0 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION

Violation of the provisions of this ordinance or failure to comply with any of its requirements (including violations of conditions and safeguards established in connection with grants of variances or special exceptions) shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person who violates this ordinance or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall upon conviction thereof be fined not more than **\$100.00**, and in addition, shall

pay all costs and expenses involved in the case. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

Nothing herein contained shall prevent the **Dodge County Board of Supervisors** or other appropriate authority from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.

SECTION 11.0 AMENDMENTS

The regulations, restrictions, and boundaries set forth in this ordinance may from time to time be amended, supplemented, changed, or repealed to reflect any and all changes in the National Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, provided, however, that no such action may be taken until after a public hearing in relation thereto, at which parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard. Notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in **Dodge County**. At least **15 days** shall elapse between the date of this publication and the public hearing. A copy of such amendments will be provided to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for review and approval. The regulations of this ordinance are in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program Regulations as published in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations and the 1983 Nebraska Flood Plain Management Act.

SECTION 12.0 DEFINITIONS

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this ordinance its most reasonable application:

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the **Dodge County Zoning Administrator's** interpretation of any provision of this ordinance or a request for a variance.

"Appurtenant Structure" shall mean a structure on the same parcel of property as the principal structure, the use of which is incidental to the use of the principal structure. {Res. No. 2013-028 - Dec. 10, 2013}

"Area of Shallow Flooding" means a designated AO or AH zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

"Base Flood" means the flood having one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means any area of the building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

"Existing Construction" means (for the purposes of determining rates) structures for which the "start of construction" commenced before the effective date of the FIRM or before January 1, 1975, for FIRM's effective before that date. "Existing Construction" may also be referred to as "existing structures".

"Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means the preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing lots on which the manufacturing homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads.

"Expansion to an Existing Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means the preparation of additional sites by the construction facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).

"Flood" or "Flooding" means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from:

- (1) The overflow of inland or tidal waters.
- (2) The usual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source.

"Flood Fringe" is that area of the floodplain, outside of the floodway, that on the average is likely to be flooded once every 100 years (i.e., that has a one percent chance of flood occurrence in any one year).

"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)" means an official map of a community, on which the Flood Insurance Study has delineated the Flood Hazard Boundaries and the zones establishing insurance rates applicable to the community.

"Flood Insurance Study" is the official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The report contains flood profiles, as well as the Flood Boundary Floodway Map and the water surface elevation of the base flood.

"Floodplain" means any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source (see definition of "flooding").

"Floodway" or "Regulatory Floodway" means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot.

"Freeboard" means a factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of floodplain management. "Freeboard" tends to compensate for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action, clogged bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of the watershed.

"Highest Adjacent Grade" means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

"Historic Structure: means any structure that is: (a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register; (b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district; (c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or (d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either: (1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or (2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

"Lowest Floor" means the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage, in an area other than a basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of this ordinance.

"Manufactured Home" means a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when attached to the required utilities. The term "manufactured home" does not include a "recreational vehicle".

"Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

"New Construction" For floodplain management purposes, "new construction" means structures for which the "start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the floodplain management regulation adopted by a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

"New Manufactured Home Park or Subdivision" means a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"Overlay District" is a district in which additional requirements act in conjunction with the underlying zoning district(s). The original zoning district designation does not change.

"Principally Above Ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure is above ground.

"Recreational Vehicle" means a vehicle which is (i) built on a single chassis; (ii) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections; (iii) designed to be self propelled or permanently

towable by a light duty truck; and (iv) designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as a temporary quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

"Special Flood Hazard Area" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

"Start of Construction" [for other than new construction or substantial improvements under the coastal Barrier Resources Act (Pub. L. 97-348)] includes substantial improvement, and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not the alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

"Structure" means a walled and roofed building that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home, and a gas or liquid storage tank that is principally above ground.

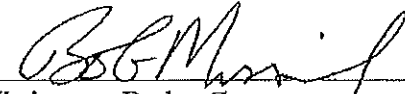
"Substantial Damage" means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

"Substantial Improvement" means any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before "start of construction" of the improvement. This includes structures which have incurred "substantial damage," regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either (1) any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions, or (2) any alteration of a "historic structure," provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "historic structure."

"Variances" is a grant of relief to a person from the requirements of this ordinance which permits construction in a manner otherwise prohibited by this ordinance where specific enforcement would result in unnecessary hardship.

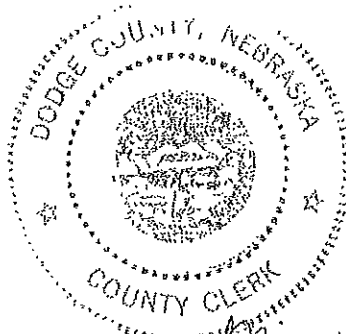
"Violation" means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's floodplain management regulations.

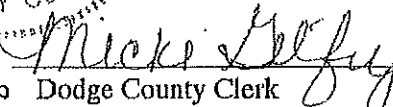
AMENDED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body of Dodge County Board of Supervisors This 11 day of March, 2020.



Chairman, Dodge County
Board of Supervisors

Resolution # 2020 - 017



ATTEST: 

Dep Dodge County Clerk

**AMENDMENT
TO**

DODGE COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DODGE COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE RELATING SPECIFICALLY TO APPURTENANT STRUCTURES IN THE FLOODPLAIN AREA

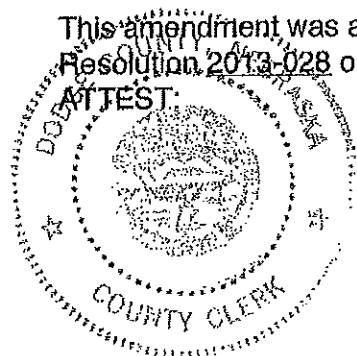
SECTION 1.0 APPURTENANT STRUCTURES, FLOOD FRINGE OVERLAY DISTRICT

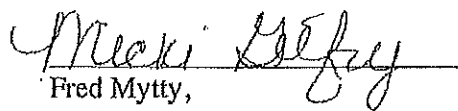
1.1 AMENDING SECTION 6.0 - FLOOD FRINGE OVERLAY DISTRICT, TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

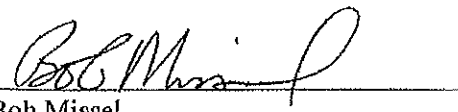
6.28 *Appurtenant Structures may be exempt from Flood Plain Development Permits and may have their lowest floor below one foot above the base flood elevation provided:*

- (1) Can not be used for human habitation*
- (2) Use of the structure must be limited to the storage of motor vehicles or other items readily removable in the event of a flood warning.*
- (3) The structure must be built using unfinished and flood damage resistant materials.*
- (4) The structure must be adequately anchored to prevent floatation, collapse, or other later movement which may result in damage to other structures.*
- (5) No utilities shall be installed except any electrical fixture in the structure must be elevated or floodproofed one (1) foot above the base flood elevation.*
- (6) The structure shall be constructed and placed on the building site so as to offer the minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters.*
- (7) The structure shall be capable of withstanding hydrostatic and hydrodynamic forces caused by the base flood*
- (8) If the structure is converted to another use, it must be brought into full compliance with the minimum standards governing such use.*
- (9) The structure must comply with the floodway provisions of the County's Regulations and address floodway encroachment provisions in 44 CFR 60.3(c) (10) or (d) (3).*

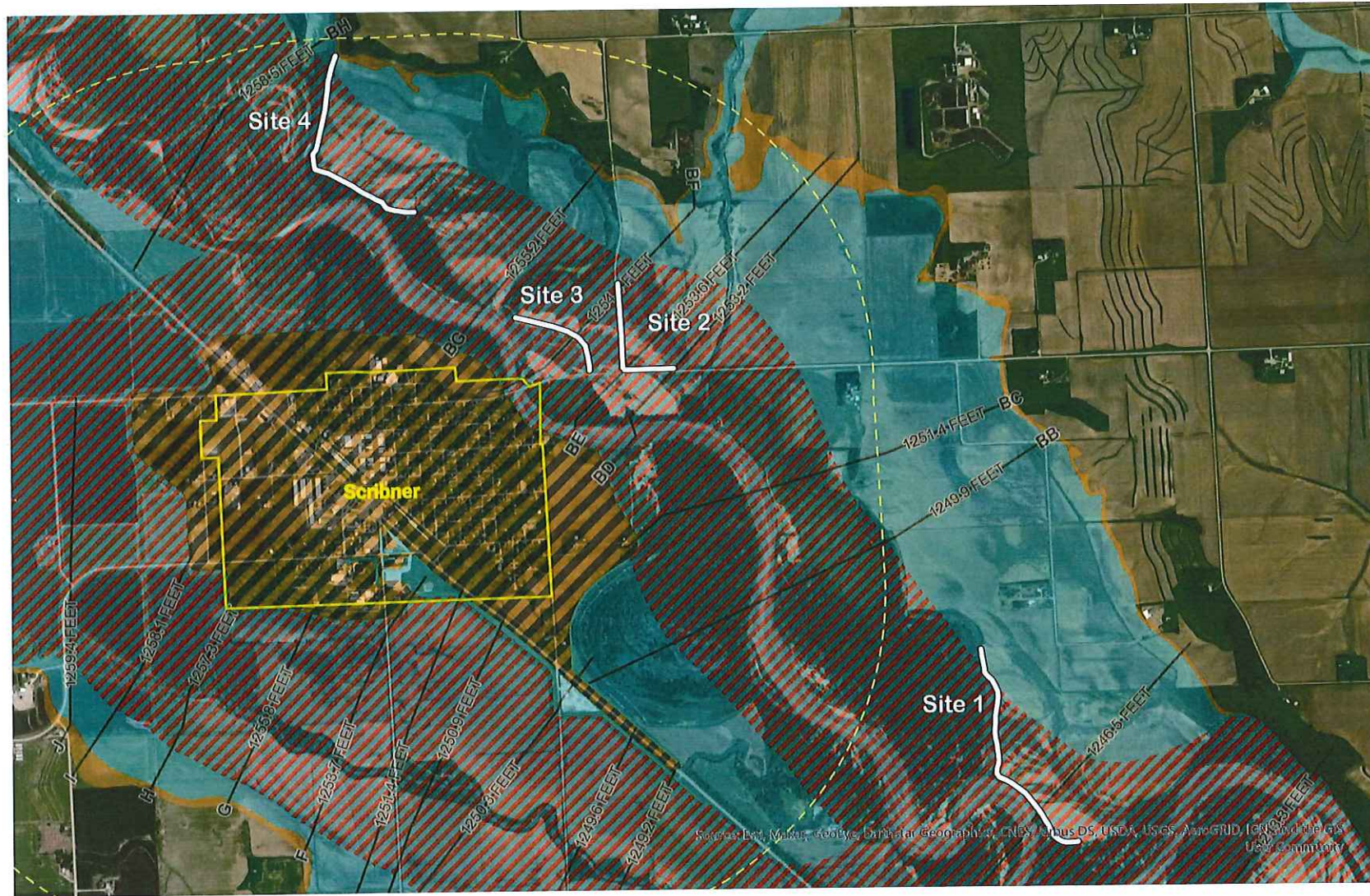
This amendment was adopted and approved by the Dodge County Board of Supervisors by Resolution 2013-028 on December 10, 2013.




Fred Mytty,
Dep. Dodge County Clerk


Bob Missel,
Chairman, Dodge County
Board of Supervisors

Known Unpermitted Dike Locations



- 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD
- REGULATORY FLOODWAY
- SPECIAL FLOODWAY
- AREA OF UNDETERMINED FLOOD HAZARD
- 0.2% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD
- FUTURE CONDITIONS 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD
- AREA WITH REDUCED RISK DUE TO LEVEE
- COMMUNITY BOUNDARY
- COMMUNITY ETJ
- DIKE LOCATIONS

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

SCALE: 1" = 4000'

Date Map Produced:
July 29, 2020

NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

This map features a variety of data sources including FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer. Boundaries shown in this map are not considered legal boundaries.