

**Why You Should Read This:** The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision making process.



**IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND**  
**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

December 20, 2023

**To: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups**

An environmental review has been performed based on the procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for the proposed agency action below:

**Applicant:** City of Lanesboro

**SRF Number:** FS-14-22-DWSRF-008

**County:** Carroll

**Iowa DNR Project Number:** W2021-0286

**State:** Iowa

Other Federal Funding: CDBG (\$121,000) & USDA (\$3,557,000)

The City of Lanesboro, Iowa is planning an upgrade to their drinkingwater infrastructure. The city has applied for financial assistance through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program to build the project. The State Revolving Loan Program is a program authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in partnership with the Iowa Finance Authority.

The City of Lanesboro is located in Carroll County, Iowa approximately 90 miles northwest of Des Moines, Iowa and 100 miles southeast of Sioux City, Iowa. The population of Lanesboro according to the 2010 US Census was 121. The design population equivalent for the year 2040 is 121.

The City of Lanesboro utilizes two primary, deep groundwater wells, Well #1 and Well #2, that were constructed in 1941 and 1954, respectively. Well controls were programmed to trigger the wells to withdraw from the Dakota aquifer alternating between the wells. Currently, alternation is based on the demand for water from the plant, but there is no way of identifying the well that is pumping. However, the capacity of the wells has decreased over the last 60 years.

The City of Lanesboro owns and operates a water treatment plant that was built in 2003. The primary goal of treatment is arsenic removal via iron removal. The water treatment of Lanesboro consists of addition of potassium permanganate, in-line aeration, detention, pressure filtration and hypochlorination. The City has a standby generator capable of running both wells and the treatment plant. The City recently experienced a treatment plant failure which reduced the capacity of the WTP and required the City to install a temporary treatment system.

The City was required to issue a manganese health advisory for the general population on September of 2019. After testing and flushing the system, as well as adjusting the chemical feed pumps, the finished manganese

concentrations were reduced to below 1 mg/L. The City still has a manganese health advisory out for all infants up to the age of 6 months old. The City was also required to issue a public notice on January 14, 2021 regarding levels of arsenic above the MCL. This was after the water treatment equipment failed and was no longer able to remove the arsenic concentration to below the required level. A skid system was put in place on February 26, 2021, but the arsenic public notice remains in force due to fluctuating iron levels measured after backwash. Currently, raw water is withdrawn from the wells, gets dosed with potassium permanganate then aerated. Then, the oxidation reaction takes place in a temporary 3,000-gallon detention tank. After the detention tank, the water is injected for a second time with potassium permanganate which then water passes through the two water filters. Hypochlorite is then applied to finished water before reaching the tower.

The City has one existing 25,000-gallon water tower to provide storage and pressure to the distribution system. The tower is directly east of the fire station, which is where the water treatment system is housed. In 2002, the tower underwent its last rehabilitation. During the most recent inspection in 2017, it was determined that the water tower required the renovations. Water is distributed to the City directly from the water tower. In 2003, the City's entire distribution system was replaced with PVC piping with four- inch and two-inch water mains.

The purpose of this project is to mitigate adverse effects to a historical structure related to the improvements to the water supply system. The existing Lanesboro water tower (constructed in 1941) will be demolished after the City of Lanesboro is fully connected to the Lake City drinking water supply. The mitigation plan will salvage portions of the historic water tower to construct a gazebo at the corner of Main Street and South 3rd Street.

The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population. The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies. The project will not impact wetlands. The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes. The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain. The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the US EPA Region 7, the Iowa DNR, SHPO, and the City of Lanesboro was executed on December 14, 2023 memorializing the mitigation plan related to the removal of the historic water tower. If project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c"). The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Minimum separation distances will be maintained. Noise during construction will be maintained at tolerable levels through controls on construction activities. Any construction debris will be removed from the site for proper disposal. Adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized with proper construction practices, inspection, prompt clean up and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored.

It has been determined that the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to the surrounding environment. This determination is based on a careful review of the engineering report, the environmental assessment and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Natural Resources' office in Des Moines, Iowa. These are available for public review upon request. A copy of the environmental assessment is attached. This Department will not take any administrative action on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the above date. Persons disagreeing with the above environmental decision may submit comments to the department during this period. Please direct your comments to [karrie.darnell@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:karrie.darnell@dnr.iowa.gov) or 515-901-6817.

Sincerely,

Karrie Darnell  
Environmental Specialist  
502 E 9<sup>th</sup> St  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment  
Project Map

Distribution

List (email): Amanda Goodenow, ISG  
Simmering Cory  
Edward Boling, Council on Environmental Quality  
Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship  
Ken Sharp, Iowa Department of Public Health  
Sarah Petersen, Iowa Department of Public Health  
Nichole Hansen, Iowa Economic Development Authority  
Alicia Vasto, Iowa Environmental Council  
Michael Schmidt, Iowa Environmental Council  
Tracy Scebold, Iowa Finance Authority  
Tony Toigo, Iowa Finance Authority  
Lee Wagner, Iowa Finance Authority  
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Josh Mandelbaum, Environmental Law and Policy Center  
Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development  
Tokey Boswell, USDOT, National Park Service, Midwest Region  
Kraig McPeck, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office  
Ann D'Alfonso, USEPA Region VII  
Kelly Beard-Tittone, USEPA Region VII  
Local Newspaper – Graphic Advocate

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**IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT**

***PROJECT IDENTIFICATION***

**Applicant:** City of Lanesboro  
**County:** Carroll  
**State:** Iowa

**SRF Number:** FS-14-22-DWSRF-008  
**Iowa DNR Project Number:** W2021-0286

Other Federal Funding: CDBG (\$121,000) & USDA (\$3,557,000)

***COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION***

**Location:** The City of Lanesboro is located in Carroll County, Iowa approximately 90 miles northwest of Des Moines, Iowa and 100 miles southeast of Sioux City, Iowa.

**Population:** The population of Lanesboro according to the 2010 US Census was 121. The design population equivalent for the year 2040 is 121.

**Current Source of Water:** The City of Lanesboro utilizes two primary, deep groundwater wells, Well #1 and Well #2, that were constructed in 1941 and 1954, respectively. Well controls were programmed to trigger the wells to withdraw from the Dakota aquifer alternating between the wells. Currently, alternation is based on the demand for water from the plant, but there is no way of identifying the well that is pumping. However, the capacity of the wells has decreased over the last 60 years.

**Current Water Treatment and Quality:** The City of Lanesboro owns and operates a water treatment plant that was built in 2003. The primary goal of treatment is arsenic removal via iron removal. The water treatment of Lanesboro consists of addition of potassium permanganate, in-line aeration, detention, pressure filtration and hypochlorination. The City has a standby generator capable of running both wells and the treatment plant. The City recently experienced a treatment plant failure which reduced the capacity of the WTP and required the City to install a temporary treatment system.

The City was required to issue a manganese health advisory for the general population on September of 2019. After testing and flushing the system, as well as adjusting the chemical feed pumps, the finished manganese concentrations were reduced to below 1 mg/L. The City still has a manganese health advisory out for all infants up to the age of 6 months old. The City was also required to issue a public notice on January 14, 2021 regarding levels of arsenic above the MCL. This was after the water treatment equipment failed and was no longer able to remove the arsenic concentration to below the

required level. A skid system was put in place on February 26, 2021, but the arsenic public notice remains in force due to fluctuating iron levels measured after backwash. Currently, raw water is withdrawn from the wells, gets dosed with potassium permanganate then aerated. Then, the oxidation reaction takes place in a temporary 3,000-gallon detention tank. After the detention tank, the water is injected for a second time with potassium permanganate which then water passes through the two water filters. Hypochlorite is then applied to finished water before reaching the tower.

**Water Storage and Distribution:** The City has one existing 25,000-gallon water tower to provide storage and pressure to the distribution system. The tower is directly east of the fire station, which is where the water treatment system is housed. In 2002, the tower underwent its last rehabilitation. During the most recent inspection in 2017, it was determined that the water tower required the renovations. Water is distributed to the City directly from the water tower. In 2003, the City's entire distribution system was replaced with PVC piping with four- inch and two-inch water mains.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to mitigate adverse effects to a historical structure related to the improvements to the water supply system.

**Proposed Improvements:** The existing Lanesboro water tower (constructed in 1941) will be demolished after the City of Lanesboro is fully connected to the Lake City drinking water supply. The mitigation plan will salvage portions of the historic water tower to construct a gazebo at the corner of Main Street and South 3rd Street.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

**Alternatives Considered:** A few of the mitigation options considered by other Cities with an historic water tower were discussed in a meeting with SHPO held in March 2022.

- Complete a County wide survey to document remaining historic water towers within the County
- Move the entire water tower to another location
- Remove the historic water tower tank, repair it, and place it in a City park with plaque
- Offset the removal of the historic water tower by completing other community based historic preservation projects through a local historic commission.
- Create artwork from salvaged portions of the water tower and place in City park with memorial plaque
- Create National Register quality photography inventory and file the document with the Library of Congress
- SHPO suggested the possibility of commemorating the historic water tower within the existing preserved historic gas station.

**Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative:** The City has started construction on the connection to Lake City. Once that is complete, the City intends to demolish the failing water tower structure. Due to the water tower's eligibility for the National Register, a mitigation plan was developed. The City intends to construct a gazebo using salvaged portions of the water tower on City-owned land.

### **MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT**

**Public Involvement:** A public hearing was held on September 13, 2023 at 6:30pm at the City's regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was made publicly available at three public

locations within the City on August 12, 2023. The purpose of this hearing was to present the environmental and financial impacts of the proposed improvement project. No written or oral comments were received.

**Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups:** The following Federal, state and local agencies were asked to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Water Resources Section
- Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
- Flandreau Santee Sioux
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Omaha Tribal Council
- Osage Tribal Council
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
- Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
- Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma
- Santee Sioux Nation
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
- Spirit Lake Tribal Council
- Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
- Upper Sioux Tribe
- Winnebago Tribal Council
- Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee

No adverse comments were received from any agencies or general public to date. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY**

**Construction:** Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected. Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

**Historical/Archaeological:** Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. A Cultural Resources Desktop Archaeological Evaluation of the proposed gazebo project area was completed. Results from the investigations were submitted to the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) for review. The water tower was determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The removal of the historic water tower will result an adverse effect. In order to mitigate this adverse effect, the City, SHPO, Iowa DNR, and EPA have consulted on mitigation efforts for the water tower demolition. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the US EPA Region 7, the Iowa DNR, SHPO, and the City of Lanesboro was executed on December 14, 2023. Through this agreement, the City of Lanesboro agreed to specific mitigation steps to address the removal of the historic water tower and reach a “no adverse effect – with conditions” determination. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

**Environmental:** The proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The project will not impact wetlands. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 Technical Assistance website consultation determined the project will not impact threatened or endangered species or their habitats. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. This project will not impact the 100-year floodplain. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

**Land Use and Trends:** The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential areas. No significant farmlands will be impacted. This project should not impact

population trends as the presence or absence of existing water/sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

**Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources:** Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction.

**Nondiscrimination:** All programs, projects, and activities undertaken by DNR in the SRF programs are subject to federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments of 1972. These laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

### ***POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT***

Positive environmental effects of the connection to Lake City will be maintained water quality and supply for the citizens of Lanesboro. A catastrophic loss of water supply could result in City-wide health impacts due to a lack of sanitation and the use of other water sources that may not meet Federal drinking water standards.

### ***SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT***

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- The project will not impact wetlands.
- The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required.
- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.
- The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the US EPA Region 7, the Iowa DNR, SHPO, and the City of Lanesboro was executed on December 14, 2023 memorializing the mitigation plan related to the removal of the historic water tower. If project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c").



- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.
- No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

THEREFORE:

The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 44.10(3) for drinking water relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. No adverse effect or significant environmental impact is foreseen at this time.

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**Karrie Darnell**

Environmental Review Specialist  
State Revolving Fund  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

**USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Lanesboro**  
**Section: 9, Township: 85 N, Range: 33 W**  
**Date: 1980**  
**Scale: 1 Inch = 2,000 Feet**



**North**

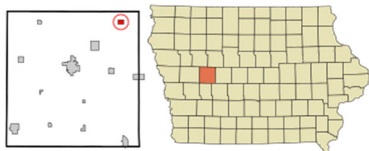
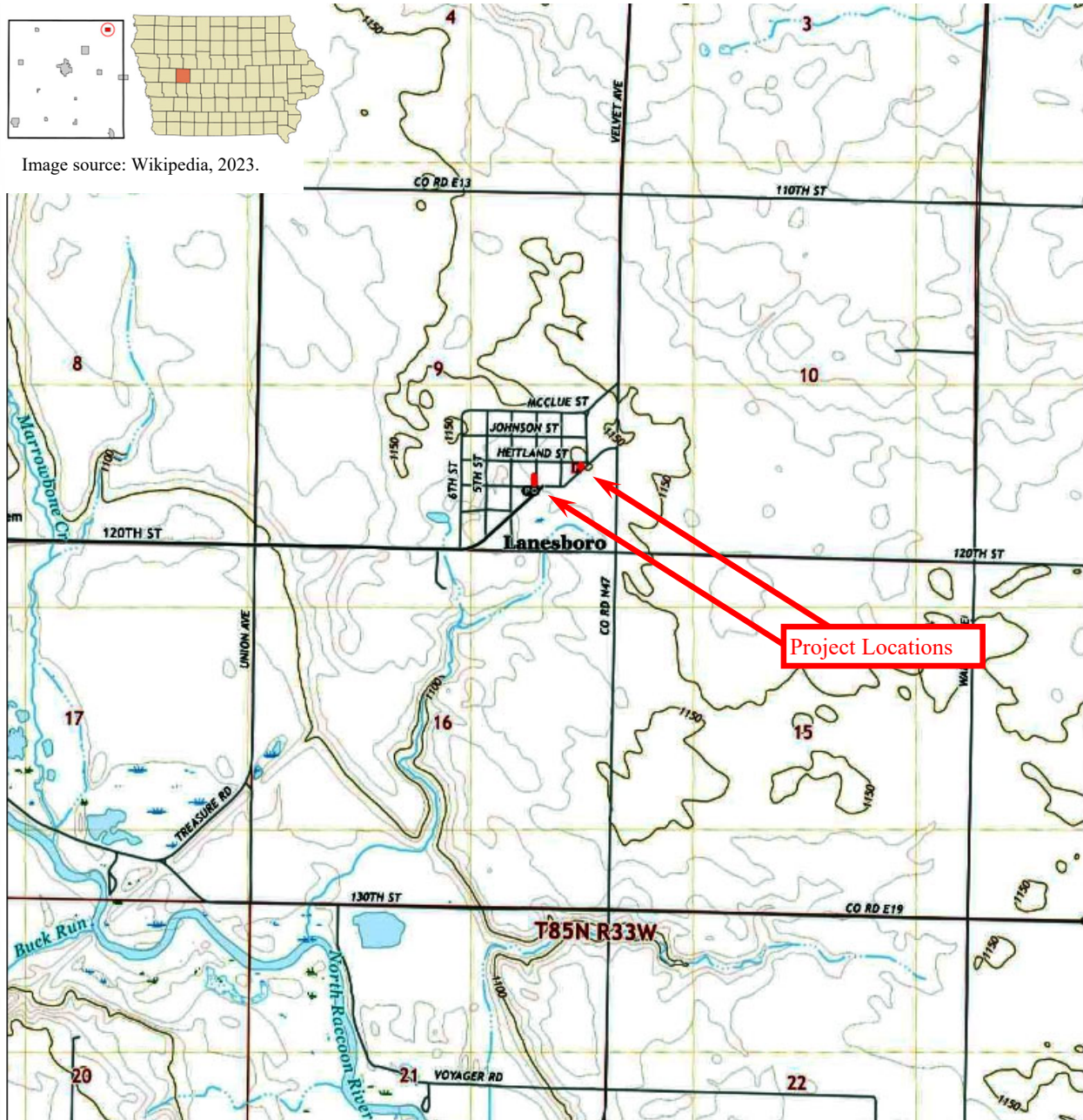


Image source: Wikipedia, 2023.



## USGS Topographic Map

Lanesboro Water Tower Demolition & Mitigation  
Lanesboro, IA



State Revolving Fund  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Location information provided by ISG, Inc.



North



## Aerial Photograph

Lanesboro Water Tower Demolition & Mitigation  
Lanesboro, IA



State Revolving Fund  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034