1	STATE OF MICHIGAN
2	COUNTY OF OTTAWA
3	
4	IN RE: FOXWOOD NO. 2 DRAIN
5	BOARD OF DETERMINATION
6	
7	
8	Proceedings commenced at 10:45 a.m., on Thursday,
9	August 26, 2021, at the Holland Charter Township Fire
10	Department, Station #1, Holland, Michigan, held before
11	Marjorie A. Covey, CSR-2616, RPR, Certified Shorthand
12	Reporter and Notary Public.
13	
14	APPEARANCES:
15 16	Mr. Joe Bush, Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner Mr. Josiah Timmermans, Chief Deputy to Water Resources Comm. Ms. Sara Hirst, Secretary
17	
18	Mr. Rich VanderKlok, Board Chairman Mr. Ken Souter, Board Secretary
19	Mr. Todd Wolters, Board Member
20	Mr. Lucas Timmer, Engineer, Prein & Newhof
21	Mr. Ken Bosma, Engineer, Prein & Newhof
22	Mr. Doug Kuiper, Holland Charter Township Finance Director
23	Mr. Jerry Olman, Ottawa County Road Commission
24	
25	

Holland, Michigan

2.0

August 26, 2021 - 10:45 a.m.

PROCEEDINGS

WATER RESOURCES COMM. JOE BUSH: Well good morning, everyone. I'm Joe Bush, the Ottawa County Water Resources

Commissioner.

I appreciate you taking the time this morning to kind of figure out what you're doing being invited to the firehouse for a Board of Determination. Again, being the Drain Commissioner and Water Resources Commissioner, this is kind of one of the job duties that we get to do is hold a Board of Determination, which is a public hearing, which is because we've been working with Holland Township on orphan drains.

And orphan drains, they're in all of the townships, and I have the whole county, so all 17 townships, six cities and a village. There is a lot of orphan drains that are around. And what an orphan means is nobody has jurisdiction over it, not the township, neither does the road commission, neither does the county.

So this was developed prior to having it under my jurisdiction. And so what they do nowadays is have a petition. And we have to notify everybody within the drain district or watershed. Everyone lives in a watershed or drain district, you can call it whichever you want, but

everybody's water goes somewhere. So if you got a mailing, typically that's why because your water runs somewhere that we're talking about, and this is the Foxwood No. 2 Drain.

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So we've been doing so many of these orphans and there is so many of them over the years with all the development, we're trying to catch up and get these under somebody's jurisdiction.

Well to do that, we need a petition. And we've been getting those petitions quite regularly from Holland Township. I can either be petitioned from the people or the township through Drain Code, and this is all through state law. And this is just all part of the process, the legal process, to notify people, let them know they're in the district, let them know we're having a public hearing.

That way people can tell us if there is issues in this particular watershed or drain district that we should know about. The only way we usually find out is an angry person in a flooding situation, and then we hate when we have to say, it's an orphan, nobody owns that drain. Nobody owns the infrastructure. They call the road commission, they say, call the county, talk to the township.

And we all look at each other and go, you know what, it's kind of an orphan system, you know.

So Holland Township has been taking it and their board approved, hey, let's start petitioning Joe, the Water

Resources Commissioner to hold Boards of Determinations to establish these orphan drains.

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So in the process, I have to appoint a three-panel board, and this three-panel board has no affiliation with the Holland Township board, the planning commission. They don't own any properties in this set area that we're talking about today. So they don't have rental properties or a home there. Or they don't have flooding issues there because they don't live there.

I want to make that clear, they don't have jurisdiction in this particular drain district. Their job totally today is to say, yes, this should be under Joe's jurisdiction for the future maintenance of this.

Currently we don't know of any issues that's out there. We don't have a project. They're not voting on a project. The cost is getting picked up today through Holland Township. This is all part of establishing orphan drains.

So they want to do it, they said we're going to pick up the cost, there is no cost to the public or this area to do today's meeting.

Again Holland Township has been very proactive in just trying to get all these orphan drains, and we probably, I bet we're working on 60 to 70 of these we've done in the last eight years. This is my third term being elected to this position, so this is just one of the many jobs that I

have jurisdiction over is getting petitions and holding Boards of Determinations.

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Again, I appoint this board. Holland Township has no affiliation with these three gentlemen. Neither does any of the committees or boards that Holland Township has, or subcommittees. These are all just strictly appointed through me through Drain Code.

So I'll go ahead and do some other introductions and then we'll get into the business of giving the three gentlemen the oath.

We have Lucas Timmer and Ken Bosma, they're from Prein & Newhof. They do a lot of these orphan drains. They kind of do a preliminary look-over of what's out there, what's going on.

Currently we don't have any issues that's known to us before the meeting. So, again, public hearings, we usually find out there could be issues we don't know about, which is another reason why we hold these.

The other one is these meetings are all court recorded. We have Margie with us today, she's done a lot of these for me over the years. And this is not required by law, but I do this because we do post the minutes on the website later. We're very transparent. It's word for word, its not somebody's handwriting and did they interpret what they said. This is word for word as I'm talking.

We will have public comment time later. Make sure you speak your name and address and speak loudly so she can hear it, and your comment, if you have issues or not. So again this is not required by law, but I do it so you can actually go back on the website later and read it.

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Then we have Jerry Olman, he's from the road commission. And he is usually in favor of all these because there is infrastructure in the road, and the water goes somewhere, but the infrastructure in the road does take on private and public waters, and water goes somewhere. And usually the road commission is a good partner to work with in trying to resolve these issues down the road. But if it's not under our jurisdiction, it's kind of hard to fix problems we don't know about or we don't have control over.

So again I appreciate your time listening to today's meeting and how it goes. So be sure to speak up because this is how we determine the need, if it's necessary or not based on public comment.

So again, these three gentlemen have been doing these meetings for quite a few years for me. They've been involved in local government. A lot of them are either current supervisors of townships or been on township boards. And one of them has actually worked for the road commission for 38 years.

I'll start with him first, I'll work from right to

left. Ken Souter has worked for the road commission, he's retired now, but 38 years as an engineer for the road commission.

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Then we have Mr. Rich VanderKlok. He is kind of semi-retired but he was on the Georgetown Township board for many, many years. He understands Drain Code, drainage, infrastructure. And his purpose today is not for a project, but do we see this necessary or not to be under Joe Bush's kind of department moving forward.

And then we have Todd Wolters who is the current supervisor at Olive Township. And he's also involved in many other boards, but he's been doing this for me for quite a few years as well.

I appoint people who understand, number one, their job today is do they see a necessity or not based on testimony or the township's comments or road commission's comments. And to say, you know, it's not a cost today, there is not a project, and their job isn't to decide that. It's just, is it necessary or not. That's why we're here.

So I'll give these three gentlemen the oath and they will run the meeting from there on out.

Gentlemen, please raise your right hand.

Do you each solemnly swear that you will faithfully perform and discharge the duties imposed upon you as required by law as members of the Board of Determination appointed by

1	the Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner to determine
2	the necessity to locate, establish and construct the proposed
3	Foxwood No. 2 Drain located in Holland Charter Township in
4	said county, gentlemen?
5	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: I do.
6	BOARD MEMBER RICH VANDER KLOK: I do.
7	BOARD MEMBER KEN SOUTER: I do.
8	WATER RESOURCES COMM. JOE BUSH: Thank you.
9	BOARD MEMBER KEN SOUTER: I'd like to make a motion
10	that Rich serve as chairman.
11	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Support.
12	BOARD MEMBER RICH VANDER KLOK: Moved and supported
13	that Rich serve as chairman.
14	Those in favor, say aye.
15	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Aye.
16	BOARD MEMBER RICH VANDER KLOK: Aye.
17	BOARD MEMBER KEN SOUTER: Aye.
18	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: That is carried.
19	Then I make the motion that Ken Souter serve as
20	secretary.
21	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Support.
22	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: And it's supported.
23	All those in favor, say aye.
24	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Aye.
25	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Aye.

BOARD MEMBER KEN SOUTER: Aye.

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BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: That is carried.

We've already talked about the role and function of the board as Joe had mentioned it to you, and the procedural history. And so I'm going to ask Lucas if he'd give us the engineering presentation.

ENGINEER LUCAS TIMMER: Thank you, Rich.

My name is Lucas Timmer. I am an engineer with Prein & Newhof, and we were the engineering firm that was hired to do some of the preliminary engineering work that's required for the Foxwood No. 2 Drain.

So as Joe mentioned, the Foxwood No. 2 Drain is an orphan drain. This is an existing storm water drain system that is without an authorized local and county governmental jurisdiction, and it lacks the administrative, procedural and funding mechanisms to address current or future needs for maintenance and improvements.

So essentially this system right now is considered a private or an orphan system. So if there are ever any issues, nobody owns it. And this process today is to get it setup so that it becomes part of the public system.

Holland Township filed a petition to establish this drainage district on May 20, 2021. And we are here today, as Joe mentioned, for a Board of Determination, which is part of that Drain Code process when you look to establish a county

drain.

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So some of the preliminary engineering work that we started with was that we reviewed utility record drawings and plat maps.

So we reviewed the storm water -- the storm water record drawings, sanitary sewer and water main, just to get a feel for your neighborhood and how it was setup for high points and low points.

We also reviewed plat maps. So we reviewed
Richland Estates which was established in 1998, Foxwood No.

1, which was established in 1991, and Brookwood Sub and
Brookwood Sub No. 1, which were both in 1963.

We then used some of that data from the record drawings and the plat maps to delineate a drainage district. So a drainage district is essentially a watershed.

If you're in the drainage district, it's considered that you contribute runoff to the storm sewer infrastructure. If you're outside of the drainage district, then it's considered that you do not contribute runoff to the proposed county drain. And we're able to delineate this drainage district using county GIS contour data which is one-foot contour data which gives us an idea on what the grades are in the area. We're also able to use aerials.

We then visited the site to locate drain infrastructure and confirm drainage patterns.

So this next slide shows the proposed drainage district. The proposed drainage district is here in red. As you can see, this proposed drainage district also takes up a sub district which is an existing county drain. So if anyone in this audience lives in Richland Estates, Richland Estates is already an established county drain. So this was an established county drain in 1998, it was part of the plat process. So all drain infrastructure in Richland Estates was established as a county drain.

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Interestingly enough, Foxwood No. 2 was established in 1991, so seven years before Richland Estates. Richland Estates, this green infrastructure here, this green line which shows the storm sewer infrastructure, connects to Foxwood No. 1 -- I'm sorry, Foxwood No. 2. Their infrastructure was never established as a county drain.

So if anything ever happened to Foxwood No. 2 and the pipe were to get blocked off, it would impact everyone in Richland Estates, which then, if this was not a county drain, there would be no governmental jurisdiction attached to the Foxwood No. 2 infrastructure.

So that's why we're here today is to get this blue infrastructure here established as county drain.

So the next slide just shows an aerial of the drainage district, which once again is here in red.

Richland Estates, their drainage district here is

shown in green.

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So following this presentation, we'll have a time for public testimony. As Joe and the board mentioned, please mention your name and address so that it can be recorded by Margie.

And then the board will then determine after hearing from you guys if there is any necessity, if it is necessary to establish this as a county drain.

So if it's deemed necessary to establish all that blue infrastructure that I showed on the previous map as county drain, then it will become part of the county drain system and there will be governmental jurisdiction responsible for it.

If deemed not necessary by the board, then no further action will occur. The system then will remain as an orphan or a private system.

So this slide here has a lot of language and I want to jump down to number two here, because this is an important, some important information for you guys.

If this drain is deemed necessary by the board, and we find out today from public testimony that there is no drainage issues, no issues are going on, then what happens at the end of this is Holland Township covers all the costs to pay for this to become an established county drain, and that's exactly what Joe mentioned.

However, if the drain is deemed necessary by the board, and in public testimony we find out that there are some significant flooding issues or other issues that need to be addressed, then a project would incur.

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And part of this project setup is that OCWRC would use P & N to review feasible projects to improve drainage.

We'll then go through the design process for drainage maintenance and improvements.

So we determine what project make sense. Joe doesn't want us to do a Cadillac project when it just requires a Yugo fix. Joe is an elected official, he wants to make sure that the project makes sense for his electorate.

We then select a project. We do a project design and survey. If easements are required to be -- if easements need to be acquired, we would acquire the easements.

We would then go under project bid and construction. And then there would be this process called a Day of Review of Apportionment. So how that works is assessments would then be sent out, and everyone would be notified of this Day of Review of Apportionment which is an eight-hour time period that the Drain Code requires people to come in to talk about their assessment and apportionment.

And those assessments then would be made out to the Ottawa County, Ottawa County Road Commission, Holland
Township, and the property owners that are within the

drainage district.

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If there were ever any future problems, let's say there is no problems now but ten years from now a storm sewer collapses that requires maintenance and repair. So how that repair would occur is there would need to be a petition from Holland Township or from the property owners per Drain Code.

If the project is a small fix, let's say there is a small sinkhole that needs to be repaired, that would be less than 5,000 per mile, per Drain Code, that allows the county, per Drain Code, just to take care of the project, without the petition and Board of Determination process.

So assessments for all future projects will be made to Ottawa County, Ottawa County Road Commission, Holland Township and property owners.

Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay, thank you, Lucas.

Any questions or comments, Ken, or Todd?

BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: Yeah, Lucas, can

you -- I'm a little dense here. Can you tell me what

direction all of this flows and where it flows to?

ENGINEER LUCAS TIMMER: From our review and from contour data, we were able to determine that Richland Estates here flows into a storm sewer system that connects into the

1	proposed Foxwood No. 2.
2	These large properties here drain to the north by,
3	and they'll end up getting to this catch basin system that's
4	installed in the backyards of the residents of Foxwood No. 2.
5	BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: And then where does it
6	to go once it leaves this particular area?
7	ENGINEER LUCAS TIMMER: Good question. So it flows
8	in this blue infrastructure here in the storm sewer and ends
9	up flowing north toward the Brower Drain.
10	BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: To the Brower Drain.
11	ENGINEER LUCAS TIMMER: Yep.
12	BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: Thank you.
13	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Todd?
14	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: No. No questions.
15	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay. Before we do
16	public comment, I don't believe we had a motion to limit
17	public comment to three minutes.
18	And so I'll make that motion.
19	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Support.
20	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Moved and supported
21	to limit public comment to three minutes.
22	Those in favor, say aye.
23	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Aye.
24	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Aye.
25	BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: Aye.

1	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: That is carried.
2	Now we come to that portion of the meeting where
3	you as residents have opportunity to speak.
4	But before that, Jerry from the road commission, do
5	you have any comments that you'd like to make?
6	ROAD COMMISSION JERRY OLMAN: This is Jerry Olman
7	with the Ottawa County Road Commission.
8	I'm not aware of any issues with the road drainage
9	on Holiday Drive.
10	For the road commission, we are in favor of
11	establishing these orphan systems and bringing them into the
12	Water Resources Commissioner's control.
13	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay. Thank you,
14	Jerry.
15	And then from Holland Township
16	HOLLAND TOWNSHIP FIN. DIRECTOR DOUG KUIPERS: Yes,
17	Doug Kuiper with Holland Township.
18	So the township is systematically seeking to bring
19	all these orphan drains under the jurisdiction of the Water
20	Resources Commissioner's office and that is the reason for
21	the petition before you today.
22	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay, thank you.
23	And so, public comment, the gentleman in the back,
24	if you would state your name and your address please.
25	MR. SCOTT NYHUIS: Scott Nyhuis, 10125 Holiday

Drive. 1 2 I guess my only question right now is so is the 3 blue proposed or the blue already exist? 4 ENGINEER LUCAS TIMMER: That's a great question. 5 So the blue, that blue already exists. All that storm sewer infrastructure exists, but it's being proposed to 6 7 go from a private or an orphan system to a county drain 8 system. 9 MR. SCOTT NYHUIS: Okay. 10 ENGINEER LUCAS TIMMER: Good question. 11 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay. Yes, ma'am. 12 Your name and address, please? 13 MS. CAROL SOSNOSKI: Carol Sosnoski, I'm at 10325 14 Hannah Drive, so I'm in Richland Estates. 15 I've only lived there since October but I haven't 16 noticed anything that would, you know, seem like the drain 17 system was in any way failing. 18 And it just seems reasonable to me though that we 19 would get underneath the jurisdiction in case there were to 2.0 be some kind of issue. I don't know about the neighboring 2.1 communities, but it seems reasonable to me that we would go 22 forward with coming under the jurisdiction of the Water 23 Resources Commissioner. 24 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay, thank you. 25 This gentlemen? Name and address, please?

1	MR. BOB MULDER: My name is Bob Mulder. And I live
2	at 10079 Holiday Drive. I've lived there since 1993.
3	And I know of no water issues there. I know I was
4	concerned before I moved in, but the way that system was
5	setup, there is no water issues in the basement. I don't
6	have any issues either.
7	So I'm for this motion, that you do that, because
8	if something would happen to that main blue line going back
9	there, it would affect all of us.
10	So anyhow, that's my comment. I'm glad to see this
11	happen, and I'm for it.
12	The county drain, I could have flooding from the
13	back side too, but that, with that culvert on 100th Street,
14	so that's good. So I'd like to say, keep that as it is.
15	BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: Good, thank you. Any
16	comments from I think we've gotten everyone.
17	I would make a motion then to close the public
18	comment time.
19	Is that supported?
20	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Supported.
21	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Moved and supported
22	that we close the public comment time.
23	All those in favor, say aye.
24	BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Aye.
25	BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Aye.

1 BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: 2 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: And now, Ken or 3 Todd, do you have any comments? 4 BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: Well I'll go first. 5 Basically it seems like it makes total sense, and most of 6 these have always made senses that people need a place for --7 to call if they got a problem. 8 And working for the road commission, I know I've 9 given people the run around on occasion when I was there 10 because of the fact that we didn't even know who had 11 jurisdiction. So if not under the drain commissioner, he 12 would send them to Holland Township, or the township, and 13 they just kind of ran around not knowing what to do. 14 that's not really fair. 15 So to get these under one entity, just makes so 16 much sense to me that I'm totally in favor of them. 17 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Okay. BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Yeah, I'm in favor of 18 19 this proposal as well. I think it will protect the folks in Richland a little bit more than where they are at right now 2.0 so we can have a little quicker response if something does go 21 22 wronq. 23 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Good. I would agree 24 with that. And hearing also the public comment, I would make 25 the motion that the location, establishment and construction

of the Foxwood No. 2 Drain, as petitioned on May 21, 2021, is 1 2 necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience and 3 welfare. 4 I'll make that motion, is that supported? 5 BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: Support. 6 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Moved and supported. 7 All those in favor, say aye. 8 BOARD MEMBER TODD WOLTERS: 9 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: Aye. 10 BOARD SECRETARY KEN SOUTER: 11 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: And that is carried. Then I want to ask Joe to just make a comment about 12 13 the appeals process, if you would. 14 WATER RESOURCES COMM. JOE BUSH: So I have to say 15 this at every meeting, at every Board of Determination that 16 if somebody wanted to appeal today's decision, you can appeal it through Circuit Court, and you have ten days from today if 17 18 somebody would more than likely want to appeal it, you can by 19 law. 2.0 Again, I appreciate everybody's time here this 2.1 morning. And some people ask, I put it on the record that, 22 well, does this still happen today? Well from about 2007 to 23 today, and this is my third term I'm working on that I'm 24 involved in now, so we do review all the developments. And

anything that's been since under my jurisdiction since 2013,

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it's been under my jurisdiction as far as brought into the 1 2 drain system when it gets reviewed during the process of 3 being approved as a plat through the township. We review 4 every development technically in Ottawa County for all the 5 townships, most of the cities. A couple cities we don't, 6 they review their own. 7 But one way or another when it comes under a county drain system, that process is done now, so we don't have to 8 9 keep doing these forever. We're just trying to play catch-up from the '70s, '80s, '90s, even back in the '40s and '50s. 10 11 So we're trying to catch up. It's not about 12 governmental control, it's just about customer service and 13 providing something we can help with down the road. Because 14 infrastructure will fail at some point because it's only --15 it only lasts as long as it can until it needs repaired. 16 So again, we appreciate your time, thank you. BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: 17 Thank you, Joe. 18 We are adjourned. 19 MS. CAROL SOSNOSKI: I just have a question. So do 2.0 I understand correctly that you voted in favor of taking it 21 under the jurisdiction? 22 BOARD CHAIR RICH VANDER KLOK: That's correct. 23 MS. CAROL SOSNOSKI: And then one other question. 24 You mentioned where people could call if they did have some

kind of emergency or situation. Where would they call for

25

1	that?
2	WATER RESOURCES COMM. JOE BUSH: The Ottawa County
3	Water Resources Commissioner office.
4	MS. CAROL SOSNOSKI: Okay.
5	WATER RESOURCES COMM. JOE BUSH: My department, or
6	9-1-1. They know how to get ahold of me. If it's an
7	emergency, make sure they call me. Because they're either
8	going to call the road commission or they're going to call me
9	or both. And we'll both show up.
10	(Board of Determination - Foxwood No. 2 Drain -
11	adjourned at 11:10 a.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATION OF COURT REPORTER AND NOTARY PUBLIC
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4	STATE OF MICHIGAN)
5) SS
6	COUNTY OF MUSKEGON)
7	
8	I certify that this transcript, consisting of 23
9	pages, is a complete, true and correct record of the Board of
10	Determination - Foxwood No. 2 Drain, held on August 26, 2021.
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13	DATE: August 30, 2021
14	Mayoul Cours
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16	MARJORIE A. COVEY Michigan License CSR-2616
17	Washington License 20109173 Oregon License 20-0468
18	Illinois License 084-004911
19	Notary Public Expires: October 14, 2021, Muskegon
20	County, Michigan/Acting in the State of Michigan
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