1	STATE OF MICHIGAN
2	COUNTY OF OTTAWA
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5	In the Matter of: .
6	• •
7	PINE CREEK NORTH DRAIN
8	BOARD OF DETERMINATION .
9	•
10	TRANSCRIPT
11	of the proceedings had on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2016,
12	commencing at 11:00 AM, at 353 North 120th Avenue, Holland,
13	Michigan, before David R. Walley, Certified Shorthand
14	Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the County of Muskegon
15	and State of Michigan, acting in the County of Ottawa.
16	APPEARANCES:
17	MR. JOE BUSH, Ottawa County Water
18	Resources Commissioner; Jen Vandenberg, Secretary to Mr. Bush;
19	WILLIAM CARGO, Board Chairman;
20	GLENN NYKAMP, Board Member; and LARRY BRUURSEMA, Board Member.
21	Present:
22	Kenneth A. Bosma, P.E., Engineer
23	
24	
25	David R. Walley, CSR

MR. BUSH: Well, good morning, everyone. My name is Joe Bush. I'm the Ottawa County Water Resources commissioner, also known as -- or used to be called drain commissioner. Same office, same face, just a different name. So we're here to serve, so that's why we're here today. We had received a petition-- That's the reason we're here. --from Holland Township to establish what is known as the Pine Creek North drain orphan drain. What Holland Township is doing along with other collaborating townships is establishing orphan drains.

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Being orphan means they are not owned by the road commission, the water resources commissioner's office or the township. So nobody really has ownership — the township, nobody. There is no per se easement. This one here is a little unique. Maybe a couple phases in this one might have been established back in the early '90s, but not all of them. So we're here today to clean that up and legally do the process by drain code to have a BOD, board of determination, and for me to pick a 3-panel board. This 3-panel board, these three men will make that decision — not me. I have got to be neutral and, per drain code, this is the process. This is the procedure by state law.

So again I welcome everyone for taking the

time to come listen or give comments. I assume everybody got the agenda and, on the agenda, there will be time for public comment. At that time, we do have a court recorder. So every word is recorded and when you come up, please state your name, address, speak loudly so he can hear you. That will be on my Website or, if you don't have Internet or any way to get Internet, you can call me and we can e-mail you -- or that's the Internet -- mail you a copy, hard copy of the minutes from today's meeting.

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So that's kind of why we're here for the procedure and, based on state law, this is what I do for orphan drains. So again, this one here is a little unique. There are some issues in this one that have been brought to my attention that we need to look at.

We've been out there already and looked at some of these issues. So we do plan on, if it's established, to fix those areas of concern.

So as of right now, I'll do the introductions.

Again I'm Joe Bush, the water resources commissioner.

The lady that was sitting here is Jen Vandenberg. She's my secretary from my office. We have the township.

Cory was here, but Meghan is here and then we've got Don Komejan. He's your township manager. We've got Jerry

Olman in the back. He's from the the Ottawa County Road

Commission. We have got David. He is our court recorder and then the 3-panel I appointed.

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These men have no affiliation with this drain district or any parcels or any property or anything, but from your right going left, our first one is Larry Bruursema. He's from Georgetown. In the center is Bill Cargo. He's from Grand Haven Township and on your left is Glenn Nykamp. He's from Zeeland Township. These men have been on multiple boards for me. They understand drainage, water, construction, flooding. They have been on multiple boards and they are very well acknowledged in their expertise on this particular subject and drain code. They understand drain code pretty well. So that's why I picked this panel.

So how the procedure goes, once I swear them in, they will be running the meeting. I will not. I'll be sitting over here. Any questions will be directed to them and then they can either ask me or the engineer at that time. Ken Bosma is here— Almost forgot to introduce him. —from the engineering firm and the engineer. He's from Prein and Newhoff. Anybody I missed for introductions? I think everybody has been announced;

But Ken has been up there, too, and part of the process, we spend minimal funds just to go out, do

some primary investigation, come up with the drain district, which is the red line on the map if you look on the wall, trying to make sure we are correct on the actual boundary lines of the BOD so we can notify the property owners within the red lines. So at this time, I will go ahead and swear in the three men and then from there, they will run the meeting and we will proceed.

Gentlemen, please rise and raise your right

hand. Do each of you solemnly swear to faithfully perform and discharge the duties imposed upon you as members of the board of determination appointed by the water resources commissioner of Ottawa County to determine the necessity of drainage improvements in a certain drain to be known and designated as Pine Creek North drain in the Township of Holland in said county as required by law? Gentlemen?

MR. BRUURSEMA: I do.

MR. CARGO: I do.

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MR. NYKAMP: I do.

MR. BUSH: Thank you.

MR. CARGO: The first thing we'll do is a very procedural issue, the election of the chair and secretary. We have had some preliminary discussion because we had a meeting before this and so, unless there is objection, I will accept the chair position.

Is there any objection? Then without objection, I will 1 2 accept the chair position. Larry has agreed to be the 3 secretary. So without objection, we will appoint Larry 4 as the secretary. Any objection? MR. NYKAMP: 5 None. 6 MR. CARGO: So without objection, Larry, you 7 are the secretary. 8 MR. BRUURSEMA: Thank you. 9 MR. CARGO: So with that said, yes, you now 10 have to keep track of the vote from this point forward. 11 We will start with having any comments from Holland 12 Charter Township. Don, do you have anything you want to 13 say regarding the orphan drain problem? 14 MR. KOMEJAN: Just briefly. From the 15 Township's standpoint, the township board approved a 16 funding policy concerning storm water drains and this is 17 just kind of adding a little bit to what the commissioner has said. We have done that to kind of 18 19 facilitate and identify and establish the elimination of 2.0 orphan drains throughout the township. So this 2.1 particular drain district, if it does become formally 22 established, is one of those that currently for the most 23 part, the county does not have any authority for 24 overseeing it and, therefore, cannot respond to issues

that require funding to handle.

Our policy is providing for funding to pay for this establishment process. That includes public notices and things of that nature that cost some money to walk through the formal process of establishment. The township is paying for that at large and then in addition, should maintenance or improvements be required in the near future or beyond, our policy indicates that the township would essentially pay up to \$10,000 if that's what the project might look like in a given year.

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If it's greater than that, then we would also look for participation from benefitting property owners to come in to paying for the costs that might be involved in improvement of the project. So just a little background on the township's policy pertaining to orphan drains and then once they are established, where we go from there.

MR. CARGO: Yes. We also have the engineer from Prein and Newhoff. You have taken a look at that orphan drain and established tentative boundaries for this. Do you have any comments you would like to make?

MR. BOSMA: Couple quick ones. I guess Joe has explained we don't have a lot of issues that we are aware of at this point that I had gotten involved in in the development of the district. Like the chairman has just said, these developments were constructed, it looks

like, almost 20-plus-some years ago. Pine Creek North itself, which is basically all these different facets, were built between 1990, 1996. It looks like Pinebrook, which is this area of the development right here, was built in about '93 and then Hidden Forest in about 1997.

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Because these were built in about the '90s, it was at that time that these developments did not always go through where they had a formal agreement of -- developing agreement with the water resources commission on maintaining these drains. Today if these were new plats or new developments, they would have these agreements set up and we would not be going through this process. They would already be set up. Back then and prior to that, they didn't do that. So that's why we're going through this process today.

What you see outlined in red is what we have kind of determined as the district. We have gone out and looked at the construction drawings, the county GIS. The county GIS system gives us contours, tells us where elevations are. We do know that this general area is relatively flat all over. We did our best determination of that through the contours that were provided to us to determine those lines in there;

And it was interesting, actually, when we got started because when we initiated this, this area was

involved. We didn't even know this area was involved, and we started looking at this and the storm sewer. Some of this was all collecting in here, which has one outlet into this pond area and then into the drain. So an issue that we're aware of at this point, which also helped initiate this process, is right here at the pond, the Pinebrook subdistrict, there is that outlet.

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There's an intersection there that has kind of separated itself from the rest of the pipe and right now, I would say it's maybe four, six inches or so, at least when we last seen it, separated from there starting to sink into the pond and maybe causing some erosion or so in there. So that's the one issue that we are aware of that would have to be resolved if it becomes a county drain. Again without this becoming a county drain, there is no means to pay or address this issue. So--

MR. CARGO: OK. Appreciate that. Jerry from the road commission is here, also -- from the Ottawa County Road Commission. Jerry, do you have any comments?

MR. OLMAN: Just other than to say that what the township is doing is a good thing; to have an agency for the residents to go to if there is an issue and the mechanism to have repairs and maintenance done

- on the drains, which in this particular case, we don't 1 2 have right now. 3 MR. CARGO: OK. And so then I'm going to look 4 over to my left at Larry here. Do we have any written 5 comments? 6 MR. BRUURSEMA: I do not. 7 MR. CARGO: OK. We have no written comments. 8 So at this point, we're going to open the public 9 testimony portion of the public hearing. The only thing 10 I would ask is that you come up to the podium and that's 11 for the benefit of the Court Reporter. Give your name 12 and address and then any comments on bringing this 13 orphan drain into the county drain system; and we're 14 going to start right with the man in the center there. 15 Do you have any comments? That's you, yes. 16 MR. OVERWAY: Yeah, I quess. 17 MR. CARGO: OK. And just give your name and 18 address, please.
  - MR. OVERWAY: Maurice Overway, 14274 142nd

    Avenue -- or Boer Run-- I'm sorry. --Michigan. We

    live in that small section on the end. I know that my

    son had built -- one of the guys that constructed it,

    started it before they ended up selling the rest of Pine

    Creek. When we built that, there was certain conditions

    they had to meet, and one was that area is graded

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downward, and that let's the water run down.

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At the end of the property, last property next to the road, we have a big retention pond there.

MR. CARGO: I see that on the plans.

MR. OVERWAY: And then in the middle of the road, they have the drain for the rest of the water to come down through and then into the drain so we do have good drainage. I can't speak for everybody, but I have been there— We were the first house in there and even when we had those heavy rains several years ago that was flooding and everything, I went down where my sump pump was in the basement. There would be no water in the sump pump area. I never used a sump pump in there.

So it's been draining well, and so maybe things are different now, but the area was designed to drain off.

MR. CARGO: I agree. One of the issues, I think, for the county and the township to look at is what happens 20 years from now, 40 years from now when those pipes fill with sediment and sand? Who's responsible to remove that, to do basic maintenance? Right now, there's no mechanism in place to keep it running smoothly like in front of your property right now.

MR. OVERWAY: OK. I understand that. I just

1 wanted to--2 MR. CARGO: Your property right now, you have 3 not seen any drainage issues on your street? 4 MR. OVERWAY: No. 5 MR. CARGO: OK. I appreciate it and I'm going 6 to go to -- We are going to follow back to the next row, 7 the right side, if you have any comments. Yes, you; and again your name and address. 8 9 MS. GLENNIE: My name is Cindy Glennie. 10 son lives on 142nd and I don't know his address. 11 apologize for that. He has a drain at the end of his 12 driveway that is clogged all the time. This time of the 13 year, you have to get in the car to go to the mailbox to 14 get the mail. The water is six to eight inches at the 15 end of his driveway and it's just a pipe that sticks 16 right out of the ground. 17 It doesn't have a cover over it or anything. 18 It really isn't in his property. It's in the right of 19 This is-- Whether the commissioner would get a way. 2.0 phone call, I'm not sure. He doesn't get water in the 2.1 house, but he's definitely got water. 22 MR. CARGO: The water collects at the end of 23 his street? 24 MS. GLENNIE: At the end of the driveway and

the street. You have to get in the car and drive to get

your mail. So that needs to be fixed for sure, but as far as the rest of them, I know nothing about that.

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MR. CARGO: I appreciate it. I'm going to stay on this side of the room. Right there.

MR. ROSENBERGER: Hello. My name is David
Rosenberger. I'm at 14354 Bent Pine Court, which is Lot
Number 68. I can say I have lived there for about 20
years now. The drain runs down off the back of my
property. OK. So across from me would be 3 and 4 and 5
and 67, 66, 65 right on, that whole drain does not drain
at all. My sump pump right now is kicking water out to
the back of my property. It's not going anywhere.

My neighbor, which is Number 67, his backyard right now is a pond. He's got the lowest property in that area and he's got standing water in his entire backyard. That house was just sold, so I haven't even met the new owners, but I can tell you that the guy that lived there, I was friends with him for years, and it was one of the main reasons why he moved out of there because he had water in his basement all the time. So he's got a walk-out basement there. I have got a view out.

In the 20 years that I have lived there, we have replaced carpet in my basement twice now and my sump pump is working fine, but the water has nowhere to

1 drain down the line. So if you go down to Lot 66 -- I 2 think it's 65 -- he can't even cut his backyard 3 entirely. He can only cut half of his backyard; 4 you will see that as well, I think, in Lot 64, but that 5 whole drain does not drain well. 6 I'm lucky where I'm at. I'm kind of at a 7 higher level. I know that 66, the guy that is just to the west of me, they don't have any issues at all, but 8 9 issues start with my house and can go all the way down right down to Lot Number 63. You will see cattails 10 11 growing in there. 12 MR. CARGO: I appreciate it. Thank you. And 13 I'm going to go to the very back of the room to the 14 right. 15 MS. RODRIGUEZ: My name is Sonia Rodriguez. Ι 16 live at 14224 Boer Run. My backyard has enough drainage. I have-- In those 12 years I'm living there, 17 I never had any problem from drain or the back drain. 18 19 As you know, drain, no problem. So at this point, no 2.0 problem at all. 2.1 MR. CARGO: OK. I appreciate it. 22 I'm going to start on the left side of the room. 23 going to go back in the fourth row, first woman on the 24 aisle. Do you have any comments you would like to make

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-- in the green?

1 MS. HUGHES: Me? Yes, I do. 2 MR. CARGO: OK. Thank you. 3 MS. HUGHES: Hello. My name is Heidi Hughes. 4 My address is 14072 Eric Court, and the house is under 5 Barbara Kleeves, and we live on the other side of the 6 creek where the creek is actually in our backyard. So I 7 quess we're a little concerned because it does flood occasionally, which it is today, and just worried about 8 9 the orphan drains or the repairs that -- the future 10 repairs or maintenance that might happen. 11 Right now, we don't-- We have minimal risk to flooding in our home. However, I'm really concerned 12 13 about the future, you know. 14 MR. CARGO: You are concerned with the design; 15 that the design won't overflow into Hermie Creek and has 16 caused you problems on Eric Street drains? 17 MS. HUGHES: That's correct, because we do 18 have flooding right now. The creek is 40 to 50 feet 19 wide, you know. Of course, right now, it's not a risk 2.0 for us, but I'm just really worried about the future 21 risks as far as flooding to the home. 22 MR. CARGO: And they have to take a look not 23 just at correcting storm drain issues. When I say 24 "they", I mean the water resources commission has to

look not just at correcting problems upstream, but how

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it's going to affect downstream residents and property
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     owners. Today, of course, we are -- I'm here to see if
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     there is a public reason to bring this into the drain
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     system. You are talking what type of design might occur
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     in the future?
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               MS. HUGHES: That's correct.
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               MR. CARGO: I understand your concerns.
                                 Thank you.
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               MS. HUGHES: OK.
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               MR. CARGO: And the lady immediately next to
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    you?
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               AUDIENCE MEMBER:
                                 No.
                                      No comment.
               MR. CARGO: I'm going to go then to the far
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     end of that aisle. No comment? Then we have one more
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     gentleman in the back.
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               MR. OVERWAY: Calvin Overway.
                                              I live at 3580
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     144th. It's the private piece of drive that comes off
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     of 144th. My house abuts right up to Boer Street there.
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               MR. CARGO: OK.
               MR. OVERWAY: And that runoff from Boer Street
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    actually comes right down into my property and I have
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    had issues with water in the lower level continuously.
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     I have got sump pumps down there and they run and run
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    and run and run, and so I'm just concerned that we're
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    not extending this farther to cover the private homes on
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this private drive here. What's the plan in the future?

MR. BOSMA: Is this your house you are talking 1 2 about? 3 MR. OVERWAY: Yes. That's the house right 4 there. Yes. 5 MR. CARGO: OK. 6 MR. OVERWAY: I have always got water in my 7 backyard. It's wet. Like I said, my pumps run and run 8 and run. 9 MR. CARGO: OK. So you are just outside of 10 the district, I understand, or you are just outside of 11 the district, but you are concerned with what any 12 improvements to the district might do to your property. 13 MR. OVERWAY: Well, I quess what I'm concerned 14 with is why this system hasn't, you know -- doesn't 15 include these homes, why there's no drainage included 16 with these homes on 144th, why they are excluded from 17 this. 18 MR. CARGO: Let me ask a quick question of the engineer then. Ken, is his home part of another 19 2.0 drainage district or is he also in an orphan area 2.1 without drainage? 22 MR. BOSMA: He would be in an orphan area 23 right now. 24 MR. CARGO: So he may be brought into the 25 drainage district later, but because of the flow of

water, you didn't include his property in this? 1 2 MR. BOSMA: From what we could tell from the 3 construction drawings and the GIS system, we could not 4 tell that he was in that district. Correct. 5 MR. CARGO: Well, perhaps what we'll do, if 6 this orphan drain is brought into the county drain 7 system, one of the motions authorizes the engineer to 8 amend the boundaries as needed to capture this drainage 9 district and all the people in there. So he can take a 10 closer look at your parcel to see if it should be 11 included. MR. OVERWAY: Only because we have got the old 12 farm and stuff that's there, too, and all of this that 13 14 just runs -- everything runs right to that corner there 15 that I'm in, and there's no drainage there at all. 16 MR. CARGO: I appreciate it. Thank you much. 17 Well, we have had public comment. I don't see anybody 18 that I have missed. Any other comment before we close 19 the public comment portion of the hearing? Any other 2.0 comments before we close the public comment portion? MR. MAURICE OVERWAY: Are you going to explain 2.1 22 what they are going to do with the piping, where it's 23 going to be? 2.4 MR. CARGO: Again I want to make this clear. 25 We are here to make a very simple decision.

decision is: Should this area be part of the county drain system? We are not going to talk about design to correct existing problems. We are only going to bring the area into the drainage system, possibly, and if we do that and if there are existing problems, then there's a mechanism that the water resources commission can use public dollars to find the cause and to correct problems that may exist. Is that a fair summary, Joe?

MR. BUSH: That's correct.

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MR. MAURICE OVERWAY: That's fair what you are saying. The other question I had is: We don't have a certain idea of what kind of expense that would cost the people? The reason I ask is there's people who-- I'm one of them. I'm retired. My wife will retire in a couple years. Tons of taxes in--

MR. CARGO: We can't because we don't know what the problems are, what the costs might be. What the township has said, though, that they will spend up to \$10,000 in a year to correct maintenance issues and that type of correction. If this is brought into the county drain system, one of the motions we'll make is to authorize the county to put an at-large expense on top of the township and the road commission for the public good, for the public welfare;

And so even if it is an assessment, the

township and the county road commission will have to pay a portion.

MR. MAURICE OVERWAY: OK.

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MR. CARGO: We don't have that mechanism now because it's an orphan drain. With that, I think I'm going to close the public comment period and we'll begin a discussion by the three of us as to whether we think this orphan drain should be brought into the county drain system. Last time, I started with Larry. So this time, I'll start with Glenn. What do you have to say?

MR. NYKAMP: Well, I think there's people here that don't have issues and there's people here that do have issues, but they are all part of the whole drain system. So therefore, we can't just pick from the middle and take the one that the engineers have designed, and I think that from what I'm hearing, there's enough individuals here that have some pretty major issues, actually, and I think the only way to get that taken care of is for us to approve accepting this into the drain system.

I think Holland Township is being very, very proactive in getting this done. Again, some of these houses have been there for 25 years or more and now is probably when the issues are going to start showing up along the way. So I would say that from our

perspective, we would want to include this in the new drain system.

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MR. BRUURSEMA: I would agree with what Glenn is saying and I think it's a great mechanism for the residents to have this under the county system so that you can all get together and go see Joe Bush and then he will come back to the township and say: This is a problem, this is how we're going to fix it, and this is how we're going to assess it.

So all the problems and all the comments that I have heard, most all of you have problems. So I do think something should be done and, if it's put under the county drain system, it can be done a whole lot easier.

MR. CARGO: I tend to agree. Bringing it under the public county drain system is not a mechanism to raise anybody's taxes. It's just that if you don't do this, there's no mechanism for spending any public dollars to do basic maintenance or to correct existing problems. These homes in the area are over 20 years old. I suspect there are going to be increased maintenance issues associated with this and so I also support bringing this into -- this orphan drain into the county drain system. Any other comments?

No.

MR. NYKAMP:

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MR. CARGO: I'm going to turn this over to
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             I think we have a number of motions. I'm going
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     to have you be the one to read the motion and, if you
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    are in support, you can be the one that starts the
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    motion, just so we can move this.
               MR. BRUURSEMA: I think the first motion is:
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     I would like to have a motion to deem this necessary or
    not necessary, whatever your choice.
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               MR. CARGO: I will make the motion to deem
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     that this is a necessary drain and look for support.
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               MR. NYKAMP:
                            Support.
               MR. CARGO: OK. We have a motion on the floor
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     and support. If there's not any further discussion, we
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     can take a vote. Is there any further discussion?
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               MR. NYKAMP: No.
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               MR. CARGO: In that case, all in favor of
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    deeming this project necessary say aye.
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               MR. NYKAMP: Aye.
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               MR. BRUURSEMA: Aye.
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               MR. CARGO: Opposed?
                                     Then it is passed
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    unanimously.
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               MR. BRUURSEMA: I believe so. OK.
                                                   The second
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    motion is that the drain is necessary or not necessary
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     for the protection of public health in the Township of
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Holland and that a portion of the cost shall be

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apportioned to the municipalities at large.
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               MR. CARGO:
                           I believe it should be apportioned
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     -- any future costs should be apportioned to the
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    municipalities at large. So I will make that motion.
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               MR. NYKAMP: I will support.
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               MR. CARGO: We have a motion and support from
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     Glenn. Any further discussion? Seeing none, all in
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     favor say aye.
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               MR. BRUURSEMA: Aye.
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               MR. NYKAMP: Aye.
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               MR. CARGO: Opposed?
                                     There's no opposition,
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     so it is also passed unanimously.
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               MR. BRUURSEMA: OK.
                                    Then the third motion is
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     that the drainage district boundaries be adjusted as
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     necessary and lands be added and/or deleted as
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     determined by the engineer.
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               MR. CARGO: I will also support that and also
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     looking for a second.
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               MR. NYKAMP: Second.
               MR. CARGO: And Glenn has given us a second.
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     This is simply an acknowledgment that water runs
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     downhill and now I think you have to make some
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     adjustments to the district to make sure you are
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     capturing all the water flowing into the district. Any
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     further discussion?
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MR. NYKAMP: I do think that's important for 1 2 this lady that goes up there and the gentleman that was saying that he has issues there in that more open area, 3 4 that they actually look at that a little more intently 5 and see if there's something that can be done for that. 6 MR. CARGO: I agree that water is flowing into 7 the district from this area; that we may need to expand the district. All in favor of this third motion say 8 9 aye. 10 MR. NYKAMP: Aye. 11 MR. BRUURSEMA: Aye. MR. CARGO: Opposed? And that again passes 12 13 unanimously. That said, these are fairly simple and 14 procedural types of processes. There's nothing here 15 that made this unusual, but now the county and the 16 township can work together at correcting maintenance 17 issues and other problems that exist within this 18 drainage district. I'm going to ask the water resources 19 commissioner here, Joe, if you have any final comments 2.0 you would like to make. 2.1 I just want to thank everyone for MR. BUSH: 22 taking the time this morning to show up, and your

comments were greatly appreciated, and be sure to call

us if you have any issues further than what we talked

Thank you.

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about today.

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               MR. CARGO: With that comment, we will adjourn
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     the meeting. It is about 11:30.
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3	STATE OF MICHIGAN )
4	) SS. COUNTY OF MUSKEGON )
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6	
7	I, David R. Walley, Certified Shorthand
8	Reporter (CSR-2718), County of Muskegon, State of Michigan,
9	do hereby certify that the foregoing Pages 1 through 25,
10	inclusive, comprise a full, true, and accurate transcript
11	of the proceedings taken in the matter of Pine Creek North
12	County Drain Board of Determination, on February 3, 2016.
13	
14	
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16	David R. Walley Certified Shorthand Reporter
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19	February 8, 2016
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\$	<b>3-panel</b> 4:2	acknowledg ment 23:21	appreciated 24:23	3,16 15:6 17
·	<b>3580</b> 16:15	actual 5:4	approve	Barbara 15:
<b>\$10,000</b> 7:8	4		20:19	<b>based</b> 3:12
19:19	<b>4</b> 13:9	added 23:15 adding 6:17	approved 6:15	basement 11:12 13:20, 21,24
from 4:20	<b>40</b> 11:19 15:18	addition 7:6 address 3:5	<b>area</b> 8:4,20,25 9:1,4 10:25	<b>basic</b> 11:21 21:19
michigan 10:20	5	9:16 10:12,18 12:8,10 15:4	11:13, 13:15 17:20,22 19:1, 4 21:20 24:3,7	basically 8:2
<b>000000</b> 25:3	<b>5</b> 13:9 <b>50</b> 15:18	adjourn 25:1 adjusted	areas 3:18	begin 20:6 benefit 10:1
1	6	23:14 adjustments	assess 21:9 assessment	<b>benefitting</b> 7:11
		23:23	19:25	<b>Bent</b> 13:6
<b>1</b> 26:9	<b>63</b> 14:10	affect 16:1	assume 3:1	<b>big</b> 11:3
<b>11:30</b> 25:2	<b>64</b> 14:4	affiliation 4:3	at-large 19:22	<b>Bill</b> 4:6
<b>12</b> 14:17	<b>65</b> 13:10 14:2	agency 9:24	attention 3:15	<b>bit</b> 6:17
<b>14072</b> 15:4 <b>14224</b> 14:16	<b>66</b> 13:10 14:1, 7	agenda 3:2 agree 11:17	AUDIENCE 16:11	<b>board</b> 5:11 6:15 26:12
<b>14274</b> 10:19	<b>67</b> 13:10,13	21:3,15 24:6	authority	<b>boards</b> 4:9,1
<b>142nd</b> 10:19	<b>68</b> 13:7	agreed 6:2	6:23	<b>BOD</b> 5:4
12:10 <b>14354</b> 13:6	8	agreement 8:8,9	<b>authorize</b> 19:22	<b>Boer</b> 10:20 14:16 16:17,
<b>144th</b> 16:16, 17 17:16	<b>8</b> 26:18	agreements 8:12	authorizes 18:7	19 <b>Bosma</b> 4:19
<b>1990</b> 8:3	9	ahead 5:6	Avenue 10:20	7:21 17:1,22 18:2
<b>1996</b> 8:3 <b>1997</b> 8:5	<b>90s</b> 8:6	<b>aisle</b> 14:24 16:13	<b>aware</b> 7:23 9:5,14	<b>boundaries</b> 7:19 18:8
	<b>93</b> 8:5	amend 18:8	aye 22:17,18,	23:14
2		<b>and/or</b> 23:15	19 23:8,9,10 24:9,10,11	boundary 5
20 44 40 40 7	A	announced 4:23		briefly 6:14
<b>20</b> 11:19 13:7, 23 21:20	<b>abuts</b> 16:17	anybody's	В	<b>bring</b> 19:3
<b>20-plus-some</b> 8:1	<b>accept</b> 5:25 6:2	21:17  apologize	<b>back</b> 3:25 8:13 12:6	<b>bringing</b> 10:12 21:15, 23
<b>2016</b> 26:12,18	accepting	12:11	13:8,12 14:13, 18,23 16:14	brought 3:19
<b>25</b> 20:23 26:9	20:19  accurate	appoint 6:3 appointed	21:7 background	17:24 18:6 19:20 20:8
3	26:10	4:2 5:11	7:14	Bruursema
<b>3</b> 13:9 26:12	acknowledge d 4:11	apportioned 23:1,2,3	<b>backyard</b> 13:13,16 14:2,	4:6 5:17 6:8 10:6 21:3 22:6,19,22

23:9,13 24:11	chairman	7:25 10:22		<b>Don</b> 3:23 6:12
<b>built</b> 8:3,5,6	7:24	construction	D	<b>don't</b> 15:11
10:22,24	Charter 6:12	4:10 8:18 18:3	David 4:1	downhill
Bush 5:20	choice 22:8	continuously	13:5 26:7,15	23:22
19:9 21:6 24:21	<b>Cindy</b> 12:9	16:21	decision	downstream
	<b>clear</b> 18:24	contours 8:19,22	18:25 19:1	16:1
С	clogged	<b>copy</b> 3:9	<b>deem</b> 22:7,9	downward 11:1
<b>call</b> 3:8 12:20	12:12	<b>corner</b> 18:14	deeming 22:17	<b>drain</b> 4:3,12,
24:23	<b>close</b> 18:18, 20 20:6	correct 5:3	deleted 23:15	13 5:1,14,15
<b>Calvin</b> 16:15	closer 18:10	15:17 16:6		6:13,21 7:19 9:4,15,16
capture 18:8	code 4:13	18:4 19:3,7,9, 21:19	<b>design</b> 15:14, 15 16:4 19:2	10:13 11:6,7,
capturing			designated	16 12:11 13:8, 10 14:1,5,18,
23:24	collecting 9:3	correcting 15:23,25	5:14	19 15:23 16:3
car 12:13,25	collects 12:22	24:16	designed	18:6 19:2,21
<b>care</b> 20:19	comment 3:3	correction	11:15 20:16	20:5,8,9,13,20 21:2,13,16,23,
Cargo 4:7	16:11,13	19:20	determinatio	24 22:10,23
5:18,21 6:6,9	18:17,18,19, 20 20:6 25:1	<b>Cory</b> 3:23	<b>n</b> 5:11 8:21 26:12	26:12
7:17 9:18 10:3,7,17	comments	<b>cost</b> 7:3 19:12 22:25	determine	<b>drainage</b> 4:10 5:13 11:8 12:3
11:4,17 12:2,	3:1 6:11 7:20	costs 7:12	5:13 8:23	14:17 17:15,
5,22 13:3 14:12,21 15:2,	9:21 10:5,7,	19:17 23:3	determined	20,21,25 18:8, 15 19:4 23:14
14,22 16:7,9,	12,15 12:7 14:24 18:20	county 3:25	8:17 23:16	24:18
12,18 17:5,9, 18,24 18:5,16,	21:10,24	5:12,15 6:23	developing 8:9	draining
24 19:16 20:4	24:19,23	8:18,19 9:15, 16,20 10:13	development	11:14
21:15 22:1,9, 12,16,20 23:2,	<b>commission</b> 4:1 8:9 9:19,	11:18 18:6	7:24 8:4	drains 3:13
6,11,17,20	20 15:24 19:6,	19:1,21,22 20:1,8 21:5,	development	6:16,20 7:15 8:10 10:1
24:6,12 25:1	23 20:1	13,16,24	<b>s</b> 7:25 8:7,11	15:9,16
carpet 13:24	commissione r 3:20 5:12	24:15 26:4,8, 12	directed 4:17	drawings
<b>case</b> 10:1 22:16	6:18 24:19	couple 7:21	discharge	8:18 18:3
cattails 14:10	comprise	19:15	5:10	<b>drive</b> 12:25 16:16,25
	26:10	court 3:4 4:1	discussion 5:23 20:7	driveway
caused 15:16	concern 3:18	10:11 13:6 15:4	22:13,14 23:7,	12:12,15,24
causing 9:12	concerned	cover 12:17	25	duties 5:10
<b>center</b> 4:6 10:14	15:7,12,14 16:23 17:11,	16:24	district 4:4 5:2 6:21 7:24	
Certified	13	creek 5:14 8:1	8:17 17:10,11,	E
26:7,16	concerns	10:24 15:6,15,	12,20,25 18:4,	<b>e-mail</b> 3:8
certify 26:9	16:7	18 26:11	9 23:14,23,24 24:7,8,18	easier 21:14
<b>chair</b> 5:22,25	conditions 10:24	<b>CSR-2718</b> 26:8	dollars 19:7	election 5:22
6:2	constructed	<b>cut</b> 14:2,3	21:19	elevations
				0.0.0.0.0

8:20 elimination	F	fourth 14:23 friends 13:18	<b>guy</b> 13:17 14:7	
6:19	facets 8:2	front 11:23	<b>guys</b> 10:22	<b>idea</b> 19:12
<b>end</b> 10:21 11:2 12:11,15,	facilitate 6:19	full 26:10	Н	identify 6:19
22,24 16:13	fair 19:8,10	funding 6:16,		immediately
<b>ended</b> 10:23	<b>fairly</b> 24:13	25 7:1	<b>half</b> 14:3	16:9
engineer	faithfully 5:9	<b>funds</b> 4:25	hand 5:9	important 24:1
4:18,21 7:17 17:19 18:7	<b>farm</b> 18:13	<b>future</b> 7:7 15:9,13,20	handle 6:25	imposed 5:1
23:16	farther 16:24	16:5,25 23:3	happen 15:10	improvemen
engineering	<b>favor</b> 22:16		hard 3:9	7:13
4:20	24:8	G	<b>have</b> 14:17	improvemen
engineers 20:15	<b>February</b> 26:12,18	general 8:20	Haven 4:7	<b>s</b> 5:13 7:6 17:12
<b>entire</b> 13:15	feet 15:18	gentleman	health 22:24	in 19:15
<b>Eric</b> 15:4,16	fill 11:20	16:14 24:2	hear 3:6	inches 9:10
erosion 9:13	final 24:19	Gentlemen 5:8,16	heard 21:11	12:14
essentially	find 19:7	Georgetown	<b>hearing</b> 10:9 18:19 20:16	include 17:18
7:8	fine 13:25	4:6	<b>heavy</b> 11:10	included
<b>establish</b> 6:19	firm 4:20	<b>GIS</b> 8:18,19 18:3	Heidi 15:3	17:15 18:11
established	fix 3:17 21:8	give 3:1	helped 9:6	includes 7:2
3:17 6:22 7:15,19	<b>fixed</b> 13:1	10:11,17	<b>here</b> 4:19	inclusive
establishmen	flat 8:21	Glenn 4:8	Hermie 15:15	26:10
t 7:2,4	flood 15:7	20:10 21:3 23:7,20	Hidden 8:5	increased 21:21
excluded	flooding 4:10	<b>Glennie</b> 12:9,	higher 14:7	individuals
17:16	11:11 15:12, 18,21	24	Holland 5:15	20:17
<b>exist</b> 19:8 24:17	floor 22:12	good 9:23	6:11 20:21 22:25	initiate 9:6
existing 19:3,	flow 17:25	11:8 19:24	home 15:12,	initiated 8:25
5 21:19	flowing 23:24	graded 10:25	21 17:19	intently 24:4
expand 24:7	24:6	Grand 4:7	homes 16:24	interesting
expense	<b>follow</b> 12:6	great 21:4	17:15,16 21:20	8:24
19:12,22	foregoing	greater 7:10	<b>house</b> 11:9	Internet 3:7,9
expertise 4:12	26:9	greatly 24:23	12:21 13:16	intersection 9:8
explain 18:21	Forest 4:40	green 14:25 ground 12:16	14:9 15:4 16:17 17:1,3	introduce
explained	forgot 4:19	growing	houses 20:23	4:20
7:22	formally 6:34	14:11	<b>Hughes</b> 15:1,	introductions 3:19 4:22
extending	formally 6:21	<b>guess</b> 7:21	3,17 16:6,8	
16:24	forward 6:10	10:16 15:7 17:13		investigation 5:1

involved 7:13,23 9:1	<b>left</b> 4:5,7 10:4 14:22	<b>man</b> 10:14	<b>multiple</b> 4:9, 11	opposition 23:11
		manager 3:24		
<b>is</b> 12:19	<b>level</b> 14:7 16:21	<b>map</b> 5:2	municipalitie s 23:1,4	<b>orphan</b> 6:13, 20 7:15,19
issue 5:22		<b>matter</b> 26:11	,	10:13 15:9
9:5,13,17,24	lines 5:4,5		Muskegon	17:20,22 18:6
<b>issues</b> 3:14,	8:23	<b>Maurice</b> 10:19 18:21	26:4,8	20:5,8 21:23
17 6:24 7:22	listen 3:1	19:10 20:3		Ottawa 3:25
11:17 12:3	live 10:21		N	5:12 9:19
14:8,9 15:23 16:21 19:19	14:16 15:5	means 9:16		outlet 9:4,7
20:12,13,18,	16:15	mechanism	nature 7:3	
24 21:22 24:3,	lived 13:7,18,	9:25 11:22	necessity	outlined 8:16
17,24	23	19:6 21:4,16, 18	5:13	overflow
	lives 12:10	10	needed 18:8	15:15
J		meet 10:25		overseeing
	living 14:17	meeting 3:10	neighbor 13:13	6:24
<b>Jen</b> 3:21	looked 3:16	4:16 5:7,24		Overway
Jerry 3:24	8:18	25:2	Newhoff 4:21	10:16,19 11:5
9:18,20	lot 7:22 13:6	Meghan 3:23	7:18	25 12:4 16:15
	14:1,4,10	MEMBER	North 5:15 8:1	19 17:3,6,13
<b>Joe</b> 3:20 7:21 19:8 21:6	21:13	16:11	26:11	18:12,21
24:19	loudly 3:5		notices 7:3	19:10 20:3
21.10	lower 16:21	members 5:11	notify 5:4	owners 5:5
K			_	7:11 13:17
	lowest 13:14	men 4:3,8 5:6	<b>number</b> 13:7, 13 14:10 22:2	16:2
<b>Ken</b> 4:19,24	lucky 14:6	met 13:17		
17:19	•	Michigan	Nykamp 4:8	Р
		26:3,8	5:19 6:5 20:11	
kicking 13:11		·	21:25 22:11, 15,18 23:5,10,	Pages 26:9
<b>kind</b> 3:11	made 24:15	<b>middle</b> 11:5 20:15	19 24:1,10	<b>panel</b> 4:14
6:17,18 8:17	<b>mail</b> 3:9 12:14			parcel 18:10
9:8 14:6 19:12	113:1	minimal 4:25	0	· -
Kleeves 15:5	-	15:11		parcels 4:4
Komejan	mailbox	minutes 3:9	objection	part 4:24 6:23
3:24 6:14	12:13	missed 4:22	5:25 6:1,3,4,6	17:19 19:1
	<b>main</b> 13:19	18:18	occasionally	20:13
L	maintaining	money 7:3	15:8	participation
	8:10	_		7:11
lady 3:21 16:9	maintenance	morning	<b>occur</b> 16:4	<b>passed</b> 22:20
24:2	7:6 9:25 11:21	24:22	office 3:22	23:12
lands 23:15	15:10 21:19,	motion 22:3,	<b>Olman</b> 3:25	<b>passes</b> 24:12
	22 24:16	5,6,7,9,12,23	9:22	<u>-</u>
large 7:5 23:1,	<b>major</b> 20:18	23:4,6,13 24:8	<b>open</b> 10:8	pay 7:1,8 9:16
	<b>make</b> 5:3 7:20	motions 18:7	24:3	20:1
Larry 4:5 6:2,	<b>make</b> 5:3 7:20 18:24,25	19:21 22:2		paying 7:5,12
3,6 10:4 20:9	19:21 22:9	move 22:5	Opposed 22:20 23:11	people 18:9
22:2	23:4,22,23	<b>moved</b> 13:19	22:20 23:11 24:12	19:13 20:11,
law 3:12 5:16	24:20	1110400 10.19	47.14	12

perform 5:10	20:17	<b>pump</b> 11:11,	resources	section 10:21
period 20:6	primary 5:1	13 13:11,25	3:20 5:12 8:9	sediment
perspective	prior 8:14	<b>pumps</b> 16:22	15:24 19:6 24:18	11:20
21:1	private 16:16,	17:7	respond 6:24	selling 10:23
pertaining 7:14	24,25 proactive	<b>put</b> 19:22 21:12	responsible	separated 9:9,11
<b>phone</b> 12:20	20:22		rest 9:9 10:23	set 8:12,13
pick 20:14	problem 6:13	Q	11:6 13:2	sewer 9:2
picked 4:14	14:18,19,20 21:8	<b>question</b> 17:18 19:11	retention	Shorthand
<b>piece</b> 16:16	problems	questions	11:3	26:7,16
Pine 5:14 8:1	15:16,25 19:3,	4:17	retire 19:14	<b>show</b> 24:22
10:23 13:6 26:11	5,7,17 21:10, 11,20 24:17	quick 7:21	retired 19:14 rise 5:8	showing 20:24
Pinebrook	procedural	17:18	risk 15:11,19	<b>side</b> 12:7 13:4
8:3 9:7	5:22 24:14	R		14:22 15:5
<b>pipe</b> 9:9 12:15	procedure		risks 15:21	<b>simple</b> 18:25
<b>pipes</b> 11:20	3:12 4:15	<b>rains</b> 11:10	road 3:25 9:19,20 11:3,6	24:13
piping 18:22	proceed 5:7	raise 5:8	19:23 20:1	simply 23:21
<b>place</b> 11:22	proceedings 26:11	21:17	Rodriguez	<b>sink</b> 9:12
<b>plan</b> 3:17 16:25	process 4:25	read 22:3 reason 16:3	14:15 <b>room</b> 13:4	sitting 3:21 4:17
plans 11:4	7:2,4 8:13,15 9:6	19:13	14:13,22	<b>small</b> 10:21
<b>plats</b> 8:11	processes	reasons	Rosenberger	smoothly
•	24:14	13:19	13:5,6	11:23
podium 10:10	<b>project</b> 7:9,13	recorded 3:4	row 12:6	<b>So</b> 9:17
<b>point</b> 6:10 7:23 9:5 10:8	22:17	recorder 3:4 4:2	14:23	<b>sold</b> 13:16
14:19	property 4:4		run 5:7 11:1 14:16 16:22,	solemnly 5:9
policy 6:16	5:5 7:11 11:2, 23 12:2,18	red 5:2,5 8:16	23 17:7,8	<b>son</b> 10:22
7:1,7,14	13:9,12,14	remove 11:21	<b>Run</b> 10:20	12:10
<b>pond</b> 9:4,6,12 11:3 13:14	16:1,20 17:12 18:1	repairs 9:25 15:9,10	running 4:16	<b>Sonia</b> 14:15
portion 10:9	protection	replaced	11:23	<b>speak</b> 3:5 11:8
18:19,20 20:2	22:24	13:24	<b>runoff</b> 16:19	<b>spend</b> 4:25
22:25	provided	Reporter	runs 13:8 18:14 23:21	19:18
<b>position</b> 5:25 6:2	8:22	10:11 26:8,16		spending
possibly 19:4	providing 7:1	require 6:25	S	21:18
Prein 4:21	<b>public</b> 3:3 7:2 10:8,9 16:3	<b>required</b> 5:16 7:6		<b>SS</b> 26:3
7:18	18:17,19,20	residents	sand 11:20	standing
preliminary 5:23	19:7,23,24 20:6 21:16,18	9:24 16:1 21:5	secretary 3:22 5:23 6:3,	13:15 standpoint
pretty 4:13	22:24	resolved 9:14	4,7	6:15
Pretty 4.13				

<b>start</b> 6:11 10:14 14:9,22 20:10,24	talked 24:24 talking 16:4	U	<b>who</b> 19:13 <b>wide</b> 15:19
started 8:25 9:2 10:23 20:9	17:1 <b>taxes</b> 19:15	unanimously 22:21 23:12	wife 19:14 woman 14:23
starting 9:12	21:17 <b>tells</b> 8:19	24:13 understand	word 3:4
starts 22:4	tend 21:15	4:9,13 11:25 16:7 17:10	<b>work</b> 24:16
<b>state</b> 3:5,12 26:3,8	tentative 7:19	unique 3:14	working 13:25
<b>stay</b> 13:4	<b>testimony</b> 10:9	unusual	<b>worried</b> 15:8,
<b>sticks</b> 12:15	<b>there</b> 11:9	24:15 upstream	written 10:4,7
<b>storm</b> 6:16 9:2 15:23	<b>thing</b> 5:21 9:23 10:9	15:25	
<b>street</b> 12:3, 23,25 15:16 16:17,19	things 7:3 11:15		<b>Y year</b> 7:9 12:13
<b>stuff</b> 18:13	time 3:1,3	Vandenberg 3:21	19:19
subdistrict 9:7	4:19 5:5 8:7 12:12 13:20 20:9,10 24:22	view 13:21	years 8:1 11:10,19 13:8, 18,23 14:17
subject 4:12	<b>to</b> 12:1,6	<b>vote</b> 6:10 22:14	19:15 20:23 21:20
summary 19:8	<b>today</b> 8:10,15 15:8 16:2		
<b>sump</b> 11:11, 13 13:11,25	24:25 today's 3:10		Z
16:22	Tons 19:15	walk 7:4 walk-out	Zeeland 4:8
support	top 19:22	13:21	
21:23 22:4,10, 11,13 23:5,6,	township	wall 5:3	
17	3:22,24 4:7,8 5:15 6:12 15	<b>Walley</b> 26:7,	
suspect 21:21	5:15 6:12,15, 20 7:5,8 9:23	15 <b>wanted</b> 12:1	
swear 4:15	19:18,23 20:1, 21 21:7 22:24	water 3:20	
5:6,9	24:16	4:10 5:12 6:16 8:9 11:1,6,12	
<b>system</b> 8:19 10:13 16:4	<b>township's</b> 6:15 7:14	12:14,20,21, 22 13:11,15,	
17:14 18:3,7 19:2,4,21	track 6:10	20,25 15:24	
20:9,14,20 21:2,5,13,16,	transcript 26:10	16:21 17:6 18:1 19:6	
24	<b>true</b> 26:10	23:21,24 24:6, 18	
	turn 22:1	Website 3:6	
	<b>type</b> 16:4	welfare 19:24	
taking 24:22	19:20 <b>types</b> 24:14	<b>west</b> 14:8	
talk 19:2	ι <b>γρ<del>εο</del> 24.14</b>	<b>wet</b> 17:7	