1	STATE OF MICHIGAN
2	COUNTY OF OTTAWA
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5	In the Matter of: .
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7	LOVELL PARK DRAIN .
8	BOARD OF DETERMINATION
9	
10	TRANSCRIPT
11	of the proceedings had on Thursday, April 14th, 2016,
12	commencing at 10:00 AM, at 102 West Exchange Street, Spring
13	Lake, Michigan, before David R. Walley, Certified Shorthand
14	Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the County of Muskegor
15	and State of Michigan, acting in the County of Ottawa.
16	APPEARANCES:
17	MR. JOE BUSH, Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner;
18	Jen Vandenberg, Secretary to Mr. Bush;
19	BILL CARGO, Board Chairman; KEN SOUTER, Board Member; and
20	TODD WOLTERS, Board Member.
21	Present:
22	KEN BOSMA, P.E., Engineer
23	
24	
25	David R. Walley, CSR

Welcome to Spring Lake Township. This is a public
hearing for Lovell drain and what that is, we received—
Well, I will start out with the introductions. Again my
name is Joe Bush, the water resources commissioner, also
known as the drain commissioner. Same office, just a
different name. I changed the name back in 2012. I
thought water resources sounded a lot better than drain
commissioner because nobody knew what a drain
commissioner did, but water resources, I think it goes
— fills the void of what we really do and what's the

purpose of Joe Bush and my staff and what we do for the

MR. BUSH: Well, good morning, everyone.

county.

So again we're here to help you and hold this public hearing based on a petition that came from the township with concerning residents and there's been some issues that's been going on in this area for quite some time. So the township authored a petition per the drain code. That's what I work off of. So that's why we're here today to have a board of determination and that is to take that orphan drain that is not one of mine--

I have nearly 900 county drains that I have authority or you can say a watch over that's under my jurisdiction. So it's for maintenance, reconstruction or whatever purpose there may be. That's one of my

functions as a water resources commissioner -- is drain maintenance. This one is not a drain, but it's there, but it's not under my jurisdiction or the township or the road commission.

So people always ask well, who do we contact?

Well, normally if it was a county drain, you would be calling my staff and my office, but this is an orphan.

Spring Lake Township is starting a process of going through and identifying what is the county's jurisdiction and what is an orphan, whose is what.

That's what we're identifying those now and this happened to be the first one we're doing for Spring Lake Township is this Lovell Park drain.

In the process of getting a petition, I get together a board of determination. So I appoint three men, and I will go ahead and introduce these people right now, and these people are not in Spring Lake Township, nor are they affiliated, and we'll have public comment in a little bit if you have questions, but these people have no financial situation in this particular area whatsoever. I picked these. These are appointed by me and that's per drain code. That's per state statute and that's what I go off of -- state law.

So -- and we'll start off by going from right to left. Ken Souter, he's from Port Sheldon Township.

He worked at the road commission for a great number of years and understands drainage; and when I pick a 3-panel board, I try to go off experience, what do they know, how long have they served in public service so they can know both sides and figure out, you know, what's the problem, what's the solution.

They are not here to determine what the project is. They are here to figure out do we move forward with something? And they will hear testimony from you, and when you do talk, by the way, everything is court recorded, so everything is word for word, and that will be on my website, miottawa.org, and you have got to give him about three to four weeks, and we publish it. It will be on my website and, if you don't have Internet or access to it, I can get you a hard copy as well from my office. I will be more than happy to do that.

So in the center is Bill Cargo. He's from Grand Haven Township. He's their manager and then to the left is Todd Wolters and he's the supervisor of Olive Township. So those men have drainage experience and they can hear your concerns or complaints and understand them and work through that. So -- and then we have David. He is the court recorder.

We also have an engineer who I hired to go out

and evaluate it. We're not perfect, so there could be mistakes and that's why we're here to listen to everybody's testimony and say I don't feel this or I don't believe that, but Ken Bosma from Prein and Newhof is here and then Lukas is here from Prein and Newhof.

We have your township engineer in the back,
Kevin Keefe from Prein and Newhoff who understands this
area very well and we have Lukas. He's in the back of
the room. He's from Spring Lake Township, and then
Gordon Gallagher is your township manager, and then Jen
is my secretary from my staff, and she's in the back to
sign you in. So again I appreciate everybody coming
this morning. It's going to be a learning experience
for people who are in this area, I'm sure, and don't be
afraid to talk, speak, disagree, agree. That's why
we're here;

And if you have more information, then that would be great. Sometimes we don't know everything.

Again we've had an engineer out there, but they will do a presentation according to the agenda. Hopefully everybody grabbed an agenda, and once we go through it, everybody will have a say and we'll go from there.

Again I'm neutral, so I can't say I'm in favor of or not in favor of. That's up to this 3-panel board to decide that.

Today we don't necessarily have a project.

When We say "a project", that clarifies does it need to be established under Joe Bush's jurisdiction? Does it need to be an orphan drain anymore? That's kind of what these three men will do today. So not determine do we have a million-dollar project or not. That's not what we're here for.

They are here to determine whether we move forward by everybody's comments. Then we'll put a project together or figure out what we need to do to fix the problem out there or fix -- because there is issues that we know of. So normally sometimes orphan drains have no issues. This one has issues. So it's a little different, but we'll walk through the process and do that. These three men, once they take the oath, I will sit up here and take comments from these three folks, but they will run the meeting.

They will actually elect a chair and secretary, and then they will run this meeting, the hearing, and then they will ask me for a response where I can respond to you guys as well, but just to let you know, I don't run the meeting. This three panel does once we give the oath, and then again we have questions from the audience, but be more than happy to ask those questions during public comment.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Now, will this be available on your website, the presentation, where we can access it?

MR. BUSH: Yes. We can do that, too.

Everything will be available on my website as far as minutes and that any time we have a power point, I would be more than happy to put that in the same way.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: An orphan drain, how do you get one of those? How is it not--

MR. BUSH: We'll get into that in the presentation from the engineer, Ken. Just so everybody knows, Prein and Newhof has been doing a lot of these. We just had one on Tuesday in Grand Haven. We have had multiple ones in Park Township with Prein and Newhof and Holland Township now has 90 orphan drains. To give you an idea, Holland Township has 90 orphans that they want to establish under my jurisdiction, which is a lot.

Some of them big, some of them small, but the thing is nobody owns them, and when you live in a subdivision and have a failing pipe or your basement gets flooded, you can call whoever you want, but people are going to go that's not ours. It's not ours. It's not ours. Well, I'm here to help. It's all about customer service and how we provide that relief for you or that phone number to call in the middle of the night.

That's me to come and help you. So right now, I'll go
ahead and give these three gentlemen the oath and then
they will run the meeting from there. Thank you again
for everybody taking the time and coming this morning
and learning the process.

Gentlemen, please 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 necessity of drainage improvements in a certain drain to be known and designated as the Lovell Park drain in the Township of Spring Lake in the said county as required by law? Gentlemen?

MR. CARGO: I do.

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MR. SOUTER: I do.

MR. WOLTERS: I do.

18 MR. BUSH: Thank you.

19 MR. CARGO: The first item of business is to 20 elect a chairperson. Are there any suggestions?

21 MR. SOUTER: I make a motion that Mr. Cargo 22 serve as chair.

MR. WOLTERS: Support.

MR. CARGO: OK. We have a motion and support.

I do not object, so all in favor, say aye.

1	MR. SOUTER: Aye.
2	MR. WOLTERS: Aye.
3	MR. CARGO: Aye; and opposed, nay. There are
4	no nays, so I will be glad to serve; and I would also
5	make a motion that Ken Souter serve as the secretary for
6	this board of determination. Do I have support?
7	MR. WOLTERS: Support.
8	MR. CARGO: I have support. Any objections?
9	Then all in favor, say aye.
10	MR. WOLTERS: Aye
11	MR. SOUTER: Aye.
12	MR. CARGO: All opposed, nay; and it is all
13	again approved without objection. Typically the first
14	thing we do is we talk briefly about the role and
15	function of the board. I think that that has already
16	occurred. Joe has already kind of gone over that, and
17	so again I want to just emphasize that this board of
18	determination is not going to be looking at solving
19	problems or assessing any costs to solve the problems.
20	It's simply looking at is there a need? Is there
21	necessity for this drain to be brought into the public
22	realm?
23	Right now, there can be no public monies spent
24	on this drain because it's an orphan drain. Simply put,
25	it's against state law for the county drain commissioner

or the township to spend public monies on a private property, and so there are a number of these orphan drains throughout Ottawa County, and many communities are trying to get these orphan drains into the public realm.

For instance, in Grand Haven Township, I'm authorized to spend up to \$10,000 just for typical maintenance on a drain, but I can't spend it on an orphan drain. So if we needed to clean something out, we can't do that if it's an orphan drain not under the county drain commission. Is that a fair summary, Joe?

MR. BUSH: That is, yes.

MR. CARGO: Is that your understanding,

MR. GALLAGHER: Yes.

Gordon?

MR. CARGO: And so that is why we're here today to determine whether this orphan drain should be brought under the county drain code, and throughout this, also, one of the other things, if we determine that this orphan drain should be brought under the county drain code, we'll also make a vote as to whether public dollars from the township should be spent on it. We can say that we believe there's a public purpose and then assess whatever future costs or a portion of those future costs would go to the township. Is that also a

1	fair summary, Joe?
2	MR. BUSH: Along with the road commission and
3	the county.
4	MR. CARGO: Along with the road commission and
5	the county. So that's something else that we're looking
6	at. So not only would this orphan drain be brought into
7	the county drain system, the county drain commissioner
8	would have our authorization to spend both the
9	township's money and the county money, a portion that is
10	allocated by county drain code, on any future project,
11	and the city excuse me the township itself, like
12	we do in Grand Haven Township, could spend money on
13	maintenance, also, through the county drain
14	commissioner.
15	Is there anything else, Ken or Glenn, you
16	would like to add?
17	MR. SOUTER: I also make this motion that
18	public comment be limited to about three minutes per
19	person.
20	MR. CARGO: We have a motion to limit comments
21	to about three minutes per person. We have a motion on
22	the floor. Is there a second?
23	MR. WOLTERS: Support.
24	MR. CARGO: And support. Given that, I will
25	also support that. All in favor, say aye.

1	MR. SOUTER: Aye.
2	MR. WOLTERS: Aye.
3	MR. CARGO: So that motion is also adopted.
4	Again if you have comments that are going to take you
5	beyond that, that is fine, but please let us know.
6	Typically you could summarize War and Peace in less than
7	four or five minutes, so we hope you can summarize your
8	comments because we want to be sensitive to the public.
9	That said, I'm going to start with the
10	township, the county drain commissioner's engineer on
11	this. Now, who is speaking? Is Kevin speaking or
12	MR. BOSMA: I'm speaking.
13	MR. CARGO: OK. Feel free to step forward.
14	This is Ken Bosma, by the way. He's an engineer with
15	Prein and Newhof.
16	MR. BOSMA: Good morning. I'm probably going
17	to stand over here so I can move the computer as well.
18	To start off, I will give you a little bit of history
19	that we have. I guess first of all, let me go back a
20	little bit. I know that the chairman and Joe has
21	addressed a little bit of orphan drains and done a very
22	nice job with that as far as what an orphan drain is.
23	Obviously there is no jurisdiction for maintenance on
24	there.

I will tell you that we're working with

several other different communities in the county on these as well, and just to add to that, some communities are being proactive and changing orphan drains into county drains even before there's any issues in there, and others are identifying there's an issue that arises, and that causes them to find an area which may bring up and changes what is an orphan drain into a county drain. So that's a little bit of difference on some of the thought processes in some of the different townships and that in the county.

Lovell Park here, just a little bit of history. I will show you a picture right after this, but there are several different plats that are involved in this, and you can see that they range from 1891 up to 1988. OK. They just— The district, there's a boundary that we'll identify that encompasses portions of these plats — not necessarily all parts of the plats.

About in the mid 1990s as plats are being reviewed by the drain office, those plats then eventually get into what is called an agreement. They call it a 433 agreement with the Ottawa County Water Resources Commission as they are being reviewed and approved by the state. So today, new plats that come in have these drainage agreements. They don't wind up

having to go through this process. They will already be established as county drains. Prior to somewhere in the middle 1990s, a lot of that didn't happen, and that's whats happening here with Lovell Park, and that's why it's an orphan drain today. It never was established as a county drain.

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I did want to point out, too, that the drain that we identified, the original plat showed it as an open water course in there. There's a section that we'll talk about today that's enclosed. In 1979, a similar thing, a board of determination was started, but never — the whole process never went through such that there was enough evidence in the files at the drain office to determine and it was reviewed through the attorney that all the county drain commissioners use to determine that actually there is no record identifying this as a county drain. So that's why we're starting this process today.

MR. CARGO: Well, that was before Joe -- is what you are telling us. Right? It's not his fault.

MR. BOSMA: Right. So here is the district that we have identified as in this black line, this what we would identify as potentially the county drain that would be turned over to the water resource commission in there, which would be called the Lovell Park drain.

This district is identified by going through the county GIS system, the geographical information system, and it gives us contours to help us define where the high, low spots generally are into the drainage patterns that are there to create the watershed -- OK -- that would contribute into this drain.

So that's defined by that plus whatever construction drawings that we have available, we often use those, too, to help identify different systems in there. So when you ask about what the district may be, that's how it's defined. You can see that along the edge where the lake is, kind of there's a bluff in here and that drains back to the lake. So that's why those areas aren't included.

Just I will bring up real briefly, I think in about 2007, there was some discussion of Lovell Park, they might say, drain, and some discussion maybe on the township level, but that was related to an area here that really drains towards the south. We're not talking about that today.

MR. CARGO: When was the subdivision or the plats established that are included within the Lovell drain again?

MR. BOSMA: They are anywhere from 1891 to 1988 in there you can see in that first line. So-- OK.

So here's the same thing, but it just has the ortho photo underneath so you can identify kind of where the roads are, you can identify some houses in there. I know it's not as clear probably because obviously a lot of tree cover that's in that area, but it just gives you an overall kind of view of that.

What we have found, which I think started a lot of this petition rolling, was there's an enclosed system that begins at Spring Lake and crosses over Lovell Drive here that's an enclosed system, and it actually seems to cross a couple of different properties, but right here about right in the middle, we have an actual collapse of the pipe, and what I'm really just going to show you is a couple of pictures of this in there. I just wanted to give you a little bit of perspective. So if we go back here, you can see what we're looking at here and that circle is about right there.

So this is looking at -- going to the east at the beginning there by the road. This is on the east side of the road, but we're starting -- the culvert is going in this direction kind of on an angle, and then this is the outlet at Spring Lake that we have found, and what we're finding now, the last few pictures I have with the presentation, this will show you some of the

issues; that a video was actually done on this culvert
here and what you will find here is there's some
misalignment.

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This is showing the edge of a pipe here and that. This is showing roots coming in through the joints. This is actually showing a separation at the joint. There's this gig gap. There's some intrusion that's in there. Now, this may or may not be a big issue, depending on how it's patched on the outside, but then here's looking upstream. So we're going from the lake looking towards the street and you can see how the pipe is collapsed in here.

So water is still flowing through there.

People may ask questions. It seems to still be

draining? Yes, water is still flowing through there,

but here's the other part. You can see it's all cracked

in there, but it's going to collapse before long and

it's an issue in there. So that's really-- I think

that's about the end of my presentation, but that's

really why we're meeting here today.

MR. BUSH: Ken, the date on that is 8-20 of '14. So that's fairly recent video camera and we do that very often or we try to do it as much as we can. Put a camera in there, you really see what's happening. You can see your yard will collapse or have something in

1	it, but when you video it, it tells the story of what's
2	going on. So
3	MR. SOUTER: Ken, is there any indication when
4	the portions of drain were constructed?
5	MR. BOSMA: No, other than Let me go back
6	to this. The only thing on the old plats, it always
7	just showed an open water course just going right
8	through here. We don't know when this culvert was
9	constructed. We have no idea when it got enclosed in
10	there, and to be honest with you, the only easement
11	that's actually shown on any of it is right on this
12	parcel right here that we can identify, and the plats
13	are in our files.
14	So there's not much history on any of that.
15	MR. SOUTER: The lower part of it, was that an
16	early or later drain? I mean, the part where it goes
17	into the lake there, is that one of the real older
18	subdivisions?
19	MR. BOSMA: What year was that?
20	MR. HILL: 1891, summer, was the plat.
21	MR. SOUTER: That's one of the older ones
22	there.
23	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is the rest uncovered? Is
24	that what I

MR. BOSMA: Yes, except for up right in here

1	where it crosses Terrace Road. Then there's some
2	enclosed storm sewer here, but
3	AUDIENCE MEMBER: So for the most part, that's
4	a natural drainage and there's two stubs on the end
5	where something was
6	MR. BOSMA: Correct.
7	AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's a natural course?
8	MR. BOSMA: Yes.
9	MR. CARGO: And Ken, obviously natural
10	courses, drainage courses need to be brush needs to
11	be cut back, needs to be sometimes even dredged out. So
12	even a natural course, if it's part of a drainage
13	system, has to be maintained.
14	MR. BOSMA: Right, because like in this case
15	here, upstream, if this is not maintained, you could
16	block where issues of drainage on this road and that can
17	occur.
18	MR. CARGO: I appreciate that. At this time,
19	we're going to begin the public comments section. I
20	always first give the township an opportunity to say
21	anything. Gord, do you have any comments?
22	MR. GALLAGHER: No, I think. Thank you.
23	MR. CARGO: Is anybody here representing the
24	road commission today?
25	MR. BUSH: No. Jerry had another meeting, but

he said he was in favor-- I will speak on Jerry's

behalf. --was in favor of establishing it if you three

men choose to do that.

MR. CARGO: OK. We're going to open the public comment section at this time. I'm going to start from the front row and just kind of work my way back. The only thing I ask is that you state your name and your address and, if you can, identify on this map where your property is. You don't have to, but if you can, that would be helpful to us to understand it, and what we're taking comments on again is to see whether there's a need or a necessity to bring this orphan drain into the system.

We're not going to talk about specific solutions and we're not going to talk about specific costs of those solutions. That's not our purpose.

Given that, I'm going to start with the lady in the purple sweater here on my left in the front. Would you like to speak?

MS. BYLENGA: I would like to speak, but I would like to wait, if I could.

MR. CARGO: No. This is your opportunity. So this is how we're going forward. So I need you to step forward now and speak. By the way, for the record, I want to note that we have not received any letters or

correspondence. So the only comments that will be taken today will be verbal unless somebody hands us a written comment.

MS. BYLENGA: OK. My name is Nancy Bylenga.

I live at 18148 Lovell, which would be this property

right here and I also am a co-owner of the property

across the street that does not have anything on it.

One of the questions I had was what is the standard that
you are going to be applying to this decision?

MR. CARGO: I think the standard is whether there's a need. That's why I talk about need. Is there a drain there? Does the drain need maintenance? Is the drain going to need maintenance in the future? Have there been or are there existing any problems? Those are the type of comments we're looking for. Joe, is there anything else that I should add to that list?

MR. BUSH: No. I think that's pretty much--Basically is the public community concerned, you know?

MR. CARGO: So what we're not trying to do is establish what every property contributes to this drain because every property obviously contributes storm water because it runs downhill. So whether you are at the top of the hill or the bottom of the hill, you are contributing storm water that's going through this drain.

MS. BYLENGA: OK. And the standards that you 1 are applying to make this determination, how do you 2 3 decide what those are, I mean? MR. CARGO: That's what the public comments 4 That's why we are taking public comments right 5 now. We have heard from the engineer. We have heard about why orphan drains are often brought into the 7 drainage system, why there's often a necessity for that, 9 but the public comments also help us determine as to whether there's needs, support and so that's why we're 10 11 taking the public comments. 12 MS. BYLENGA: OK. As you commented before, 13 that the drain works very well right now. It runs 24/7 14 year around, a lot of ground water coming into it, not 15 so much surface water as ground water and is it possible 16 to reline the pipe like you do a chimney flue or 17 something? Is it possible to reline? 18 MR. CARGO: It certainly is possible. Again 19 we are not going to talk about solutions because we're 20 not here to talk about solutions. Yes, you can in 21 certain circumstances put a lining in a pipe. That has 22 happened before. 23 MS. BYLENGA: OK. I realize you are not here 24 to determine all those things yet and is it also 25 possible to just replace part of a pipe?

MR. CARGO: Absolutely; and again, the drain commissioner, the elected official, one of his jobs is to determine what would be necessary in the future if something collapsed and he's looking at cost and benefit. He's not going to necessarily come up with the Cadillac solution. He's going to come up with a solution that he thinks is viable and reasonable.

MS. BYLENGA: Thank you.

 $\mbox{MR. CARGO:}\ \mbox{Next person, name and address.}$

MR. HARTLIEP: Larry Hartliep, 18136 Lovell Road. I'm probably the most impacted by anybody here because I own the property right here that the pipe is going through. So right through my property, the drain starts in my front yard as it comes underneath Lovell Road. I guess I will just add you have really done a good job at defining that this is just a need based on moving forward or not because of anybody here, again I think there's probably more impact to construction and damage and cost to my property as probably anybody because the other property next to me hasn't been built on yet.

I've maintained that drain. I have lived there for 10 years. As Nancy said, it always flows. If I did not keep it cleared out where there's an open section before it goes underground, the older properties

across the street would flood. So yes, that water runs year around. It's always run. I always keep it cleared out. I was very impressed with how clear the drains seem to go, but again it sounds like a good thing potentially if this comes under the commission's responsibility because they will maintain it.

Again I think beyond this hearing today is what's the associated cost and who's going to be responsible, because I do believe that the thing is going to collapse. Maybe it will have no impact to me because I don't have any issues now. Like I said, I have been there for 10 years, but it will impact everybody across the street because there won't be any drain for water there.

Again, to me, the biggest issue that I'm here for, that thing always does run. It is maybe surface water. Maybe there is maybe some surface water, probably a lot of ground water from across the street, but I will be much more of an advocate of how much my impact is going to be once something is determined how are they going to fix this thing. There's a lot of stuff that has to be done and all that. So if that's a later -- a later area, so--

MR. WOLTERS: Are you on the -- 13--

25 MR. HARTLIEP: 18136.

1 MR. WOLTERS: 36. Top one. Got you. Thank 2 you. MR. SOUTER: You are really in the know, the 3 know person on this whole thing because you live right there. 5 MR. HARTLIEP: Yes. 7 MR. SOUTER: Are there any basins or any catch basins that surface water gets into from the road right 9 at your location? MR. HARTLIEP: There is not, not at my 10 11 location. It's above the hill up the street and this 12 gentleman right here has got quite a bit of documentation on where the other drains are, but there's 13 14 no surface drains now that are by me. 15 MR. SOUTER: So this is just a pipe that comes from the other side of the road all the way across to 16 17 the lake? 18 MR. HARTLIEP: Absolutely correct. AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's open right there. 19 20 MR. BOSMA: It's open, yes, right there. I'm 21 sorry. 22 MR. SOUTER: Oh. That's the front of his 23 house? Oh. OK. 24 MR. BOSMA: This here is. 25 MR. CARGO: So there's a little bit of open

1	drain?
2	MR. HARTLIEP: This is what I have to keep
3	clear right there because it flows underneath the road,
4	comes out this middle section. There's the pipe you can
5	see right there. It's got a gray screen so we keep
6	animals from going up there.
7	MR. SOUTER: Was that originally enclosed and
8	it just looks like it was dug out?
9	MR. HARTLIEP: In the 10 years, it's been
10	there.
11	MR. CARGO: It used to be all open, according
12	to the original records. Somebody enclosed it. We
13	don't know when.
14	MR. HARTLIEP: I will make a point there's a
15	concrete pipe coming from the south. So this is south,
16	this is north. In the 10 years with any kind of surface
17	water, nothing has ever come north or south ever, ever
18	in 10 years. So it definitely flows from across the
19	street from the west. Nothing comes north to south.
20	MR. WOLTERS: So we have a culvert going under
21	the road at this point in time. Then it goes to this
22	drain. Correct?
23	MR. HARTLIEP: Yes.
24	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you for taking care of
25	that. Seriously, thank you.

Τ	AUDIENCE MEMBER: What's minimum wage?
2	MR. CARGO: We'll start with the next
3	gentleman.
4	MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, I actually came
5	MR. CARGO: Name and address, please.
6	MR. McLAUGHLIN: My name is Larry Mclaughlin
7	and I live up at the end of Lovell and Terrace in this
8	area right here. I actually came to represent five
9	families that live in the area, and so my comments are
10	reflecting discussions that we have had with a number of
11	people, and I want to thank Lukas for his patience and
12	time in providing data and coming out to look at the
13	properties and help us understand completely how this
14	works.
15	MR. SOUTER: Which five are you representing?
16	MR. McLAUGHLIN: I'm representing these two
17	that are here plus Bob Grunstra and his wife, Eileen,
18	who is here and another family which is not, the
19	Welches, that all of us live along that edge. So trying
20	to understand all this, we have looked around the entire
21	neighborhood and, as all of you know, there's a great
22	deal of water between 168th and Spring Lake.
23	All up behind us, there are three or four
24	lakes. There's a lake on that property that Spring Lake
25	owns. There are all sorts of culverts, ditches, swampy

areas that stand in water. So there's a lot of ground water, and there's surface water runoff, and the Lovell Park area accepts a lot of that as it trickles along and tries to get to the lake. So we understand the need for water management. We agree with that.

The fact is that as already been mentioned, that surface water is really not the problem here. It's ground water. That stream is ground water and Lovell in this area does not contribute surface water to this drain. So we're talking about a ground water issue, flows 24 hours.

MR. CARGO: Does the surface water then become ground water? Do you recognize that the rain enters the ground, becomes ground water?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Clearly; and my point is that it becomes ground water as much as a mile or two west of this area. So when you talk about what is the source of all this, who does it benefit, Lovell is draining many, many, many acres well outside of this circle that's been drawn and I think people understand that and know it, but we all face it. Our lots have underwater drainage that flows up against our seawalls and erodes, you know, roads and sand and everything else.

So the question of public benefit is a

challenge here. Just who is benefiting and it's probably a very large region.

MR. CARGO: One of the -- and again I stated this earlier. One of the things that the board will determine is, if we determine there's necessity, we'll also ask whether there is a public benefit portion that the township should pay at large, that the road commission should pay at large, and that the county should pay at large. So I think that addresses your concern because you are asking to say the boundaries as far as the water that's coming in may be beyond the black line that is drawn, but that's why we also have that second resolution saying if we determine there's a necessity, we'll also make a determination whether there's a broader public benefit.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$ McLAUGHLIN: So is that done through public hearing as well?

MR. CARGO: That's one of the—— One of the motions that this board could make is not only to determine if there is necessity, but to determine that there is public benefit at large so that if, at some point in the future, there is an assessment to maintain this, a portion —— at least a portion would come from these other three communities I just told you.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: All right. That was going to

1 be one of our recommendations; that the board consider 2 that if this is approved, that they relook at this 3 picture in light of what I have said in term of where is it all coming from and who is really benefitting and so 4 forth. 5 MR. CARGO: Absolutely. MR. McLAUGHLIN: So I gave you a hand-out and 7 it probably covers things that I now realize--9 MR. SOUTER: This is your hand-out? Because 10 we haven't seen it yet. MR. McLAUGHLIN: It's out of the scope for 11 12 this meeting, but it contains work that we did, pictures we took, hiked-- We did a lot of hiking through the 13 14 area and makes some points that may be useful now and in 15 the future. So I want to make -- just skip -- not going through that packet in detail, just skip to our 16 17 questions and recommendations. 18 MR. SOUTER: I guess I would like you to, 19 since you have this particular form, can you maybe 20 identify a few of the things that you are trying -- the 21 point you are trying to make outside of the district? MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, the first page makes 22 23 the point of where all those water sources are located 24 between 168th and Spring Lake; that there's a huge

amount of standing water up there and a huge amount of

culverts and channels and all kind of swales—— I guess
I'm using words from the engineers. —that seem to deal
with this. It is a real problem in our area and it's
not just this drain that's dealing with it. There's all
sorts of drains and there are other issues when in
Lovell where we have standing water that can dissipate
very rapidly. So that was the point of that first
chart.

Let's see. The second chart was-- Let me see it. --was -- I think that those are pictures of the stream, and one of the things I would add to the stream is that in addition to it being a natural course that somebody asked for, there are a couple of spots where people have put in pipes between lot lines to manage that stream, and those should be considered part of the system, I assume, to be maintained, and they are not identified on the map although I have pictures of them.

MR. SOUTER: OK. This particularly?

MR. CARGO: I don't think one of the purposes of this is not to look at all these different appurtenances that may exist, private and/or public, within that drainage district because if it becomes part of the county drain system, the county will have responsibility to look at and maintain those appurtenances if they contribute to the drainage

1	district.
2	MR. McLAUGHLIN: Appurtenances, help me.
3	MR. CARGO: Appurtenances are stuff, the
4	swales, the culverts, all those different all the
5	appurtenances, all the
6	MR. SOUTER: Pieces and parts. Pieces and
7	parts.
8	MR. CARGO: They have identified the main
9	drain course. That doesn't mean that every appurtenance
10	within this drainage district that deals with storm
11	water have been identified. That's not the purpose of
12	this meeting. In fact, they are not going to spend that
13	amount of time until they know whether this is part of
14	the county drain system or not. If they do, again one
15	of the motions we also say is they have the right if
16	they find that the boundaries are incorrect, they have
17	the right to modify those boundaries, but we can't do
18	anything until we bring it into the system.
19	MR. McLAUGHLIN: With public input?
20	MR. CARGO: What's that?
21	MR. McLAUGHLIN: With public input or property
22	owner input?
23	MR. CARGO: That would be
24	MR. BUSH: That's why we're here.
25	MR. McLAUGHLIN: When you get to the second

1	step and you say reconsider that boundary, we have an
2	opportunity to weigh in on that?
3	MR. CARGO: You should talk to the township
4	engineer. I'm glad you've been talking to the county,
5	but if you think that the boundaries are incorrect,
6	that's a conversation that you should have with the
7	engineer.
8	MR. BOSMA: Just to clarify, he has contacted
9	us. We have been in some conversations. Probably after
10	this meeting, depending on if it's deemed necessary, we
11	would then meet again out in the field.
12	MR. McLAUGHLIN: All right. Thank you.
13	MR. SOUTER: Can I ask just one quick
14	question? What's the soil types out here?
15	MR. BOSMA: Sandy.
16	MR. SOUTER: Sandy.
17	MR. McLAUGHLIN: While there's sand, which the
18	water permeates fast, there is a clay layer underneath,
19	and that's what the ground water is riding down on its
20	way into the lake, and if you dig down, you will get it.
21	So there are multiple underground rivers in this area
22	besides this one surface where it's surface.
23	MR. CARGO: That's very typical for this area.
24	MR. McLAUGHLIN: All right. So I would like
25	to address something that Nancy brought up. I have a

follow-up question. You stated that the petition must 1 2 identify known concerns for public health, convenience 3 or welfare or need for protection of the public health. So that's the standard that you are weighing this 4 against. I haven't seen any material presented or 5 otherwise that seems to satisfy this. Why is this a public health issue? 7 MR. CARGO: Well, let me-- First of all, I'm 9 not going to get into a debate or discussion because you 10 are right. That is, reasonable people can disagree on 11 that, but for instance, if you know that you have a pipe 12 that's about to fail, and you can show that in this right here, and if that pipe fails and there is no 13 14 mechanism to repair it, isn't that a public health 15 concern? 16 MR. McLAUGHLIN: It's a public concern. 17 MR. CARGO: OK. That's good enough, because 18 to me-- Let's just take this example. If that pipe 19 fails, water can't flow to Spring Lake Township. What's 20 going to happen to that water? Is it going to back up? 21 MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, at one time, it was a 22 natural drainage and--23 MR. CARGO: But you are avoiding the question. 24 The answer is--25 MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, trying to manage it and

1 the management of it is failing. By the way, I'm not 2 against -- I'm not against managing this water. I tried 3 to make that point in the first place. MR. CARGO: But there is no mechanism for you 4 as a private individual to manage this water because 5 б it's not on your property. You understand that? MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, if it's not owned by 7 anybody--9 MR. CARGO: Then it's an orphan. 10 MR. McLAUGHLIN: --why isn't the property 11 owner responsible for a drain that some other person put 12 under there when they bought the property? MR. CARGO: Because that serves a wider area. 13 14 The brief answer is that one piece of pipe that could 15 fail, if it does fail, could affect many property 16 owners, but that property owner that it rides under 17 right now is not responsible for those other property 18 owners because right now, it's a private or an orphan or unknown who even put that in there, but he's not 19 20 responsible to maintain it to the benefit of the public. 21 That's why it's an orphan drain. MR. McLAUGHLIN: OK. Good. 22 MR. BUSH: My comment would be that the 23 24 gentleman that spoke before, for the last 10 years, has

been the best friend for every one of you because he

2 that would be a worse issue. 3 MR. HARTLIEP: The rake's always there. Anybody can use it. MR. BUSH: So we deal with this all the time 5 where leaves are the number one, you know, the number one culprit. 7 MR. McLAUGHLIN: Did I finish what's in the 9 hand-out? There's--MR. SOUTER: I think I understand. 10 11 MR. CARGO: You have a lot of questions in 12 here. I think they are good questions, but really what 13 we're looking at, is there a public need. So that's 14 what we're looking at right now. 15 MR. McLAUGHLIN: Well, I think you have answered Number 2. I think you have answered Number 3, 16 17 why you can't just step up and repair it because you 18 can't spend public money on it. I think an issue for 19 the future is whether that conduit moved, and you are 20 telling me that that's part of the design and solution, 21 and we're not going to deal with that, and the issue 22 potentially of the trees that might be affected by that 23 move.

doesn't have to go out and clean those leaves out and

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question, which is that we can have public discourse

So -- and you have dealt with my last

1 over the allocation of properties through the district 2 post this hearing. MR. CARGO: Post this hearing, there will be 3 an opportunity to continue that discussion. MR. McLAUGHLIN: All right. Thank you very 5 much. MR. CARGO: Thank you. I was really generous 7 with that individual with the time and I hope that he 9 answered or raised most of the questions, but I'm going to be a little bit more strict from this point forward. 10 11 So I'm going to start now in the second row, the 12 gentleman. Do you have any comments? First you on the 13 left-hand side. 14 MR. PITCHER: Can I go ahead and speak on his 15 behalf? MR. CARGO: Yes, you may. 16 17 MR. PITCHER: Father, son. 18 MR. CARGO: OK. And again just name and 19 address and if you identify the property. 20 MR. PITCHER: Sure. My name is Ben Pitcher. 21 As I said before, I'm representing our family. We're at 12 -- or 18126 Lovell, and that is this property here 22 23 just to the north -- or I'm sorry -- south of Larry, and 24 so as Larry mentioned, we are probably the most--25 MR. CARGO: You can direct your comments to

1	us.
2	MR. PITCHER: We are probably the most
3	affected by this. I will start by saying I do believe
4	there's a need here. Attached here is a sketch of where
5	that drain runs, based on my knowledge. The video that
6	you saw, I believe, came from us. Correct?
7	MR. BOSMA: That was your office.
8	MR. BUSH: That's yours.
9	MR. PITCHER: About two years ago, we realized
10	that there was an issue on our property.
11	MR. CARGO: Again, if you could direct your
12	comments to us, I appreciate it.
13	MR. PITCHER: Sorry. About two years ago, we
14	realized there was an issue on our property. Here are
15	some photos. Our foundation started failing and there
16	was a sink hole. I don't have a picture of the sink
17	hole because it has since been filled in, but as you can
18	see, here's where the sink hole was right next to where
19	it was broken and then here's where the foundation issue
20	was that we had.
21	MR. SOUTER: You believe this is the tiled
22	portion?
23	MR. PITCHER: Yes.
24	MR. SOUTER: So the tile then curves?
25	MR. PITCHER: Yes. It's very curved and again

1	it's broken here so it's running downstream. I'm not an
2	engineer. I'm not familiar with water, but I do believe
3	that that water that is seeping out of the damaged
4	portion would have an effect on the soil here as well as
5	our foundation here.
6	MR. CARGO: And a sink hole could easily be
7	caused if you have gaps in the pipe like you are
8	showing. The soil is going to go into that and create
9	sink holes. That's fair, too, right there.
10	MR. WOLTERS: You are 18121?
11	MR. PITCHER: 18126.
12	MR. WOLTERS: 26.
13	MR. PITCHER: Right south of that little
14	MR. WOLTERS: OK. I had you across the
15	street. Wasn't making sense.
16	MR. PITCHER: The straight line that's drawn
17	with the pipe, I don't believe that's 100 percent
18	accurate. One would assume that it's straight, but I
19	don't believe it is, based on the camera that we had run
20	through there.
21	MR. SOUTER: You don't think that the pipe is
22	underneath the house at any point?
23	MR. PITCHER: I don't believe it's underneath
24	the house. Where it's next to the house, I believe it's
25	about 14 feet below surface because again when we had

1 Plummers Environmental run the camera, they gave us an 2 approximate depth. MR. SOUTER: Appreciate it. 3 MR. PITCHER: And I have some more data on that I can provide to you if you have more 5 questions. MR. CARGO: Do you have any additional data? 7 We would be glad to take it if you have it with you 9 right now. MR. PITCHER: I can check. 10 MR. CARGO: You don't have the date-- What 11 12 you are telling us is you believe there's a need because the pipe is failing and it's impacting your property? 13 14 MR. PITCHER: That's correct. 15 MR. CARGO: Thank you. MR. PITCHER: And then I would also like to 16 17 answer a question that you asked earlier or help to 18 answer it. I believe in that video, if you were to obtain the whole video, there is a date stamped on the 19 20 inside of one of those tiles and I think that will help you understand at least what year it was--21 22 MR. CARGO: Do you recall what year it was? MR. PITCHER: --after-- I do not remember. I 23 24 want to say '50s.

MR. BOSMA: 8-20 of '14.

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1	MR. PITCHER: No. I'm sorry. There's
2	actually a date stamped on the inside of one of those
3	tiles physically.
4	MR. BOSMA: Oh. OK. When the tile was
5	made.
6	MR. CARGO: Actually that's interesting, but
7	not critical because whether the pipe was laid last year
8	or 100 years ago, if it's failing, then there could be a
9	need for maintenance in the future.
10	MR. PITCHER: Sure.
11	MR. CARGO: OK. I agree.
12	MR. PITCHER: I believe that's all I have.
13	Did I make it?
14	MR. CARGO: I charged you late. So yeah, you
15	did.
16	MR. SOUTER: Thank you, sir.
17	MR. CARGO: And again in the purple right
18	there; and again please address us.
19	MS. ELLIS: I was just Kristina Ellis.
20	This is my property right here. Most of my a lot of
21	my concerns have been addressed. I'm very aware that
22	it's ephemeral streams that cause a great deal of the
23	wet the wetness in the property. I have very serious
24	concerns about the destruction of the wetland and the
25	environment for the animals, the creatures, the

1 integrity of the property.

I don't know if you are planning on closing
the stream that's already there, the natural flow. I
don't know-- I know these are questions as to whether
or not, once you determine to do this, but I do have
concerns that once you determine to do this, which I
think you already have-- I just have that sense.
--that we will then not be able to be again a part of
the process and I'm very concerned about that. I don't
want to have the water--

MR. CARGO: I think you will be part of the process because if they do decide to do something like enclose the drain, they would inform you. They take comments on that. You can review the plans, and most of the drains in Ottawa County are open drains, and many of them are streams that are only maintained to the point of removing brush that may be blocking the stream from flowing.

MS. ELLIS: Well, that's reassuring because I do have concerns about the integrity of the property and destroying that whole wetland environment which is very delicate.

MR. CARGO: I agree.

MS. ELLIS: Thank you.

25 MR. BUSH: Mr. Chairman, can I add--

1 MR. CARGO: Yes.

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MR. BUSH: --or answer some of her questions?

I do take wetlands very seriously because we have Spring

Lake right there. So I wouldn't want to enclose it. I

try to keep all my open drains as a natural water

course. We would have to get a DEQ permit if we did do

some dredging or dipping out, but I try to do minimal

dredging near wetlands because that's kind of what water

quality benefits to Spring Lake.

So when it comes to trees and stuff like that, they absorb water. So I try to keep as many trees as I can on projects and just so you know what I try to do when I do a new drain project, I try to design them as natural water courses because water always wants to meander. Number one, it slows the water down a little bit before it ever gets to Larry's house. You put it in a pipe, it gets there quicker and then it takes away its water quality purposes and the wetland. I don't want to drain the wetland because there's a lot of habitat in there that would--

MS. ELLIS: Most of it's the kind you get that every-- After we have lived there a couple years, it's just important that you-- I know you did, but it's important to say that out loud.

MR. BUSH: Sure. It's in the minutes and I

1	try to maintain wetlands and try to keep the environment
2	as it is today.
3	MR. CARGO: I think one of the major reasons
4	you changed your name from drain commissioner to water
5	resources commissioner was because of that.
6	MR. BUSH: That's correct.
7	MR. CARGO: We'll go next to the young man,
8	young gentleman in the front. I know you are the
9	alternate. We're going to go to the now to the third
10	row. Any questions or comments?
11	MR. LAUG: I think you are doing a fantastic
12	job setting this all up. I'm curious about where the
13	pond is.
14	MR. CARGO: Could you give us your name?
15	MR. LAUG: Oh. Randy Laug.
16	MR. CARGO: Randy
17	MR. LAUG: Laug.
18	MR. CARGO: And your address?
19	MR. LAUG: 18082 Lovell.
20	MR. CARGO: And are you within the drainage
21	district?
22	MR. LAUG: I'm the last one way on the south.
23	MR. CARGO: OK.
24	MR. LAUG: Yeah, where my water has to run
25	uphill to get to your district, but that's irrelevant.

1	I was curious on the pond area, which is that nine acres
2	owned by the township. Is that wetlands considered by
3	you then that won't be drained out? Because that's a
4	real bad area.
5	MR. CARGO: I don't think the Lovell drainage
6	district as designed by the engineer is not meant to
7	drain out that wetland area that's owned by Spring Lake
8	Township. Is that correct, Ken?
9	MR. BOSMA: We haven't gotten any designs yet,
10	but that would not be our intent.
11	MR. CARGO: OK.
12	MR. LAUG: That's a different drainage
13	district?
14	MR. BOSMA: You are talking to the west?
15	MR. LAUG: Where the pond is.
16	MR. BOSMA: Yes. That is all a different
17	district.
18	MR. LAUG: Different district. Thank you.
19	MR. CARGO: The gentleman next to you.
20	MR. PAPARELLA: My name is Thomas Paparella,
21	18348 West Spring Lake Road. It's up here and I'm not
22	here to debate need. I'm just asking the question on
23	why my property is included. To my knowledge, the
24	surface water drains to the north to the lake. I know
25	there is a low spot there, but it's my belief that it

either drains from the surface or it does go down
approximately four to five feet and hits hard pan and
drains out the bluff to the north to the lake.

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MR. CARGO: And I think that's a good question to ask. What we're doing is I suspect the engineer -- and Ken, you can confirm this. They go based on the elevations or elevation surveys and, since we know that water flows downhill at the surface, that's what we're basing this on. If you disagree with that, you will have the opportunity to talk to Ken and see if the property should be removed.

Obviously the back portion of your property drains directly to the lake. That's why it's not included. The question on the front, I think you should direct towards Ken.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$ PAPARELLA: OK. At another time or at this--

MR. CARGO: Not right now during public hearing, but he will be remaining here after the public hearing because again we will make a motion to add or remove properties from this drainage district based on the recommendation of the engineer and the drain commissioner.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ BOSMA: I would just make one point, if I may, and that is one thing we have got to look at as

well, it seems like at this time of year, that's

correct, but we also have a lot of times in the

wintertime when ground is specifically frozen and it

acts like an impervious layer. That's how wide we look

at surface direction.

MR. PAPARELLA: If I may comment, my low area

does dry out very rapidly after a rain. Typically it

goes dry. It's not standing water year round. So again

I believe that it goes to the north.

MR. CARGO: And if you can show that, I think that's a good thing to have. One thing we do know is water flows downhill. That's engineering 101. So that's why they follow the contours of the land.

MR. PAPARELLA: Thank you.

MR. CARGO: Next gentleman.

MR. NEUSIIS: I'm Tom Neusiis and I'm the neighbor of Tom Paparella. I'm at 18460, the lot here. The same concern about the inclusion within that boundary in that after 16 years, there's been zero water problems on my particular properties. The house itself doesn't even have a sump pump and I do, as Tom, we kind of share that between our driveways this low area. April showers tend to fill it and, when they stop, it then runs out to the lake.

As you heard some of the other lake

1 homeowners, there's a shelf where it will have constant 2 water draining out, whether that comes from a spring 3 somewhere or, you know, that drainage, I'm sure, both applies to that. So the concern again that I have is 4 the inclusion. 5 MR. CARGO: OK. I appreciate that. Now, just as a question of curiosity, do you have a driveway, is 7 it asphalt or is it hard surface asphalt? 9 MR. NEUSIIS: It's asphalt. It's built up. MR. CARGO: Does it drain towards the road at 10 11 all or does it drain away from the road? 12 MR. NEUSIIS: No. It drains all to the lake. MR. CARGO: OK. Ken will be able to take a 13 14 look at that later. I appreciate that. 15 MR. NEUSIIS: Thank you. 16 MR. SCHROEDER: I'm Mark Schroeder, 18159 17 Lovell, across the street from the lake. I just have a 18 question. Obviously the questions about the inclusion 19 of the boundary is the concern and that you alluded to 20 public money being spent, but I assume there's also 21 assessments for the property owners. Is that correct? 22 MR. CARGO: There is no annual assessment for 23 the property owners. The only time you would be 24 assessed as a property owner is if there was a major 25 project. I'm going to speak on behalf of Spring Lake

1 and I'm going to ask that Gordon correct me if I'm 2 wrong, but typically does Spring Lake Township 3 contribute to normal maintenance of these if it's below a certain percent or certain dollar figure or do you assess even normal maintenance to the property owners? 5 MR. GALLAGHER: No. Generally for larger projects, it's on an assessment basis, but for small 7 normal maintenance, we have taken care of those. 9 There's a dollar figure there in our annual budget that's--10 MR. CARGO: And that's very typical for most 11 12 communities. They won't even assess normal maintenance. 13 For Grand Haven Township, I have the authority to spend 14 10,000 before I have to go to the board, and that's 15 normally enough to clean out drains, to do minor 16 projects, and again, though, Spring Lake Township can't 17 spend any public money even on normal maintenance for 18 this unless it's part of a public drain. Is that fair? 19 MR. SOUTER: That's fair. 20 MS. ELLIS: Would this be considered a major 21 project? 22 MR. CARGO: At this stage, I don't know. 23 mean, I don't think it's-- Nothing sounds-- I don't 24 see anything here to me that sounds that significant, 25 but again--

1 MS. ELLIS: Fair enough.

2 MR. CARGO: --I'm not going to get involved in 3 this at this stage. Now I'm going to the right over 4 here, the gentleman in the blue shirt.

MR. GRUNSTRA: OK. I'm Bob Grunstra. We live at 16093 Terrace, which is this triangular lot right there. No comment, but I guess I would say, first of all, Larry and Larry and Nancy addressed it. We were one of the five families. So the only thing I would say is that observation is where our home's located, Larry's next door to us. The water flows off our driveway at the base and, right at the corner of Lovell and Terrace, it tends to pool in this area right here, and then I think it percolates through the soil and comes back on the hard pan, and it runs back to the lake this way. I don't think we go this way at all.

This here is lower than this right here and, if you have the GIS, those are 2-foot increments, and since it's downhill, two foot is quite a bit of difference in that. So I would get more accurate GIS readings on that, but my comment is Larry had mentioned it briefly, but the other thing we have observed in this area here as well is we have quite a bit of erosion that can happen behind our seawalls. All right, and it goes down there, and it just flows on that hard pan and pops

2 I just state it for what it's worth. The rest 3 of the comments, I think, were pretty well already addressed. MR. CARGO: Appreciate it. And immediately 5 б adjacent? AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm with him. 7 MR. CARGO: OK. We'll go across to the 9 gentleman in the fourth row back on the right. Actually I was going to go with you. Yes. That's correct. 10 11 MR. ERICKSON: Me? 12 MR. CARGO: Yes. MR. ERICKSON: All right. My name is Alan 13 14 Erickson. I'm here with my wife, Audna, and we own the 15 two properties that -- 18088 and 18092, and Ken, I would 16 strongly suggest you look at the elevation there because 17 from Lovell Road, it flows all the way downhill into 18 Spring Lake on our properties. We have owned them for 19 10 years and we have never had an issue there; and then 20 point of clarification. Is the project you are looking

out and flows there.

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to the pipe?

MR. CARGO: Again I want to make it clear. We're not looking at a project. We are looking at whether this should be brought into the county drain

at just the circled portion where there has been damage

system. That is what our question is here today. Is there necessity to bring this into the county drain system?

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MR. ERICKSON: The other thing I would just point out, that if you decide to put this into the system and if you're trying to look at what it's going to take to repair that pipe, I would also look at the root cause of what created the failure in that particular area, because it looks like the pipe is flowing well, based on comments from residents who are there. So it's very localized. So there's something that's created that issue right in that spot.

MR. CARGO: OK. Next. OK. Down to the back.

MR. DERCK: My name is Rob Derck and I'm at 18274 Kristina Court. This is my house here and then I own that vacant lot. I have done some homework, took some pictures. A lot of this water is pools from the blueberry farm here and there's a ditch along the road about six foot wide and two foot deep. It wants to flow out here, up here and through here. There's a new house that was built right here. I think they put an undersized culvert. Actually they used about an 8-inch PVC.

There's been a ton of erosion. I'm a licensed contractor. They used no silk cloth or erosion control.

There's about four culverts that are completely clogged. As of this morning, the water is still over the top of the culverts. So it can't escape up there. So a lot of that water is coming this way. This is all low and wet and then out right about here, we have all this water coming out of the ground.

My estimate is probably 80 percent of the water that's going here is ground water, compared to what I can see coming out of this pipe and I don't know where this pipe comes from, but the water comes here, goes this way and down here, it works its way out. I have got a map here. One concern about this pipe, too, is all the discharge is orange. I don't know if that would be an iron pipe or— That there again, thanks again for cleaning that spot out. He's got a grate of a gas grill on there that kind of protects it.

I shot some elevations. This is never going to dry out. As far as you're concerned, Kristina, about wetlands, there was a log about 10 feet back from the pipe that goes under the road, and I pulled it up, and there was a surge of water. The pipe handled it and then it just kind of resumed back to its normal flow.

I was against this before I walked in here, but given what I know and potential failure, I'm kind of for it now. I think that's about it

1 MR. CARGO: And your house again is— Have
2 you had any flooding on your house or are you concerned
3 about flooding with your house?

MR. DERCK: No. I'm way high.

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MR. CARGO: You are way high. OK.

MR. DERCK: But I do have this where all the natural runs through here and I do have—— I took a couple of 18-inch PVC or corrugated drain pipe so I have a little path on here and here where I can walk through that natural, but the biggest concern is to try to get rid of some of this water that's working it's way through the ground because, like I said, about four of these culverts, as of this morning, the water was still a foot over the top of them.

The new house, the driveway, there's probably a foot and a half of erosion underneath the new cement. Their culvert pipe, I think, is undersized. It's just a little white 6- or 8-inch diameter pipe and this could probably be cleaned out a little bit on Taft, too, because the water comes here and it comes here and goes out.

MR. CARGO: And a quick question for Gordon.

Immediately to the -- I guess that would be on the map,
the area that he's talking about, is that part of an
established drainage district or not?

1	MR. GALLAGHER: No; and in fact, we have had
2	some discussion about whether or not we should be going
3	through that same process. The pond that you see there,
4	if I understand it correctly, tends to drain to the
5	south almost to the corner of that lot and then
6	there's I will just step up here.
7	MR. DERCK: The pond drains right here and
8	that's one of the pictures. It's straight that way.
9	MR. GALLAGHER: OK. I was under the
10	assumption and this is low in here as well that
11	there's another drainage course that comes down here,
12	but that's
13	MR. DERCK: Right. A lot of this does go
14	But on Kristina's property, she is getting this ground
15	water, you know. Everybody wants it to go that way,
16	whether it's The majority of it is all surface water.
17	Do you have any idea why that's all orange, that
18	discharge coming out of here?
19	MR. BUSH: Looks like iron.
20	MR. SOUTER: Iron oxide.
21	MR. BUSH: Iron oxide.
22	MR. CARGO: And I don't think we even have a
23	camera to see what was within those pipes there, but
24	MR. DERCK: I was surprised up here, this
25	actually flows this way and tries to get out to Taft and

1 then all the pools from the blueberry patches, which is 2 a huge amount of water, it's just hung up right now 3 because it can't get through. MS. ELLIS: Because of that house. MR. DERCK: Because of that new house and the 5 culverts being cleaned out. MR. CARGO: There may be a need for the county 7 and the drain -- township and the county drain 9 commissioner to take a look at that. Now, what you have 10 heard today early on is it's not unusual for these older 11 established platted areas not to have drains, which 12 makes it difficult to address these type of concerns that are being raised by you. So it sounds like that's 13 14 also an orphan drain to the other side of this. 15 Appreciate it. MR. DERCK: Through here? 16 17 MR. SOUTER: No. North of Taft. 18 MR. DERCK: Here? This is all just a ditch. 19 All it needs is to be cleaned out. There is a pipe 20 under the road. 21 MR. CARGO: And that's something the road 22 commission may be able to do, too. I would talk to 23 Gordon before you leave here today and ask him to ask 24 the road commission to look at possibly cleaning out

that county drain and also ask them, if it's undersized,

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1	to put in a larger culvert. That's something that again
2	the township and the road commission can work on
3	together.
4	MR. DERCK: OK. The majority of the problem
5	is these just need to be cleaned out.
6	MR. CARGO: And that's something
7	MR. DERCK: Do you have a spec when a new
8	house is being built as far as what's going underneath?
9	MR. BUSH: If you don't mind me answering
10	that, Mr. Chairman, the road commission usually gives
11	out right-of-way permits for drive culverts and they are
12	supposed to spec them out or inspect them after they are
13	installed. I don't think that happens sometimes over
14	the years or people just fill in their ditch because
15	they don't like They put their leaves in it because
16	it's convenient.
17	I mean, it's a variety of things, but I will
18	contact the road commission. Jerry is usually at all
19	these BODs, but he's not here today, but I will contact
20	him.
21	MR. DERCK: Who is in charge of soil erosion?
22	MR. BUSH: That would be me, my department.
23	MR. DERCK: OK. Typically when I pull a
24	building permit, I have to use soil silk mesh or
25	whatever.

1	MR. CARGO: Sometimes a single-family home,
2	because of the size, they are not required to do that.
3	MR. DERCK: Yes, they are.
4	MR. BUSH: Well, yeah, they are.
5	MR. CARGO: Apparently for wetland, there is?
6	MR. BUSH: If it's near a wetland or over such
7	an acre, so many feet near a drain. There's a criteria.
8	Sometimes people don't want to get Again if you
9	didn't get a road commission permit to put a culvert in,
10	they probably didn't get a soil erosion permit, either.
11	They just filled it. Sometimes that happens. They
12	slide through and then this is what happens. We end up
13	with issues.
14	MR. CARGO: Appreciate it. Thank you. And
15	MR. DERCK: Those pictures, do you want them?
16	MR. CARGO: Yes, please.
17	MR. ROLF: My name is Mike Rolf. I live at
18	18098 Lovell and that is just north of the little Lovell
19	Park Road on the lake side and
20	MR. CARGO: OK.
21	MR. ROLF:I know we had supposedly a
22	100-year rain a couple of years ago and no water
23	problems down there. I'm next to Ericksons and Laugs
24	and the south end there doesn't have any water issues,
25	just for information.

1	MR. CARGO: Appreciate it. And the gentleman
2	next to you?
3	MR. TEITSMA: I'm Jim Teitsma. I live at
4	18338 West Spring Lake Road and again question whether
5	or not that property should be in the district. It
6	appears or the boundary, you said, was built or
7	determined by land contours?
8	MR. CARGO: They use a land contour map. Is
9	that correct, Ken?
10	MR. BOSMA: The county's land contour map.
11	Yes.
12	MR. TEITSMA: And is that visually examined
13	then, too? You go to the property and find out or just
14	rely on the contour map?
15	MR. BOSMA: Yes, as best you can, but as you
16	know, you stand sometimes in the area and sometimes it
17	looks a little bit different as well, but yes, we rely
18	on lot of that and go out there and visually look. Now,
19	again maybe there's some changes in there and that's why
20	we're willing to meet with property owners afterwards
21	and double check that as well. So
22	MR. TEITSMA: There is a drain under Lovell
23	there, apparently?
24	MR. BOSMA: Yes.
25	MR. TEITSMA: Under Terrace Road?

1	MR. BOSMA: Yes, there is.
2	MR. TEITSMA: OK. That drain is clear right
3	now and that's where the orange water is coming from?
4	MR. BOSMA: Yes, but I don't know where that
5	goes to.
6	MR. TEITSMA: That drain is a corrugated kind
7	of PVC pipe, and I looked at it the other day, and it
8	connects to the manhole cover that you popped up on the
9	north side, and it goes along the lot line right over
10	here and pops up right behind that lot line right over
11	there. Yeah.
12	AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's open on the other
13	side then?
14	MR. TEITSMA: It's open on the other side, but
15	it doesn't look like it's iron from what I can see. So
16	I don't know where
17	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Open on both ends?
18	MR. TEITSMA: Well, no. The one end goes into
19	the catch basin right on Terrace. There's a catch
20	basin There's a catch basin here, there's one here,
21	there's one here, and there's one there. There's four
22	of them that are connected there.
23	AUDIENCE MEMBER: There are pictures in the
24	hand-out I gave you of those.
25	MR. CARGO: And it's also clear on the map

here. I can see those catch basins are marked on the
map.

MR. TEITSMA: And then the only other comment that I would have is that if and when this gets reconstructed, that there be some containment or remediation device at the end of the drain before the water goes into Spring Lake to catch any debris that might be coming through there. Spring Lake has got enough difficulties without having extra.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Larry has a grill cover.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Are you going to lay that

out?

MR. CARGO: OK. Next?

MS. LARSEN: My name is Katrina Larsen. I'm at 18113, which is the south end of your boundary right above an empty lot. Our concerns would be that our backyard is 100 percent of the time completely saturated and unusable. It's squishy 100 percent of the time. I might be one of the only ones here from that side. Our neighbor to the north, his backyard is the same way. The next neighbor up, most of the backyard is the same way.

I would want to be completely sensitive to the wetland that we can see beyond our property and our neighbor to the north does have some cattails and things

1 that are growing in his backyard, but we are concerned 2 about the water levels in our backyard. MR. CARGO: Do you feel as if the wetland has 3 increased in terms of the level of water that you are experiencing in your backyard? 5 б MS. LARSEN: We have been there for two years. It's been at the same level both summers. 7 MR. CARGO: OK. 9 MS. LARSEN: So it's just basically unusable. MR. CARGO: Appreciate it. OK. Next? 10 MR. KOSTER: Jim Koster. I'm with the Spring 11 12 Lake Township board. I'm just here to listen to the 13 comments. MR. CARGO: OK. Kevin, I know you don't have 14 15 any comments. Next? 16 MR. MIERLE: Larry Mierle. 17 MR. CARGO: Oh. Larry. Nice to see you. 18 MR. MIERLE: Also on the township board, just 19 observing. 20 MR. CARGO: I appreciate it. At that stage--21 Lukas, anything? MR. HILL: No, sir. Thank you. 22 MR. CARGO: At that stage then, we have taken 23 24 comments from all of the public. So without objection,

I will close the public portion of this hearing. Is

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1	there any objection to closing it?
2	MR. WOLTERS: No objection.
3	MR. SOUTER: No objection.
4	MR. CARGO: We will close the public hearing
5	at this time and begin discussion among ourselves.
6	Glenn, I will start with you. Do you have any questions
7	or comments that came out of what you heard today?
8	MR. WOLTERS: From what I see, we have a fair
9	amount of properties that are relying on the tile that's
10	coming through where we have damage there. Knowing what
11	I have been through in the past where one owner may have
12	an issue or may have cause on their property and stuff
13	and it affects a lot of other people, there's not a lot
14	of avenue besides putting them into a district unless
15	the owner wants to go through and take care of it
16	himself, you know. Typically that's not the case.
17	My judgment on this is I think it should be
18	probably put into a drain district due to the fact he
19	say, she say it would be a lot easier for the
20	maintenance of this line and everything else.
21	MR. CARGO: Ken, what do you have to say?
22	MR. SOUTER: I guess I'm about at the same
23	point as has been commented here. The drain is there,
24	the drain is working, but the drain has got some
25	problems, and a lot of the comments that I see that we

heard is well, maybe my water doesn't get into it or maybe somebody else's water doesn't get into it, but rain comes down evenly on every piece of property that we have in the district. So that water has got to go someplace and to determine where that water is going is going to be Ken Bosma's problem and not ours. I mean, he's got to satisfy people that their water is actually getting to the drain if there is such an assessment.

So I really truly believe this thing has got to get into somebody's jurisdiction; that if there's a problem, that tile fails, somebody's going to take the heat and that's going to be Joe over here. So I'm to the point here saying that we should have a drain. We have a drain, but we need it under somebody's jurisdiction.

MR. CARGO: I think it's obvious that somebody took a lot of time to try to direct the water in this district to Spring Lake. I would have a concern with, if I was the private property owner who has been maintaining this, if he did anything further, he could even have some liability. If he dug it up to replace it after it collapsed without it going through the public process and it damaged his neighbor's property, there could be liability there. So by not putting it in the public, you are creating a potential civil litigation

1 matter in the future if anybody tries to repair it.

Now, the other question, of course, is would they even have the right to go on his property to repair it? If you don't put it into a public drain, then you also have that issue. If you don't allow it to drain out here, the flooding problems or the high water table problems that have been expressed by some of the people in their backyard would only be exacerbated and so because of that, I think there is a public purpose; one, to avoid any potential liabilities; two, because if it does fail, that's going to make the matter much worse for the people who are abutting the existing wetlands right now.

Those wetlands would expand quite a bit, I would suspect. I think that's a fair summary. Ken, would you disagree with anything that I'm saying there? I'm saying that because if you do, then I wanted to know that. Based on that, I agree that this orphan drain should be brought into the county drain system so that the public at large and the people within the district specifically can have maintenance done to this drainage district if at some point it needs it in the future.

Based on that, I'm going to make a motion that the proposed Lovell Park drain as petitioned on October 12th, 2015, is necessary and conducive to public health,

2 MR. WOLTERS: I will support. 3 MR. CARGO: We have a motion on the floor and support. Is there any further discussion that needs to 4 occur? Ken, are you comfortable? 5 MR. SOUTER: I'm comfortable. MR. CARGO: Then all in favor signify by 7 saying aye. 9 MR. SOUTER: Aye. 10 MR. WOLTERS: Aye. 11 MR. CARGO: Opposed, nay. And so it is passed 12 without objection. The second thing I'm going to do is I'm going to make a motion as to the at-large assessment 13 14 for municipalities in the drain as the drain has been 15 found necessary. So I will make a motion the proposed 16 Lovell Park drain is necessary for the protection of 17 public health in Spring Lake Township and that a portion 18 of the costs should be assessed to Spring Lake Township 19 at large. Is there support? 20 MR. SOUTER: I'll second that. 21 MR. CARGO: Because I am making a motion that 22 future costs, a portion of which would be assessed to 23 Spring Lake Township, does Spring Lake Township support 24 that?

convenience and welfare. Is there support?

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MR. GALLAGHER: We do, but I just -- I want to

be careful, too, because the board probably feels the same way as the property owners do. It depends on what a future project would look like and what the cost of those, but I understand that's a decision for a future meeting. I think the township has generally paid a portion of those costs. I think those have generally been around 20 percent of the overall cost and we would be supportive of that.

MR. CARGO: Hearing that, they are supportive of this motion, also. All in favor say aye.

MR. SOUTER: Aye.

MR. WOLTERS: Aye.

MR. CARGO: Opposed? And there's no opposition, so that also passes without objection. I would encourage the drain commissioner to examine more closely, now that this has been brought into the county drain system, the boundaries to make sure that the elevations are correct, and I would also encourage Spring Lake Township to have a formal policy put in place so the people can expect -- know what to expect with regards to normal maintenance.

I'm not talking about a major project, but the normal maintenance, I think that would be a good policy to have. That said, is there anything else anybody on the board wants to say?

MR. SOUTER: Other than that, we really appreciate the comments out here and the work that people did on this particular issue so we can find out exactly what's going on.

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MR. CARGO: I agree. I think the comments have been more detailed than you normally find at board of determination hearings. So I appreciate that. Then without objection, I'm going to see if there's any appeals process that you want to discuss.

MR. BUSH: No. I just wanted to go ahead and say thanks, everybody, for taking your morning to come here and give your voice and your knowledge because that helps us. The reason somebody would probably think well, Joe, why didn't you do the research before you got here with my engineer and the contours, you know? Why the contour thing? Well, I just want to make it clear this board could reject what we proposed or whatever we do and then I'm stuck with an engineering cost going.

So I don't want to spend a lot of money on engineering. We do enough to get what we got and then come up with a district and then we can always make a motion to go out and change the district if we need to, the boundaries, with some of the property owners' comments today. So you know, I don't want to go out and spend tons of money and then this board determine it not

1 necessary and then I'm stuck with the cost.

So I try to keep it minimal and be very conservative, but yet you have got to have something to go off of. So I appreciate everybody's comments for Ken, my engineer, to go out and do some more research now and we can redefine it and make changes as necessary. So again I thank everybody for again taking the time. I appreciate that. Thank you.

MR. CARGO: Joe, before we adjourn, I had a quick question as to policy or procedure. I seem to recall that in the past, we have also adopted a motion authorizing you to expand or change the boundaries as you determine necessary.

MR. BUSH: I see that's not on there. They did change the form on me. So we need to make that motion.

MR. CARGO: I'm going to make another motion.

I apologize. I said I was going to make this motion and

I suddenly realized I had not. I'm going to make a

motion that the county water resources commissioner has

the authority to add or subtract properties from this,

based on the recommendation of the engineer. Is that

the proper form of the motion, Joe?

MR. BUSH: I would say that is correct.

MR. WOLTERS: Support.

1	MR. CARGO: OK. I have support from Glenn.
2	MR. WOLTERS: Todd.
3	MR. CARGO: Todd. I'm sorry. I've been
4	calling you Glenn this entire meeting.
5	MR. WOLTERS: Just not late for supper.
6	MR. CARGO: That's embarrassing. I just
7	realized I've been calling him Glenn through this entire
8	meeting. I apologize. So I will embarrassingly ask all
9	in favor say aye.
10	MR. SOUTER: Aye.
11	MR. WOLTERS: Aye.
12	MR. CARGO: Opposed?
13	MR. WOLTERS: One question. The previous
14	motion, was there is there supposed to be a motion to
15	the road commission as well potentially for their share
16	outside of Spring Lake or is that
17	MR. CARGO: I think that's determined actually
18	through state law where they will take a look at the
19	part of the impervious land that's included in this, and
20	they have a calculation, and I think the same is true
21	for the county that they are
22	MR. BUSH: By state law. Road commission by
23	state law.
24	MR. CARGO: But because the township doesn't
25	have a responsibility by state law, we just imposed it

Τ	on them. So they can thank us for that later. Fair
2	enough? And I apologize. All in favor, say aye.
3	MR. SOUTER: Aye.
4	MR. WOLTERS: Aye.
5	MR. CARGO: To adjourn. Thank you very much
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4	STATE OF MICHIGAN)
5) SS. COUNTY OF MUSKEGON)
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8	I, David R. Walley, Certified Shorthand
9	Reporter (CSR-2718), County of Muskegon, State of Michigan,
10	do hereby certify that the foregoing Pages 1 through 71,
11	inclusive, comprise a full, true, and accurate transcript
12	of the proceedings taken in the matter of Lovell Park Drain
13	Board of Determination, on April 14, 2016.
14	
15	
16	David R. Walley
17	Certified Shorthand Reporter
18	
19	April 25, 2016
20	APIII 23, 2010
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