

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, HELD ON  
THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018

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THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018

Chesterfield, Missouri

March 8, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Board of Directors of the Monarch Fire Protection District of Saint Louis County, Chesterfield, Missouri, met at the Administration Building, of said District, 13725 Olive Boulevard, in the City of Chesterfield, County of Saint Louis, on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in an Open Board Meeting. At the above time and place the following Officers and Directors were in attendance.

Rick Gans - President/Chairman and Director  
Jean Millner - Secretary and Director  
Robin Harris - Treasurer and Director

Also present: Deputy Chief Nick Harper  
Asst. Chief Les Crews  
Atty. Matt Hoffman

A quorum being present, Director Gans called the meeting to order and announced the Board of Directors meeting to be in session for the transaction of any and all business to be brought before it at this time.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

7:00 P.M.

DIRECTOR GANS: Call to order the Open Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection District Board of Directors.

Would you all please rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance?

(Whereupon, all persons joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, after which time, the following proceedings were had.)

DIRECTOR GANS: Approval of Agenda.

Are there any additions or other changes to the Agenda?

DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have none.

DIRECTOR HARRIS: I believe we have posted a possible Closed Meeting.

DIRECTOR GANS: That is posted.

DIRECTOR HARRIS: I do have information. It -- it's not something on which we'll be voting, but it's information I think the Board needs to hear, this evening, I just received a bit earlier.

And it will be public in another week. So.

DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. So, then,

1 we'll have a Closed Meeting, as a part of this  
2 Open Meeting.

3

4 I'm going to add, under New Business,  
5 "Newsletter."

6 And that's the only change I have.

7 Moving on to Citizen Comments.

8 There probably aren't any comments,  
9 since there are no citizens.

10 So, we'll move on to the President's  
11 Report.

12 I like to periodically give a brief  
13 update on what's going on at Central County.

14 And, sometimes, it's nothing all that  
15 significant, but I think it's important just to  
16 remind the other Directors that, that is our 911  
17 Dispatch Agency, but, even beyond that, we're one  
18 of five owners of Central County 911.

19 And Central County dispatches the  
20 vast majority of fire and EMS departments and  
21 districts, in St. Louis County and, also, in other  
22 counties, it does some work.

23 So, the report is brief, this time,  
24 as -- as it has been before.

25 The turnover at Central County, in

1 the past year, has been what I would term  
2 moderate.

3 It seems, when Central County was a  
4 smaller agency, that no one ever left. And, of  
5 course, that's a good thing, having the experience  
6 and the continuity is important and was valuable.

7 The agency has grown quite a bit, so  
8 we're three times-plus the employees, that  
9 responded in more turnover.

10 And there has been.

11 So, the agency went through its  
12 hiring list in a very quick time. A very short  
13 time. And the -- we're going for another hiring  
14 list, now.

15 So, it's -- it's seem -- it's seeming  
16 that we're turning over about two dispatchers a  
17 year. Some who were there a short time and some  
18 of them there a moderate amount of time.

19 We haven't lost any of the real  
20 seasoned veterans, who were probably there through  
21 the duration of their working career.

22 The other change is a turnover in the  
23 financial advisor to the pension.

24 For many years, the financial  
25 advisory was Greg Stewart and the agency went

1 through a bidding process and hired, then, Larry  
2 Gwin who has a company.

3 And they're actually based out of  
4 Utah.

5 With a -- an agreement that they  
6 would appear at meetings in St. Louis, as needed.  
7 But, that they felt that they could manage this  
8 from Utah.

9 One of our other owning entities uses  
10 them and I cannot remember which it is, and they  
11 said it works out fine, with today's  
12 communications, devices, they'll either hold web  
13 meetings and communicate by video and, of course,  
14 y email, the -- and -- and phone.

15 It's no longer as important to have  
16 someone in town, but, if any of the employees wish  
17 to have personal conversations, if they can't be  
18 accomplished by phone, then the opinion is that he  
19 would come to town, as needed.

20 That doesn't mean all the time, but,  
21 he would -- he would respond and -- and be in  
22 town.

23 And, then, finally, the by-laws call  
24 for quarterly meetings at Central County.

25 Through the years, they have moved



1 back and forth between quarterly meetings,  
2 meetings every -- every other month, and we've  
3 gotten into a rotation, now, of meeting monthly.

4 And we have been doing that now for  
5 about six months. The meetings are fuller and we  
6 find that we're probably able to work more  
7 efficiently with meetings every month.

8 So, we're pretty much in a routine of  
9 meeting now, every month and it's -- this has  
10 worked well.

11 So, if there's no questions about  
12 Central County, I will conclude the President's  
13 Report and turn it over to the secretary for her  
14 report.

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: All right. Thank  
16 you.

17 Let's see. I have a bid for --

18 DIRECTOR GANS: Wait, wait, wait.

19 DIRECTOR MILLNER: -- for -- hold on  
20 a minute.

21 Okay. I have a bid for LED lighting  
22 at House One.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: And --

24 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: And so it's  
25 (not understood) for your vote, --

1 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Oh.

2 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: -- that bid  
3 was received on time.

4 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thank you.

5 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: And, it has  
6 been sealed, since that time.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Thank you.

8 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Okay. I've been  
9 instructed I'm going to have to turn away from the  
10 microphone.

11 Okay. Okay, this bid is from -- is  
12 it Aschinger?

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: That is  
14 correct.

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aschinger Elec-  
16 tric.

17 A-s-c-h-I-n-g-e-r, Electric.

18 This is in-service.

19 Okay. And the amount of this bid,  
20 \$37,888.00 and no cents.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: And is that bid for  
22 all of House One, Engine Bay, sleeping quarters,  
23 --

24 DIRECTOR MILLNER: All of the  
25 exterior fixtures to be replaced with new LED

1 fixtures and bollards be retrofitted with LED and  
2 drivers.

3 All of the interior fixtures to be  
4 replaced with new LED fixtures and LED "graver"  
5 and drivers guaranteed for 120 months from the  
6 date of installation.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

8 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: So the  
9 answer to your -- it is a combination of interior  
10 and exterior with the intent to "probably" replace  
11 the existing lights.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: I will be curious how  
13 this LED project goes.

14 I just replaced the third and forth  
15 or forth and fifth LED light bulb at -- at my  
16 house for bulbs that are supposed to last and  
17 guaranteed to last --

18 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Hm-hm.

19 DIRECTOR GANS: -- for -- if not ten  
20 years, maybe, seven years.

21 And, LED technology hasn't even been  
22 around for seven years.

23 The good thing is, each of the  
24 manufactures; there were two, has immediately sent  
25 a new bulb at no charge.

1                   One of them asked for the bad bulb  
2 back. They said, "We'll repair it and I'll send  
3 you a new one."

4                   Yeah, sure.

5                   But, the point of that is, is that  
6 they're supposed to be energy efficient. And I'm  
7 not questioning that they are, but, I'm finding  
8 that they don't have anywhere close to the life  
9 expectancy that they advertise.

10                  And, as long as we have warranties,  
11 like that, it's not our problem.

12                  DIRECTOR HARRIS:       Well, I think,  
13 part of that is, they'll have a disclaimer that  
14 would tend to how -- it's based on how many hours  
15 per day.

16                  And, in a fixture, like our's, where  
17 it's no doubt running, on some of them, 24 hours  
18 a day, if we can guarantee those for ten years,  
19 I'm delighted.

20                  DIRECTOR GANS:     And that's a good  
21 point. The one I just sent back, this week, had  
22 a seven year 40,000 hour; and I don't know what --  
23 I don't one's equal to the other.

24                  I think 40,000 hours is probably --  
25 now I'm getting a calculator.

1                   The good thing was, it had only been  
2 a little over two years and it hadn't even been  
3 40,000 hours since I bought it.

4                   So, there's been less than half,  
5 which I guess tells me that'd be about four years.  
6 Forty --

7                   DIRECTOR HARRIS:     Actually, that  
8 40,000 would be a little over four years.

9                   DIRECTOR GANS:     Right.  So, -- and  
10 you -- you a raise a good point that the guaranty  
11 is strictly based on time passage, rather than  
12 hours of use, that's even better.

13                   Now, enough.  Enough, where we've  
14 labored this point that I'll be interested to see  
15 how it turns out.

16                   So, you have a bid that's been  
17 opened.

18                   DIRECTOR MILLNER:    Yes.  And I do  
19 the instruct, or you instruct?

20                   DIRECTOR GANS:     You instruct.

21                   DIRECTOR MILLNER:    Okay.  Okay, I  
22 would like to now instruct you to review the bid,  
23 --

24                   ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS:   Okay.

25                   DIRECTOR MILLNER:   -- and then return

1 a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

2 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: I will do  
3 so.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: Thank you.

5 DIRECTOR MILLNER: You're welcome.  
6 Okay. Next, I have Minutes.

7 I would like to move for the approval  
8 of the Open Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2018  
9 and February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the  
11 motion.

12 Any discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

18 Motion passes three to nothing.

19 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I would, also,  
20 like to move for the approval of the Closed  
21 Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2018 and February  
22 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the  
24 motion.

25 Any discussion?

1 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.  
2 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?  
3 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.  
4 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.  
5 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.  
6 Motion passes three to nothing.  
7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have nothing  
8 further.  
9 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Thank you.  
10 On to the Treasurer's Report.  
11 DIRECTOR HARRIS: We have disburse-  
12 ments in the amount of \$116,520.06 for the period.  
13 We have six checks over \$5,000.00.  
14 Check number 40873, Paychex of New  
15 York, LLC, in the amount of \$5,342.32.  
16 Check number 40886 to Sleep Number  
17 Corporation, in the amount of \$9,438.72.  
18 That would be for 28 mattresses for  
19 House One.  
20 Check number 40861 to Mediclaims in  
21 the amount of \$9,246.49. That is the January  
22 billing.  
23 Check number 40833, EKON Benefits and  
24 that was in the amount of \$5,810.00 and no cents.  
25 And it's annual allocation 147

1 reports.

2 Check number 40866 to Montgomery Bank  
3 in the amount of \$7,221.99.

4 And, well, there's a -- a lengthy  
5 list of charges for the Montgomery Bank card.

6 And, last, check number 40825 to  
7 Bound Tree Medical, LLC, in the amount of  
8 \$8,450.15.

9 And that is for EMS supplies.

10 Are there any questions?

11 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have none.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Well, I did -- I did  
13 send my questions, as I always do, by email.

14 And then I did receive a response  
15 from Michelle, with some supportive help. Some  
16 documents.

17 And I -- I note that there were a  
18 large number of questions, again, this time, I  
19 think based on the fact that we didn't meet in the  
20 last week, so there were more checks than normal  
21 and there were more questions.

22 I guess, the -- all the questions  
23 were answered.

24 The one thing I pulled from this is  
25 a effort is needed, again, to have our venders



1 direct bill us, when possible.

2 That is, rather than charging things  
3 on our credit card that can be billed and paid for  
4 by check.

5 I find it preferable, as we all know,  
6 I find it preferable to use the credit card as  
7 little as possible.

8 I know it's convenient and there's  
9 times when you can't do it any other way, but,  
10 there were a couple of things on there that I  
11 would hope that we can investigate and find the  
12 companies will -- will bill us and it doesn't have  
13 to go on the credit card.

14 So, those are all my comments about  
15 the check run.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And all of my  
17 questions were answered via email.

18 In reviewing these disbursements,  
19 they appear to be reasonable and necessary in the  
20 conduct of the District's business.

21 Chief Crews, were these checks  
22 prepared per your recommendation?

23 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Yes, sir,  
24 they were.

25 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Do they violate

1 any state bidding statues or constitute  
2 installment payments?

3 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Not to my  
4 knowledge.

5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I make a motion  
6 that we accept the disbursements as prepared.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: I'll second the  
8 motion.

9 Any further discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

12 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

15 Motion passes three to nothing.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Just one quick  
17 comment.

18 Shortly after the Civil War started,  
19 the USS Meramec was in dry dock in Virginia where  
20 it was scuttled by Union troops before they  
21 retreated.

22 The Confederate forces refloated the  
23 ship with a salvage crew.

24 They made it the first Ironclad and  
25 renamed it the CSS Virginia.

1           A short time later, in 1862, it went  
2 up against numerous ships from the Union and,  
3 well, it reeked havoc with those wooden ships.

4           And, what is noteworthy about it,  
5 actually, is that it was basically sealing the  
6 fate of wooden Navy's as the entire world would  
7 start quickly moving into Ironclads.

8           They -- Union ships actually hit the  
9 CSS Virginia nearly 100 times to little effect.

10          It reeked havoc among those wooden  
11 ships, as it could, basically ignore their fire.

12          In a way, they're -- the USS Monitor  
13 met with the CSS Meramec and I believe it was a  
14 draw, but that was actually the first battle  
15 between Ironclad's.

16          And, again, the advent of a new day  
17 for Navy's around the world.

18          And that concludes --

19          DIRECTOR GANS: I have a question.

20          DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yes.

21          DIRECTOR GANS: You used the term  
22 "scuttled," --

23          DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yes.

24          DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- to do --

25          DIRECTOR HARRIS: To scuttle a ship

1 is to render it unuseable.

2 So, they actually, while it was in  
3 serve -- in a -- an area where it was not deep in  
4 the ocean, because it was in for repairs, they  
5 would have done damage to it, so it would sink, as  
6 best they could do that.

7 They did not set fire to it.

8 Sometimes, that would be done, but,  
9 the salvage crews were able to save it, refloat it  
10 and they added armor plate which made it virtually  
11 invulnerable to the small weapons of the day.

12 I mean, they -- against wooden ships,  
13 they were highly effective, but not against the  
14 Ironclads.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: Which leads me to a  
16 question pertaining to the Fire District.

17 Have we given any thought to  
18 scuttling 2297?

19 (General laughter.)

20 DIRECTOR GANS: I notice it was towed  
21 in for a transmission problem. It's a reserve  
22 ambulance.

23 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Yeah.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: And with the number  
25 of 97, I figure it's at the bottom of the call-up.

1 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Right. That  
2 vehicle's a specialty vehicle that we use here,  
3 but the answer to your question is that it's going  
4 to on the auction block, here, real soon.

5 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. So, scuttling  
6 -- "my" experience, it sounds like.

7 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: No.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So you  
9 concluded your report.

10 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: I extended it, so  
12 let's move on to the Chief's Report.

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: I have two  
14 items, this evening. Both are RFP's.

15 The first one being for the "Epoxy  
16 Floor at House Four."

17 And, just to let you know the area,  
18 it's going to be the kitchen and the dining room  
19 and the hallways that serve the day-room side of  
20 that facility.

21 We're gonna ask to go out for bid at  
22 a 30 day bid process.

23 The second one, if you want me to  
24 lump 'em together, --

25 DIRECTOR GANS: No.

1 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: -- or do  
2 you want to keep them two separate motions?

3 DIRECTOR GANS: We -- we have to do  
4 'em one at a time.

5 So, I will make a motion to go out to  
6 bid for a epoxy floor at House Four, with a 30 day  
7 bid period.

8 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.

9 DIRECTOR GANS: Discussion?

10 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Quick question.  
11 I believe that was in our budget?

12 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Yes, it was.

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: That's all my --

14 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: That was one  
15 of the capital items in 2018 budget.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I thought it was.

17 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Yes.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. So we have a  
19 motion. We have a second. We've had discussion.

20 If there's no further discussion, I  
21 will call for the question.

22 All in favor?

23 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

1 Motion passes.

2 We -- we'll go out to bid.

3 Continue.

4 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: And the  
5 second item is the request for a proposal to go  
6 out to bid for turnout gear.

7 Again, this is a line item in the  
8 budget. I'm not for sure the exact number that  
9 we're looking at now. They're -- they're re-  
10 tallying that.

11 But, it's been some time since we've  
12 out to bid for our (not clear) firefighting gear  
13 and the committee got together and put together a  
14 set of bid specifications, so we're ready to go  
15 out to bid.

16 And, we're gonna ask for that 30 day  
17 bid process, as well.

18 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Are these replace-  
19 ments, or will the second set, or a combination?

20 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: It will be  
21 a combination. A combination of both.

22 Some of 'em will be that new set and  
23 then the other one will become that second set.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. I will  
25 make a motion to go to bid for turnout gear, with

1 a bid -- with a number to be determined, and by  
2 the committee, with a bid period of 30 days.

3 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: Any discussion?

5 (No response.)

6 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

8 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

9 Motion passes three to nothing.

10 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: And that's  
11 all I have this evening. Thank you.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Thank you.

13 Attorney's Report.

14 MISTER HOFFMAN: I do not have a  
15 report this evening.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

17 On to New Business.

18 It's been about five months, I think,  
19 since we last started producing our news letter,  
20 or last news letter, so I would like us to begin  
21 the produce of producing the next news letter.

22 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Okay.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

24 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: We will do so  
25 and I guess the Board will their -- their Board-



1 thing?

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Yes.

3 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Okay.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: And -- and -- and,  
5 maybe, you'll remind us, also.

6 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Okay.

7 (Light chuckles.)

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Even though I'm  
9 bringing it up, reminders are always helpful.

10 All right. Any other New Business?

11 (No response.)

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Hearing none, any  
13 Unfinished Business?

14 (No response.)

15 DIRECTOR GANS: Hearing none, the  
16 tentative agenda of this meeting tonight calls for  
17 a Closed Meeting, pursuant to Missouri Revised  
18 Statute 610.021, One, Legal Actions and Advise;  
19 Two, Purchase of Real Estate; Three, Personnel  
20 Matters; Nine, Employee Groups Negotiations;  
21 Thirteen, Personnel Records and Nineteen,  
22 Security.

23 Do I -- I make a motion to go into  
24 Closed session.

25 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.

1 DIRECTOR GANS: Discussion?  
2 (No response.)  
3 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?  
4 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.  
5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.  
6 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.  
7 Motion passes three to nothing.  
8 We are going into Closed session and  
9 when we are finished, if there are any votes  
10 taken, they will be announced afterwards.  
11 We are now in recess and off the  
12 record.  
13 (Whereupon, at 7:20 P.M., the Board entered  
14 into a Closed Meeting, after which time, at 7:43  
15 P.M., they returned to the Open Meeting as  
16 follows.)  
17 Director Gans announced there were no  
18 votes taken during the Closed Meeting. He then  
19 made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by  
20 Director Millner.  
21 The motion passed by a vote of three  
22 to nothing.  
23 (Whereupon, at 7:44 P.M., the meeting was  
24 adjourned.)  
25 {REPORTERS NOTE: *The transcribed Minutes*

1     *taken by Attorney Hoffman are attached to the*  
2     *Minutes of March 8, 2018 and may be seen at the*  
3     *District Headquarters.}*

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STATE OF MISSOURI            )  
  ) SS  
COUNTY OF ST. CHARLES    )

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Virginia L. Long, Notary Public and professional court reporter, within and for the State of Missouri, County of St. Charles, do hereby certify that there came before me at that time and in that place first aforesaid, those persons and matters herein described and has been transcribed into typewritten form, to the best of my ability, and is now herewith returned.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 8th day of March, 2018.

My commission expires June 23, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public within and  
for the State of Missouri

**MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**OPEN MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING DATE MARCH 8, 2018**

(After the Closed Meeting of the Board of Directors, the Open Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection District is resumed as follows.)

Director Gans states that the Board of Directors is back on the record in the Open Meeting at 7:43 p.m. following a Closed Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection District.

Director Gans also states that no votes were taken during the Closed Meeting.

Hearing no other District business, Motion by Director Gans to adjourn the Open Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection District. Second by Director Millner. All in favor.

Director Millner – Aye

Director Harris – Aye

Director Gans – Aye

(3-0 vote)

The Open Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection District for March 8, 2018, is adjourned and off the record at 7:44 p.m.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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Director Gans, President

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Robin Harris, Treasurer

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Jean Millner, Secretary

(Transcribed by Mathew E. Hoffman)