STATE OF ILLINOIS )
COUNTY OF BUREAU )

In the Matter of the Petition

of

Providence Heights Wind, LLC

Indiantown Township and Milo Township Bureau County, Illinois

Testimony of Witnesses Produced, Sworn and Examined on this 13th day of January, A.D., 2025, before the Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals

## Present:

Mike Stutzke Shirley Ann Smith Bill Jensen Troy Quest Barry Welbers, Chairman

Samantha Holt, Secretary Kristine Donarski, Zoning Administrator

Judge Timothy Slavin, Facilitator

JUDGE SLAVIN: Alrighty. I call out of recess Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals hearing on Petitions Number 24-24-09-03-1C sequentially through 24-09-03-39C, Providence Heights Wind, LLC's, applications for Conditional Use Permits to retrofit and operate a wind energy conversion system here in Bureau County.

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Today is Monday, January 13th. I note the presence of the following: all honorable members of the Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals, including its Chair, Mr. Welbers; its Vice Chair, Mr. Quest; Mr. Jensen, Mrs. Smith, and Mr. Stutzke.

I note the presence of Ms. Donarski and her able assistant, Samantha -- her technically astute assistant; attorney for the Petitioner, Chris Massie; I see a number of Petitioner's representatives present; the court reporter is present; himself is present; and I see, I believe, three Interested Parties here in attendance.

Tonight is the fifth session for these applications, and we are still in the ZBA's

fact-finding and recommendation stage, and we're ready to begin.

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The first order of business is that it's been pointed out that I missed -- in a proposed motion, used the wrong word when talking about the collection cables -- the length of the collection cables and their combined length. I had "not more than three miles" and the transcript revealed that their witness said "approximately three miles."

So I am proposing an amended motion to delete the words "not more than" and substitute the word "approximately" in front of "three miles."

It's displayed on the screen here in the hearing room. And I will take a motion to amend Number 7.

MR. WELBERS: I would move to make the amendment.

JUDGE SLAVIN: And do I hear a second?

MS. SMITH: I'll second that.

MR. STUTZKE: Second.

JUDGE SLAVIN: I hear a motion and a second.

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Anything you want to say about your own 1 motion, Mr. Welbers? 2 MR. WELBERS: No. Just, the clarification 3 4 is proper. JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Any other Board 5 members? 6 7 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 8 9 I'll put the question. The question being put is on the amendment to the motion that's already 10 been passed to substitute the word 11 12 "approximately" for the words "not more than." All in favor of amending that motion, 13 14 indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 15 responded.) 16 17 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 18 Now, under Robert's Rules, JUDGE SLAVIN: 19 the pending motion becomes the displayed motion 2.0 with, indeed, the words "not more than" crossed 2.1 out and "approximately" substituted. 22 23 All in favor of adopting that motion indicate by saying aye. 24

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(All those simultaneously 1 2 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 3 (No verbal response.) 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: Motion is adopted. 5 All right. Let me save that. And we'll 6 7 pick up where we left off, and I think it's 57 but we're going to find out. 8 9 It's actually 58. All right. This is the point at which I 10 11 sort of suggested to you honorable members of the ZBA that it would be up to you to read and 12 decide which words you wanted to use in these 13 14 important conclusory motions. So the floor is yours. 15 MR. WELBERS: I would move that the Bureau 16 17 County ZBA finds that the establishment, 18 maintenance or operation of the proposed Conditional Uses will not be detrimental to or 19 endanger the public health, safety, moral, 2.0 21 comfort or general welfare. JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 22 23 MR. STUTZKE: Second. I'll second. MS. SMITH: 24

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JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a second. 1 2 Mr. Welbers, anything you want to say about your motion? 3 No, sir, there isn't. 4 MR. WELBERS: JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 5 (No verbal response.) 6 7 Hearing none, seeing none, JUDGE SLAVIN: I'll put the question. The question being put 8 9 is on the adoption of the motion as Mr. Welbers has read it and it's displayed on the board here 10 11 in the hearing room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 12 the majority. The vote will be by voice. 13 14 those in favor indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 15 16 responded.) Opposed by nay. 17 JUDGE SLAVIN: 18 (No verbal response.) The motion is unanimously JUDGE SLAVIN: 19 adopted. 20 21 Next. I would move that the Bureau 22 MR. WELBERS: 23 County ZBA finds that the proposed Conditional Uses will not be injurious to the use and 24

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enjoyment of other property in the immediate 1 vicinity for the purposes already permitted nor 2 substantially diminish property values within 3 the neighborhood. 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 5 MR. STUTZKE: Second. 6 7 JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a second. Anything you want to say about your own 8 motion, Mr. Welbers? 9 MR. WELBERS: No, sir. 10 JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 11 12 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 13 14 I'll put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the motion as proposed by 15 Mr. Welbers and displayed here on the board in 16 17 the hearing room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 18 the majority. The vote will be by voice. 19 those in favor indicate by saying aye. 20 2.1 (All those simultaneously responded.) 2.2 23 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 24

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JUDGE SLAVIN: The motion is unanimously adopted.

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The floor is back to you folks.

MR. WELBERS: I would again move the
Bureau County ZBA finds that an agent of the
Applicant testified that, other than, perhaps
during construction, there would not be any odor
associated with this proposed retrofit project.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second?

MR. JENSEN: I'll second that.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a second.

Anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers?

MR. WELBERS: No, sir.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing no hands raised, I'll put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the motion as just read by Mr. Welbers and displayed here in the hearing room.

Adoption of the motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. All those in favor indicate by saying aye.

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(All those simultaneously 1 2 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 3 (No verbal response.) 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: Once again, I find the 5 motion adopted. 6 7 Back to you folks. MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA finds 8 9 that the Applicant indicated that, if its Applications were approved, it may require the 10 use of adequate locally distributed electricity, 11 12 but its water needs would be minimal and the appropriate aforementioned findings deem access 13 14 roads, drainage and necessary facilities to also be adequate. 15 JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 16 17 MR. STUTZKE: Second. 18 JUDGE SLAVIN: Heard a second. Anything you want to say about your 19 motion, Mr. Welbers? 2.0 2.1 MR. WELBERS: No, there isn't. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 2.2 23 (No verbal response.) Hearing none, seeing none, JUDGE SLAVIN: 24

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I'll put the question. The question being put 1 is on the adoption of the motion as Mr. Welbers 2 read and is displayed here in the hearing room. 3 Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 4 the majority. The vote will be by voice. 5 those in favor indicate by saying aye. 6 7 (All those simultaneously responded.) 8 9 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed. (No verbal response.) 10 Motion is adopted. 11 JUDGE SLAVIN: Back to 12 you all. MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA finds 13 that the developer promise that the --14 promised -- the developer promised --15 JUDGE SLAVIN: Promised, I got it. 16 MR. WELBERS: -- that the eventual Road 17 18 Use Agreement would provide that the construction and operation of the proposed 19 retrofit project would not interfere with the 20 21 safe movement of traffic in the area. JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 2.2 23 MR. JENSEN: I'll second that. JUDGE SLAVIN: Anything you want to say 24

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1	about your motion, Mr. Welbers?
2	MR. WELBERS: No, there isn't.
3	JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member?
4	(No verbal response.)
5	JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none,
6	I'll put the question. The question being put
7	is on the motion read by Mr. Welbers and
8	displayed on the board, with the correction of
9	making it past tense, "promised."
10	Adoption of the motion requires a vote by
11	the majority. The vote will be by voice. All
12	those in favor indicate by saying aye.
13	(All those simultaneously
14	responded.)
15	JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay.
16	(No verbal response.)
17	JUDGE SLAVIN: Motion is once again
18	adopted.
19	I'm going to propose this motion. It sort
20	of didn't fit in the well, it doesn't matter.
21	You don't care.
22	I propose the Bureau County ZBA finds
23	that:
24	There was evidence that there was no,

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sorry -- there was evidence that the 1 unincorporated platted community of Providence, 2 Bureau County, Illinois, exists; but 3 There was no evidence throughout the 4 process of the existence of anyone with the 5 authority to act on behalf of said Providence; 6 7 and The governing Ordinance's newer setback of 8 9 2,640 feet from unincorporated and platted communities and rural subdivisions was not in 10 effect at the time the existing, and proposed 11 unchanged, tower was erected in 2006; and 12 The advance of wind energy would leave 13 behind the continued financial viability of the 14 Providence Heights facility; and 15 The proposed retrofit would not 16 17 meaningfully alter the character of the area. Okay. Would somebody like to make that 18 motion? 19 MR. QUEST: So moved. 2.0 2.1 JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a motion. Do I hear a second? 22 I'll second it. 23 MS. SMITH: JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Mr. Quest, anything 24

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you want to say about your motion? 1 2 MR. QUEST: Nothing further. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 3 4 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 5 I'll propose -- I'll put the question. 6 7 question being put is on the adoption of the motion proposed by Mr. Quest and displayed on 8 9 the board here in the hearing room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 10 The vote will be by voice. 11 the majority. All 12 those in favor indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 13 14 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed? 15 (No verbal response.) 16 17 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, motion is 18 adopted. All right. Back to the next proposed one, 19 and it's on the board. I open the floor. 2.0 2.1 MR. WELBERS: Therefore, the Bureau County ZBA finds that granting all of the requested 22 Variances: 23 Would not be contrary to the public 24

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interest; and 1 Would not -- would alleviate an otherwise 2 unnecessary hardship by a literal enforcement of 3 the Ordinance; and 4 Would be -- observe the spirit of the 5 Ordinance; and 6 7 Would do substantial justice; and It would be an extraordinary and 8 9 exceptional situation which would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties 10 11 upon the Applicant. 12 I think I said it the way I think it should be. 13 14 JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Why don't you take a look on the board while I'm fooling around with 15 16 grammar here. 17 MR. WELBERS: I think that's correct. 18 JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Do I hear a second? 19 I'll second that. MR. JENSEN: 2.0 2.1 JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers? 22 23 MR. WELBERS: No, sir. I think I have it. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board 24 Okay.

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1	member?
2	(No verbal response.)
3	JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none,
4	I'll put the question. The question being put
5	is on the adoption of the following:
6	Therefore, the Bureau County ZBA finds
7	that granting all of the that's why I'm
8	reading it all of the requested Variances.
9	Would not be contrary to the public
10	interest; and
11	Would alleviate an otherwise unnecessary
12	hardship by a literal enforcement of the
13	Ordinance; and
14	Would observe the spirit of the Ordinance;
15	and
16	Would do substantial justice; and
17	Would be an extraordinary and exceptional
18	situation which would result in peculiar and
19	exceptional practical difficulties upon the
20	Applicant.
21	Adoption of the motion requires a vote by
22	the majority. The vote will be by voice. All
23	those in favor indicate by saying aye.
24	(All those simultaneously

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responded.) 1 2 JUDGE SLAVIN: All those opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 3 Thank you, all five of you. 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: That was the most difficult of the ones I think, 5 at least to think through. 6 7 The floor is open. MR. WELBERS: I think the next one we 8 9 should talk about just a little bit. It cites all the Variations specifically that we're going 10 to ask, but it -- you know, if the Applicant 11 does not obtain setback Variations --12 Now, they had testified they would; is 13 Is that the recollection? 14 that correct? JUDGE SLAVIN: Board members, I think he's 15 asking down the table. 16 17 MR. WELBERS: Well, at any rate, if they don't have waivers, then I guess this -- I'll 18 make this motion on that assumption that they 19 will have them. But if they don't, here's what 20 21 it would say: Accordingly, the Applicant -- if the 2.2 23 Applicant does not obtain setback waivers, the

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Bureau County ZBA denies all the requested

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Variations --1 And then we would go on and read all the 2 rest of this? 3 JUDGE SLAVIN: Well, I think so. 4 MR. WELBERS: I'll read it. 5 As to four nonparticipating properties' 6 boundary lines for which the center of the base 7 of the tower proposed to be retrofitted would be 8 9 inside the 480-foot setback for a WTG, to wit: Application Number 24-09-03-6CV for Parcel 10 ID Numbers 21-17-100-004 and 21-17-100-006, a 11 12 Variance of 6.6 feet; and Application Number 24-09-03-17CV for 13 Parcel ID Numbers 25-10-200-002 and 14 25-10-200-003, a Variance of 7.8 feet; and 15 Application Number 24-09-03-23CV for 16 Parcel ID Numbers 25-15-100-009 and 17 25-15-100-008, a Variance of 13.2 feet; and 18 Application Number 24-09-03-35CV for 19 Parcel ID Numbers 21-08-300-005 and 20 21-08-300-008, a Variance of 41.1 feet; and 21 As to five WTGs for which center of the 22 23 base of the tower proposed to be retrofitted

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would be inside the 2,640-feet setback of the

boundary of the unincorporated platted community 1 2 of Providence, to wit: Application Number 24-09-03-4CV for Parcel 3 ID Numbers 21-17-100-005 and 21-17-100-006 is 4 2452.9 feet a Variance of 187.1 feet; and 5 Application Number 24-09-03-5CV for Parcel 6 7 ID Numbers 21-17-200-009 and 21-17-100-006 is 1,704 feet, a Variance of 936 feet; and 8 9 Application Number 24-09-03-6CV for Parcel ID Numbers 21-17-100-004 and 21-17-100-006 is 10 2,334.5 feet, a Variance of 305.5 feet; and 11 12 Application Number 24-09-03-7CV for Parcel TD Numbers 21-17-301-007 and 21-17-301-004 is 13 862.9 feet, a Variance of 1,771.1 feet; and 14 Application Number 24-09-03-8CV for Parcel 15 ID Numbers 21-20-251-003 and 21-20-251-004 is 16 17 1362.6 feet, a Variance of 1,277.4 feet. 18 JUDGE SLAVIN: Before I hear a second, let's -- and it's absolutely your discussion. 19 I'm just pointing out something. 20 2.1 If -- you suggested that this -- deny requested Variances if they don't get a waiver 22 23 for the Providence Heights. From where are they going to get a waiver? From whom? 24

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MR. WELBERS: Well, they're not. There's no one there. So then we need to amend that and just let it go.

I think for the -- I believe for the adjoining landowners, I believe that they would have those. No one objected. So yes, you're absolutely right. Usually we -- you know, if someone -- Variation -- yeah, it has to be amended. Rambling on here.

Yes, there is no one to give it for Providence. So accordingly, we grant them.

So I'll request that the Variations are granted that I just read because there isn't anyone to talk about Providence, and I believe they have testified that they had it covered for all of the landowners that were involved.

JUDGE SLAVIN: I'm not sure that was the evidence, but. . .

So it really fits into two categories: the ones they can get Variances for, and the ones that it's virtually impossible. Right?

MR. WELBERS: Virtually impossible for Providence --

JUDGE SLAVIN: Not "virtually." It's

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actually impossible. 1 2 MR. WELBERS: It is impossible, right. There's no government in Providence. 3 JUDGE SLAVIN: 4 So if you want to do that, let me just propose before there's a second --5 let me just think this through. 6 7 MS. DONARSKI: Can I ask a question? Would it work to say "if the Applicant is 8 9 unable"? JUDGE SLAVIN: Well, you talk to those 10 guys while I'm doing this. 11 That's fine. 12 MS. DONARSKI: Okay. JUDGE SLAVIN: So, Mr. Welbers, would you 13 14 agree that the first part of your motion stands, "as to four nonparticipating boundary lines"? 15 MR. WELBERS: Okay. 16 And then the rest -- would 17 JUDGE SLAVIN: 18 I be correct to say the rest of your motion is: And the Bureau County ZBA -- I got a comma 19 there. 20 2.1 And the Bureau County ZBA grants the requested Variances for the following five WTGs 2.2 23 for which the center of the base of the tower proposed to be retrofitted would be inside the 24

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2,640-feet -- foot setback of the boundary of 1 the unincorporated platted community of 2 Providence, to wit: 3 Application Number 24-09-03-4CV for Parcel 4 ID Numbers 21-17-100-005 and 21-17-100-006 is 5 2452.9 feet a Variance of 187.1 feet; and 6 7 Application Number 24-09-03-5CV for Parcel ID Numbers 21-17-200-009 and 21-17-100-006 is 8 9 1,704 feet, a Variance of 936 feet; and Application Number 24-09-03-6CV for Parcel 10 ID Numbers 21-17-100-004 and 21-17-100-006 is 11 12 2,334.5 feet, a Variance of 305.5 feet; and Application Number 24-09-03-7CV for Parcel 13 ID Numbers 21-17-301-007 and 21-17-301-004 is 14 862.9 feet, a Variance of 1,771.1 feet; and 15 Application Number 24-09-03-8CV for Parcel 16 ID Numbers 21-20-251-003 and 21-20-251-004 is 17 1362.6 feet, a Variance of 1,277.4 feet. 18 Does that, combined with the first 19 section, comprise your motion, Mr. Welbers? 20 21 MR. WELBERS: I think that's consistent with the way we usually look at Variations here 22 23 as a Board. So, yes, I like it. JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 24 Okay.

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MR. JENSEN: Second. 1 JUDGE SLAVIN: Mr. Welbers, you said 2 something, but now's your chance to say anything 3 4 more about your motion. MR. WELBERS: No, we have covered it. 5 JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Any other Board 6 7 member? (No verbal response.) 8 9 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, I will put the question as read and confirmed by 10 11 Mr. Welbers, and I am not going to read it all again. It's being displayed here on the board 12 in the hearing room. 13 14 Adoption of the motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. 15 All those in favor indicate by saying aye. 16 17 (All those simultaneously 18 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 19 (No verbal response.) 20 21 JUDGE SLAVIN: Motion is adopted. All right. I said the other one was not 2.2 23 complicated, but. . . 24 All right. Now I propose -- I open the

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floor for the next proposed motion. 1 2 MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board to approve 3 all of the requested Conditional Use Permits. 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. As soon as I correct 5 the rest of it, you can take a look at the 6 7 board. All right. Mr. Welbers, take a look at 8 9 the board. Does that look like it to you? MR. WELBERS: Approve all the following --10 11 approve all of the requested Conditional 12 Permits. So there's --13 14 JUDGE SLAVIN: Does that look right, is all I'm -- look like your motion? 15 MR. WELBERS: Yes, it does. You drew a 16 17 line through that; I see it now. Yes, yes, it 18 does. JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Do I hear a second? 19 MR. STUTZKE: Second. 20 2.1 JUDGE SLAVIN: Anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers? 22 23 MR. WELBERS: No. Any other Board member? JUDGE SLAVIN: 24

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1	(No verbal response.)
2	JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none,
3	I'm going to put the question. The question
4	being put is as follows:
5	The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the
6	Bureau County Board that it approve all of the
7	requested Conditional Permits.
8	Adoption will be by roll. In favor, aye;
9	against, nay.
10	Mr. Welbers?
11	MR. WELBERS: Aye.
12	JUDGE SLAVIN: Mr. Quest?
13	MR. QUEST: Aye.
14	JUDGE SLAVIN: Mr. Jensen?
15	MR. JENSEN: Aye.
16	JUDGE SLAVIN: Mrs. Smith?
17	MS. SMITH: Aye.
18	JUDGE SLAVIN: Mr. Stutzke?
19	MR. STUTZKE: Aye.
20	(By voice vote five ayes.)
21	JUDGE SLAVIN: Motion is adopted.
22	All right. We're back to now we're to
23	recommendations, and the floor is open.
24	MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA

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recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, no building permit for any WTG be issued until the Applicant has provided the Bureau County Zoning Officer with:

A structural engineer's certificate that the tower and foundation design is compatible with and appropriate for each Wind Tower proposed to be installed and that the specific soils at the site can support the apparatus, given local soil and climate conditions as required by 3.41-4.24 (sic); and

Certificates of Facility equipment design compliance in conformity with Ordinance 3.41-4 (sic).

JUDGE SLAVIN: S.

MR. WELBERS: Yes, S.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second?

MR. WELBERS: Second.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a second.

Anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers?

MR. WELBERS: There were actually two "S"s that I missed behind the 4.

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JUDGE SLAVIN:
                              Yes, there were.
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              MR. WELBERS:
                             You corrected that, yes.
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                              Got it.
 3
              Any other Board member?
 4
                        (No verbal response.)
 5
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                              All right. Seeing none,
 6
         hearing none, I'll put the question.
 7
         question being put is on the recommendation to
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 9
         the Bureau County Board as read by Mr. Welbers
         and displayed here on the board in the hearing
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11
         room.
              Adoption of the motion requires a vote by
12
         the majority. The vote will be by voice.
13
14
         those in favor indicate by saying aye.
                        (All those simultaneously
15
16
                         responded.)
17
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                              Opposed by nay.
18
                        (No verbal response.)
              JUDGE SLAVIN: Motion is adopted.
19
              Okay.
20
                     Next.
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              MR. WELBERS:
                            The Bureau County ZBA
         recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if
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         any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, as
         required by the Bureau County Zoning Ordinance,
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the Conditional Use Permits mandate conditions 1 2 recommended by IDNR in order to create unlikely impacts to these protected resources. 3 JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 4 MS. SMITH: I'll second. 5 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing a second, anything 6 7 you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers? MR. WELBERS: No, there isn't. 8 9 JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? (No verbal response.) 10 Seeing none, hearing none, 11 JUDGE SLAVIN: 12 I'll put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the motion as read and --13 14 by Mr. Welbers, displayed here in the hearing 15 room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 16 17 the majority. The vote will be by voice. All 18 those in favor indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 19 responded.) 20 2.1 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 2.2 23 JUDGE SLAVIN: Next. MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA 24

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recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, the Developer show, to the satisfaction of the Bureau County Zoning Officer, that it has made all reasonable efforts to discern whether or not there are any areas within the proposed Project area that are on the National Wetlands Inventory and have taken commercially reasonable efforts to minimize impacts thereon.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second?

MR. JENSEN: Second.

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JUDGE SLAVIN: Anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers?

MR. WELBERS: No, there isn't.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, I'll put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the recommendation made by Mr. Welbers and displayed on the board here in the hearing room.

Adoption of the motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. All those in favor indicate by saying aye.

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(All those simultaneously
 1
 2
                        responded.)
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
 3
                              Opposed by nay.
                        (No verbal response.)
 4
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                             Motion is adopted.
 5
              Next.
 6
 7
              MR. WELBERS:
                             I don't know what to say,
         myself, about this one. I don't recall
 8
 9
         testimony that a certain one wouldn't even be
         allowed to operate at night. I don't -- I don't
10
11
         know what to say on that motion, personally.
12
              Anyone else remember anything about that?
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                              Want to take a break and
13
14
         look it up?
              MR. WELBERS:
                             I can, yeah.
15
              JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Let's take seven
16
         minutes, quarter of 7:00.
17
                        (A recess was taken at 6:40 p.m.
18
                         and proceedings resumed at
19
                         6:46 p.m.)
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2.1
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                              Okay. Back on the record.
              I think we're working on -- you were
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23
         working on what proposed Recommendation 70, and
         I -- with all due respect, I just forget where
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1 we were. 2 Mr. Welbers, do you want to take it from 3 the top? 4 MR. WELBERS: It was proposed Motion Number 70, but Troy is going to take this one 5 because he remembered it and I trust his memory, 6 7 but then Callie came --JUDGE SLAVIN: Let's let him make the 8 9 motion and he can say that. MR. WELBERS: I'll be more than glad to 10 second it. 11 12 MR. QUEST: The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if 13 14 any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, the Conditional Use Permits mandate that the 15 16 Vestas V110 WTGs operate in the low noise mode 17 at night and the Gamesa G87 WTGs not operate at 18 all during the night. JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Do I hear a 19 second? 20 I'll second that. 2.1 MS. SMITH: MR. WELBERS: 2.2 Yes. 23 JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a second.

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All right. Mr. Quest, as to your motion,

anything you want to say? You may want to 1 2 explain it. MR. QUEST: After looking at the paper, I 3 quess, that was brought forward by the court 4 reporter, it did support this motion. 5 JUDGE SLAVIN: Papers being, what, the 6 7 Jacobs? MR. QUEST: Yeah, the Jacobs report. 8 9 JUDGE SLAVIN: Analysis, sound analysis? MR. QUEST: Yes. 10 Any other Board -- anything 11 JUDGE SLAVIN: 12 else you want to say about it? MR. QUEST: That's it. 13 14 JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Any other Board member? 15 16 MR. WELBERS: No. The transcript is They brought that out, so. 17 there. 18 JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Therefore, I will put the question. The question being put 19 is on the adoption of the following motion, 20 since there's been some confusion: 2.1 The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the 2.2 23 Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, the Conditional 24

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Use Permits mandate that the Vestas V110 WTGs operate in the low noise mode at night and the Gamesa G87 WTGs not operate at all during the night.

Adoption of that motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. All those in favor indicate by saying aye.

(All those simultaneously
 responded.)

JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay.

(No verbal response.)

JUDGE SLAVIN: Motion is adopted.

The floor is open again.

MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, the Conditional Use Permits require that, upon the Zoning Officer's good faith determination that the Providence Heights infrastructure is materially affecting the television reception of a resident or community building within the footprint, or within 1-1/2 miles of the boundary, of the Project, the Developer offer gratis cable, satellite or internet based

television service to that resident or community 1 2 building owner. JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 3 MR. STUTZKE: 4 Second. JUDGE SLAVIN: Anything you want to say 5 about your own motion, Mr. Welbers? 6 7 MR. WELBERS: No, there isn't. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 8 9 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 10 The question being put 11 I'll put the question. 12 is on the adoption of the motion read by Mr. Welbers and displayed on the board here in 13 14 the hearing room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 15 the majority. The vote will be by voice. 16 All17 those in favor indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 18 responded.) 19 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 2.0 2.1 (No verbal response.) Motion is adopted. 2.2 JUDGE SLAVIN: 23 The floor is open again. MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA 24

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recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if 1 any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, 2 the Applicant be granted a waiver of the 3 4 Ordinance requirement that all equipment be new equipment solely for that which will be subject 5 to retrofitting. 6 7 Do I hear a second? JUDGE SLAVIN: MR. JENSEN: Second. 8 9 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing a second, anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers? 10 I'm thinking about that one 11 MR. WELBERS: 12 a little bit. I don't recall any testimony that the equipment would not be new. 13 14 JUDGE SLAVIN: Well, in their existing equipment --15 16 MR. WELBERS: But they do -- well, some 17 wasn't going to be changed at all, so yeah. 18 Okay. Let it go. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other -- anything else, 19 Mr. Welbers, first of all? It's your motion, 20 21 so. No, nothing else. 2.2 MR. WELBERS: 23 JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? (No verbal response.) 24

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JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, I'll put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the following motion:

The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, the Applicant be granted a waiver of the Ordinance requirement that all equipment be new equipment solely for that which will be subject to retrofitting.

Adoption of the motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. All those in favor indicate by saying aye.

(All those simultaneously responded.)

JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay.

(No verbal response.)

JUDGE SLAVIN: The motion is adopted.

The floor is back open.

MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, the Applicant continually engage all Development WTGs in the curtailment program as detailed in the Tetra Tech Shadow Flicker analyses reports.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 1 2 MS. SMITH: Second. Anything you want to say 3 JUDGE SLAVIN: 4 about your motion, Mr. Welbers? MR. WELBERS: No, sir. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 6 7 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 8 The question being put 9 I'll put the question. is on the adoption of the motion as read by 10 11 Mr. Welbers and displayed here on the screen in the hearing room. 12 Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 13 14 the majority. The vote will be by voice. those in favor indicate by saying aye. 15 (All those simultaneously 16 17 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: 18 Opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 19 The motion is adopted. 20 JUDGE SLAVIN: 2.1 Back to you. The Bureau County ZBA 2.2 MR. WELBERS: 23 recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, a 24

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condition be that the Developer completely scrub 1 clean all of the existing WTG towers before the 2 retrofitted development becomes operational and 3 that, during its operational lifetime, any 4 fluids leakage on any portion of a WTG be completely cleaned within a commercially 6 reasonable amount of time and the issue resolved 7 to the satisfaction of the Bureau County Zoning 8 9 Officer. JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 10 11 MR. STUTZKE: Second. 12 JUDGE SLAVIN: Got it. Anything you want to say about your 13 motion, Mr. Welbers? 14 MR. WELBERS: No, there is not. 15 JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 16 17 (No verbal response.) 18 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, I'll put the question. The question being put 19 is on the adoption of the motion as read by 2.0 2.1 Mr. Welbers and displayed here on the screen in the courtroom -- in the hearing room. 2.2 23 Adoption of the motion requires a vote by

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the majority.

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The vote will be by voice.

All

those in favor indicate by saying aye. 1 (All those simultaneously 2 responded.) 3 JUDGE SLAVIN: 4 Opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 5 JUDGE SLAVIN: The motion is adopted. 6 7 The floor is back open. MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County Zoning 8 9 Board of Appeals --JUDGE SLAVIN: May I interrupt you? 10 may notice on the board, I added some language. 11 MR. WELBERS: You added some language. 12 Okay. I'll read off the board then. 13 14 The Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if 15 16 any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, a 17 condition be that the Developer engage in the 18 curtailment of the program urged by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to protect the 19 four avian endangered or threatened species, or 2.0 2.1 if such a curtailment could not be implemented, that the Developer seek an Incidental Take 22 23 Authorization for the Northern Long-eared Bat, Indiana bat, Black-billed Cuckoo and Upland 24

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Sandpiper. 1 2 JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? MR. QUEST: I'll second. 3 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: Anything you want to say about your motion, Mr. Welbers? 5 MR. WELBERS: No, I don't think there is. 6 7 Any other Board member? JUDGE SLAVIN: (No verbal response.) 8 9 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, I'll put the question. The question being put 10 is on the adoption of the motion as read by 11 12 Mr. Welbers and displayed on the screen here in the courtroom -- in the hearing room. 13 14 Adoption of the motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. 15 All those in favor indicate by saying aye. 16 17 (All those simultaneously 18 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 19 (No verbal response.) 20 21 JUDGE SLAVIN: This is -- if everybody will help me remember, we just finished 75, and 2.2 23 this is the time for me to go back to 19, which I would like to propose that one of you make a 24

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motion to add to the already-passed Motion 19 1 the language you see in purple. I had to 2 distinguish it from the red. 3 So we would -- there are no deletions, but 4 would add the following language: 5 Or if such a curtailment could not be 6 7 implemented, that the Developer seek an Incidental Take Authorization for the Northern 8 9 Long-eared Bat, Indiana bat, Black-billed Cuckoo and Upland Sandpiper. 10 The reason for this is that I missed that 11 12 IDNR suggested the Curtailment Program, but if that could not be implement that they seek the 13 Incidental Take Authorizations. I left it off. 14 This is the appropriate place to put it. 15 16 also supports the recommendation you just made. 17 Now, that's enough of my speech. 18 anyone want to make a motion? MR. WELBERS: Yes, I would move that your 19 recommendation for Number 19 be adopted. 20 2.1 JUDGE SLAVIN: As an amended motion, right? 22

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MR. WELBERS:

JUDGE SLAVIN:

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Yes, as an amended motion.

Do I hear a second?

MR. STUTZKE: Second. 1 2 JUDGE SLAVIN: Got a second. Anything you want to say about --3 4 MR. WELBERS: No. You have explained it. JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. I'm going to put the 5 The question being put is on the 6 question. 7 adoption of an amended motion -- it's actually on the adoption of a motion to amend Motion 19 8 9 by adding the following language: Or if such a curtailment could not be 10 implemented, that the Developer seek an 11 12 Incidental Take Authorization for the Northern Long-eared Bat, Indiana bat, Black-billed Cuckoo 13 14 and Upland Sandpiper. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 15 the majority. The vote will be by voice. 16 All 17 those in favor indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 18 responded.) 19 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 2.0 2.1 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: The motion is carried. 22 Now the motion is amended to add those words. 23 And I will take a motion to adopt the 24

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amended motion. 1 2 MR. WELBERS: I would move to adopt the amended motion. 3 Do I hear a second? 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: MS. SMITH: Second. 5 JUDGE SLAVIN: I hear a second. 6 7 Anything you want to say about your now new motion, Mr. Welbers, other than what we have 8 9 discussed already? MR. WELBERS: No, there is not. 10 Any other Board member? 11 JUDGE SLAVIN: (No verbal response.) 12 JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 13 14 I'll put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the amended motion with 15 16 the added language. 17 Adoption of the motion requires a vote by the majority. The vote will be by voice. 18 those in favor indicate by saying aye. 19 (All those simultaneously 20 2.1 responded.) Opposed by nay. 2.2 JUDGE SLAVIN: 23 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Back to 24

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proposed Number 76, I think.

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MS. SMITH: Yes.

JUDGE SLAVIN: And notice there are some lavender addition, four words, in this one as well.

Do I hear someone proposing this motion?

MR. WELBERS: I would move the Bureau

County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board
that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are
granted, a condition be that the Applicant have
a qualified expert, approved by the Bureau

County Zoning Officer conduct:

A pre-construction baseline reading at mutually-agreed points within the footprint of the Providence Heights WECS development and out to --

JUDGE SLAVIN: This is your discretion.

There's been some debate. I mean, here's the reason for it, if there's -- I can't believe that Bureau County officials are ready to say, If there's interference 1 inch outside the footprint, the boundary of the footprint, that's okay.

MR. WELBERS: Well, I think we had

previously, on television reception, talked 1 2 about 1-1/2 miles. So I'll introduce that now for discussion. 3 Well, your motion. 4 JUDGE SLAVIN: Then you can discuss it. 5 MR. WELBERS: That's right. So put 6 7 1-1/2 miles of its boundary. JUDGE SLAVIN: 8 Okay. MR. WELBERS: Of the County's 911 signal; 9 and 10 A mirror post-construction analysis of 11 12 that 911 signal; and If there is any degradation thereof, that 13 14 the Applicant bring the signal back to its baseline strength. 15 16 Now, 911 signal, let me amend that to say Then we'll see what the other Board 17 3 miles. members think. 18 JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 19 MR. JENSEN: Second. 20 21 JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Mr. Welbers, anything you want to say about your motion? 2.2 23 No, I quess not. MR. WELBERS: JUDGE SLAVIN: Okay. Any other Board 24

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1 member?

2.1

2 (No verbal response.)

JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Hearing none, seeing none, I will put the question. The question being put is on the adoption of the following motion, and I'm going to read it all so we make sure we're all on the same page:

The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, a condition be that the Applicant have a qualified expert, approved by the Bureau County Zoning Officer conduct:

A pre-construction baseline reading at mutually-agreed points within the footprint of the Providence Heights WECS development and out to 3 miles of its boundary of the County's 911 signal; and

A mirror post-construction analysis of that 911 signal; and

If there is any degradation thereof, that the Applicant bring the signal back to its baseline strength.

Adoption of the motion requires a vote by

the majority. The vote will be by voice. All 1 2 those in favor indicate by saying aye. (All those simultaneously 3 4 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 5 (No verbal response.) 6 7 JUDGE SLAVIN: The motion is adopted. All right. Back to the floor. 8 9 MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if 10 11 any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, a condition be that the Applicant take into 12 account the concerns and comply with the 13 recommendations of the SWCD as detailed in 14 Exhibits SW-2 sequentially through SW-28 for the 15 16 various proposed WTGs and Laydown Yards and, during construction, collaborate with the SWCD 17 18 staff as to issues that may arise. JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second? 19 MR. JENSEN: Second. 2.0 Got it. 2.1 JUDGE SLAVIN: Anything you want to say about your 2.2 23 motion, Mr. Welbers? There is not, sir. MR. WELBERS: 24

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JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board members? 1 (No verbal response.) 2 Hearing none, seeing none, 3 JUDGE SLAVIN: I'll put the question. The question being put 4 is on the adoption of this motion as read by Mr. Welbers and displayed on the board in the 6 7 hearing room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 8 9 the majority. The vote will be by voice. All those in favor indicate by saying aye. 10 (All those simultaneously 11 12 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 13 14 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: The motion is adopted. 15 Back to the floor. 16 17 MR. WELBERS: The Bureau County ZBA 18 recommends to the Bureau County Board that, if any one or more Conditional Uses are granted, 19 the following conditions urged by the Bureau 2.0 2.1 County Regional Planning Commission be incorporated: 2.2 23 The Applicant will, at its expense and in coordination with the County, develop a system 24

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for logging and investigating complaints related to the Facility and pursue the dictates of Section 3.41-4s.28 in an attempt to resolve the same; and

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The Applicant will contact, as
appropriate, the Farm Service Agency or the
Natural Resource Conservation Service if WTGs
and associated foundations or access roads are
located on lands under a Conservation Contract;
and

The Applicant will restore all conservation practices that are damaged by the structures, operation or construction of the Facility to the prior condition using any original design specifications; and

The Applicant will follow all Natural Resource Conservation Service Standards when constructing or deconstructing any roadways through or parallel to waterways or filter strips; and

The Applicant shall only retrofit the rotor and nacelle assemblies with Vestas Model V110 2.2-megawatt WTGs.

JUDGE SLAVIN: Do I hear a second?

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MR. JENSEN: Second. 1 2 JUDGE SLAVIN: Got it. Any discussion or anything you want to say 3 about your motion, Mr. Welbers? 4 MR. WELBERS: No, sir, there isn't. JUDGE SLAVIN: Any other Board member? 6 7 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 8 The question being put 9 I'll put the question. is on the adoption of the motion as so ably read 10 by Mr. Welbers and displayed on the screen here 11 12 in the hearing room. Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 13 14 the majority. The vote will be by voice. those in favor indicate by saying aye. 15 (All those simultaneously 16 17 responded.) JUDGE SLAVIN: 18 Opposed by nay. (No verbal response.) 19 2.0 JUDGE SLAVIN: Still open. 2.1 MR. WELBERS: Number 79, The second stage was for the Bureau County ZBA to find facts and 2.2 23 make recommendations, taking approximately --How many hours have we been here? 24

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JUDGE SLAVIN: Well, believe it or not, I 1 2 have been keeping track. I thought you would, yeah. 3 MR. WELBERS: JUDGE SLAVIN: I've got a little 4 spreadsheet here. Let's see. We have been at 5 it today --6 7 About an hour. MR. WELBERS: JUDGE SLAVIN: So it's actually eight 8 9 hours exactly. MR. WELBERS: So the answer is eight hours 10 of hearing time over the course of --11 It's more than two evenings, isn't it? 12 JUDGE SLAVIN: Well, it's been five. 13 14 MR. WELBERS: Five nights of the entire hearing; is that correct? 15 16 JUDGE SLAVIN: Oh, we're just talking 17 about the second stage. MR. WELBERS: So two nights of hearing, 18 December 16th and January 13th. 19 But then we don't have eight hours. 20 Wе 21 have something less. That was my fault. So 2.33 22 JUDGE SLAVIN: 23 and 1.17 is 3.5. MR. WELBERS: All right. Three and a half 24

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is the number in the motion, on the two evenings
 1
         of December 16th and January 13th of 2025.
 2
         December 16th of 2024.
 3
              JUDGE SLAVIN: So let me see if that looks
 4
         like what we want to move.
 5
              MR. WELBERS:
                            It is. Yes, it is.
 6
 7
                             All right. Do I hear a
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
         second?
 8
 9
              MR. STUTZKE:
                            Second.
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                             Got a second.
10
11
              Anything you want to say about your
12
         motion, Mr. Welbers?
              MR. WELBERS:
                            There is not.
13
14
              JUDGE SLAVIN: All right. Any other Board
         member?
15
                        (No verbal response.)
16
17
              JUDGE SLAVIN:
                             Hearing none, seeing none,
18
         I'll put the question. The question being
         adopted -- or the question being proposed is on
19
         the adoption of the motion as just read and
20
21
         displayed here in the hearing room by
         Mr. Welbers regarding three and a half hours of
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         fact-finding and recommendation time on
         December 16th and this evening.
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Adoption of the motion requires a vote by 1 the majority. The vote will be by voice. All 2 those in favor indicate by saying aye. 3 (All those simultaneously 4 responded.) 5 JUDGE SLAVIN: Opposed by nay. 6 7 (No verbal response.) JUDGE SLAVIN: Hearing none, seeing none, 8 9 the motion is adopted. And unless -- does someone have anything 10 The floor is open for more motions. 11 further? 12 Anybody want a break to think about it? done? 13 I believe we have been 14 MR. WELBERS: fairly complete, with your preparation and 15 guidance, Judge. 16 17 JUDGE SLAVIN: That having been said, I 18 will then turn this hearing back over to you, Mr. Welbers. It's not time to recess, so you do 19 what you've got to do now. You're the Chair. 2.0 2.1 MR. WELBERS: It would seem to me that we have completed this public hearing and gathered 2.2 23 and made our recommendations to the County Board

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and our motions regarding the Variations, and so

1	I believe all that would be left is to adjourn
2	this meeting.
3	Anyone agree with me?
4	MR. QUEST: I second that.
5	MR. WELBERS: Troy is the second on that.
6	Are all in favor of adjournment tonight?
7	(All those simultaneously
8	responded.)
9	MR. WELBERS: Any opposed?
10	(No verbal response.)
11	MR. WELBERS: Then we have completed our
12	assignment.
13	JUDGE SLAVIN: Very good.
14	MR. WELBERS: Thank you.
15	JUDGE SLAVIN: Thank you, gentlemen.
16	Everybody, it's been a pleasure again.
17	(The hearing was concluded at
18	7:10 p.m.)
19	
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1	Now on this 13th day of January, A.D., 2025, I
2	do signify that the foregoing testimony was given
3	before the Bureau County Zoning Board of Appeals.
4	
5	
6	
7	Darry Wolhord Chairman
8	Barry Welbers, Chairman
9	
10	
11	
12	Kristine Donarski,
13	Zoning Enforcement Officer
14	
15	
16	Callie S. Bod mer
17	Callie S. Bodmer
18	Certified Shorthand Reporter Registered Professional Reporter
19	IL License No. 084-004489 P.O. Box 381
20	Dixon, Illinois 61021
21	
22	
23	
24	

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