



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

Hansen Farm Land Trust,
Petitioner,

MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL

v

MOAHR Docket No. 19-002233

Bridgewater Township,
Respondent.

Presiding Judge
Preeti P. Gadola

SUMMARY OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

SCHEDULING ORDER

NOTICE OF VIDEO CONFERENCE HEARING

A Prehearing Conference on this matter was held on April 9, 2021.¹ Thomas Dillon appeared on behalf of Petitioner. Mary Selover-Rider appeared on behalf of Respondent. A scheduling order has been established and a video conference hearing, held via Microsoft Teams, has been set for:

HEARING DATE:	June 16-17, 2021
HEARING TIME:	9:00 a.m.
TEAMS HEARING LINK:	Microsoft Teams meeting Click here to join the meeting <u>+1 248-509-0316,,950575188#</u> United States, Pontiac Phone Conference ID: 950 575 188#
PARTICIPANTS' GUIDE:	https://bit.ly/34fBXnN

This is an important legal document. Please have someone translate the document.

Este es un documento legal importante. Por favor, haga traducir este documento.

এটি একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ আইনি দলিল, অনুগ্রহ করে কেউ দলিলটিকে অনুবাদ করুন।

هذا هو وثيقة قانونية هامة يرجى لديك شخص تترجم الوثيقة.

Ito ay isang mahalagang legal na dokumento. Mangyari lamang na magkaroon ng isang tao isalin ang dokumento.

¹ Prehearing statements were not filed and exchanged in this matter until April 23, 2021. Information from the prehearing statements is necessary for the completion of this Summary, Scheduling Order and Notice.

This hearing is open to the public and this notice is provided under the Open Meetings Act. Any participant in the hearing or member of the public wishing to attend this hearing must click on the link above to gain access to the hearing.

PREHEARING CONFERENCE SUMMARY

I. SHOW CAUSE HEARING

- A. The prehearing conference commenced as a Show Cause Hearing given both parties failure to file and exchange their prehearing statements and valuation disclosures, as required by the Tribunal.

The morning of the scheduled prehearing conference, the parties filed a Joint Stipulation as to Evidence and Procedure. In the Stipulation, the parties agreed to the admission of valuation disclosures, prehearing statements, and witnesses to be called at the hearing.

At the prehearing conference, the Tribunal inquired of both parties if they wished to proceed with the admission of the aforementioned documents and the offering of witnesses identified in the prehearing statements, to testify at the hearing. The parties answered in the affirmative. They also informed the Tribunal that they had already exchanged valuation disclosures on their original due date, but neglected to file them with the Tribunal. As a result, the Tribunal found good cause to allow the valuation disclosures into evidence and to allow witnesses identified in the prehearing statements to testify at the hearing of this matter, as neither party was prejudiced with regard to the ability to conduct discovery and engage in settlement negotiations.

II. VALUATION INFORMATION:

- A. The true cash value (TCV), assessed value (AV), and taxable value (TV) for each parcel and tax year at issue as established by the Board of Review:

Parcel Number: Q-17-11-400-004

Year	TCV	AV	TV
2019	\$2,028,800	\$1,014,400	\$500,210

Parcel Number: Q-17-11-400-005

Year	TCV	AV	TV
2019	\$98,600	\$49,300	\$17,380

- B. The parties' contentions of TCV, state equalized value (SEV), and TV for each parcel and tax year at issue:

Parcel Number: Q-17-11-400-004

	Petitioner			Respondent		
Year	TCV	SEV	TV	TCV	SEV	TV
2019	\$863,800	\$431,900	\$357,860	\$2,028,800	\$1,014,400	\$500,210

Parcel Number: Q-17-11-400-005

	Petitioner			Respondent		
Year	TCV	SEV	TV	TCV	SEV	TV
2019	\$62,400	\$31,200	\$17,380	\$98,600	\$49,300	\$17,380

C. Amounts in dispute for the tax years at issue:

Parcel Number: Q-17-11-400-004

Year	SEV	TV
2019	\$582,500	\$142,350

Parcel Number: Q-17-11-400-005

Year	SEV	TV
2019	\$18,100	No dispute

III. TAX INFORMATION

The property's taxes have been paid for the tax year at issue.

IV. FACTUAL STATEMENT OF CLAIMS:

A. Classification of property:

Parcel Number	Classification
Q-17-11-400-004	Commercial Real
Q-17-11-400-005	Agricultural Real

B. Highest and best use ("H&BU") for the tax year at issue:

Parcel Number	H&BU
Q-17-11-400-004	Continued agricultural use per Petitioner, Respondent unknown
Q-17-11-400-005	Continued agricultural use per Petitioner, Respondent unknown

C. The property's TCV and TV are at issue for each tax year under appeal:

D. Petitioner's claims or counterclaims:

"Petitioner contends that, for tax year 2019, the contested assessment and taxable value each exceeds 50% of the true cash value. Petitioner further contends that the taxable value impermissibly exceeds the statutory capped value formula under MCL 211.27a."

E. Respondent's claims or counterclaims:

"The property is currently being used by to store fireworks, it has a computer business along with a tower which it sells various township residents and business internet services. The property is currently being farmed but the current use is more of a commercial use than agricultural. The building is built with standard doors for semi-truck and not for an agricultural machinery that would be used in a typical agricultural operation. This property had to obtain a special use permit to allow its current use."

V. PENDING MOTIONS OR DISCOVERY:

A. Motions: None pending at this time.

B. Discovery: Discovery is closed unless otherwise stated below.

VI. VIDEO CONFERENCE HEARING INFORMATION

The parties and the Tribunal have determined the above-captioned case shall be conducted via video conference. Video conference proceedings via Microsoft Teams are set up using the parties or, if represented, their Attorneys or Authorized Representative's email addresses.

A link to the **MOAHR MTT Guide for Participants for the Conducting of Entire Tribunal Hearings as Video Conference Proceedings** is provided above. Participants are encouraged to review this Guide prior to hearing and are **required** to comply with the requirements of the Guide, as said requirements will facilitate the conducting of the scheduled hearing.

SCHEDULING ORDER

I. June 2, 2021

is the final date to file and serve upon the opposing party(ies) and the Tribunal a final exhibit list and to furnish the opposing party(ies) with a copy of each exhibit. **The parties must use the form prescribed by the Tribunal.** An exhibit will not be admitted into evidence unless the exhibit is disclosed and

furnished in accordance with this Order (even though admissible) except upon a finding of good cause by the Tribunal.

II. June 2, 2021

is the date for Petitioner to notify the Tribunal in writing of the name and telephone number of the court reporter retained by the parties to transcribe the hearing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Failure to comply with this Order may result in the dismissal of the case or the conducting of a show cause or default hearing, as provided by TTR 231.²

By Preeti Madole

Date Entered: May 4, 2021

² See also MCL 205.732.

HEARING INFORMATION – PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY

GENERAL INFORMATION: An impartial hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Michigan Administrative Hearing Rules (R 792.10101-R 792.11289) and the Michigan Administrative Procedures Act, MCL 24.201 *et seq.* The Michigan Rules of Evidence and the Michigan Court Rules may be applicable. A party is expected to exercise proper respect and courtesy toward other parties, witnesses and administrative law judges, which includes attending the hearing on time, silencing cell phones, and dressing in appropriate clothing for in-person hearings.

REPRESENTATION: A party may be represented by an attorney or other authorized representative of the party's own choosing and at the party's own expense. The Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules does not recommend or appoint attorneys.

WITNESSES: Parties may present witnesses, if any, identified in the Prehearing Statements, to testify under oath or affirmation at the hearing, subject to cross-examination by the opposing party, and questions by the administrative law judge.

EXHIBITS: The parties shall submit exhibits pursuant to the Guide for Participants.

COURT REPORTER: The parties shall not only provide a court reporter to transcribe the hearing but shall also provide an electronic copy of the hearing transcript to the Tribunal by e-mailing it to taxtrib@michigan.gov. The costs attributable to the court reporter shall be shared equally by the parties. If the parties fail to pay the costs of the transcript to the court report prior to the submission of the transcript to the Tribunal, the court reporter may report this to the Tribunal with the submission of the transcript. As a result, the party or parties who failed to pay the costs associated with the transcript may be held in default.³

WITHDRAWAL: If Petitioner no longer wants to continue with the appeal, Petitioner may submit a written request to withdraw the case. Respondent must concur with the withdrawal. The request must be submitted to the Tribunal and served on Respondent at least 14 days before the hearing. Respondent may file a concurrence or objection to the request within 7 days of the service of the request on that party. If Respondent does not timely submit a concurrence or objection to the request will be deemed to be a concurrence to the request. If the request is granted, the case will be dismissed. If a request is not granted or the Tribunal has not notified you that it has been granted, you are required to attend the hearing.

SETTLEMENT: Parties may submit a written agreement settling a case (i.e., stipulation). The stipulation must be on a form made available by the tribunal or shall be in a written form that is in substantial compliance with the tribunal's form and be signed by the parties' attorneys or authorized representatives, if they have attorneys or authorized representatives, or by the parties, if they do not have attorneys or authorized representatives. There is a \$50 fee for the filing of the stipulation. If the stipulation with appropriate filing fee is received by the Tribunal or the parties email a copy of the signed stipulation to the Tribunal by 4:30 p.m. on the business day immediately preceding the day of the scheduled hearing, the hearing may be adjourned. Parties that email a copy of a signed stipulation to the Tribunal for purposes of adjourning a hearing are also required to submit the original signed stipulation with appropriate filing fee. The

³ See TTR 321.

stipulation, once submitted, will be reviewed and, if accepted, the Tribunal will issue a consent judgment.

FAILURE TO APPEAR: The failure of a party to timely appear or otherwise participate in a hearing will result in adjournment of the hearing and the holding of that party in default. The defaulted party will be given an opportunity to show good cause for the failure to appear. Failure to respond or show good cause may result in dismissal of the case or the conducting of a default hearing.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: All hearings are conducted in a barrier-free location in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. An individual requiring reasonable accommodation for effective participation in a hearing, including accessible documentation such as braille, large print, electronic or audio reader, should contact the MOAHR by telephone at (517) 335-9760, or complete and submit an accommodation request form at https://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/Disability_Accommodation_FORM_v1_2_464017_7.d [oc](#) within five (5) days of receipt of the Notice of Hearing to ensure availability of accommodation.

Hearing participants and observing members of the public who need assistance with speech or hearing may also participate in a telephonic or virtual hearing by dialing 7-1-1 and using the Michigan Relay service. More information about this service may be found at https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,9535,7-395-93308_93325_93425_94040_94041---,00.html.

PRIVACY OF INFORMATION: In order to conduct a comprehensive and fair hearing, a party's private or confidential information, such as health or financial information, may be disclosed to the Tribunal and other parties and their attorneys or representatives. The MOAHR will use the private information solely for purposes related to the hearings process. A party may file a motion to request that a public hearing be closed in part or file a motion for protective order to deem certain information private and confidential in order to afford that information special protection.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Michigan Tax Tribunal
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30232, Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517) 335-9760
E-Mail: taxtrib@michigan.gov
Website: www.michigan.gov/taxtrib
E-Filing: <https://eFiling.apps.lara.state.mi.us>
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., our office is closed from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.