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 **OLSEN THIELEN**  
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

*Depend on our people. Count on our advice.™*

June 7, 2013

Attn: Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Secretary  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



Re: Griggs County Telephone Company - Petition for Certificate of PC&N and ETC  
Designation in Enderlin and Sheldon Exchanges

Dear Representative,

The Moore and Liberty Telephone Company (MLTC) was merged into the Griggs County Telephone Company (GCTC) by the joint action of their respective boards effective September 11, 2012. GCTC hereby applies for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, and also designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the Enderlin, and Sheldon exchanges (Proposed Service Area).

Enclosed for filing are::

1. Application for Protective Order and Trade Secret Protection
2. Petition for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carrier
3. Affidavit of Tyler Kilde
4. Certified Copy of the Certificate of Merger (Recorded by ND Secretary of State)
5. Certificate of Good Standing
6. Amended and Re-stated Articles of Incorporation
7. Maps for the Proposed Service Area
8. Financial Statement – TRADE SECRET

If you have any questions relating to this request please call me at 651.621.8322 or by email at [tgburns@otcpas.com](mailto:tgburns@otcpas.com).

Best regards,

Thomas G. Burns  
Consultant for Griggs County Telephone Company

**TRADE SECRET – PUBLIC COPY**  
**Trade Secret Data has been excised**

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Application for Protective Order and Trade Secret Protection  
For Griggs County Telephone Company

Griggs County Telephone Company (GCTC) hereby petitions the Commission to issue an Order protecting GCTC trade secret information pursuant to Chapter 69-02-09 of the North Dakota Administrative Code.

In support of 69-02-09-01 (1):

The information GCTC wishes to have protected is company financial information (Attachment 8 in its entirety).

In support of 69-02-09-01 (2):

GCTC's could find economic value from the disclosure of GCTC financial information, including market share, etc.

In support of 69-02-09-01 (3):

GCTC's financial information is not readily available to competitors or the general public. GCTC protects its financial data by restricting access to those employees and management level personnel with a need to know, and it is not disclosed outside the company except under strict circumstances.

Dated: June 7, 2013

/s/ Thomas G. Burns

Thomas G. Burns  
Consultant for Griggs County Telephone Company

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Petition for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation in Enderlin and Sheldon Exchanges**

Griggs County Telephone Company (GCTC) is a North Dakota corporation providing local telephone service, exchange access service, and other telecommunications services in Binford, Cooperstown, Finley, and McHenry North Dakota exchanges. Moore and Liberty Telephone Company (MLTC) is a North Dakota corporation providing local telephone service, exchange access service, and other telecommunications services in Enderlin and Sheldon North Dakota exchanges. The Boards of Directors of MLTC and GCTC, on September 11, 2012, resolved to merge MLTC into GCTC. GCTC, therefore, moves the Commission for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier serving the Enderlin and Sheldon exchanges (Proposed Service Area) for the purpose of receiving Universal Service Support.

**AFFIDAVIT OF TYLER KILDE IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER ("ETC") TYLER KILDE STATES UNDER OATH:**

1. My name is Tyler Kilde and I am the General Manager of both Griggs County Telephone Company and Moore and Liberty Telephone Company (GCTC). I submit this affidavit in support of GCTC's application for designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. I am familiar with North Dakota Administrative Code, §69-09-05-12, which addresses the requirements ETC applications.
2. In support of §69-09-05-12:
  - 2.1. In support of §69-09-05-12 2a: The proposed service area consists of the Enderlin and Sheldon North Dakota exchanges in their entirety. The incumbent local exchange carrier and ETC serving Enderlin and Sheldon is Moore and Liberty Telephone Company (MLTC). Because MLTC has merged into GCTC, GCTC will become the ILEC for the Proposed Service Area. MLTC will make a separate filing to seek Commission approval to relinquish its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.
  - 2.2. In support of §69-09-05-12 2b: Because MLTC has been merged into Griggs County Telephone Company, and is under the same management, GCTC will continue to meet ETC obligations as MLTC has done in the past.
  - 2.3. In support of §69-09-05-12 2c: GCTC will not require a waiver of any ETC requirements.
  - 2.4. In support of §69-09-05-12 3a: GCTC is committed to provide service throughout the proposed service area. I certify::
    - 2.4.1. In support of §69-09-05-3a (1): GCTC will provide service in a timely manner where the network passes the potential customer;
    - 2.4.2. In support of §69-09-05-3a (2): GCTC will in areas outside the existing network coverage.
  - 2.5. In support of §69-09-05-3b (1): The federal high-cost support MLTC received in 2012 was addressed in a filing with the Commission. Without waiving any trade secret requests or confidentiality, MLTC filed USF receipts last year in Case No. PU-12 207.
    - 2.5.1. Specific construction, maintenance or upgrade projects. GCTC intends to engage in construction, maintenance and upgrades in its service areas, including the exchanges referenced in this pending case in the same manner and method as it has through MLTC. Without waiving any trade secret or confidential status, the information filed in the ETC reporting cases referenced above, is hereby incorporated by reference, as it permitted under the Commission's rules, specifically Section 69-02-05-06 of the NDAC.
    - 2.5.2. How Service Will Be Improved by Each Project: The information previously submitted in Case No. PU-12 207. Without any waiver of confidentiality, trade secret or proprietary status is also incorporated by reference herein.

- 2.5.3. Projected Start/ Completion Date for Each Improvement and Estimated Investment for Each Improvement: The information and answers to the previous two paragraphs above is the same as the answer for this paragraph.
- 2.6. In support of §69-09-05-3c: I certify GCTC has generators to provide 24 to 150 hours of diesel fuelled back-up power for central offices in the event commercial power failure.
- 2.7. In support of §69-09-05-3d: I certify that GCTC will satisfy applicable consumer protection and consumer standards established by the Commission and the FCC.
- 2.8. In support of §69-09-05-3e: I certify that GCTC will offer a local usage plan similar, if not identical to the plan offered by the incumbent MLGC.
- 2.9. In support of §69-09-05-3d: GCTC acknowledges the PSC has the authority to require GCTC to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event no other ETC is providing equal access in the proposed service area.

In consideration of the foregoing, Griggs County Telephone Company hereby requests the Commission grant its application for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Enderlin and Sheldon exchanges of North Dakota.

Dated this 7th day of June, 2013.

**Griggs County Telephone Company**



By: Tyler Kilde, Vice President and General Manager

State of North Dakota )  
County of Ransom )ss:  
)

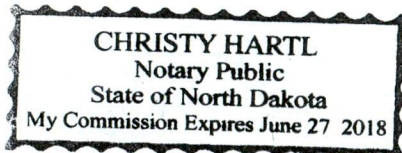
On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Tyler Kilde, known to me to be the General Manager of GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY, the corporation that is described in and executed within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.



Notary Public

Ransom County, North Dakota

My Comm. Exp.: 6-27-18



# State of North Dakota

## SECRETARY OF STATE



### CERTIFICATE OF MERGER OF DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS INTO

GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO.

The undersigned, as Secretary of State of the State of North Dakota, hereby certifies that Articles of Merger of MOORE AND LIBERTY TELEPHONE COMPANY into GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO. a domestic corporation, duly signed and verified pursuant to North Dakota statutes governing mergers, have been received in this office and are found to conform to law.

**ACCORDINGLY** the undersigned, as such Secretary of State, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by law, hereby issues this Certificate of Merger of MOORE AND LIBERTY TELEPHONE COMPANY into GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO..

Effective date of merger: September 30, 2012

Issued: September 28, 2012

173981 Fee: \$22.00 Pg 1 of 4  
State of North Dakota )  
County of Ransom )  
Recorded: 10/16/2012 At 8:50 AM  
Susan J Froemke, Recorder  
Return To: SERKLAND LAW FIRM 10 ROBERTS STREET  
PO BOX 6017 FARGO, ND 58108-6017

Handwritten signature of Alvin A. Jaeger in cursive.

Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
Office of Secretary of State  
I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy, consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ as taken from the original of this document. The authenticity of this document can be determined by the \_\_\_\_\_



# *State of North Dakota*

## SECRETARY OF STATE



### CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING OF

GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO.

The undersigned, as Secretary of State of the State of North Dakota, hereby certifies that GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO. , a North Dakota BUSINESS CORPORATION, was incorporated in this office on November 20, 1906 and, according to the records of this office as of this date, has paid all fees due this office as required by North Dakota statutes governing a North Dakota BUSINESS CORPORATION.

**ACCORDINGLY** the undersigned, as such Secretary of State, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by law, hereby issues this Certificate of Good Standing to

GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO.

Issued: January 23, 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alvin A. Jaeger".

Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State

2,391,300 BC  
937358

**AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE CO.**

The undersigned, being the Secretary of Griggs County Telephone Co., hereby certify that pursuant to the unanimous vote of the shareholders at a meeting on September 11, 2012, the Corporation has adopted and approved the following:

- Article 1. The name of the Corporation is: Griggs County Telephone Co.
- Article 2. The name of noncommercial registered agent in North Dakota is:
- Tyler Kilde  
301 Dewey Street  
Enderlin, ND 58027
- Article 3. These Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation shall be effective September 30, 2012.
- Article 4. The purpose of the Corporation is to provide telecommunication services and other related business purposes.
- Article 5. The Corporation shall be authorized to issue 500,000 shares with a par value of \$100 per share. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to establish one or more classes or series of shares, including the authority to create non-voting shares.
- Article 6. The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall be made up of at least three and no more than seven members. The Board of Directors and Officers named below shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified:
- Ray G. Brown, President  
Tyler Kilde, Vice President  
Joyce Brown, Secretary-Treasurer  
Dion Brown, Director
- Article 7. These Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation were adopted by the shareholders on September 11, 2012.

Attachment 6  
Articles of Incorporation

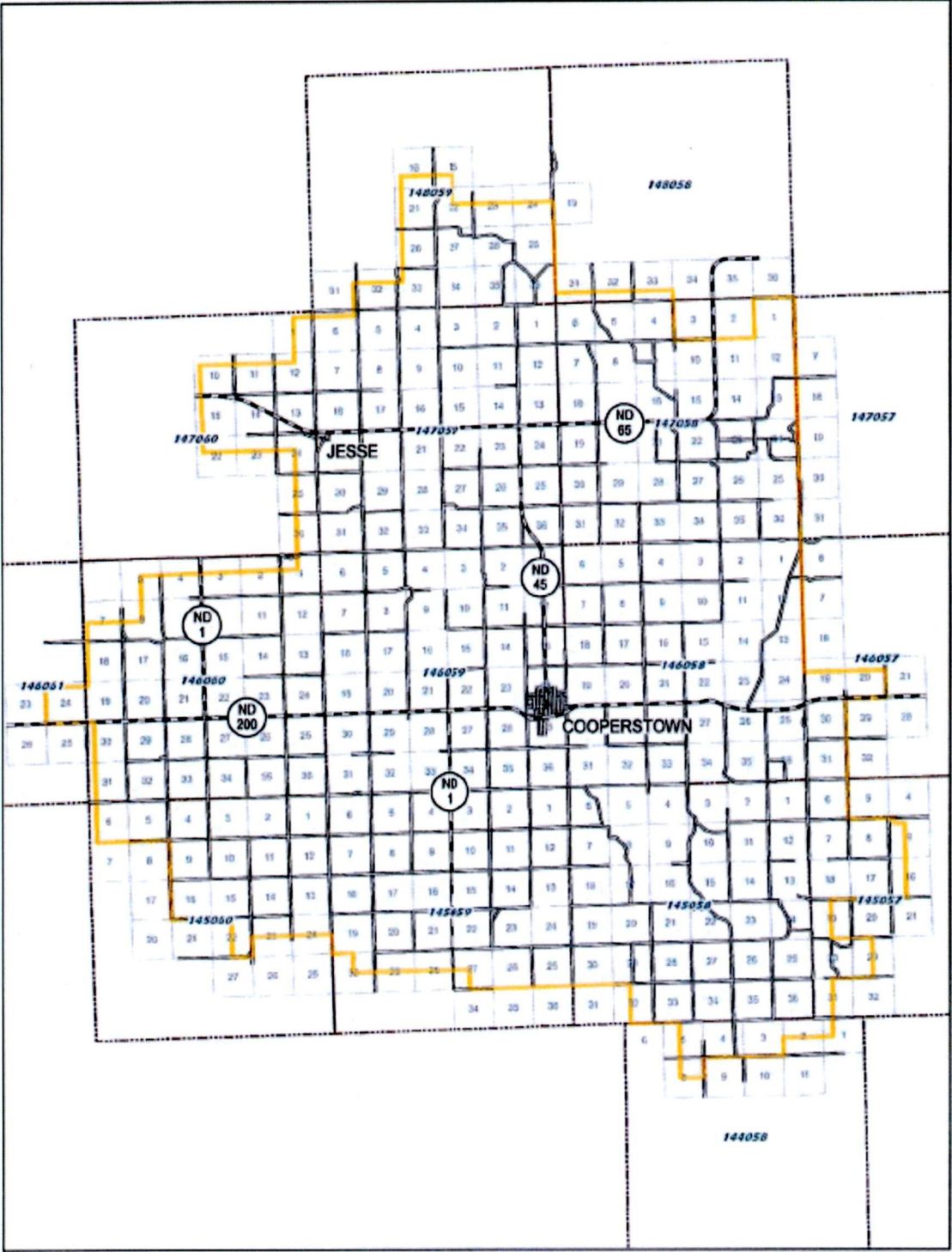
The undersigned, as Secretary and person authorized by the Corporation to sign this amendment, has read the foregoing Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, knows the contents thereof, and believes the statements made thereon to be true.

  
~~Joyce Brown, Secretary~~ ~~Date~~

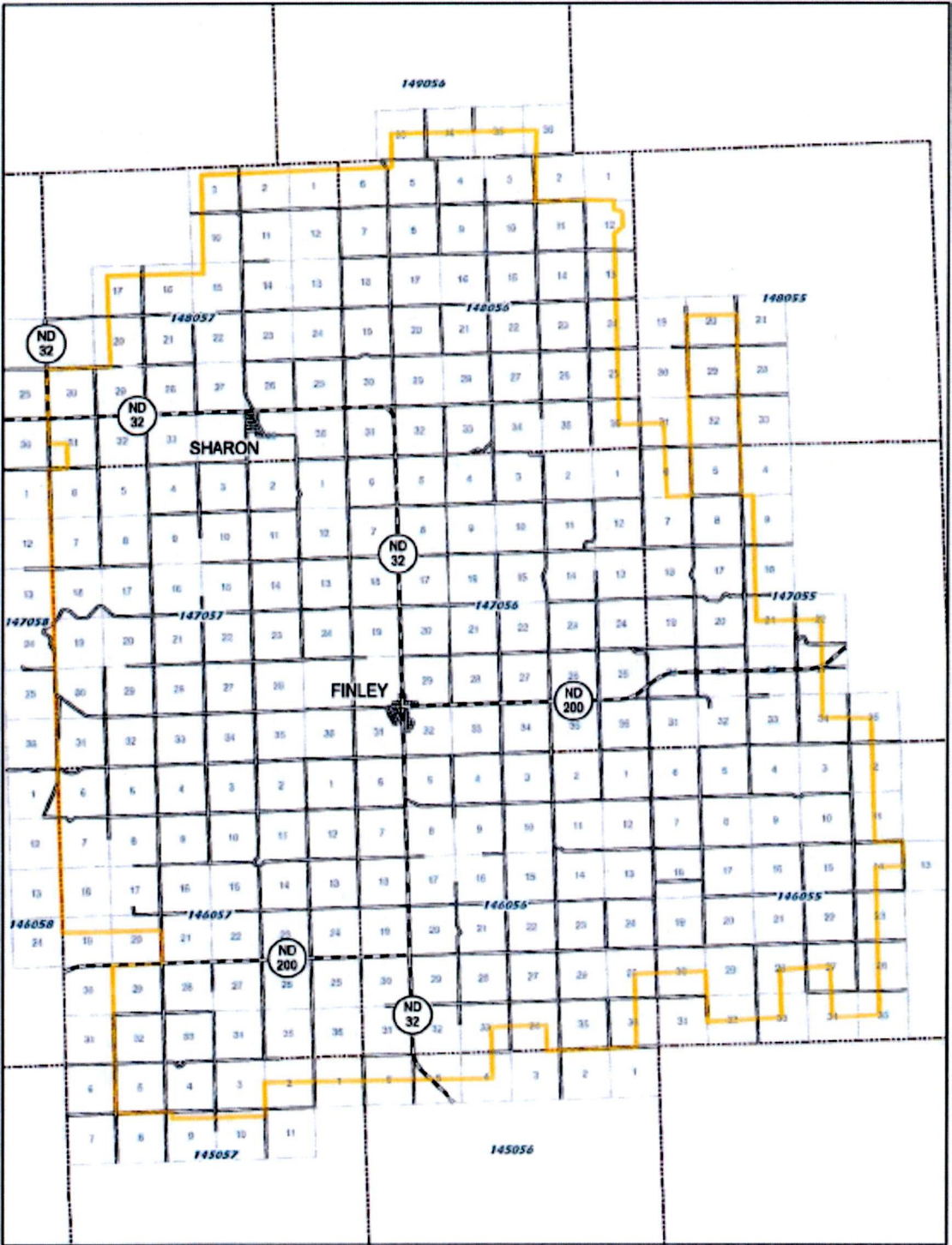
Name of person to contact  
about this document:

Timothy G. Richard  
Serkland Law Firm  
10 Roberts Street  
P.O. Box 6017  
Fargo, ND 58108-6017  
(701) 232-8957  
[trichard@serklandlaw.com](mailto:trichard@serklandlaw.com)

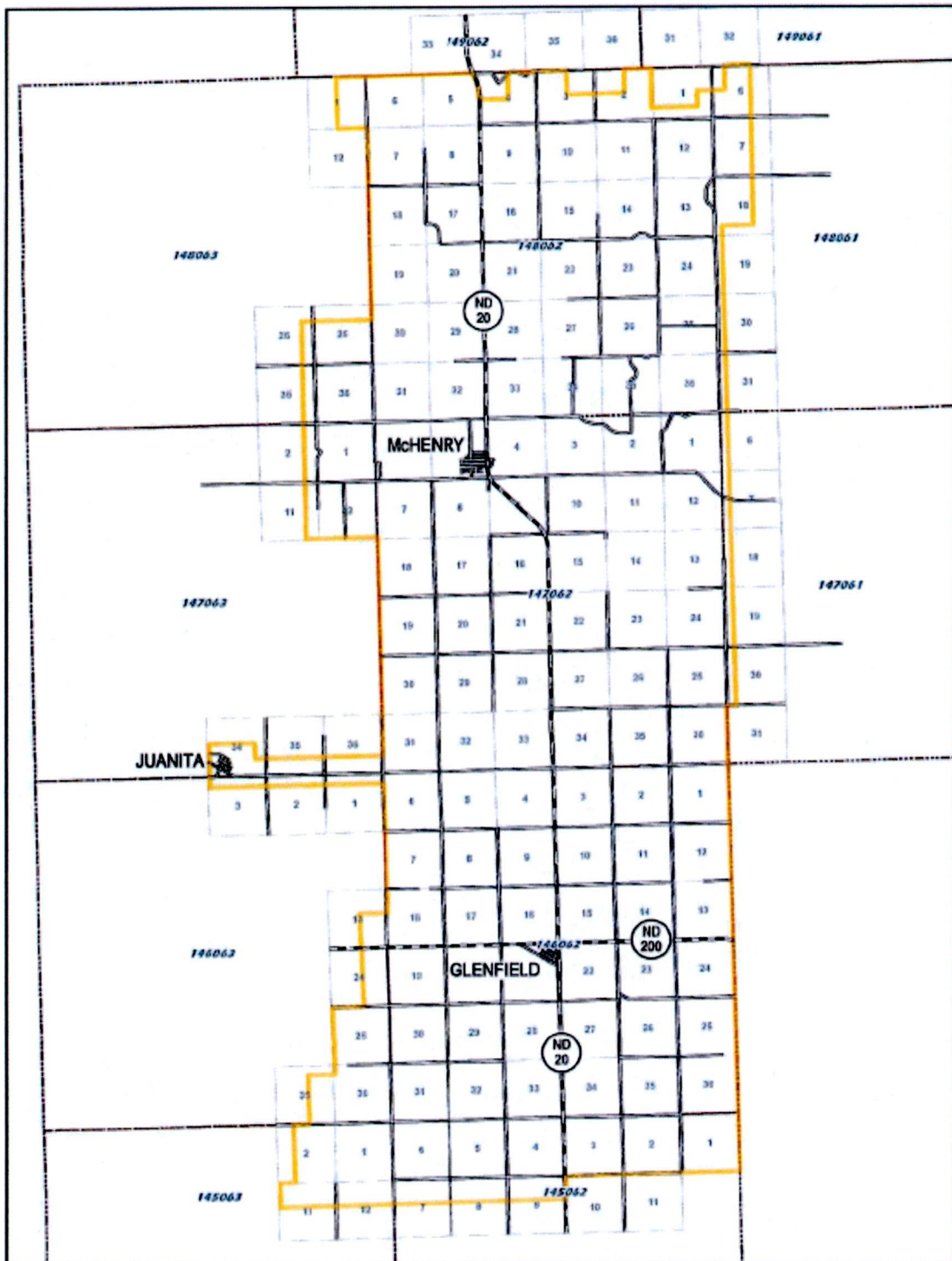




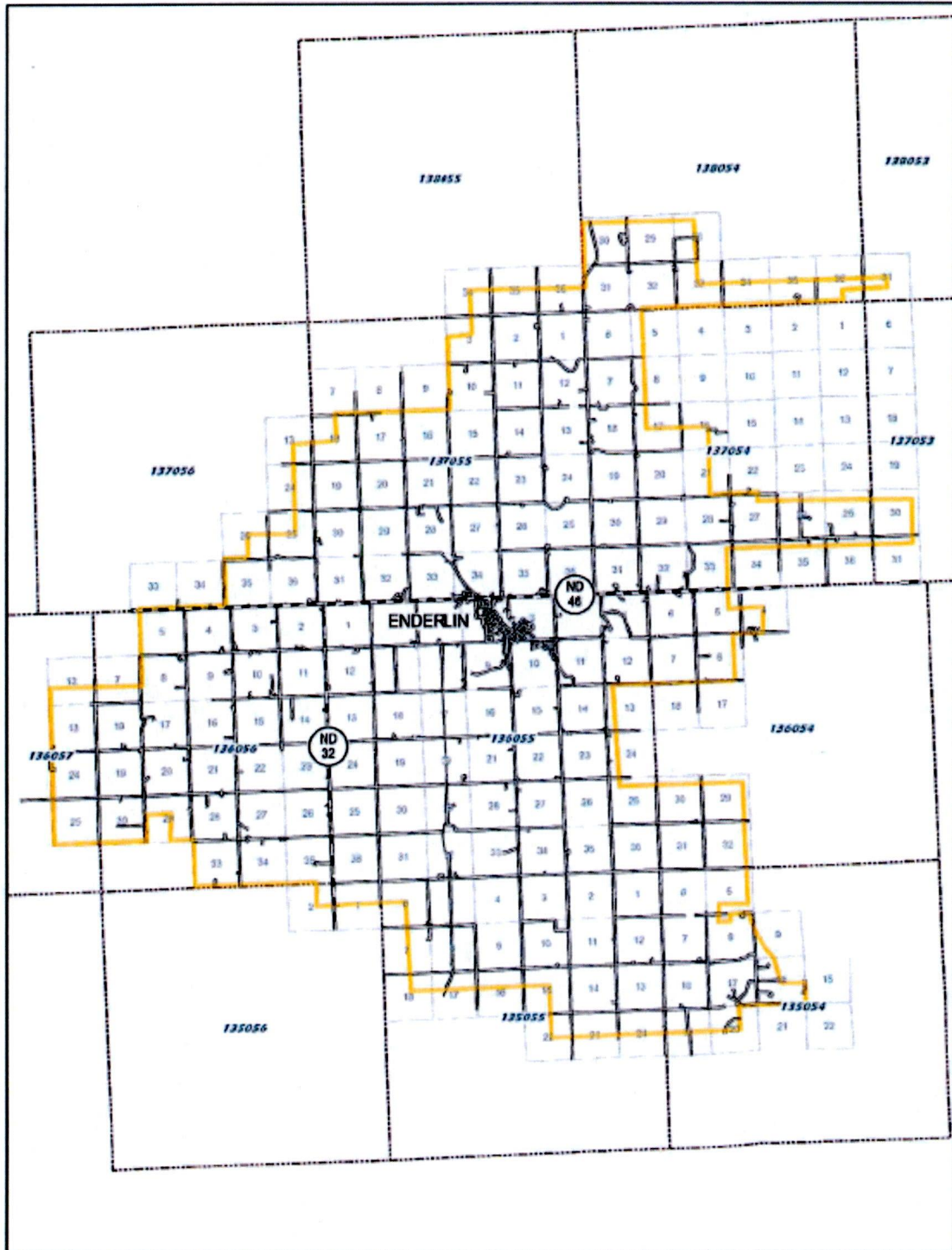
Cooperstown



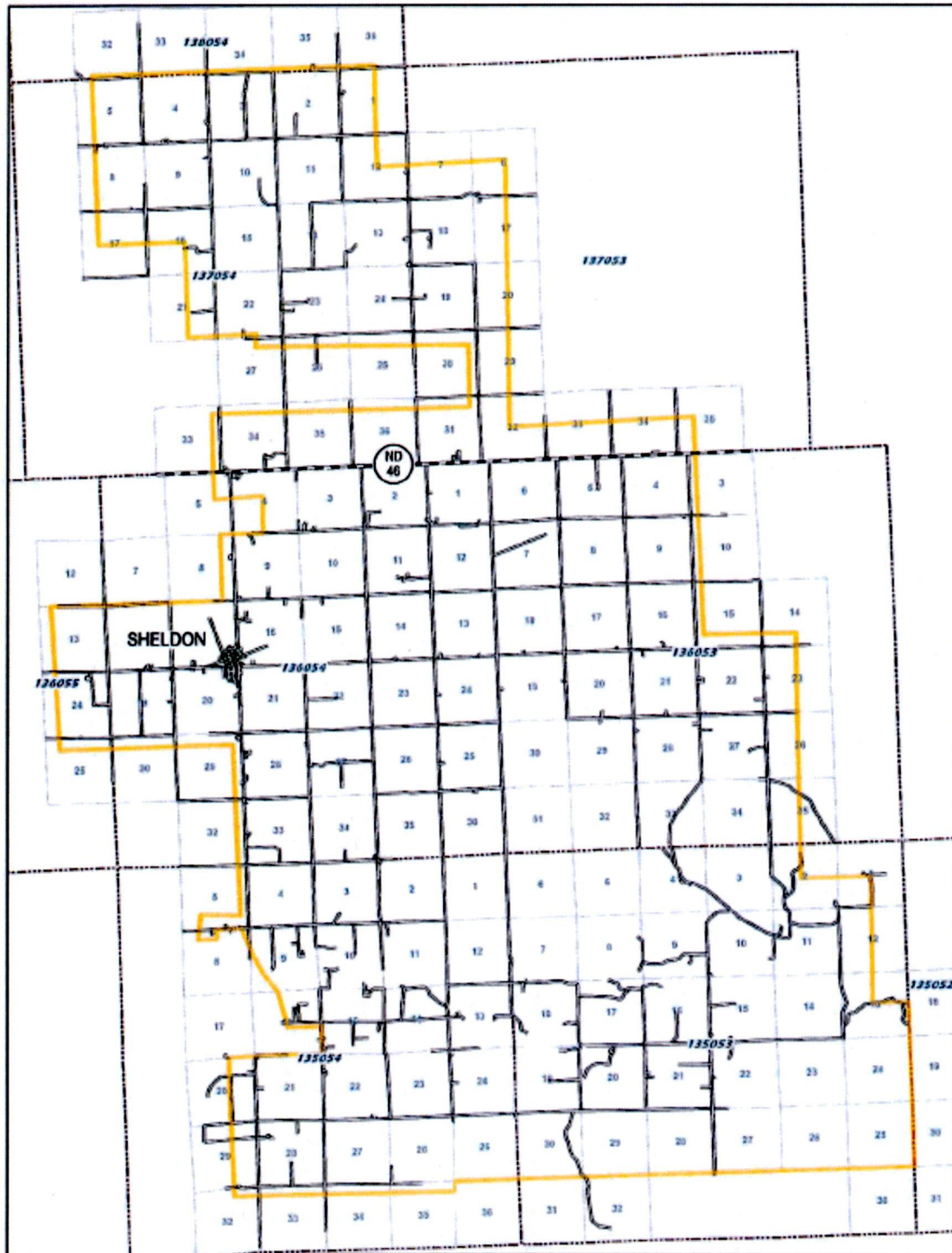
Finley



McHenry



Enderlin



Sheldon

**TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED**