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# COVER LETTER

Department of State Division of Corporations P. O. Box 6327 Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT:	Grasslands West Property Owners' Association, Inc.
	(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME – MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation and a check for :

■ \$70.00 Filing Fee S78.75 Filing Fee & Certificate of Status □\$78.75 Filing Fee & Certified Copy

□ \$87.50 Filing Fee, Certified Copy & Certificate

## ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

Timothy F. Campbell FROM:

Name (Printed or typed)

500 South Florida Avenue, Suite 800

Address

Lakeland, Florida 33801

City. State & Zip

(863) 647-5337

Daytime Telephone number

tcampbell@ccimlaw.com

E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)



NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF GRASSLANDS WEST PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, the undersigned, a resident of Florida and of full age, for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit does hereby certify:

#### ARTICLE I NAME OF CORPORATION

The name of the corporation shall be **Grasslands West Property Owners' Association**, Inc. (the "Association").

#### ARTICLE II PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal office of the Association is located at 4701 Old Road 37, Lakeland, Florida 33813.

#### ARTICLE III INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The initial registered office of the Association shall be located at 500 South Florida Avenue, Suite 800, Lakeland, Florida 33801, and the initial registered agent of the Association shall be Timothy F. Campbell. The Association may change its registered agent or the location of its registered office, or both, from time to time, with amendment of these Articles of Incorporation.

#### ARTICLE IV PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

This Association does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof, and the specific purposes for which it is organized and for which it is to be operated are to provide for maintenance, preservation, and care of the property of the Association, and to provide architectural control of the residences, lots and common area within that certain tract of property (the "**Property**") described in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Easements and Restrictions for Grasslands West, recorded or to be recorded in the Public Records of Polk County, Florida (the "**Declaration**") and as the same may be amended from time to time as therein provided, and to promote the health and welfare of the residents within the Property and any additions thereto as may hereafter be brought within the jurisdiction of this Association for these purposes.



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#### ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a board of not less than three (3) directors nor more than five (5), who need not be members of the Association (the "**Board**"). The manner in which the directors are elected or appointed is as stated in the bylaws of the Association (the "**Bylaws**"). The initial number of directors shall be three (3) and may be changed by amendment of the Bylaws. The names and addresses of the persons who are to act in the capacity of directors until the election of their successors are:

Rob Harper	-	4701 Old Road 37
		Lakeland, Florida 33813
Dan Green	-	4701 Old Road 37
		Lakeland, Florida 33813
Michael Myers	-	4701 Old Road 37
		Lakeland, Florida 33813

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#### ARTICLE VI POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association shall have all the powers, rights and privileges which a not-for-profit corporation organized under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, by law may now or hereafter have or exercise.

In addition to the powers set forth above, the Association shall have all of the powers and duties reasonably necessary to operate the Property pursuant to the Declaration and as more particularly described in the Bylaws, as they may be amended from time to time, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. To perform all the duties and obligations of Association set forth in the Declaration and Bylaws, as herein provided.

2. To enforce, by legal action or otherwise, the provisions of the Declaration and Bylaws and of all rules, regulations, covenants, restrictions and agreements governing or binding Association and the Property.

3. To operate, maintain and manage the common area and surface water management is system for the Property in a manner consistent with the Southwest Florida Water Management  $\bigcirc$  District (the "District") Permit(s) requirements and applicable District rules, and shall assist in the enforcement of the covenants and restrictions in the Declaration which relate to the surface water management system.

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4. To require all owners of residential lots within the Property to be members of the Association.

5. To levy and collect adequate assessments against members of the Association for the costs of maintenance and operation of the surface water management system.

6. To fix, levy, collect and enforce payment, by any lawful means, of all assessments pursuant to the terms of the Declaration, these Articles and Bylaws.

7. To pay all operating costs, including, but not limited to, all licenses, taxes or governmental charges levied or imposed against the Property.

8. To own, acquire (by gift, purchase or otherwise), annex, hold, improve, build upon, operate, maintain, convey, grant rights and easements, sell, dedicate, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of real or personal property in connection with the functions of Association except as limited by the Declaration.

9. To borrow money, and to mortgage, pledge or hypothecate any or all of its real or personal property as security for money or debts incurred.

10. To dedicate, grant, license, lease, concession, create easements upon, sell or transfer all or any part of the Association's property, to any public agency, entity, authority, utility or other person or entity for such purposes and subject to such conditions as it determines and as provided in the Declaration.

**11.** To participate in mergers and consolidations with other non-profit corporations organized for the same purposes.

12. To establish, adopt, publish, promulgate or enforce rules, regulations, covenants, restrictions or agreements governing the Association, the Property as provided in the Declaration and to effectuate all of the purposes for which the Association is organized.

13. To have and to exercise any and all powers, rights and privileges which a not-forprofit corporation organized under the Laws of the State of Florida may now, or hereafter, have or exercise, and to take any other action necessary for the purposes for which the Association is organized.

14. To employ personnel and retain independent contractors to contract for management of the Association and the Property as provided in the Declaration and to delegate in such contract all or any part of the powers and duties of the Association.

To contract for services to be provided to, or for the benefit of, the Association, 15. members of the Association, and the Property as provided in the Declaration such as, but not limited to, telecommunication services, maintenance, garbage pick-up, and utility services.

16. To establish committees and delegate certain of its functions to those committees.

17. To sue and be sued in the name of the Association.

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#### **ARTICLE VII** MEMBERSHIP

Every person or entity who is a record owner of a fee or undivided fee interest in any lot which is subject to the Declaration shall be a member of the Association with the voting rights described herein. The foregoing shall not include persons or entities who hold an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of any lot which is subject to assessment by the Association. There shall only be on vote for each lot. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the developer. Grasslands West Investment, LLC, shall be entitled to ten votes for each lot that it owns.

#### **ARTICLE XIII** DISSOLUTION

The Association may be dissolved upon the affirmative vote (in person or by proxy) or written consent or any combination thereof, of members holding not less than two-thirds of the total votes of the Association. Upon dissolution of the Association, other than incident to a merger or consolidation, the assets of the Association shall be dedicated to an appropriate public agency or to any non-profit corporation, association, or other organization to be used for purposes similar to those for which this Association was created.

#### ARTICLE IX COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION OF CORPORATE EXISTENCE

The Association shall commence corporate existence on the date of filing of these Articles of Incorporation with the Florida Secretary of State. The Association shall exist in perpetuity.

#### ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

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<u>.</u> The Association shall have the right to amend these Articles of Incorporation at any time upon the affirmative vote (in person or by proxy) or written consent or any combination thereof, of members holding at least two-thirds of the total votes of the Association. No amendment shall make any changes in the qualifications for membership nor the voting rights of the members, without approval in writing by all members. No amendment shall be made that is in conflict with Florida law or the Declaration unless the latter is amended to conform to the same. Notwithstanding

anything herein to the contrary, the developer, Grasslands West Investment, LLC, shall be entitled to amend these Articles of Incorporation as long as the developer owns any of the lots provided that no such amendment shall be made that is in conflict with Florida law or the Declaration unless the latter is amended to conform to the same.

#### ARTICLE XI BYLAWS

The Bylaws shall be adopted by the Board at the first meeting of directors, and may be altered, amended or rescinded thereafter in the manner provided in the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE XII INDEMNIFICATION

In addition to any rights and duties under applicable law, this Association shall indemnify and hold harmless all its directors, offices, employees, and agents, and former directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against all liabilities and obligations, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with any actions taken or failed to be taken by said directors, officers, employees, and agents in their capacity as such except for willful misconduct or gross negligence.

#### ARTICLE XIII INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the incorporator of these Articles of Incorporation is:

### Timothy F. Campbell, Esquire 500 South Florida Avenue, Suite 800 Lakeland, Florida 33801

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, for the purpose of forming this corporation under the laws of Florida, the undersigned, constituting the sole incorporator of this Association, has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 18th day of August, 2021.

**Incorporator:** Timothy F. ampbel

#### <u>CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS FOR THE</u> <u>SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN FLORIDA AND REGISTERED AGENT</u> <u>UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED</u>

In compliance with the laws of Florida, the following is submitted:

Grasslands West Property Owners' Association, Inc., desiring to organize as a corporation under the laws of the State of Florida with its registered office and principal place of business at 500 South Florida Avenue, Suite 800, Lakeland, Florida 33801, has named and designated Timothy F. Campbell as its Registered Agent to accept service of process within the State of Florida.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Having been named to accept service of process for **Grasslands West Property Owners'** Association, Inc., at the place designated in this Certificate, 1 am familiar with the duties and obligations of a Registered Agent under Florida Law and I hereby agree to act in this capacity and to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties.

Timothy F. Campbell, Registered Agent

Dated this 18th day of August, 2021.

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