



**HURON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 11:00 AM

**Present:** Dr. Amy Browne, Jeremy Loose, Greg Polachek, Kenneth Tkach, Kim Stults

**Absent:** Jessica Khaledi

**HCPH Staff:** Bethany Perry, Nicole Marks, Eric Cherry, Grace Habeck, Chris Cherry, Nino Majoy, Hunter Blessing

**Guest(s) In Person:** Matt Roche - Norwalk Ohio News, Randal Strickler – Huron County Prosecutor’s Office, Clifford Spaulding – Property Owner, Mrs. Spaulding – Property Owner, Jacob Kulon – Property Owner, Jeanette Kulon – Property Owner, Jeff Fannin – Property Owner, Tom McCoppin – Community Member, Joe Fannin – Community Member, Stephen Barrett – Property Owner, John Boswell – Property Owner, Colleen Barry – Property Owner, Amber Hicks – Property Owner, Luis Alvarado – Property Owner, Dustin Hamons – Testimony Support

The Board of Health of Huron County Public Health (HCPH), Huron County, Ohio met at a regular meeting of the Board on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at HCPH Conference Room 1.

Mr. Loose called the meeting to order at 11:00AM and requested roll call. Ms. Habeck completed the roll call: Dr. Browne – Present; Ms. Khaledi – Absent; Mr. Loose – Present; Mr. Polachek – Present; Mrs. Stults – Present; Mr. Tkach – Present.

Mr. Loose turned to the guests present at the meeting to introduce themselves. In attendance was Matt Roche of Norwalk Ohio News. Mr. Roche did not wish to participate in public comment.

Mr. Loose announced the resignation of Board member Krista Sowers. Mr. Loose presented Mrs. Sowers reason for leaving the Board which was as follows, “It is with deep regret that I submit my resignation from my position on the board. My life and career have taken me in a different direction, and I will be moving out of Huron County. January’s meeting was my last. I truly appreciate the opportunity to serve on the board—it has been a great honor. It has been a pleasure to participate and to gain a deeper understanding of the vital role you play in supporting the health and well-being of our community. Thank you for allowing me to be part of this important work.”.

Mr. Loose proceeded with action items listed on the regular agenda, presenting the Board with Resolution 2026-18: Approval of Minutes from the January 2026 Regular Meeting. Dr. Browne made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-18; Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Board with Resolution 2026-19: Approval of Expenditures from Last Meeting. Dr. Browne made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-19; Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Board with Resolution 2026-20: Approval of the 2026 Final Budget. Dr. Browne made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-20; Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Board with Resolution 2026-21: Request to Contract with Clemans Nelson & Associates, Inc. for Personnel Manual Review (up to \$9,060.00). Mr. Polachek made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-21; Dr. Browne seconded the motion. Mrs. Marks explained that HCPH had previously asked another firm to review the current personnel manual and was unhappy with the result of that process. She then explained that this would be a different proposal, contracting with Clemans Nelson to review the current HCPH personnel manual. With no further discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Board with Resolution 2026-22: Request to Sell Unwanted/Unused Items on GovDeals. Dr. Browne made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-22; Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. Ms. Habeck explained that this resolution encompasses selling 29 blue chairs and their caddy, an Ultra Cold Vaccine Cooler that is no longer in working condition, a small, framed art piece, and up to three tonneau covers. She then explained that all of these items are no longer in use or belong to equipment (i.e., vehicles) that the agency no longer owns. With no further discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Board with Resolution 2026-23: Request to Apply for, Accept Funding From, and Appropriate Grant Funds for the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundations Coalitions Grant for FY26 (up to \$2,000.00). Dr. Browne made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-23; Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. Ms. Habeck explained that the Ohio Suicide Foundation is currently offering a mini-grant for up to \$2,000.00 that would not only support the work of the Huron County Prevention Coalition, but also allows HCPH to fund events, media buys, promotional activities, materials and supplies, food/beverages, participant giveaways, equipment, marketing expenses, travel, staff salary, etc. With no further discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Board with Resolution 2026-24: Request to Authorize the Purchase of Mobile Devices and Approval of a Possible Change in Mobile Phone Service Providers. Mr. Polachek made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-24; Dr. Browne seconded the motion. Mrs. Marks explained that the agency currently has nine (9) mobile phones, two (2) hot spots, and (2) iPads. All of the mobile devices are iPhone 6's which are extremely outdated and HCPH would like to add two (2) additional phones and one (1) additional tablet. HCPH currently utilizes Verizon for its mobile services but would like a better rate so they are exploring a better plan with Verizon as well as AT&T and T-Mobile. Dr. Browne asked Mrs. Marks why Verizon didn't offer upgrades throughout the entirety of the service contract. Of which, Mr. Cherry explained that the agency just made do with the devices they had but now the current phones are no longer able to update. He further explained that in the future, HCPH plans to look sooner to make sure that the devices used by staff will be updated more frequently, making sure to keep cost in mind. With no further discussion, the motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Ms. Perry proceeded to present an updated Fiscal Report to the Board. The general fund and special fund balance reports were reviewed. For year-to-date in all funds, there is revenue of \$381,966.00 and year-to-date expense of \$221,641.00. The current cash balance for all funds is \$2,039,792.00. Outstanding advances from the general fund were also reviewed, leaving an outstanding advance at a total of \$522,684.65. For year-to-date general fund budget performance, at 8% of the budget cycle (as of January 31, 2026), 14% of the budgeted

revenue was received and 5% of the budgeted expenses dispersed. Ms. Perry also highlighted a few unique expenses from January which were payment to Esri-ArcGIS Annual Renewal for \$1,040.00, USPS-Postage for \$2,500.00, NACCHO-Membership Fee of \$640.00, and Pitney Bowes – Shipping Cost. With no additional updates or further discussion, the Board approved the report with a roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes, Mr. Loose – Yes, Mr. Polachek – Yes, Mrs. Sowers – Yes, Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose presented the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Objection Hearing for 131 US Highway 250 N, New London, OH 44851. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor’s Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mrs. Spaulding stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mrs. Spaulding.

Mrs. Spaulding provided testimony regarding the property located at 131 US Highway 250 N, New London, Ohio 44851. She stated that she and her husband object to the assessed \$350.00 non-compliance fee and believe they should not be required to pay it based on the circumstances surrounding their septic system maintenance. Mrs. Spaulding explained that on October 25, 2024, their contracted service provider came to the residence due to a failed pump within the septic system. As a result, she and her husband purchased a replacement pump at a cost of \$650.00. The service provider later returned to install the new pump, at which time the system passed the service contractor’s inspection. Mrs. Spaulding stated that they were also informed during this visit that the system did not need to be pumped at that time. She further testified that in the spring of 2025, after receiving a letter from HCPH indicating that septic systems are required to be pumped every five (5) years, she contacted her service provider to confirm whether her system required pumping. Mrs. Spaulding stated that, based on the service provider’s earlier guidance that pumping was not necessary, she and her husband were later informed that they were now subject to a \$350.00 non-compliance fee for not having the system pumped. Mrs. Spaulding indicated that her service provider later contacted her to clarify that the system is, in fact, required to be pumped every five years. She stated that the service provider explained that, at the time of the earlier visits, there was no clearly defined pumping interval and that the provider believed pumping decisions were made at the provider’s discretion. Following this discussion, the service provider returned to the residence, personally inspected the system, and again informed Mrs. Spaulding that the system was “good to go” and did not require pumping at that time. However, she was advised that because HCPH had her system listed, she should proceed with pumping prior to the provider’s next scheduled visit in May 2025. Mrs. Spaulding testified that, based on this advice, she had the system pumped in February 2025, approximately three months earlier than the service provider’s next visit. She stated that she followed the guidance provided by a service provider who appeared on the list of approved providers supplied by HCPH. Mrs. Spaulding further explained that during this time, she was experiencing significant personal hardships, including the death of her father on October 21, 2024, followed by the illness and subsequent passing of her father-in-law. She stated that these events limited her ability to be more diligent in navigating compliance requirements and accessing additional information. She testified that she relied on the information provided by her service provider in good faith. Additionally, Mrs. Spaulding stated that her husband is disabled and that they are on a limited income. She explained that after paying \$650.00 for the replacement pump in October 2024, they did not have sufficient funds to immediately pay for a system pump-out. She offered to provide receipts documenting all services performed on the septic system. In closing, Mrs. Spaulding reiterated her objection to the \$350.00 non-compliance fee and requested that it be reconsidered based on the circumstances presented.

With no questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 131 U.S. Highway 250 North, New London, Ohio 44851, and outlined the timeline of the property’s involvement in the O&M Program. Mr. Majoy explained that a letter dated January 16, 2024, was sent to the Spauldings outlining

the requirements of the O&M Program and notifying them of the review of their current compliance status. That review determined the system was not in compliance because the septic system had not been pumped within the required five-year timeframe. He further noted that the January 16, 2024, letter also informed the homeowners of updates to the O&M review process that became effective in January 2024. To better accommodate both service providers and homeowners in completing required services, all properties enrolled in the O&M Program were transitioned to an annual review process based on the prior years' service contracts. Under this updated process, services completed in calendar year 2023 were not reviewed until 2024, allowing homeowners a full calendar year to complete all required services. Relating this process specifically to the Spaulding property, Mr. Majoy stated that the annual review conducted in January 2024 indicated that the required system pumping had not been completed within the five-year requirement. He explained that HCPH's records did not contain a pump report documenting that the Spaulding's' system had been pumped within the past five years, which is the required documentation used to verify compliance. Mr. Majoy then presented records of services completed during the 2024 calendar year, which would be reviewed as part of the 2025 billing cycle. A service report dated June 12, 2024, was provided, documenting services performed by a registered service provider. A second service report dated November 6, 2024, was also presented, indicating additional services were completed. After reviewing these records, Mr. Majoy reiterated that while both service reports confirmed that required maintenance tasks were completed by the service provider, no pump report was submitted for the 2024 calendar year. As a result, during the 2025 annual review, the absence of documentation verifying that the system had been pumped within the required timeframe resulted in the system being marked as non-compliant. Consequently, a \$350.00 non-compliance fee was assessed due to the lack of a documented pump report.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Dr. Browne asked Mrs. Spaulding whether she had contacted HCPH regarding the letter she received. Mrs. Spaulding stated that she did not contact HCPH and explained that she relied on her service provider, as he was responsible for servicing the system and submitting the required reports. Mr. Strickler then asked for clarification regarding when the septic system was pumped after the Spauldings were informed by their service provider that pumping was necessary. Mrs. Spaulding responded that the system was pumped on February 3, 2025, which was less than one month after they received the non-compliance letter from HCPH. Mr. Spaulding further explained that they would have had the system pumped prior to February 2025; however, they were unable to do so earlier due to financial constraints.

Following the Board's discussion, Dr. Browne made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding were taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Dr. Browne made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding were escorted from the medical waiting room back into the conference room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Dr. Browne made the motion, and Mr. Tkach seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – Yes. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained to Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding that their request to waive the \$350.00 non-compliance fee was denied

because the required five-year pumping timeline for the septic system had not been met. He further stated that while the Board sympathized with the personal circumstances that impacted the Spauldings' ability to comply, those circumstances did not excuse failure to meet the requirements as outlined in the program. Mr. Loose also clarified that HCPH does not endorse or advocate for any service providers listed on the registered providers list, noting that the list is provided solely as a courtesy to Huron County homeowners to offer a centralized reference. Mrs. Spaulding then asked who she should object to next, stating that she did not intend to pay the \$350.00 fee. Mr. Cherry responded that a follow-up packet would be sent containing details of the hearing along with information outlining options for further objection, which could be submitted by mail within ten (10) days. At that time, Mr. Spaulding asked whether the Board members were elected or appointed. Mr. Cherry responded that the Board members are appointed. Mr. Spaulding then asked by whom the Board members are appointed, to which Mrs. Stults responded that the appointing authority differs for each member. Following this exchange, Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding exited the room.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 20 Milan Manor Drive, Milan, OH 44846. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mr. and Mrs. Kulon stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. and Mrs. Kulon.

Mr. Kulon provided testimony regarding the history, condition, and maintenance of the septic system at the property located at 20 Milan Manor Drive, Milan, Ohio 44846. He referenced the original septic system permit issued in 1974 and stated that, based on his review of the permit documentation, the system was not installed correctly at the time of installation. He explained that while the system was designed as an aeration system requiring three risers, only a single center riser was installed, with the remaining risers buried and inaccessible. Mr. Kulon stated that when he purchased the property in September 2022, he was informed by the realtors that the septic system was in good condition and that documentation had been filed with the Health Department. He later discovered documents on the property that raised concerns regarding the system's maintenance history, including indications that the tank may not have been properly pumped in the past. He noted that due to the buried risers and overgrowth in the area, the system was not accessible for proper pumping and inspection. Mr. Kulon further explained that after learning of these issues, he incurred expenses to have the required risers installed, stating that this work had not been previously completed. He indicated that Franklin Sanitation installed the risers but expressed dissatisfaction with communication and reporting practices from service providers, including delays in receiving service reports and difficulty obtaining pricing for additional repairs. Mr. Kulon stated that he relied on service providers listed on the registered provider list supplied by HCPH but encountered challenges securing services, noting that some providers declined work in Huron County. He expressed concern that homeowners are not clearly provided with Huron County-specific rules and expectations and stated that he was directed to state regulations rather than county requirements. Mr. Kulon also referenced a blockage identified in the system during 2024 and stated that partial pumping was completed through an available access point. He expressed concern that records of those services may not have been properly submitted. He stated that, despite corrective actions being taken, he does not believe he should be responsible for the \$350.00 non-compliance fee and questioned how prior owners were not held accountable for similar issues. In closing, Mr. Kulon stated that he believes the system deficiencies predated his ownership of the property and expressed frustration with what he described as a lack of clarity, consistency, and accountability in the reporting and oversight process.

With no questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 20 Milan Manor Drive, Milan, Ohio 44846. He explained that under the O&M Program, all mechanical systems are required to undergo an annual review. As part of that review process, HCPH sends a standardized, tracked

notification letter to property owners outlining the findings of the review, the status of records on file, and any required actions for the system. Mr. Majoy explained that the March 26, 2024, letter reflected updates to the O&M review process that became effective in January 2024. Under the updated process, an entire calendar year is utilized to review completed services and maintenance activities to provide homeowners with a full year to achieve compliance. He noted that paragraph five of the letter explains this review methodology, and paragraph ten outlines the compliance standards applicable for the 2024 review year. For this property, the review reflected that only one service record was on file for 2023, which resulted in the issuance of the 2024 notice under the updated template. Mr. Majoy further explained that beginning in 2024, service records transitioned to an online and digital submission system. The packet included service records submitted during the 2024 calendar year, which were utilized for the 2025 compliance review. These records included a pump report dated April 11, 2024, which documented that pumping and service were completed on the same date, as well as an additional service report dated September 2, 2024, which noted that access to a specific component previously identified was not available at that time. Mr. Majoy stated that another letter was sent on March 26, 2025, which utilized all service records from calendar year 2024 to determine compliance for the 2025 review period. He explained that this review identified specific system components, including a distribution box riser and lid, that required correction. According to Health Department records, those riser corrections were completed on July 17, 2025. Mr. Majoy clarified that while those corrections were completed in 2025, the O&M review process utilizes a look-back period, meaning that services completed in 2025 would be reviewed for compliance in the 2026 review cycle. He concluded by confirming that this look-back structure is consistently applied under the O&M Program.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Mr. Tkach made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. and Mrs. Kulon were taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. and Mrs. Kulon were escorted from the medical waiting room back into the conference room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Dr. Browne made the motion, and Mr. Tkach seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – No. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained to Mr. and Mrs. Kulon that the Board's determination was to not grant the objection to the non-compliance fee. He stated that the \$350.00 non-compliance fee was assessed due to required services not being completed within the designated O&M Program timelines, despite multiple notifications being provided to the homeowner following the purchase of the property. Mr. Loose explained that while the system is now in compliance, the non-compliance fee applies to the prior review period in which compliance was not achieved. Mr. Loose further clarified that once the \$350.00 non-compliance fee is paid, the property would move forward in compliance, and future reviews would only require payment of the standard annual O&M fee. He noted that provided continued compliance, the property would not be assessed a non-compliance fee in the next review cycle. Mr. Kulon expressed confusion and frustration regarding the timeline requirements and stated that he believed he had been misinformed by realtors and service providers about the compliance status of the system at the time of purchase. He questioned how prior owners were not held accountable and

raised concerns regarding consistency in enforcement, the clarity of county-specific rules, and the role of registered service providers. Mr. Loose acknowledged Mr. Kulon's concerns and explained that similar situations have occurred elsewhere in the county. He stated that the O&M Program was established in response to state requirements mandating local health departments to implement and enforce operation and maintenance standards. Mr. Loose further clarified that enrollment in the O&M Program is triggered by the sale of a property and that the 2024 review identified non-compliance based on documented system conditions during the applicable review period. He explained that although corrective actions were completed in 2025, the non-compliance fee applied to the 2024 review year under the program's look-back process. Mr. Loose reiterated that the system is currently compliant and that no non-compliance fee would be assessed in the 2026 review cycle, provided ongoing compliance is maintained. Mr. Kulon continued to express concerns regarding service provider accountability, realtor disclosures, and access to clear county-level requirements. Mr. Loose explained that service providers listed by HCPH are licensed at the state level and are not endorsed by the Department, and that the list is provided as a courtesy to homeowners. At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Strickler stated that the Board's decision would be provided in writing and mailed to Mr. Kulon within ten (10) days. Mr. Strickler thanked Mr. Kulon for his comments, and the Board proceeded to the next agenda item. At this time Mr. and Mrs. Kulon exited the building.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 1501 Hartland Center Rd., Collins, OH 44826. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mr. Jeff Fannin, Tom McCoppin, and Joe Fannin stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. Fannin.

Mr. Fannin provided testimony regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and compliance history of the septic systems located at 1501 Hartland Center Rd., Collins, OH 44826. He stated that he was required to install a new septic system on his property despite having an earlier system that was approved in 1994, noting that the house was constructed in 1997. He expressed frustration that the required system has resulted in ongoing financial burden since its installation. Mr. Fannin stated that he has consistently paid for required operating and maintenance services through Blake's since the system was installed and questioned the legitimacy of the annual operating and maintenance fee charged by the Health Department, asserting that the Department does not perform any direct operation or maintenance activities on his property. He further stated that he received a \$350.00 non-compliance fee despite his belief that he was in compliance at all relevant times. Mr. Fannin explained that after performing maintenance on his own system, he was informed that the pump was faulty. He stated that he independently purchased a replacement pump from NCI and expressed concern that replacement pumps must be purchased through a limited source, which he characterized as monopolistic. He stated that following the pump replacement, he was still assessed a \$350.00 non-compliance fee and questioned how the amount of that fee was determined, asserting that no reasonable opportunity was provided to achieve compliance prior to assessment. Mr. Fannin also referenced additional properties he owns and stated that he contacted the Health Department regarding records for septic systems on those properties. He stated that he was informed copies of system records were available but would require payment. He indicated that he submitted payment on January 25, 2021, in the amount of \$10.78 but never received the requested documentation and has not received follow-up communication regarding those records. He stated that the lack of documentation has impeded his ability to update or bring those systems into compliance. He described the systems on those properties as including aeration systems, leach fields, and filter beds and noted that one property is slated for demolition and replacement with a new structure. Mr. Fannin stated that he was informed that, even if an existing septic system passed inspection, an \$850.00 fee would be required to connect a new dwelling to the system. He expressed strong objection to this fee,

stating that it is unreasonable to require additional payment after the system has already been upgraded and approved. Mr. Fannin stated that Blake's serviced his system on December 24, 2024, and that the service report indicated the system was operating properly and met required standards. He stated that despite this documentation, he received notice of non-compliance and an associated \$350.00 fee. He asserted that the service documentation had not been properly submitted to or recorded by the Health Department and expressed frustration that homeowners are penalized for reporting or record-keeping failures outside their control. Mr. Fannin stated that his septic tanks are pumped approximately every three to four years and that proper disposal practices are followed. He acknowledged the importance of regulatory oversight but questioned why homeowners are prohibited from performing routine maintenance on their own systems, stating that he is capable of completing basic maintenance tasks. He further stated that required service contracts cost him approximately \$300.00 annually and described the maintenance performed as minimal in nature. In closing, Mr. Fannin stated that he does not believe the \$350.00 non-compliance fee for 2024 is justified and stated that he does not intend to pay the fee. He expressed broader concern that fees are inconsistently applied and that other systems in worse condition do not appear to be subject to similar enforcement. He requested that the Health Department review his documentation, compare service timelines, and reconsider the non-compliance determination based on the evidence presented.

With no questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 1501 Hartland Center Rd., Collins, OH 44826. He explained that beginning in 2024, the Health Department transitioned to a standardized template for annual reviews of mechanical septic systems. Mr. Majoy explained that the 2024 review process utilized service documentation from the prior calendar year in order to ensure consistency and equitable treatment of homeowners and service providers. He stated that, under this process, systems reviewed in 2024 relied on service records from 2023. He referenced language within the evaluation letter explaining that compliance determinations are based on whether the required number of annual service events were documented during the prior year. Mr. Majoy stated that, based on records submitted to the Health Department, the subject system did not have documentation showing two required service visits submitted for calendar year 2023. He clarified that service documentation is required to be submitted by the registered service provider, not by the homeowner. Mr. Fannin interrupted, stating that the system had been serviced twice annually every year since installation and that he had paid for continuous maintenance through multiple providers over a 28-year period. He expressed frustration that he was being fined for documentation failures he attributed to service providers rather than to any lack of maintenance. He further stated that he was required to install an aeration system instead of a filter bed system originally approved for the property and expressed dissatisfaction with the ongoing costs associated with the aeration system. Mr. Majoy responded that if the services were performed in 2023 but not submitted, retroactive service documentation could be accepted and added to the record. He explained that the homeowner could work with the service provider to obtain proof of service for that year. Mr. Fannin again interrupted, stating that he should not be responsible for obtaining documentation from service providers and asserting that the Health Department should ensure providers submit required records. He expressed anger regarding what he perceived as a lack of accountability and stated that he relies on both the Health Department and service providers to fulfill their responsibilities. Mr. Loose and Mrs. Stults provided clarification, stating that while service providers are required to submit documentation, the responsibility for ensuring that the system is properly serviced ultimately remains with the property owner. They acknowledged Mr. Fannin's frustration but reiterated that compliance determinations must be based on documentation on file. Mr. Majoy further clarified that although service documentation for 2023 was incomplete, the associated fee for that year had been waived and that Mr. Fannin did not owe a non-compliance fee for 2023. He explained that the non-compliance determination at issue applied to 2024 and was based on reported deficiencies involving the aeration motor and the tertiary filter. Mr. Majoy stated that service documentation submitted in September 2024 indicated that the aeration

motor was not operational and that the tertiary filter required replacement. He explained that while Mr. Fannin provided a receipt showing purchase of a replacement motor in August 2024, the Health Department did not receive documentation indicating that the motor had been reinstalled and verified as operational by a registered service provider during the remainder of the 2024 calendar year. Mr. Fannin interrupted, stating that he personally replaced the motor and questioned why no follow-up inspection occurred. He further stated that he had not replaced the tertiary filter and questioned how the system later passed inspection with the original filter still in place. He expressed frustration with what he described as contradictory inspection results and questioned the validity of the inspection forms used by service providers. Mr. Majoy responded that the Health Department must rely on reports submitted by registered service providers and cannot recognize maintenance performed by individuals who are not credentialed through the State of Ohio. He stated that homeowners may pursue certification if they wish to perform and document maintenance themselves. He reiterated that the last report received for 2024 indicated that two critical system components, the aeration motor and tertiary filter, were not functioning or had not been replaced, and no subsequent documentation was submitted to demonstrate that those deficiencies had been corrected. Mr. Majoy explained that replacement components must meet manufacturer and regulatory specifications and clarified that while NCI is a local distributor, homeowners are not required to purchase parts exclusively from that vendor, provided that approved NORWECO components are used. Mr. Fannin again interrupted, stating that he believed the \$350.00 non-compliance fee was arbitrary and unjustified, particularly given that later inspections reportedly passed the system without replacement of the tertiary filter. He expressed dissatisfaction with the operating and maintenance fee and stated that he believes homeowners are being unfairly charged for services not directly provided by the Health Department. In closing, Mr. Majoy stated that the non-compliance fee amount was established through a broader fee analysis process intended to encourage timely compliance across the county. He acknowledged Mr. Fannin's frustration but stated that the Health Department must apply the same standards consistently to all systems based on documentation received. The discussion concluded with acknowledgment of Mr. Fannin's concerns and confirmation that the Board understood the issues raised.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Dr. Browne made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Jeff Fannin, Tom McCoppin, and Joe Fannin were taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Dr. Browne made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Jeff Fannin, Tom McCoppin, and Joe Fannin were escorted out of the medical waiting room and back into the Conference Room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Dr. Browne made the motion, and Mr. Polachek seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – Yes. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained that the \$350.00 non-compliance fee remains in effect, as the objection had been denied due to failure to maintain compliance within the required 2024 review timeline. He clarified that although the system is currently in compliance, the assessed fee pertains specifically to non-compliance during the 2024 review year. Mr. Fannin disagreed with the assessment and stated that he would not be paying the \$350.00 fee, asserting that documentation indicated he was in compliance. Mr. Loose explained that compliance determinations are based on the applicable review year and that the fine is tied to the 2024 period. He further stated that part of

the non-compliance determination related to work not being performed by a registered service provider, as required under Ohio law. Mr. Fannin responded that corrective work had been completed after being advised it was necessary and questioned the distinction regarding who performed the work. Mr. Loose clarified that Ohio law requires certain work to be completed by a registered service provider and that failure to meet that requirement contributed to the non-compliance determination. Mr. Strickler informed Mr. Fannin that a written decision would be issued within ten (10) days. Mr. Loose offered to provide information regarding the process of becoming a registered service provider should Mr. Fannin wish to perform future work on his own system. Mr. Fannin then raised a separate concern regarding a prior septic system permitting experience at another property, questioning the inspection process at that time. Mr. Loose acknowledged his comments but indicated that the Board needed to proceed to the next hearing. The discussion concluded, and the Board moved on to the next agenda item, at this time Mr. Jeff Fannin, Tom McCoppin, and Joe Fannin exited the room.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 1264 Laurel Rd., Norwalk, OH 44857. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mr. Stephen Barrett stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. Barrett.

Mr. Barrett provided testimony regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and compliance history of the septic system at 1264 Laurel Rd., Norwalk, Ohio 44857. The letter referenced during discussion was a Notice of Non-Compliance issued under the HCPH Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Program.

Mr. Barrett stated that his service provider, Larry Burras of Burras Septic Services, visited the property to perform septic services. During that visit, Mr. Barrett inquired about letters he had received from HCPH. According to Mr. Barrett, Mr. Burras indicated that the Health Department was attempting to require homeowners to install new septic systems. Mr. Barrett further asked whether Mr. Burras had signed the non-compliance notice, and Mr. Burras reportedly stated that he had not and would not sign it, indicating that signing the document would trigger additional inspections and potentially require installation of a new system.

Mr. Barrett explained that he relied on the guidance provided by his service contractor. When asked by Dr. Browne whether he had contacted HCPH with questions regarding the program, Mr. Barrett stated that he later spoke with Mr. Majoy, whom he described as helpful, but only after receiving multiple letters. Mr. Barrett stated he believed he had complied with all requirements and noted that his inspections had consistently passed. Mrs. Stults requested clarification, citing records indicating that no pump report had been submitted within the required five-year timeframe. Mr. Barrett responded that he had never been informed that the system needed to be pumped. Dr. Browne referenced a 2024 letter stating that a pump report had not been submitted within the previous five years. Mr. Barrett acknowledged that the system was pumped in May 2025 by a provider located in Berlin Heights, bringing him into compliance for the 2025 billing year. When asked about the 2024 non-compliance notice, Mr. Barrett acknowledged that he understood the letter instructed him to have the system pumped; however, he chose to follow his service provider's advice instead. He also stated that prior to 2025, the system had never been pumped because he had not been directed to do so. In response to a question from Mr. Loose, Mr. Barrett stated that he had purchased the property in 2001. He expressed that he did not believe he should be required to pay the non-compliance fee because he relied on the advice of his service provider. He reiterated that Mr. Majoy later explained the program requirements and the steps necessary to achieve compliance. Mr. Majoy clarified that a permit could not be issued retroactively for a non-compliant year, as doing so would contradict program requirements. The discussion concluded with Mr. Barrett stating that the program was confusing and reiterating that he had relied on his service provider's guidance.

With no further questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 1246 Laurel Rd., Norwalk, Ohio 44857, referencing letters issued in January 2024 and January 2025 under the HCPH

Operation & Maintenance Program. Mr. Majoy explained that compliance determinations are based on review of the prior calendar year to ensure equitable treatment of homeowners and service providers. During the 2024 compliance review (based on 2023 records), the system was determined to be non-compliant for two reasons: 1. Insufficient annual service reports submitted for 2023; and 2. No pump report on file within the required five-year timeframe. For the 2024 service year, two required services were completed on April 16, 2024, and October 23, 2024. These reports were submitted and validated; however, no pump report was completed during that year. The January 16, 2025 review letter reiterated that no pump report had been submitted within the previous five years, based on 2024 records. Mr. Majoy clarified that once the system is pumped and two annual services are maintained each year thereafter, the property will remain compliant moving forward. He emphasized that the five-year pumping requirement is a standard component of the program to ensure proper system maintenance. Mr. Majoy also addressed questions regarding the necessity of pumping when a tank appears empty, explaining that regardless of visible liquid levels, the five-year pumping requirement must be met to maintain compliance. The discussion concluded with confirmation that the submitted annual service reports were valid and that continued adherence to the two annual service requirements and five-year pumping schedule will ensure ongoing compliance.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Mr. Tkach made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Barrett was taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Barrett was escorted out of the medical waiting room and back into the Conference Room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Mr. Tkach made the motion, and Dr. Browne seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – No. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained that unfortunately Mr. Barrett's request to have the fee waived was denied. Mr. Strickler then told Mr. Barrett that he would get a written decision in the mail. Mr. Barrett then asked for final clarification of the ruling and Mr. Strickler confirmed that his request was in fact denied. The discussion concluded, and the Board moved on to the next agenda item; at this time Mr. Barrett exited the room.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 2092 Murray Rd., New London, OH 44851. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mr. John Boswell stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. Boswell.

Mr. Boswell provided testimony regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and compliance history of the septic system at 2092 Murray Rd., New London, OH 44851. Mr. Boswell addressed the Board regarding a \$350 fine assessed for failure to complete a septic system pump-out within the required five-year timeframe. He stated that he was not disputing the existence of the requirement but wished to explain the circumstances that led to the non-compliance. Mr. Boswell acknowledged that when his home was constructed in 2020, the five-year pumping requirement was made aware to him. He noted that he and his wife have consistently

complied with the twice-yearly inspection requirement and have utilized NCI for those services, as recommended. He explained that after each inspection, service providers leave documentation indicating whether any additional action is required. Mr. Boswell stated that he reviews those service cards and that none of the recent cards indicated the tank required pumping. He further stated that five years is a lengthy timeframe to remember, particularly given the pace of daily life and the approximate \$500 cost of pumping. He indicated that, as a homeowner, he relies on the documentation provided at the time of inspection to determine whether pumping is necessary. He expressed that if a card had indicated the need for pumping due to sludge levels or other concerns, he would have promptly completed the service. Mr. Boswell stated that upon receiving notice of the fine, he immediately contacted Franklin Sanitation and scheduled the pump-out. He noted that the service provider responded promptly and completed the pumping. He believed that addressing the issue quickly upon receiving the notice would be considered reasonable and potentially sufficient to avoid the fine. However, he was informed that the fine would still apply. Mr. Boswell questioned whether there may be a better method to prevent similar situations in the future, suggesting that clearer reminders or documentation may assist homeowners. He also questioned the rationale behind the five-year standard and asked who established that requirement. Mr. Majoy explained that the five-year pumping requirement is based on standardization for a properly sized septic system and average household usage. He stated that, for example, a three-bedroom system is designed for an estimated daily sewage flow consistent with typical residential use. The five-year interval represents an average maintenance standard intended to ensure proper system function. Mr. Majoy clarified that there is a distinction between the Health Department's standardized five-year pumping requirement and a service provider's on-site recommendation. Mrs. Stults then explained that service providers are certified and licensed by the State of Ohio. The Health Department provides homeowners with a list of local licensed providers for convenience but does not certify or endorse specific companies. Mr. Boswell expressed concern that if homeowners are required to use licensed providers, and those providers do not indicate that pumping is necessary, it creates confusion regarding responsibility for compliance. Mr. Majoy explained that the State of Ohio requires counties to establish and administer O&M programs. The specific five-year pumping interval is based on local O&M program standards, and requirements may vary by county.

With no further questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 2092 Murray Rd., New London, OH 44851. Mr. Majoy referenced the original notice of objection and explained that supporting shipping and tracking documentation had been included due to the concern that prior correspondence may not have been received. He stated that all notices were sent via verified tracking through a third-party mailing affiliate to ensure proof of delivery. Mr. Majoy first reviewed the April 2, 2024, letter which followed the standard O&M Program review template implemented in 2024. He explained that beginning in 2024, annual compliance reviews were conducted using a uniform template. The review process evaluates the previous calendar year in order to provide homeowners and service providers a full year to complete required services. He clarified that although the review occurred in 2024, it evaluated records from calendar year 2023. The 2024 review letter indicated two deficiencies: 1. A pump report had not been submitted within the previous five years; and 2. The system did not receive the required two annual service reports during 2023. Mr. Majoy stated that this determination was based solely on records submitted by registered service providers. According to Health Department records, the required two annual services for 2023 had not been received. Mr. Majoy then reviewed the 2025 compliance determination. He stated that for calendar year 2024, two service reports were submitted, reviewed, and validated. However, no pump report was submitted during that year. As a result, during the 2025 review process, the system remained non-compliant for failure to meet the five-year pumping requirement. A subsequent letter was issued reflecting continued non-compliance based on the lack of a pump report within the five-year timeframe. Mr. Boswell asked whether any reminder is issued in advance of the five-year pumping deadline, stating that five years is a long time to remember and asking whether a courtesy notice, such as a six-month reminder, could be provided. Mr. Majoy responded that no advanced reminder is currently

issued prior to the five-year deadline. He stated that the pumping date is listed on the original O&M permit documentation and subsequent correspondence. He noted that once a property is brought into compliance, the operational permit will reflect updated information moving forward. Mr. Boswell reviewed his original documentation and noted that his operational permit listed an issue date of January 23, 2021, and an expiration date of January 23, 2022, which he found confusing. Mr. Majoy explained that prior to 2024, operational permits were issued annually based on each property's individual enrollment date in the O&M program. Mr. Boswell's enrollment occurred following installation and approval of his new system. The annual renewal date was tied to that enrollment date. However, beginning in 2024, the Department transitioned to a uniform calendar-year review process to create consistency across all mechanical systems subject to annual review. Mr. Majoy explained that the change was implemented to reduce confusion caused by varying renewal dates throughout the year. Mr. Boswell reiterated that five years is a significant amount of time to track, particularly given the cost of pumping, and suggested that an advance reminder, such as one year or six months prior to the deadline, would be helpful. He stated that upon receiving notice of the fine, he reviewed his paperwork to determine where the five-year requirement was referenced and acknowledged that it was included in the original documentation, though he described the materials as lengthy and difficult to interpret. Mr. Boswell expressed that the \$350 fine felt substantial and suggested that additional time to comply after notification, or an advance reminder before the five-year deadline, may be beneficial for homeowners. He stated that he would not intentionally delay pumping beyond five years but would also not likely complete it earlier than required due to cost considerations. He concluded by asking where payment of the fine should be submitted. The discussion concluded following clarification of the timeline, documentation process, and program requirements.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Mr. Polachek made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Boswell was taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Boswell was escorted out of the medical waiting room and back into the Conference Room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Mr. Polachek made the motion, and Dr. Browne seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – Yes. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained that the Board had voted not to support Mr. Boswell's objection. Mr. Boswell responded that he wanted to proceed with paying the fine. Mr. Loose stated that if Mr. Boswell wished to make payment that day, he could do so at the other end of the building at the Environmental Health window. Mr. Strickler further advised that copies of the previously referenced letters, which Mr. Boswell indicated he did not have, would be available there as well. Mr. Majoy noted printed copies of the letters were on file and that office staff would be available at the service window to assist him. The discussion concluded, and the Board moved on to the next agenda item, at this time Mr. Boswell exited the room.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 1909 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Milan, OH 44846. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to

please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mrs. Colleen Barry stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mrs. Barry.

Mrs. Barry provided testimony regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and compliance history of the septic system at 1909 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Milan, OH 44846. Mrs. Barry addressed the Board regarding the assessed fine and expressed significant frustration with the situation. She stated that she purchased her home in 2003 and has consistently maintained her septic system since that time. She indicated that she has utilized Norwalk Concrete since 2003 to inspect the system twice annually and to advise her when pumping is needed. When instructed to pump, she contacts Fox & Sons to complete the service. Mrs. Barry stated that she moved to Toledo in 2018 and allowed her daughter to reside at the property. She indicated that she was unaware she had been enrolled in the O&M Program and did not recall receiving notification of enrollment. She explained that several years ago her daughter informed her that a letter had been received from the County indicating that documentation needed to be submitted. Mrs. Barry stated that she contacted Norwalk Concrete at that time and was told that the County simply required proof of inspection and that Norwalk Concrete would handle the matter. She relied on that representation. Mrs. Barry stated that in 2024 or 2025, her daughter notified her of another letter. Upon contacting Norwalk Concrete again, she was informed that she was being fined for failing to pump the system within the required timeframe. Mrs. Barry stated that Norwalk Concrete had inspected the system in October and advised that pumping was needed. She immediately contacted Fox & Sons, who indicated they would complete the pumping after the holidays. The service was ultimately completed in early January, rather than in December, which would have marked the five-year deadline. Mrs. Barry stated that she was unaware of the strict five-year requirement and that she relied on her service providers to inform her when pumping was necessary. She emphasized that she has consistently paid for inspections and pumping services when instructed and believed she was doing everything required to maintain her system properly. She further stated that she did not personally receive certain letters because correspondence continued to be sent to the property address rather than to her residence in Oregon (Toledo area). She indicated that she contacted the Health Department and requested that all future correspondence be sent directly to her current mailing address. However, notice of the present meeting was still mailed to the property address. She stated she would not have been aware of the meeting had her daughter not opened the mail and notified her. Mrs. Barry expressed concern that she had done everything she believed necessary, hiring licensed companies to inspect and pump the system, and was still fined due to the timing of the pump-out and lack of direct notification. She requested copies of all relevant correspondence and stated that she intends to ensure future compliance but would need clear direction regarding requirements and deadlines. In response to Mrs. Barry's questions regarding enrollment, Mr. Majoy explained that Huron County has operated a septic oversight program since 1998 and transitioned to the State of Ohio program in March 2019. At that time, letters were mailed in batches to homeowners informing them of the transition to the state-required O&M Program and requesting completion of enrollment documentation. Mr. Majoy stated that many homeowners did not return enrollment forms, which contributed to later compliance issues and prompted the Department's move to a standardized review template in 2024. Mr. Majoy further clarified that the March 2024 compliance letter specifically referenced the five-year pumping requirement. Mrs. Barry stated that she did not personally review that letter and instead relied on information provided by Norwalk Concrete. Regarding mailing concerns, Mr. Majoy acknowledged that the Department had been sending correspondence to the address listed with the County Auditor, which was the Sleepy Hollow property address. He confirmed that Mrs. Barry's updated mailing address has now been entered into the Department's software system. Mr. Majoy apologized for any delay in updating the mailing address and stated that he could not verify the timing of the phone conversation relative to the mailing of the appeal notice. He confirmed that future correspondence, including 2026 notices, will be sent to Mrs. Barry's updated address as requested. The discussion concluded following confirmation that the mailing address has been corrected and that copies of prior correspondence would be provided upon request.

With no further questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 1909 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Milan, OH 44846. Mr. Majoy presented the compliance timeline documentation contained within the hearing packet. He began by referencing the March 19, 2024, letter, which initiated the property's enrollment into the standardized annual review process implemented in 2024. Mr. Majoy explained that under the revised O&M review process, compliance determinations are based on service records submitted during the previous calendar year. This method allows property owners and service providers the benefit of a full calendar year to complete required services. As outlined in Section 5 of the March 19, 2024, letter, the 2024 review evaluated all records submitted for calendar year 2023. Mr. Majoy directed attention to Section 10 of the 2024 letter, which stated that a pump report had not been submitted to HCPH within the previous five years. As a result, the system was deemed non-compliant for the 2024 review period. Mr. Majoy then transitioned to the 2025 review, which evaluated records submitted for calendar year 2024. He referenced two validated service reports received for 2024: 1. A service completed May 22, 2024; and 2. A service completed November 5, 2024. Both services were reviewed and accepted. However, no pump report was submitted during calendar year 2024. Therefore, during the 2025 compliance review, the system remained non-compliant for failure to meet the five-year pumping requirement. During the presentation, Mrs. Barry interjected to clarify the timeline from her perspective. She stated that Norwalk Concrete had historically inspected the system in March and October. She believed that during the October 2024 inspection, she was informed that pumping was needed. She stated that she immediately contacted Fox & Sons to schedule the pump-out and was told the service would be completed after the holidays. Mrs. Barry indicated that she paid for the service at that time and that the pump-out was ultimately completed on January 28, 2025. She expressed that had the provider been able to complete the service sooner, prior to the December five-year deadline, the non-compliance would not have occurred. Mr. Majoy confirmed that Health Department records reflect the pump-out was completed January 28, 2025. Mrs. Barry further explained that at the time of the October inspection, Norwalk Concrete provided a service card indicating that pumping was needed. She stated that she acted promptly upon receiving that information and relied on the service provider to schedule and complete the work. Mr. Tkach inquired about current household occupancy. Mrs. Barry stated that her daughter, her daughter's boyfriend, and her granddaughter currently reside at the property. She noted that when she originally lived in the home, there were six occupants and pumping was required infrequently, which contributed to her lack of awareness regarding the strict five-year requirement. Mrs. Barry reiterated that when she was first notified in 2024 of non-compliance, she did not personally review the letter. Instead, she relied on information provided by Norwalk Concrete after contacting them. She stated that because she has utilized the same company since 2003, she trusted that they would manage compliance requirements on her behalf. The presentation concluded following confirmation of the documented service dates and the January 28, 2025 pump-out completion date.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Mr. Tkach made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mrs. Barry was taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mrs. Barry was escorted out of the medical waiting room and back into the Conference Room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Mr. Polachek made the motion, and Dr. Browne seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – No. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained that the Board had voted not to support Mrs. Barry's objection. With no further discussion, the Board moved on to the next agenda item, at this time Mrs. Barry exited the room.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 2235 US Highway 224 E, Greenwich, OH 44837. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mrs. Amber Hicks stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mrs. Hicks.

Mrs. Hicks provided testimony regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and compliance history of the septic system at 2235 US Highway 224 E, Greenwich, OH 44837. Mrs. Hicks stated that she and her husband purchased their home in July 2025 under the understanding and belief that the septic system was current and in compliance. They signed the purchase agreement in April 2025 and were under the impression that all required inspections, servicing, and documentation related to the septic system were up to date at the time of sale. After moving into the home at the end of July 2025, Mrs. Hicks established annual servicing with a septic service provider. At that time, she learned that the previous owner had already received notice of a fine prior to the closing of the sale. Mrs. Hicks testified that this fine or related paperwork had been issued before they took ownership of the property. Therefore, she does not believe she and her husband should be held responsible for non-compliance that occurred before they owned the home. Mrs. Stults then asked how Mrs. Hicks and her husband had received the letter, of which she states that the notice letter was mailed to the property address and was issued in her and her husband's names, even though the previous owner remained in the home until approximately July 12, 2025. Dr. Browne then asked Mrs. Hicks if the conveyance of the septic system compliance was just verbal confirmation. Mrs. Hicks then explained that there was nothing in the written contract, referencing both the Walk-Through Addendum and the Purchaser's Agreement. Mrs. Strickler then asked Mrs. Hicks whether or not she had received the Seller's Disclosure Form with her written contract, of which Mrs. Hicks replied that she had received it and there was nothing in it stating that he was non-compliant. She further testified that once servicing was initiated, they learned the aerator installed in the system was not compliant for the county. Upon learning this during the first service visit, they promptly replaced the aerator to bring the system into compliance. Mrs. Hicks indicated that the notice was triggered due to a lack of two required annual service visits prior to their ownership. After scheduling service, it was discovered that a component was not functioning properly, and it was replaced immediately. Mrs. Hicks confirmed that the home purchase was conducted through realtors, including a dual agency agreement. She indicated that the only documentation disclosed to them at the time of sale stated that the aerator had been replaced in 2023. She also testified that since purchasing the home, they have maintained compliance by obtaining two service visits in the prior year and have an active service contract in place for the current year, with renewal scheduled in July. Mrs. Hicks reiterated that they acted promptly to correct any deficiencies once they became aware of them and believe they should not be penalized for issues that originated prior to their ownership of the property.

With no further questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 2235 US Highway 224 E, Greenwich, OH 44837. Mr. Majoy explained that in front of the Board was the objection packet including the first document outlining non-compliance that was sent on April 18, 2024, addressed to the previous owner Timothy Mann. Mr. Majoy explained that the County uses a standardized template for conducting annual reviews of all mechanical systems enrolled in the O&M program. He testified that the 2024 mechanical review utilized a slightly revised format, which evaluated the totality of services completed during the prior calendar year. Specifically, the 2024 review assessed all services completed in calendar year 2023. That review determined

that the subject system did not receive the required number of annual service visits during 2023. Mr. Majoy stated that because the system is an aeration system, it is required to receive two service visits per calendar year under County regulations. He further testified that the subsequent 2025 review evaluated services completed in calendar year 2024. According to County records, no services were reported for 2024 at the time of review. Mr. Majoy noted that the 2025 review was conducted on April 30, 2025, the notice of non-compliance was, at this time, still addressed to the previous owner, Mr. Mann. As a result of the review findings, the system was marked non-compliant for failure to receive the required two annual service visits. In this case, zero qualifying services were documented for the review period. Mr. Majoy also addressed the timing of the property transfer. Auditor records reflect that the property sale occurred on July 3, 2025. Mrs. Stults asked for clarification to as whether the property would have been a new enrollment into the O&M Program due to the property sale. Mr. Majoy clarified that enrollment in the O&M Program remains with the property for the life of the system. Once a property is enrolled, it remains enrolled regardless of changes in ownership. A property transfer does not create a new enrollment; the enrollment continues uninterrupted. Mr. Majoy explained that the April review letter would have been issued to the owner listed in County records at that time, which would have been the prior owner. He further stated that the subsequent notification letter issued in November served as the first formal notice received by the current property owners, as earlier correspondence would have been sent to the previous owner of record based on the information available at the time.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Mr. Tkach made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mrs. Hicks was taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mrs. Hicks was escorted out of the medical waiting room and back into the Conference Room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Mr. Polachek made the motion, and Dr. Browne seconded. The motion passed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. Following the vote, Mr. Loose explained to Mrs. Hicks that the Board had granted her objection. He clarified that the objection was granted on the grounds that she and her husband were not the legal owners of the property during the period in which the documented O&M Program infractions occurred. Specifically, the violations related to the failure to obtain the required two annual service visits for the aeration system during the applicable review period, which predated their July 3, 2025, ownership. Mr. Strickler further acknowledged that upon taking ownership of the property, Mrs. Hicks and her husband acted proactively and in good faith to bring the system into compliance. After moving into the home at the end of July 2025, they established service, at which time it was discovered that the aerator was not compliant for Huron County. The aerator was promptly replaced. The Board also recognized that the system received two service visits in the prior year, specifically in August and December, and that any deficiencies noted during the first service were corrected and documented during the second visit. Additionally, the Hicks's have secured and signed a service contract for the current year to ensure continued compliance. Mr. Strickler stated that given the timing of the prior non-compliance and the proactive corrective measures taken by Mrs. Hicks and her husband, it was a clear and appropriate decision to grant the objection and waive the associated fees. Mr. Majoy then explained that the property will continue to remain enrolled in the O&M

Program, as enrollment runs with the property for the life of the system. He advised that the system will be reviewed annually. He further explained that compliance with the program includes maintaining two service visits per calendar year and completing required pumping no later than 2028, which will be reviewed in 2029. Using 2026 as an example, Mr. Majoy stated that because the system is currently in compliance, Mrs. Hicks will be billed \$55.48 and will be issued an updated O&M permit. He also noted that if any system components become damaged or malfunction, repairs must be completed by the end of the calendar year in which the issue is identified, and that the Health Department should be contacted with any questions or concerns. With no further discussion, the Board proceeded to the next agenda item, and Mrs. Hicks thanked the Board and exited the meeting room.

Mr. Loose presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 1244 Greenfield Dr., Willard, OH 44890. Mr. Randal Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH and Mr. Luis Alvarado and Dustin Hamons stood at this time and were dually sworn by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. Alvarado and Mr. Hamons.

Mr. Hamons provided testimony regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and compliance history of the septic system at 1244 Greenfield Dr., Willard, OH 44890. Mr. Hamons identified himself as the father-in-law of Mr. Luis Alvarado and stated that he was further testifying on Mr. Alvarado and his daughter's behalf. Mr. Hamons testified that the Alvarado's purchased the property in June 2024. He explained that the couple received a letter in November assessing a \$350 non-compliance fee related to the septic system's enrollment in the O&M Program. According to Mr. Hamons, this November letter was the first correspondence the Alvarado's received from the Health Department regarding any compliance concerns. Mr. Hamons stated that, after receiving the fine notice, he contacted the Health Department by phone to inquire about the matter. During that conversation, he was informed that multiple compliance letters had previously been mailed to the former property owner prior to the transfer of ownership. He emphasized that those letters were not received by Mr. and Mrs. Alvarado, as they had not yet taken ownership at the time the earlier notices were issued. He reiterated that from the date of purchase in June 2024 until the November fine notice, the Alvarado's did not receive any written communication advising them of deficiencies, missed service requirements, or non-compliance status related to the septic system. Mr. Hamons expressed concern that the first notice received by the new owners was a penalty rather than an informational or warning letter. He stated that the overarching goal of the Health Department should be achieving compliance, not imposing fines. He further testified that septic system requirements are not common knowledge to most homeowners. Unlike traffic regulations, where the general public understands the existence of speed limits, many homeowners are unaware of the specific type of septic system installed on their property, whether it requires annual inspections, or how many service visits are mandated per year under O&M regulations. While Mr. Hamons indicated that he has some familiarity with septic system oversight due to prior experience, he stated that the average new homeowner would not necessarily understand the technical and regulatory requirements associated with mechanical systems or aeration units. He suggested that improved procedures following property transfers could help prevent similar situations. Specifically, he questioned whether there could be a more timely notification process tied to property transfer records, or a formal letter automatically sent to new owners advising them of the system type, service requirements, and O&M obligations immediately upon transfer. Mr. Hamons reiterated that, in his view, the primary purpose of the O&M Program is to ensure septic systems function properly to protect public health and environmental safety. He compared the oversight process to maintaining a fire extinguisher, stating that the objective is to ensure the equipment works when needed, not to penalize someone who was unaware of maintenance requirements. Mr. Hamons also testified that he previously served on a board during the development of the Holiday Lakes sewer system, which

originated after the septic system at the lodge required replacement. Through that experience, he participated in multiple meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Health Department and developed a general understanding of septic system regulation and compliance expectations. Upon questioning by the Board, Mr. Hamons confirmed again that Mr. and Mrs. Alvarado purchased the property in June 2024. He reiterated that, based on information provided during his phone call with the Health Department, prior compliance letters had been sent to the previous homeowner before the transfer occurred. He maintained that the November correspondence assessing the \$350 non-compliance fee was the first and only notice received by the Alvarado's. Mrs. Stults noted that there was a letter dated January 16, 2025, which had been mailed to the property address. Mr. Hamons was asked whether mail had been forwarded from the prior owner and under whose name the letter was addressed. It was indicated that the correspondence was addressed to the property address. Mrs. Stults asked Mr. Alvarado if he or his wife had opened the mail addressed to the previous owner, Mr. Alvarado stated he could not recall. Mr. Hamons further clarified that the mail was being forwarded to the previous owner's parents' address who were said to live around the corner from the Alvarado's property. Mr. Loose clarified the purchase date, confirming that the Alvarado's purchased the home in June 2024. It was also noted that an additional letter had been sent on October 27, 2025, followed by the November correspondence assessing the fine. When asked whether the October letter had been received, Mr. Alvarado stated that the only letter he specifically recalled was the November notice.

With no further questions from the Board, Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the property located at 1244 Greenfield Dr., Willard, OH 44890. He explained that the first notice related to the property is the original letter sent to the owner requesting a hearing. He noted that the file contains a letter dated January 11, 2024, which represents the first enrollment or update to the O&M Program for this system in 2024. This letter serves as the formal notification of enrollment in the County's O&M Program and outlines the review process for compliance. Mr. Majoy explained that for any system enrolled in Huron County's O&M Program, an annual review is conducted to ensure compliance. To be equitable and consistent for all homeowners and service providers, each year's review is based on services completed during the previous calendar year. For example, the 2024 review utilized service records and pump reports from 2023. As part of the 2024 review, Mr. Majoy testified that the system at Greenfield was found to be non-compliant. Records indicated that the system did not receive the required two service visits during 2023. While the office received documentation of one service and a pumping (the first service on May 13, 2024, which was validated by the Health Department), the second required annual service had not been submitted. Under the County's O&M standards, aeration systems require two service visits per year and a pumping at least once every five years to maintain compliance. Mr. Majoy confirmed that the January 16, 2025 mailing was sent to Mr. Porter (the property owner at that time) to notify him of the non-compliance. The Health Department reviews these records and determines whether the system is in compliance based on submitted service documentation. Because only one of the two required manual services had been submitted, the system was officially considered non-compliant at that time. He further clarified that the next required pumping for the property would follow the standard five-year interval under the O&M Program and that service compliance must be maintained in subsequent years to avoid future non-compliance notices. In summary, Mr. Majoy explained that the January 11, 2024 letter was part of the initial enrollment and update process, the 2024 review relied on services completed in 2023, and non-compliance was determined based on the lack of two service visits during that period, even though one service and a pumping had been submitted.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Dr. Browne made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne -

Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Alvarado and Mr. Hamons were taken to the Medical Division waiting room.

Following the Board’s deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. At this time, Mr. Alvarado and Mr. Hamons were escorted out of the medical waiting room and back into the Conference Room.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Dr. Browne made the motion, and Mr. Polachek seconded. The motion passed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes. Following the vote, Mr. Strickler explained that the motion carried and the objection was granted. Mr. Majoy then explained that each year the system will be reviewed to ensure compliance, including verification that: two annual service visits have been completed, the septic tank has been pumped within the last five years, and any broken or malfunctioning components have been repaired within one year. Mr. Majoy cautioned that failure to maintain these requirements could result in future non-compliance notices. For example, in 2026, a non-compliance letter would be issued promptly, potentially within two weeks, if the system was not properly serviced or maintained. With no further discussion, the Board proceeded to the next agenda item, and Mr. Hamons and Mr. Alvarado thanked the Board and exited the meeting room.

Mr. Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor’s Office presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 1928 County Line Rd., South, Attica, OH 44807. Mr. Strickler asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH stood at this time as Mr. Curt Thompson and Mrs. Kalie Thompson were not present. Mr. Majoy was sworn in by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. Majoy.

Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the compliance review and maintenance history of the septic system located at 1928 County Line Rd. South, Attica, OH 44807. He explained that the O&M Program conducts annual reviews based on the prior year’s services to ensure consistency and fairness. For example, the 2024 review was based on services completed in 2023. For that review, the system was non-compliant because no service records were submitted for 2023; pump reports or service records for that year were absent. The 2025 review used 2024 service information. Records indicate that in 2024, the property received one service and a pumping. While the pumping was completed and documented, only one of the required two annual services was recorded, leaving the system technically non-compliant for that year. Mr. Cherry then interjected, asking Mr. Majoy to go over the full timeline with the Board. Dr. Browne repeated the information presented by Mr. Majoy, confirming that in 2023 no services were performed, and in 2024 there was one pumping and one service. Mr. Cherry noted that Mr. Thompson’s invoices indicated payment for both required services in 2024, but only one service had been completed. There was some initial confusion regarding the invoice because it appeared that only one of the two required services had been paid for. Mr. Majoy clarified that invoices submitted by service providers sometimes reflect services that were paid for but not completed or not documented properly. In this case, the invoice indicated payment for two services and a pumping totaling \$600, but only one service and the pumping were submitted and validated by the Health Department as of the review period. The second service, which was scheduled for December, had not yet been completed or reported. He emphasized that compliance is determined based on services submitted and validated. Even though payment had been made for both services, the system remained non-compliant until both services were performed and properly documented. Mr. Majoy noted that variables outside of the Board’s control, such as scheduling delays or service provider reporting, can affect compliance records. Mr. Majoy confirmed that

the March 18, 2025, letter reflects that only one of the two required services had been completed, with the second service scheduled for later in December 2024. He further clarified that pumping and inspections both count as services, but two distinct annual service visits are required for compliance under the O&M Program. In summary, he explained the timeline and reasoning behind the non-compliance determination: in 2023, no services or pumping were submitted, so the system was non-compliant; in 2024, one service and one pumping were completed and documented, leaving the system still non-compliant for not meeting the two-service requirement; and although payment was made for two services and a pumping, only one service was completed and validated. He concluded by emphasizing that compliance will remain under review each year, with annual verification of service completion, tank pumping, and any required repairs to maintain the system according to O&M standards.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Mr. Tkach made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Mr. Tkach made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Dr. Browne seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Dr. Browne made the motion, and Mr. Tkach seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – No. With no further discussion, the Board moved onto the next objection for 2018 County Line Rd. South, Attica, OH 44807.

Mr. Strickler of the Huron County Prosecutor's Office presented the O&M Objection Hearing for 2018 County Line Rd., South, Attica, OH 44807. Mr. Strickler asked those planning to give testimony in the hearing to please stand and raise their right hand to be sworn. Mr. Nino Majoy from HCPH stood at this time as Mr. Curt Thompson and Mrs. Kalie Thompson were not present. Mr. Majoy was sworn in by Mr. Strickler, who then gave the floor to Mr. Majoy.

Mr. Majoy provided testimony regarding the compliance status and enrollment history of the septic system located at 2018 County Line Rd. South, Attica, OH 44807. He began by introducing the objection packet, noting that it included the Thompson's formal request for an objection as well as mailing and tracking documentation. The mailing documentation was included because the property owners indicated that they did not receive prior correspondence regarding their non-compliance. Mr. Majoy testified that a letter dated June 10, 2025, was sent to 1928 County Line Rd. South, Attica, OH 44807, the Thompson's home address, and was delivered on June 16, 2025, at 11:37 a.m. A second letter dated September 4, 2025, was delivered to the same address on September 8, 2025, at 11:29 a.m. The Board discussed that the Thompsons did not explicitly deny receiving the letters outlining their non-compliance. Mr. Cherry stated that the Thompsons' position was that, because the property is currently vacant, they do not believe they should be required to pay the associated O&M fees. Mrs. Stults clarified that the Thompsons were required to enroll in the O&M Program following the transfer of the property. She further noted that in their objection letter, the Thompsons indicated uncertainty as to whether they would be able to preserve the current structure or the existing sewage system on the property. Mr. Majoy explained that the system currently on the property is a direct discharge system. He stated that system verification had previously been completed by the former owner and that documentation on file shows the dwelling discharging

into a dry well. He clarified that the system consists of a 500-gallon dry well with no bottom, along with an outlet line discharging from the structure. Because the property does not connect to a municipal sewage treatment system and does not have an approved on-site sewage treatment system, it is required under County policy to be enrolled in the O&M Program. Mr. Majoy further explained that the June 10, 2025, letter was a standard property transfer template letter. The letter informs the new property owner that, upon transfer of ownership, the property must be enrolled in the O&M Program and provides a deadline to do so. In this case, the letter required enrollment on or before August 10, 2025, via system evaluation. He acknowledged that the template letter is general in nature and does not specifically detail that the system is a direct discharge; however, it notifies the owner that the property is not enrolled in O&M and does not connect to a municipal system, thereby triggering the enrollment requirement. Mr. Majoy testified that he had no record of contact from the Thompsons prior to the August 10 deadline. He noted that while not every phone call is recorded, any substantive communication, such as a request for an extension or clarification, would typically be documented in the system comments. No such documentation appeared in the file. After the August 10 deadline passed without enrollment or contact, a follow-up letter was drafted on August 27, 2025, notifying the Thompsons that they were not in compliance. Mr. Majoy stated that a site visit was not necessary at that time because the Department already had system verification records on file confirming the direct discharge condition. He further testified that the required fee was not paid prior to December 31, 2025. During Board discussion, a question was raised as to what options would have been available had the Thompsons contacted the Department earlier. Mr. Majoy explained that if the owners did not intend to use the property, they could have filed for an abandonment permit to properly abandon the existing system. Alternatively, if they intended to move forward with installing a new sewage treatment system, they could have submitted a written statement of intent and begun the design and permitting process, which would include soil evaluation and application review. In that scenario, O&M enrollment would not have applied in the same manner because the property would be transitioning to a compliant sewage treatment system. Mr. Majoy concluded by stating that the best course of action would have been for the property owners to contact the Health Department and clearly communicate their intentions for the property so that the appropriate regulatory pathway, abandonment or system replacement, could have been initiated.

Following Mr. Majoy's testimony, Dr. Browne made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to deliberate on the matter, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3), for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes of the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to deliberate on the appeal. Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Dr. Browne made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to approve the waiver of fees related to the environmental hearing. Mr. Polachek made the motion, and Dr. Browne seconded. The motion failed following a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows: Dr. Browne – No; Mr. Loose – No; Mr. Polachek – No; Mr. Tkach – No.

Mr. Loose requested a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(3): Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. Dr. Browne made a motion; Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Following the Board's deliberation in executive session, Dr. Browne made a motion to exit executive session and resume into regular session and Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Strickler requested a motion to authorize the Huron County Prosecutor's Office to settle the matter discussed during executive session under the terms and conditions discussed in the executive session. Dr. Browne made the motion; Mr. Tkach seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

Mr. Stricker requested a motion to approve the objection relative to the property located at 3938 Walnut Rd., Willard, OH, 44890 without a hearing. Dr. Browne made a motion; Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote: Dr. Browne – Yes; Mr. Loose – Yes; Mr. Polachek – Yes; Mr. Tkach – Yes.

With no other discussions or business on the agenda or presented by Board members, Dr. Browne made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Polachek seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:48 pm. The next regular session is scheduled for March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, with a start time of 1:00PM.