



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Board of Health Sidney-Shelby County

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The regular meeting of the Sidney-Shelby County Board of Health was called to order by Dr. Aaron Sargeant at 7:00 p.m. on May 20, 2026. The meeting was held at the health department located at 202 West Poplar Street, Sidney, Ohio.

Other Board of Health members present included; Bill Ankney, Ted Holthaus, and Shelby Pence. Quorum was established. Also in attendance were Erica Lentz, Health Commissioner, Kent Topp, Environmental Health Director, Teri Heath, Director of Nursing, Eileen Ferree, Accreditation Coordinator, Alysha Orsborne, City Council, Mitch Bohman, MB Earthworks, and Bernard Poepelman.

## **ADOPTION OF REVISED AGENDA**

Ms. Pence moved, seconded by Mr. Holthaus to approve the revised agenda. Motion approved.

## **APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2026 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Ankney moved, seconded by Ms. Pence to approve the March 18, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT**

Kent Topp presented the following items.

### **Miami County Plumbing Contract**

Mr. Ankney moved, seconded by Ms. Pence to approve the Miami County Plumbing Contract as presented. Motion approved.

### **Bernard & Judith Poepelman, 3732 St. Rt. 47, Fort Loramie – Household Treatment System Variance**

#### **Situation:**

The Poepelmans own a 2.48-acre tract at the above address, just East of Newport. The property contains a large pond, a house, a building, a well, and an old pre-1958 Sewage Treatment System (STS) that has no county records. They would like to construct a 24'x30' garage, which will require the STS to be up to code. The Poepelmans have contracted a soil scientist, an STS installer, an STS designer, and the Shelby County Sewer District to try to find a remedy to bring their STS up to code. They received a costly estimate to connect to public sewer. Also, there is not enough space and acceptable soil to install an on-lot STS. They would like Board approval to forgo connection to public sewer and allow the pursuit of installing a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

#### **Additional Information:**

The average cost of a STS over the past three years is \$17,524. Three times this cost is \$52,572. The estimate for the Poepelmans to tie into public sewer is \$67,365. This is 3.8 times the cost of a STS. The SSCHD Sewer Connection Policy allows the Board to take into account economic feasibility when the cost is more than three times the average.

EH Staff Recommendations:

The staff recommends the Board waive the connection to public sewer and allow the pursuit of an NPDES, with the stipulation that if in the future sewer is within 200 feet of the house or the NPDES fails, that sewer connection will be reconsidered.

Mr. Holthaus moved, seconded by Mr. Ankney to waive the connection to public sewer and allow the pursuit of an NPDES, with the stipulation that if in the future sewer is within 200 feet of the house or the NPDES fails, that sewer connection will be reconsidered. Motion approved.

**Environmental Health Updates**

Kent Topp shared the results of the Clean Up Day held on April 11, 2026. Salem Township collected 14.02 tons and Van Buren Township collected 13.5 tons.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Holthaus moved, seconded by Mr. Ankney to elect Shelby Pence as President and Dr. Matt Vasko as Vice-President. Motion approved.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Ms. Pence moved, seconded by Mr. Ankney to approve bills. Motion approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Erica Lentz presented the April 2026 financial reports.

**April 7, 2026 Letter to the Auditor**

The Health Commissioner sent a letter to the Auditor on April 7, 2026 to increase appropriations in General Nursing Tax Distribution by \$5,000 and increase appropriations in General Environmental Health Tax Distribution by \$15,000.

**April 24, 2026 Letter to the Auditor**

The Health Commissioner sent a letter to the Auditor on April 24, 2026 to make the following changes in the Workforce Grant; Transfer \$5.14 from Medicare to Salaries, transfer \$834.09 from Health Insurance to Salaries, and transfer \$252.12 from Health Insurance to PERS.

Ms. Pence moved, seconded by Mr. Holthaus to approve the April 7, 2026 and April 24, 2026 Letters to the Auditor. Motion approved.

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING REPORT**

**Monthly Report**

Teri Heath presented the April/May nursing reports and infectious disease report.

**HEALTH COMMISSIONER REPORT**

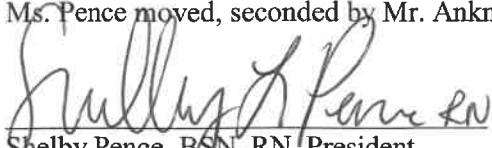
Erica shared with the Board the minutes from the April 7, 2026 Budget Commission meeting and updated the Board on the upcoming health department open house.

Eileen Ferree discussed the Harm Reduction grant and provided a distribution report. An intern was contracted through the Harm Reduction Grant. The intern will focus on promotion and outreach for the harm reduction program.

**Next Board of Health Meeting- June 17, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Pence moved, seconded by Mr. Ankney to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion approved.

  
Shelby Pence, BSN, RN, President  
Sidney-Shelby County Board of Health

6/17/26  
Date

  
Erica Lentz, MSN, RN  
Health Commissioner/Board Secretary

6-17-2026  
Date

