

RESOLUTION No. 105-2026

A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE COMMUNITY WATER FLUORIDATION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HARLAN MUNICIPAL UTILITIES:

WHEREAS, Harlan Municipal Utilities is responsible for the provision of safe and healthy drinking water for its residents; and

WHEREAS, community water fluoridation is a voluntary public health measure, not mandated by federal law, with decisions resting at the local level; and

WHEREAS, concerns exist regarding the potential health impacts of fluoride in drinking water, including but not limited to a 2024 National Toxicology Program (NTP) report concluded with “Moderate confidence” that higher levels of fluoride in drinking are linked to lower IQ in children. In November 2024, a federal judge ruled that potential neurodevelopmental effects from fluoride exposure pose an unreasonable risk and ordered the EPA to review and potentially regulate water fluoridation levels under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); and

WHEREAS, the cost-effectiveness and benefits of fluoridation are increasingly debated, with alternatives available for dental health; and

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 135.39E requires public water systems to provide at least ninety days' notice to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and customers before discontinuing fluoridation, typically via water bill inserts, to allow for public awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Harlan Municipal Utilities, Iowa:

1. **Intent to Discontinue:** The Board of Trustees hereby declares its intent to permanently cease the addition of fluoride chemicals to its public water supply system.
2. **Compliance with State Law:** The Secretary is directed to provide the required 90-day public notice to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and all water customers as mandated by Iowa Code § 135.39E, utilizing water bill inserts or other reasonably calculated means to ensure customer receipt of this information.

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Any written objections can be emailed to hmu@harlannet.com or mailed to Harlan Municipal Utilities, c/o Jennifer Kelly at PO Box 71, Harlan, Iowa 51537 prior to March 26, 2026. Oral objections can be presented at the March 26, 2026 Board Meeting.

3. **Effective Date:** This discontinuance shall become effective on June 1, 2026.
4. **Review & Implementation:** The Water Department shall cease fluoride addition operations and monitor water quality to ensure compliance with all other state and federal drinking water standards.

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

This is to certify that Resolution No. 105-2026 was adopted at the Board of Trustees' meeting that was duly noticed, legally constituted and held on the 22nd day of January, 2026.



CHAIRPERSON, Michelle Erickson (*first term 2028*)

/s/ present

VICE-CHAIRPERSON, James Shelton (*first term 2027*)



TRUSTEE, Allan Ickes (*first term 2030*)



TRUSTEE, Jenny Barnett (**first term 2031**)



TRUSTEE, Kevin Lucke (*fill-in term 2029*)