

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

February 26, 2025

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:

George Haynes  
John Kosier  
Tina Molé  
Jared Boice  
Tyson Robb

Joe Cetta  
Jerry Vernold  
Jim Thomas  
Lisa Henderson

**GENERAL**

• Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the January meetings were approved as presented.

• Payment in Lieu of Comp Time

- JT, This is an annual thing we turn in to Personnel.
- Committee approved.

• Equipment Authorizations

- JT, I have a stack of these, how do you want to go through them?
- GH, Give us the run down and then we'll approve them.
- JT, OK. The good news is that most everything is under budget.
  1. Two foreman's trucks, budgeted \$120,000, came in at \$111,822.18
  2. 12xp Woodchipper, budgeted \$60,000, came in at \$54,693.60
  3. T64 T4 Bobcat Skidsteer with bucket and planer, budgeted \$96,000, came in at \$87,214.43
  4. 2025 Dodge Ram Crew Cab 4x4 Dump, budgeted, \$110,000 come in at \$99,847.18
  5. Kobelco DK140SRLC-7 Excavator, budgeted \$200,000, came in at \$186,054.10
  6. DT74J Superior Broom, budgeted \$90,000, came in at \$84,545.
  7. Tank Monitoring Units for EM, KC & FE, budgeted \$64,800, came in at \$56,598
  8. 13" Sheave hook block, budgeted \$6900, came in at \$6,580
  9. Replacement Hougen drills for guiderail crew, budgeted \$3,000, came in at \$2,132
  10. ¾" drive torque wrench for Bloomville, from small tools allowance \$399.99
  11. Replacement pressure washer for EM, from small tools allowance \$264.99
  12. Replacement chain saw for SC, from small tools allowance \$595
  13. Telehandler, budgeted \$155,000, came in at \$136,090
  14. Tractor with Boom Mower, budgeted \$210,000, came in at \$203,299.04
- JT, The foreman's truck and the Crew Cab are a piggyback from Onondaga County, the other large items are all Sourcewell OGS contracts. The smaller things have the required quotes.
- JK, With everything under budget how far ahead are we right now?
- JB, \$96,175.
- The Committee approved all the purchases.

• Authorization to Fill Vacancies

- JT, We have the sign shop supervisor, Jack has been with the County for probably 40 years. He started at Countyside and came here when that shut down. We have two guys working with him currently, the hope is that one of them will be able to step up.
- Committee approved.

- JT, Next is an HEO II, Tim Cobane is retiring. He's been with the County for a long time.
- Committee approved.
- JT, Another HEO II, one of our young hires was asked to leave.
- Committee approved.

## **SOLID WASTE**

- NYSASWM Dues - \$90.00
    - Annual dues.
    - Committee approved.
  - Landfill operator training
    - Travel authorization for Tyson and Jeremy Wren. Tyson will be there for two days, Jeremy for one. This is mandatory training.
    - Committee approved.
  - Fed meeting in Albany
    - TR, There is a Federation meeting tomorrow in Albany, no coast, just out of County travel.
    - Committee approved.
- TR, I guess overall I'm keeping up kind of, I mean it's more than I expected, there's a couple peak projects, we knew this was a lot for one person to handle so we have another person coming on at some point when we can find them. So I'm a little late on the reporting, I'm going to get to it, We have a bunch of equipment to bid out, I'll get to that at some point, And then bids for the agitator at Compost. The agitator we are running is old and I need to get out the rain cover for the reclamation project. And those need to happen like now so there are things that are getting pushed off we shouldn't really see any major implications, hopefully. It's a lot to get it all done. I'm just keeping you guys in the loop that I'm trying the best I can, it's just I don't think this was ever meant to be handled by one person.
- Compost
    - TR, the agitator is getting worn out, will get that bid out shortly. The gear box for compost is still down, it's been a few weeks. The gear box bearings went out in the gear box so we are replacing those, hopefully get that turning today. The gear box there is obsoleted, it's old. The gear box, we have two, the other one that was in there, I was told that it was fixed and was a backup and was ready to go back in, turns out that never happened so we have two junk gear boxes right now but hopefully.
    - GH, So are we getting both of them repaired so we do have a spare?
    - TR, That's what we are aiming for but again, it's obsoleted so you can't really find parts for it. There's a sungear is what they call it, that is a gear on the inside that needs to be milled but it's hard to do because it's hardened metal, so I don't know if anybody knows any good mills but they don't sell these parts anymore. It's kinda, we had this issue with the gear box years ago it's a German engineered, Italian made machine, it's good, it's just old. So we can't really find parts for it but we are going to try. The other thing we are evaluating is new units. With the bio replacement we would be getting a new unit as well but we are reaching out to see if we can speed up that process, transmission is there between a motor and a drive so other things are affected by this so that makes it a little difficult, it's not just buying a gear box. You need to potentially buy a new drive, a pull head and then a coupler to access the ring gear. So that's not again, another thing that is anticipated because it's a twenty year old facility but it takes time to

deal with this stuff. And money, but we are moving ahead and hopefully will have things turning today.

- GH, So they have the other one back together?

- TR, Hopefully today, we robbed some parts from the spare and then we are going to try and source the parts for the spare and turn that into a functioning unit again. That's the preferred cheapest option if we can make it until the new until comes in with the new drive. That's what we are hoping for.

- GH, So will that still have the same kind of gear box on the new drive?

- TR, It will be totally different. That gear box like I said is just old, it was actually originally designed for pipe bending. I would try to go with something American made to where we can find parts and have resources locally to actually deal with this stuff. It's just kinda the same thing over and over ya know, trying to deal more with US companies and local companies and still fulfill the same purpose and intention of the planet. So that's moving along.

- Bioreactor replacement

- TR, Hopefully we can get the bid out for the compost facility next week. That's been a long time coming, be good to get off the desk. The advertisement should go out on the 5th and then open the bids on April 11th hopefully. So, that's gonna be four different contracts, we might still get somebody who responds to all contacts but if not at least we can whittle it down and then focus more on the one contracts or the contracts or the components that we are having trouble finding people to assist with.

- Cell 1 Reclamation

- TR, This going quick, hopefully that finishes up in May ahead of schedule. So far looking like it will be under budget but we'll see. Moving about 6,000 years per day, the weather has helped, it has been nice and firm so they've been able to move around the site, or sliding around the site. Cell 4s is filling up because compost is down, but we are doing ok with capacity. We are in the process of designing the next cell to go under cell 1, cell 1RERW, starting that design now so preemptively so we can get a jump on it. Yeah, that's good, we need to do that because we are running out of time.

- HPAI (Bird Flu)

- TR, Tina know a little bit about this, they found a group of chickens that were culled and brought into the landfill for disposal. We take animals, we didn't used to, we recommend on site disposal but I don't know if it was chronic waste or mad cow disease but at some point we started taking animals at the landfill so we continue to do that. Basically I don't see much of a change in this, we don't know how the animals come in or how they died.

- JC, You are talking about domesticated animals?

- TR, Deer parts, that kind of stuff. We don't compost them. On site disposal is the preferred option but for like a butcher, like butcher waste, that can be deer sometimes, and we don't want to compost that because of various diseases and there's some biological stuff that maybe composting doesn't take care of.

- TM, So they couldn't do onsite disposal because of the frozen ground.

- TR, So in this case, it was an emergency response to the bird flu and you end up with a point person who kinda makes those calls, we advocated for onsite composting but that's not what they wanted to do, I don't think it's a big deal, we buried it like we do asbestos, it came in triple bagged.

- TM, It was like 150 chickens right?

- TR, Yes, it was around 1,000 pounds, I don't know if that's something we charge for? Do you have an opinion? We don't typically charge farmers, again, we try to encourage them to dispose of it onsite but if they have something contagious and they don't want it on the farm we typically provide that service at no charge. It's outside my lane, it's just one of the things I end up dealing with. I'm not a biologist but apparently it's not affecting humans unless you get milk in your eye or something like that. If you're drinking raw milk or eating raw meat you could get it but I think our employees are safe. So, that was fun.
- TM, Thanks, I'm sorry you were bothered all weekend over that.
- TR, It's been weeks, the Central office reached out a few weeks ago.
- JC, When you say central office what do you mean?
- TR, The DEC central office.
- The committee agreed that we would not charge.
- TR, The migration season hasn't started yet so we're going to see a bunch more of this but we have a way forward at this point so that's good.

- Independent film

- TR, I got a guy who wants to do a video down at solid waste, I told him I would ask you guys, he's got a proposal if you are interested, he did a video on the demolition derby, I don't know it's kinda artsy, whatever, but I don't know, if you guys are interested you could read it, I had him write up a thing, he's prepared to do whatever, supply us with an insurance certificate, and you know when we've done PR things before it's like we ask our employees if they are willing to be in it they sign a release, if they aren't then don't video them or put them in it.
- GH, As long as they aren't interrupting what we are doing I don't see a problem.
- TR, It's the potential for some PR. I don't know, I think he got some NY Times Award for his video on the Demolition Derby, it's not really promotional filming though so I'm not advocating for it.
- GH, It's a public facility so I don't care as long as he's not in our way.
- TR, ok.
- LH, But we definitely need the insurance.
- JK, Do you need a motion?
- TR, I'm not sure, technically it's more of an opinion thing, like you said, I think I would have a hard time, I didn't want to give someone authorization to do something on County property by myself so, and it's not really a promo video but I think we would have a trouble saying no because it is a public space and you can video anything you want in a public space in New York so.
- LH, If we have a motion we are covered.
- Committee approved.
- TR, And then there was just one other guy, sorry I didn't print anything out on that, but he's looking for the potential for anerobic digestion of organics derived from MSW, that's a lot of words, but leaking gas off of trash so he wanted to use some of our organics to do that. He's down in Virginia, some university down in Virginia, but he would come up and get a couple five gallon buckets and then run those through digestors and look at how much gas, like methane was he able to produce off of that. So if you guys have an opinion on that, if you are ok with doing some research, it wouldn't cost us anything, we don't really have to do anything, it's just allowing them to do some research on our organics operations.
- JV, It might be interesting to see what they find out.
- TR, I think so, I think so because it's an option moving forward. It's not what we do right now, we make compost but we could make gas or something and use that gas as an energy source.

- Middletown transfer station

- JT, We met with them again, they want to change a few things on our rough design, which needs to go to a full design anyways but the engineers are going to change the wording a little bit. They are deathly afraid of anyone backing up on their site.
- JK, What's the deal with paint at the transfer stations? Was that Harpersfield? Is that all there now?
- TR, Yes, they should be accepting paint now.
- TR, I think Roxbury on board as well and Colchester is looking into it.

- Env tech

- JT, We have interviewed one person who currently works for Pete. Cara has a bunch of applications so we just need to get the interviews set up and get someone hired to help Tyson out.
- TM, Good, that will be a help for you.
- TR, Yes, it would be nice to only have to train one person but you never can tell, it will be good to get somebody in.
- TM, where will that person be?
- LH, Probably at the compost facility, the third floor is designed as offices, it would just need to be set up. We didn't include anything in the budget for that but we'll figure it out.
- TR, It is designed for that but it's never been occupied so I don't know if it gets hot in the summer or if there's some reason, I have no idea.

## **ROAD**

- Safety Officer's Report

- JT, Copy has been given to everyone. We've been very accident prone. One of them was pretty bad. Estimate came back at about \$17,000.

- Delaware North & South

- JT, Mostly chasing snow. Did get a complaint on CR 20 by the State Park, it would seem that it's not getting the attention the rest of the road is.
- JT, Getting ready to post axle limits on the usual roads. It has been a rough year for the roads.

- Call in procedures

- JT, Meeting with Steve Hood tomorrow, they are not happy with our current call in system, they want to go to a one person call system, I am absolutely against that. We are going to meet and see what we can work out. Will keep you posted.

## **BRIDGE**

- BR32 – final paperwork

- JT, this project is done. It was a very smooth project. This was the project that didn't go to the low bidder because they had a list of safety issues from DOT. Not saying we should always go with the 2<sup>nd</sup> bid but it definitely worked in our favor in this case. The contractor was great, the inspector was great. It just went really well.

- BR 136 BridgeNY Round 3

- JT, Shut down until spring.

- BR 7-3 BridgeNY Round 4 (\$5.3 million)
  - Design underway
  - JT, Will have a resolution at the next meeting for SEQR lead agency.
- BridgeNY Round 5 - ~\$6.6 million
  - 41-2 and BR 5 (Corbett)
  - Engineering Contracts
  - LH, BR 5 in Corbett the not to exceed for the design phase is \$126,908
  - JT, for BR 41-2 which is in Roxbury, the not to exceed is \$320,385.
  - LH, BR 41-2 is a replacement and BR 5 is just a rehab.
  - Committee approved signing the contracts.
- 2026 Bridge Preservation
  - JT, Resolution Pre-filed for State., Engineering Contract for \$71,000
  - Committee approved.
- Bridge Crew
  - Moving
  - Fab/Concrete work
- Engineers
  - In house designs
  - JT, When you talk about sharing sales tax, these are all requests we have had from Villages lately.
    - Village Walton Ped bridges (Griswald street)
    - Village Hobart Arch structure
    - Village Fleischmanns arch

## **DPW BLDG PROJECT**

- Construction status report
    - Cost summary
    - JT, overall, construction costs were up a little but that was the change to raise Bloomville and the changes in the roofing system.
    - JT, County costs are up but outfitting new buildings isn't cheap and we're working off three-year-old numbers.
    - JT, Professional Services is up a lot. And that's basically Delaware Engineering and their crew and its up because the project has dragged on.
    - JT, So overall, we budgeted \$27 million and we should come in under that. We did get reimbursement approved for the stormwater.
    - GH, SO we are about \$1.4 million under what was projected when we opened the bids.
    - TM, Can we announce that at a Board meeting?
    - GH, And we still have the work to do on the existing buildings but that's a separate \$2 million. I did talk to Pete about that.
    - JT, I spoke with him as well, he said he can do the heating systems but we'll have to bid out the roofs.
    - LH, And we still need to pave the parking lots here, that needs to be done this spring.
    - TM, And there are high hopes that the old building will be converted to luxury loft apartments.
- J&K claims

- We have come to agreement with them. The others have let it slide long enough that they don't have much legal standing so that final number shouldn't change too much.

Using LOTS of propane (summary attached)

- GH, I'm just not overly impressed with the heating systems.

- Walton shop relocation?

- Brief discussion was held on various locations that we could move to. At a quick glance the following were identified as possibilities: The old Agway and Sheffield Estates area, Harbys and Robinson's old gravel bank, parcel next to the landfill that used to be a gravel bank, then down to MacGibbons, and the old DEP property which is in the flood plain. Then the Northfield lot that the County owns. This is more centralized to the majority of the roads maintained by these patrols. The biggest issue is the response time to CR 26 which is the road they get the most call outs on in the winter. We could stage a truck in the MacGibbon barn. If we used any of the other sites our current salt shed would be fine, but if we move to Northfield we would need a salt shed there. You are also taking 15 people out of the Village and away from the businesses.

- GH, What size building are we looking at?

- JT, I took the square footage price for Bloomville, added for inflation. We need something about the same size as Fishs Eddy 11,300 sq feet. At \$372/sq ft, plus inflation we are at around \$6.7 million. That is a very rough, quick estimate.

- JT, While I was at it we looked at East Meredith and Kelly Corners because all of those buildings were built at the same time.

- JC, The Walton School got a grant from CWC to do a feasibility study to move the bus garage. If that's something you want to look at.

- GH, So you are looking at probably \$13 million to do all three of them.

- JT, Approximately. And I think we could get Kelly Corners where it is. East Meredith is not going to fit. This is just food for thought. You asked me to look into it so I did.

- JC, Thank you for that. We can show we are looking, that is all I asked. I don't expect it will happen this year.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Appropriation of Fund Balance Fund 41

Appropriation of Sales Tax Revenue 2024

Shared Services

Fed Aid - 2026 Bridge Preservation

Authorization to Sign Contract with NYC

Award of Prop 2-25 Tree Cutting

Award of Prop 3-25 Liquid Bituminous Materials

Propane

	Admin Bldg	Bloomville	Neal Rd		
2024 Propane	Jan - Dec	Feb - Dec	May-Dec		
Gallons	2503.40	13012.50	4136.50		
Cost	\$ 4,515.25	\$ 23,273.44	\$ 7,435.65		\$ 35,224.34
2025 Propane	January	Jan - Feb 3	Jan - Feb 3		
Gallons	242.70	8269.30	4151.00		
Cost	\$ 470.12	\$ 16,015.44	\$ 8,015.68		\$ 24,501.24



	Admin Bldg	Bloomville	Neal Rd		
2024	\$ 17,123.18	\$ 17,824.53	\$ 15,153.36		\$ 50,101.07
2025					
2023 for Page Ave					
electric	\$ -				
fuel oil	\$ 25,527.00				
2024 for Page Ave					
electric	\$ 11,199.40				
fuel oil	\$ 20,015.66				

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Heat</b>			
Page Ave	\$ 25,527.00	\$ 20,015.66	
2 Bridge		\$ 4,515.25	\$ 470.12
Bloomville		\$ 23,273.44	\$ 16,015.44
Neale Rd		\$ 7,435.65	\$ 8,015.68
<b>Electric</b>			
Page Ave	\$ -	\$ 11,199.40	
2 Bridge		\$ 17,123.18	
Bloomville		\$ 17,824.53	
Neale Rd		\$ 15,153.36	

**DELAWARE COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**PO BOX 311      DELHI, NY 13753**

**JAMES D. THOMAS P.E.**  
**COMMISSIONER**

**MAIN OFFICE & YARD**  
**2 BRIDGE STREET**  
**DELHI, NY 13753**

To: File  
From: Tawny Meres  
Safety & Training Manager  
Re: Safety Office Report  
Date: 2/25/2025

The following is an update to the activities of the Safety Office from 11/23/2024 to 2/24/2025.

**1. Accidents**

- #15-24. 11/23/2024. While checking road conditions with vehicle # 133, a 2023 Ford F250, a deer entered the roadway. Unable to avoid contact with the deer, the left front of the vehicle struck the deer. As a result of the contact, the left front headlamp, left front bumper and left front quarter panel sustained damage.

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**There were a total of 15 accidents added to file for 2024**

- #1-25. 1/2/2025. SWMC. While operating skid steer #1807, a 2022 Bobcat, in the MRF, the rear access door popped open. The operator did not know the rear door had come open and while backing up, the open door made contact with a bale of recyclables. As a result of the contact, the door hinges were bent.
- #2-25. 1/6/2025. While traveling on State Road 206 in the Town of Colchester with vehicle #311, a 2021 Dodge 5500, vehicle left roadway, making contact with guiderail. As a result of the contact, scratches were observed on the full length of the utility body of the vehicle.
- #3-25. 1/15/2025. While backing into the Oxbow salt shed with vehicle #307, a 2022 Freightliner, the heel of the wing blade made contact with the 6X6 door support. Support sustained damage that will be addressed in the spring.
- #4-25. SWMC. While working on the C & D cell with equipment #830, a 2008 Bomag, the wheel of the machine caught a 6x6 wood beam causing the beam to kick up, slide up blade and enter the cab through the windshield. Glass of windshield was broken, operator of equipment was uninjured.
- #5-25. 1/17/2025. While pulling up to the East Meredith patrol with vehicle #393, a 2007 Western Star, the edge of the head plow made contact with the right rear of vehicle # 67, a 2015 F150. As a result of the contact, the right rear light was damaged on vehicle #67.
- #6-25. 1/27/2025. While traveling on State Route 30 in the town of Middletown with vehicle #122, a 2021 Didge 5500, the vehicle left the roadway. Don Orall's trucking was contacted to return vehicle to roadway and tow to the new maintenance facility on Neale Road. Vehicle is at Mid-County Auto for estimate of repair.

Safety Office Report 2-25-2025.docx

*Main Office: 607-832-5800 Fax 607-832-6071 Delhi Shop: 607-832-5840 Fax 607-832-6072  
Solid Waste Management Center: 607-865-5805 Fax 607-865-2216*

- #7-25. 1/31/2025. While traveling on Main Street in Delhi with vehicle #393, a 2007 Western Star, the wing of the vehicle made contact with the mirror of a parked, unoccupied, vehicle. As a result of the contact, the mirror of the privately owned vehicle was damaged. Have received repair invoice. Total for mirror replacement was \$1472.14.
- #8-25. 2/3/2025. While traveling on BWS 10 in the town of Middletown with vehicle #440, a 2017 International, a milk tanker owned by Alnye come around a curvature in the roadway over the yellow line. Driver of Alnye vehicle attempted to correct, however was unable to get completely back in their lane as it passed the DPW vehicle. As the two vehicles passed each other, the mirror of the Alnye vehicle hit the driver's side mirror of the DPW vehicle. The driver of the DPW vehicle had their window down at the time of the incident and upon impact, the glass from the DPW vehicle was thrown into the cab of the vehicle, striking the driver. The DPW driver sustained injury to left ear was taken to Margaretville Hospital for medical treatment.
- #9-25. 2/9/2025. While entering the village of East Meredith with vehicle #67, a 2015 F150, A deer entered the roadway. Due to slippery conditions, DPW vehicle was unable to avoid contact with the deer. As a result of the contact, damage to the left front grill and left front fender was sustained.
- #10-25. 2/9/2025. While backing up to the Bloomville patrol with vehicle #406, a 2014 Mack, driver did not see vehicle #57, a 2015 F250. As a result of the contact, vehicle #57 sustained slight damage to left front bumper.

## 2. Spills

- #7-24. NYS DEC#2408249. 12/31/2025. While servicing a vehicle at the Bloomville patrol, personnel failed to open valve on portable oil drain while draining engine oil from vehicle. As a result, the portable drain airlocked, resulting in approximately 10 gallons of engine oil to overflow catch pan and spill over onto the concrete floor.

**\* There were 7 recordable spills placed on file for 2024**

- #1-25. NYS DEC#2408672. 1/20/2025. While performing winter maintenance on County Route 35 in the town of Sidney with vehicle #442, a 2018 Freightliner, the main hydraulic line failed resulting in over 5 gallons of hydraulic oil to reach the paved surface of the roadway.
- 1/08/2025. While Mirabito Fuel was delivering diesel to the Kelly Corners patrol, driver over-filled tank. Diesel was spilled out on to the surface and spewed upward through vent. Mirabito tried to state that the spill was a result of malfunctioning alarm on system. NYS DEC was contacted. DEC traveled to the location. DPW personnel provided DEC with tank specifications and the amount of diesel added to the tank as printed on delivery receipt. After reviewing information, NYS DEC concluded the tank had been overfilled. A 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractor was contacted by Mirabito to repair copper line their driver had cut and check alarm system. 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractor confirmed whistle alarm was in fact working and incident appeared to be the result of overfilling.

- #2-25. NYS DEC #2409127. 2/10/2025. While a delivery truck owned by Don Snow trucking Was delivering salt to the Oxbow storage shed, a hydraulic line failed resulting in 10-20 gallons of hydraulic oil being lost onto the concrete surface of the building. DPW personnel addressed the spill as additional haulers were waiting to unload.
- #3-25. 2/13/2025. While performing maintenance on #993, a Broce broom, the filter housing Broke resulting in hydraulic oil being lost on the concrete floor of the Bloomville Patrol. Spill did not meet criteria for reporting to NYS DEC.

### 3. **Facilities**

- New audiology testing equipment has been received and installed at the new facility on Neale Road
- Fyr Fyter has begun annual fire extinguisher inspections for all locations.
- Hearing tests are being conducted. To date 113 tests have been completed. This includes personnel from 6 outside municipalities. Additional hearing tests have been scheduled.
- UDig Certified Excavator training was conducted on 2/20/2025. 55 DPW personnel attended the training. 33 received full course training, 22 received annual refresher training.
- Safety Committee Meeting was held on 1/29/2025
- Annual FMCSA Clearinghouse limited queries were conducted for all CDL holders
- Annual NYS DMV abstracts were conducted for all DPW personnel
- Employee ID's are being updated
- New training equipment for training room is being secured
- New Emergency Action Plans were developed for all new facilities
- ELDT – 6 employees to be trained. 5 with class B permits, 1 with Class A permit. 2 employees took and passed road test to have manual restrictions removed from CDL.
- SH-900 logs received.

### 4. **Near Future Objectives**

- Complete annual hearing tests
- Ensure all fire extinguishers received annual inspections
- Schedule annual Workplace Violence Committee meeting
- Hang SH-900.1 logs in all patrols. Must be displayed until April 30, 2025.
- Review medical protocols to ensure employees have received mandatory screenings.