



MINUTES – April 3rd, 2025
Indian River County Environmental Control Hearing Board

Minutes of the Environmental Control Hearing Board held in the
Indian River County Administration Complex – Building A
Board of County Commission Chambers
1801 27th Street, Vero Beach FL at
12:30 pm on Thursday, April 3rd, 2025

5 voting members / 3 required for quorum

Call to Order

Kevin Rollin, Chair, called the April 3rd, 2025, meeting of the Indian River County Environmental Control Hearing Board to order at 12:30 pm.

Roll Call

Members Present:

Kevin M. Rollin, Chair
Patrick Walther, Vice-Chair
Dr. Richard Baker
Anna Kirkland

Members Absent:

Dr. Norman Meyer

Also Present:

Julianne Price, RS, Environmental Control Officer
Christopher A. Hicks, Assistant County Attorney
Jennifer Peshke, Board Attorney
Heather Waters

The Recording Secretary called the roll and advised the Board a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes from the February 6th, 2025, ECHB Meeting: Kevin Rollin asked if anyone had any proposed revisions for the minutes. No revisions were made.

ON MOTION by Anna Kirland, SECONDED by Dr. Baker, the members voted unanimously to approve February 6th, 2025, Minutes of the ECHB meeting as presented.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda: Kevin Rollin informed the Board that there will be upcoming staff changes. Julianne Price, RS, Environmental Control Officer, will be retiring. Heather Waters will assume delegated authority until formal approval is presented to the Board. However, Ms. Waters will be unavailable for the next regularly scheduled Environmental Control Hearing Board (ECHB) meeting on June 5, 2025, due to a statewide meeting occurring on the same date.

At present, there are no cases scheduled for the June 5th meeting.

ON MOTION, by Kevin Rollin, seconded by Anna Kirkland, moved to cancel the June 5, 2025, meeting due to the lack of a caseload and scheduling conflict, and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled meeting on August 7th, 2025.

A second addition to the agenda was brought forward by Christopher Hicks, assistant County Attorney, who informed the Chairman of an outstanding lien—Case No. 157-90, originating from the 1990's. Mr. Hicks requested that the Board sign and authorize the release of this lien. He noted that there are three liens in total. Attorney Jennifer Peshke recommended that the item be added to the agenda immediately following the first case, allowing Mr. Hicks to present the matter and the Board to issue an order accordingly.

Swearing-In for those who will Testify

The recording secretary administered the testimonial oath to those present who wished to testify at the hearing.

Overview of Board Purpose and Procedures

Chair Kevin Rollin provided a brief overview of the Board's procedures and objectives, emphasizing that the primary mission of the committee is to protect the environment for the community, with members serving as volunteers. While the hearings are not conducted in a courtroom setting, they adhere to similar guidelines to ensure fairness and clarity in the process. The hearings are designed with the community's best interests in mind.

Chair Rollin further clarified that the Board holds the authority to levy fines and issue orders to compel compliance with Health Code Laws, with penalties of up to \$500 per violation, per day. Compliance must be achieved within the timeframe specified in the order.

HEARINGS

CASE NO: 609-24

RESPONDENT(S): Trudy Hall, Represented by James Carter

LOCATION: 2515 95th Ct, Vero Beach FL.

Alleged Violation: Sections 386.01 (1), "A sanitary nuisance shall be defined as the commission of any act, by an individual, municipality, organization, or company, or the keeping, maintaining, propagation, or existence of any condition or thing by which the health or life of an individual may be threatened or impaired, or by which or through which, directly or indirectly, disease may be caused."

Presentation from Staff: Julianne Price reported positive developments in the case, stating that the property has reached full compliance. Ownership has been transferred to Trudy Hall, and the tenant, Ms. Vargas, has been evicted. Swift action was taken to abate the sanitary nuisance, including the removal of the trailer from the property.

There are no outstanding issues, and the property is now in full compliance. The draft order reflects that no penalties are recommended by the Board, as compliance has been achieved.

Kevin Rollin confirmed that there is nothing further the Board needs to reserve or address regarding this case. Ms. Price concurred, confirming that this matter is now concluded.

Presentation from Respondent: Mr. James Carter, representing Trudy Hall (his sister-in-law), addressed the Board on her behalf. He stated that he facilitated the eviction of Ms. Vargas from the property. While some cleanup efforts are still ongoing, Mr. Carter reported significant progress has been made. He noted that multiple containers have already been hauled to the landfill as part of the property cleanup.

Comments from the Board: The Chairman expressed his thanks to the respondent and reviewed the prior order.

Discussion: Kevin Rollin opened the floor for any comments or further discussion. Hearing none, he moved forward with the motion.

ON MOTION by Kevin Rollin Seconded by Patrick Walther, to adopt the proposed order with the amendment to include a paragraph stating that the case is dismissed, and no further action is necessary.

Motion passes unanimously.

CASE NO: 157-90

RESPONDENT(S): N/A

LOCATION: Lots 8, 9, 10, Block 19- Highland Park

REVIEW OF PRECIOUS BOARD ACTION.

Presentation from Staff: Christopher Hicks presented Case No. 157-90, which involves three properties that were placed under lien in 1991 and 1992. Following each hearing, a lien was issued, filed, and amended, but the original lien was never released. After 33 years, these liens are no longer enforceable. The Board is being asked to authorize and sign the release of these liens.

Discussion: Jennifer Peshke explained that liens are valid for a maximum of 20 years, making them unenforceable at this time. She advised that there is no legal basis to withhold the release of the lien. Christopher Hicks confirmed that he would prepare three separate releases, as the liens involve three distinct filings.

ON MOTION by Kevin Rollin, SECONDED by Anna Kirkland, The Department will prepare orders for the release of the liens for review and signature, and the unenforceable liens will be formally released.

Motion passes unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Chair Kevin Rollin adjourned the meeting at 12:51 PM.