BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORD NO. 1462, ARTICLE VI TO CHAPTER 9 OF THE LAKE COUNTY CODE ESTABLISHING A CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LAKE ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: ARTICLE VI, CHAPTER 9, OF THE LAKE COUNTY CODE ESTABLISHING A CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM IS HEREBY AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Section 9-40. Purpose and Intent.

40.1 Pursuant to the California Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook in conjunction with Assembly Bill 1671, passed on October 6, 2017, and section 116555.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, a Cross-Connection Control Program is hereby established in the County of Lake for the following purposes:

(a) To protect the public water supply from the occurrence of backflow into the Public Water System. To protect the public from contamination or pollution from any onsite hazards by eliminating or isolating said hazards and by implementing the installation, maintenance and testing of approved backflow prevention assembly devices. By enforcing methods of protection such as an approved (air gap) to protect against the threat posed by many conditions typically found on a user's premises.

(b) To eliminate or isolate existing connections or potential connections between drinking water systems and other sources of water that are not approved as safe and potable for human consumption.

(c) To eliminate or isolate actual or potential cross-connections between drinking water systems and other sources of water, liquids or any other unapproved substances that may jeopardize the safety of the drinking water supply.

(d) To prevent the making of cross-connections in the future.

Section 9-41. Definitions.

41.1 For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms shall have the following meanings.

(a) "*Air-gap separation" or "AG"* means a physical vertical separation of at least two (2) times the effective opening, as defined in section 207.0 of the California Plumbing Code, between the free-flowing discharge end of a potable water supply pipeline and the flood level of an open or non-pressurized receiving vessel, and in no case less than one (1) inch.

(b) "*Auxiliary water supply*" means a source of water, other than an approved water supply, that is either used or equipped or can be equipped to be used as a water supply and is located on the premises of, or available to, a water user.

(c) "*Backflow*" means an undesired or unintended reversal of flow of water and/or other liquids, gases, or other substances into a public water system's distribution system or approved water supply.

(d) *Backflow prevention assembly*" or "BPA" means a mechanical assembly designed and constructed to prevent backflow, such that while in-line it can be maintained and

its ability to prevent backflow, as designed, can be field tested, inspected and evaluated.

(e) "*Backflow prevention assembly tester*" means a person who is certified as a backflow prevention assembly tester.

(f) "*Cross-connection*" means any actual or potential connection or structural arrangement between a public water system, including a piping system connected to the public water system located on the premises of a water user or available to the water user, and any source or distribution system containing liquid, gas, or other substances not from an approved water supply.

(g) "*Cross-Connection Control Specialist*" or "*Program Coordinator*" means a person who is certified as a cross-connection control specialist.

(h) "*County Water System*" means a system of water delivery operated and maintained by the County Service Area pursuant to Section 25210.1 et seq. of the Government Code of the State of California.

(i) "*Hazard Assessment*" means an evaluation of a user premises designed to evaluate the types and degrees of hazard at a user's premises.

(j) "*High hazard cross-connection*" means a cross-connection that poses a threat to the potability or safety of the public water supply. Materials entering the public water supply through a high hazard cross-connection are contaminants or health hazards.

(k) "*Low hazard cross-connection*" means a cross-connection that has been found to not pose a threat to the potability or safety of the public water supply but may adversely affect the aesthetic quality of the potable water supply. Materials entering the public water supply through a low hazard cross-connection are pollutants or non-health hazards.

(l) "*Owner of the premises*" means the person who owns the property served, or is readily capable of being served, with water via a service connection with a public water system.

(m) "*Premise*" or "*premises*" means land and everything appurtenant thereto, including but not limited to, buildings, structures, and mobile homes.

(n) "*Service connection*" means either the point where a water user's piping is connected to a water system or the point in a water system where the approved water supply can be protected from backflow using an air gap or backflow prevention assembly.

(o) "*County Service Area*" means all service areas overseen by Lake County Special Districts.

Section 9-42 Cross-connection and Protection Requirement.

42.1 Except as otherwise provided by this Article, no person or entity shall cause a connection to be made between plumbing pipes, plumbing fixtures or appurtenances thereof served with water supplied by a county water system and plumbing pipes, plumbing fixtures or appliances thereof served by any other source of water.

42.2 Except as otherwise provided by this Article, no person or entity shall install or use plumbing pipes, plumbing fixtures or appurtenances thereof which by their construction or means of hook-up, may permit a backflow of water or any other substance into a County of Lake water system or into the service system of a consumer of water from such a system.

Section 9-43. Permit Required for Cross-connection.

43.1 Any person or entity that installs or maintains a cross-connection or potential cross-connection either direct or indirect on any premise for construction purposes shall obtain a permit for such cross-connection from Special Districts Administration.
43.2 As a condition for the issuance of such permit, the person or entity wishing to maintain a temporary cross-connection shall install an approved backflow prevention assembly of the appropriate protection deemed by the Program Coordinator commiserate with the degree of hazard set forth by the California Cross Connection Control Handbook.
43.3 Installation of an approved backflow prevention assembly device shall be required under the following circumstances.

(a) An approved backflow prevention assembly device shall be installed at each service connection of the County Water System where the premises served are also served by an auxiliary water supply not approved by the public health agency having jurisdiction.
(b) An approved backflow prevention assembly device shall be installed at each service connection of the County Water System where the premises served has upon it any liquid or substance that potentially may enter the County Water System. Such liquid or substance includes, but is not limited to, waters originating from a County Water System which have been contaminated below the health standards established for a County Water System.

Section 9-44. Requirements for Installation of Backflow Prevention Device.

44.1 When an Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly is required to be installed pursuant to this Article, the following shall apply:

(a) Any person or entity that is required to install a backflow prevention assembly pursuant to this Ordinance shall first obtain a permit for such installation from Special Districts Administration.
(b) Any backflow prevention assembly installed must be approved for potable water by the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of the University of Southern California unless otherwise stated in this Ordinance.
(c) Backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed in accordance with the County of Lake Water System Design and Construction Standards, along with methods of installation prescribed in the University of Southern California Cross-Connection Control Manual unless otherwise stated in writing by the Program Coordinator with Special Districts Administrator approval.
(d) Any person or entity which owns any premises where a backflow prevention assembly device has been installed shall have such device inspected annually by an American Water Works Association Certified Backflow Tester pursuant to the California Cross Connection Control Policy Handbook. Backflow test reports will be submitted to Special Districts Administration no later than the annual test date to avoid service interruption.
(e) The County of Lake shall not be liable for any costs for the inspection, repair, or maintenance of any such backflow prevention assemblies installed pursuant to this Ordinance. All such costs shall be borne by the owner of the premises.

Section 9-45. Installation of Backflow Prevention Assembly Devices for Premises with existing cross-connections.

45.1 Upon adoption of this Ordinance, the Cross Connection Control Specialist shall conduct hazard assessment surveys of all premises affected by the requirements of this Ordinance and the California Cross Connection Control Policy Handbook to determine

those premises which have actual or potential cross-connections and or hazards that may pose a threat to the County Water System.

45.2 The owner of each premises as determined by the Cross Connection Control Specialist with approval of the Special Districts Administrator, shall install or cause to be installed an approved backflow prevention assembly device within the allotted time frame provided by the Special Districts Administrator.

45.3 Upon the determination by the Cross Connection Control Specialist that a backflow prevention assembly device is required upon the premises, Special Districts Administrator shall serve notice upon the owner of said premise with approval from the Special Districts Administrator as determined from the last assessment roll, by depositing in the mail, postage prepaid, certified, return receipt requested and a notice that the steps in which the owner of the premises must take to comply with such provisions.

45.4 Within ninety (90) days of receiving the notice required by subsection 45.3 above, the owner of the premises shall obtain a permit pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance and install the required backflow prevention assembly device following the procedures set forth in subject 44.1 subdivision (c) of this Ordinance. The total cost of such installation shall be borne by the owner of the premises.

Section 9-46. Discontinuance of Service.

46.1 Service of water to any premises served by a County Water System service area may be discontinued for non-compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance. Service shall be restored only upon compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 9-47. Right of Entry.

47.1 The Special Districts Administrator, will perform and oversee all hazard assessments made by the Cross-Connection Control Specialist who shall inspect premises for non-compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance. The cross-connection control specialist shall carry the proper credentials of this office, upon exhibition of which they shall have the right of entry, during usual business hours, to inspect all premises in the performance of cross connection control duties. This right of entry shall be a condition of water service in order to provide assurance that the continuance of service to the premises will not constitute a menace to the health, safety and welfare of the people throughout a county water system.

Section 9-48. Certification of Tester.

48.1 Each applicant shall be a certified backflow tester and shall provide proper credentials to Special Districts Administration in order to test within the County Water System. Applicants shall hold a valid backflow tester certification from the American Water Works Association or approved equivalent by the State of California.

48.2 Each American Water Works Association certified backflow tester applicant shall furnish evidence to show that they have available the necessary tools and equipment to properly test such devices. Tester equipment calibration must be submitted to Special Districts Administration office annually and tester certification must be submitted every three years to the Special Districts Administration office to be eligible to test within the district. The applicant shall be responsible for the competency and accuracy of all tests and reports prepared and submitted to Special Districts Administration.

48.3 The applicant's certification may be revoked or suspended from testing within the County Water System for unsatisfactory testing, unsatisfactory repairs, or filing a report that misrepresents the condition of the backflow prevention assembly tested.

SECTION TWO: SCOPE
This Ordinance shall apply to all COUNTY SERVICE AREAS.

SECTION THREE: Environmental Review. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the adoption of this Ordinance will not have a significant effect on the environment because the Ordinance consists only of Administrative and Regulatory changes, clarifies existing procedures and requirements, and does not authorize or result in any physical changes to the environment or any increases in development intensity. It is therefore exempt from any California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

SECTION FOUR: All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict and no further.

SECTION FIVE: This Ordinance shall take effect on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage, it shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the County of Lake.

The foregoing Ordinance was introduced before the Board of Supervisor on the _____ day of _____, 2026 and passed by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

_____
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: SUSAN PARKER
Clerk of the Board

By: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM: LLOYD GUINTIVANO
County Counsel

By: _____