

## NOTICE

### **PROPOSED TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF KERN MEDICAL CENTER TO THE KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

On April 26, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers located at 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor, Bakersfield, California, the Kern County Board of Supervisors will hold hearings on the proposed transfer of ownership of Kern Medical Center to the Kern County Hospital Authority, a county hospital authority.

This Notice is being provided, and the hearing will be conducted, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 1442.5.

For more information you may contact Kern Medical Center 24 hours a day at (661) 326-2000.

Pursuant to the Kern County Hospital Authority Act (Health & Saf. Code, § 101852 et seq.), the California Legislature authorized the County of Kern ("County") to establish the Kern County Hospital Authority ("Authority") and to transfer the ownership, control, management, and operation of Kern Medical Center ("KMC") to the Authority. On October 6, 2015, the Kern County Board of Supervisors enacted Ordinance No. A-356, as amended, that adds Chapter 2.170 to Title 2 of the Ordinance Code of the County of Kern ("Ordinance") concerning the creation of the Authority. The Ordinance was effective on November 6, 2015.

The Authority is a local unit of government separate and apart from the County and any other public entity. The Authority is not an agency, division, or department of the County or any other public entity. The Authority is subject to the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, the Myers-Milias-Brown Act, and all laws applicable to the Authority as a California public entity.

Upon transfer, the Authority will own and operate KMC, which will continue as a designated public hospital and safety net provider. The medical facilities owned by the County to be transferred to the Authority and governed, maintained, operated and administered by the Authority will consist of substantially all of the facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, and operations comprising KMC and other facilities, clinics, and programs which deliver medical services.

The County will continue to retain the ultimate responsibility for indigent medical care pursuant to Section 17000 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The Authority will provide or arrange for the provision of health care services to indigent residents of the County to satisfy some or all of the its obligation to provide aid in receiving needed medical services pursuant to Section 17000 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The County is not precluded from entering into agreements with other providers for the provision of indigent care services.

The Board of Supervisors has adopted a personnel transition plan for the transition of employees from the County to the Authority. Employees of KMC or the County on the date of transfer, who become Authority employees will retain their existing or equivalent classifications and job descriptions upon transfer to the Authority, receive comparable pension benefits (if permissible pursuant to relevant pension plan terms), and their existing salaries and other benefits that include but are not limited to vacation (including accrued unused vacation), sick leave, personal leave, health care, retiree health benefits, and deferred compensation plans. Further, the Authority will provide the

same level of employee benefits for a period of 24 months after the effective date of the transfer of KMC to the Authority, to the extent required by applicable memoranda of understanding, other agreements, or law. Should any memoranda of understanding be expired on the date of the transfer of KMC, then the Authority will continue to be bound by the terms and conditions of the most recent memoranda of understanding, unless modified by a mutual agreement with each of the exclusive employee representatives.

The Authority will be governed by a seven (7) member governing board, which will be known as the Kern County Hospital Authority Board of Governors. The Board of Governors is appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The voting members of the Board of Governors include the County Administrative Officer (ex-officio), one member of the KMC Medical Staff, and five members of the community at large, none of whom shall be a physician. The qualifications, procedures for applying for membership, and manner of appointment for the Board of Governors are set forth in the Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors has adopted the initial governing Bylaws for the Authority, which it may amend from time to time, for implementation by the Board of Governors. The governing Bylaws provide, in detail, for the operation of the Authority.

The Board of Supervisors retains the right to approve certain actions and activities of the Authority, to ensure the transfer of KMC constitutes an ongoing material benefit to the County and its residents. The Board of Supervisors, in its discretion, may dissolve the Authority at any time, for any reason or for no reason.

Presented on the attached Exhibit "A" is a list of the proposed changes associated with the transfer of ownership, including the type of each proposed change, the expected savings, if any, the number of persons affected, and the expected effective date of each proposed change.

At any time not later than the hour set for the hearing, any person may submit written objections to the proposed transfer of ownership of KMC to the Authority. Any written objections shall be signed by the objecting party, and be delivered to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Anyone wishing to present evidence or be heard regarding this matter may appear at the hearing of this matter, or any continuation thereof. If you challenge the action taken by the Board of Supervisors on this matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in the Notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at or prior to the public hearing.

As a courtesy to the public, this Notice has been published in The Bakersfield Californian.

## **EXHIBIT "A"**

1. **Nature of Change:** The transfer of ownership of Kern Medical Center to the Kern County Hospital Authority. The medical facilities owned by the County of Kern to be transferred to the Kern County Hospital Authority and governed, maintained, operated and administered by the Kern County Hospital Authority will consist of substantially all of the facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, and operations comprising Kern Medical Center and other facilities, clinics, and programs which deliver medical services.
  
2. **Affected Patient Care Facilities/Locations:**  
  
Kern Medical Center, 1700 Mount Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93306  
Sagebrush Medical Plaza, 1111 Columbus Street, Bakersfield, CA 93305  
9300 Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield, CA 93311  
6401 Truxtun Avenue, Suite A, Bakersfield, CA 93309  
Lerdo Detention Facility, 17695 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308  
Central Receiving Facility, 1415 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301  
Jamison Children's Center, 1010 Shalimar Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93306  
James G. Bowles Juvenile Hall, 1831 Ridge Road, Bakersfield, CA 93305  
Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads Facility, 17824 Quality Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308  
Camp Erwin Owen, 14401 Sierra Way, Kernville, CA 93238
  
3. **Affected Non-patient Care Locations:**  
  
2700 M Street, 2nd Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301  
2201 Mount Vernon Avenue, Suite 213, Bakersfield, CA 93306
  
4. **Staff Affected:** 1,602 Kern Medical Center employees as of the date of posting
  
5. **Planned Staff Reductions:** None
  
6. **Patients Affected:** All inpatients and outpatients who are patients of Kern Medical Center as of July 1, 2016; the exact number of patients is unknown
  
7. **Expected Savings to the County of Kern:** Unknown
  
8. **Expected Date of Proposed Transfer:** July 1, 2016