



SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Kern Medical Center
1700 Mount Vernon Avenue
Conference Room 1058
Bakersfield, California 93306**

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 15, 2026

11:30 A.M.

BOARD RECONVENED

Board Members: Anderson, Berjis, McLaughlin, Merz, Pelz, Pollard, Stout
Roll Call: All Present

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, Berjis-Pelz denotes Director Berjis made the motion and Director Pelz seconded the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: ALL ITEMS LISTED WITH A "CA" OR "C" WERE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE AND APPROVED BY ONE MOTION.

BOARD ACTION SHOWN IN CAPS

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 1) This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Board on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board. Board members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Board at a later meeting. In addition, the Board may take action to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE AND SPELL YOUR NAME BEFORE MAKING YOUR PRESENTATION. THANK YOU!**
NO ONE HEARD

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

- 2) On their own initiative, Board members may make an announcement or a report on their own activities. They may ask a question for clarification, make a referral to staff or take action to have staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Government Code section 54954.2(a)(2)) –
NO ONE HEARD

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

CA

- 3) Minutes for the Kern County Hospital Authority Board of Governors regular meeting on March 18, 2026 and special meeting on April 1, 2026 –
APPROVED
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 4) Proposed Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 052-2023 with Ralph Garcia-Pacheco Suarez, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Medicine for the period April 22, 2023 through April 21, 2026, increasing the per diem rate for hospitalist shift coverage from \$1,672 to \$1,840 per 12-hour shift, extending the term for two years from April 22, 2026 through April 21, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$1,600,000, from \$2,250,000 to \$3,850,000, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 048-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 5) Proposed Agreement with Cameron D. Furey, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Medicine from August 15, 2026 through August 14, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$3,200,000, plus applicable benefits –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 049-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 6) Proposed retroactive Change Order Notice for Quote 2009359518 to Agreement 130-2022 with GE HealthCare, an independent contractor, for software updates for the new CT machine, at no additional cost –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN AGREEMENT 050-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 7) Proposed Agreement with McMurtrey Lince, Inc., an independent contractor, for installation of laboratory equipment, in an amount not to exceed \$280,514, effective April 15, 2026, until project completion –
MADE FINDING THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM FURTHER CEQA REVIEW PER SECTIONS 15301, 15302 AND 15061(b)(3) OF STATE CEQA GUIDELINES; APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 051-2026; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED 10% OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE OF \$308,566
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 8) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 141-2025 with Nwestco, LLC, an independent contractor, for construction services related to abandonment of the underground storage tank for the period December 17, 2025, until project completion, increasing the maximum payable by \$14,613, from \$108,754 to \$123,367, to cover the project –
MADE FINDING THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM FURTHER CEQA REVIEW PER SECTIONS 15301, 15302 AND 15061(b)(3) OF STATE CEQA GUIDELINES; APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 052-2026; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED 10% OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE OF \$135,703

Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 9) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 69623 with Enviro Services, Inc., doing business as Monitronics, an independent contractor, for services related to certification of the Pharmacy intravenous preparation room for the period May 10, 2023 through May 9, 2026, extending the term for three years from May 10, 2026 through May 9, 2029, and increasing the maximum payable by \$45,000, from \$20,000 to \$65,000, to cover the term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 053-2026

Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 10) Proposed Amendment to Agreement 039-2025 with Beckman Coulter, Inc., an independent contractor, for service and products for hematologic diagnostic testing for the period of November 20, 2016 through April 14, 2026, extending the term for one year from April 15, 2026 through April 15, 2027, and increasing the maximum payable by \$125,000, from \$976,160.45 to \$1,101,161, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 054-2026

Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 11) Proposed Agreement with GE Precision Healthcare, an independent contractor, for purchase of a SIGNA™ Voyager 49-ch mobile MRI unit from April 15, 2026 through April 14, 2031, in an amount not to exceed \$2,350,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 055-2026

Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 12) Proposed Agreement with GE HealthCare, an independent contractor, for service and maintenance of the SIGNA™ Voyager 49-ch mobile MRI unit, effective 12 months from the date of delivery for a term of 12 months, in an amount not to exceed \$89,766 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 056-2026

Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 13) Proposed Agreement with AMST, A Marmon Berkshire Hathaway Company, an independent contractor, for service and maintenance of the MRI trailer from April 15, 2027 through April 14, 2032, in an amount not to exceed \$240,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 057-2026

Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

- CA
14) Proposed retroactive Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Kern, as represented by Behavioral Health and Recovery Services from April 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026, with no set maximum payable –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 058-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes
- CA
15) Proposed Change Order to First Amendment to Agreement 67622 with Qualtrics LLC, an independent contractor, for patient and employee experience surveys for the period November 23, 2022 through November 15, 2028, increasing the number of experience surveys annually, and increasing the maximum payable by \$38,250, from \$714,459 to \$752,709, to cover the cost of additional services –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 059-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes
- CA
16) Proposed Rental Agreement with UBEO West, LLC, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of printing hardware, software, and maintenance from May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 060-2026; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN FOR PURCHASES NOT TO EXCEED THE APPROVED MAXIMUM PAYABLE
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes
- CA
17) Proposed Ordering Document CPQ-4230218 with Oracle America, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of equipment, software, and support for vital signs devices, effective April 15, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$4,412, plus fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 061-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes
- CA
18) Proposed Amendment No. 7 to Agreement 30718 with JDM Solutions, Inc., an independent contractor, for consulting services related to the Oracle Electronic Health Record for the period November 21, 2018 through April 30, 2026, extending the term for one year from May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027, and increasing the maximum payable by \$725,200, from \$5,009,236 to \$5,734,436, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 062-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes
- CA
19) Proposed Order Form Q-98443-1 with TigerConnect®, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for subscription services related to the clinical communication platform for the period of March 22, 2024 through April 14, 2026, extending the term for three years from April 15, 2026 through April 14, 2029, and increasing the maximum payable by \$1,002,000, from \$532,550 to \$1,534,550, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 063-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 20) Proposed rescission of Quote Q-00676256 040-2026 with Philips Healthcare, a division of Philips North America LLC, and approval of Quote Q-00730828 with Philips Healthcare, a division of Philips North America LLC, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of a Philips Cardiac Workstation 7000 and diagnostic cardiology/ECG implementation services, in an amount not to exceed \$21,927 – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 064-2026
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 21) Report on upcoming anticipated retroactive agreements – RECEIVED AND FILED
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

- 22) Proposed retroactive Amendment No. 4 to Agreement 045-2022 with Randolph Fok, M.D., an independent contractor, for professional medical services in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology for the period April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2026, extending the term for two years from April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$750,000, from \$1,515,000 to \$2,265,000, to cover the term – VICE PRESIDENT, STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT NATALEE GARRETT HEARD REGARDING THE RETROACTIVITY OF ITEM 22; APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 065-2026
Berjis-Pollard: All Ayes

- 23) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Financial Officer report – CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; DIRECTOR BERJIS INQUIRED IF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE HAD EVER REACHED \$1 BILLION WORTH OF CHARGES IN GROSS REVENUE; MR. CANTU RESPONDED; RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Stout: All Ayes

- 24) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Executive Officer report – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON HEARD; RECEIVED AND FILED
Pollard-Merz: All Ayes

CA

- 25) Monthly report on What's Happening at Kern Medical Center – RECEIVED AND FILED
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 26) Claims and Lawsuits Filed as of March 31, 2026 – RECEIVED AND FILED
Merz-Pollard: All Ayes

ADJOURNED AS KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS;
RECONVENED AS KERN MEDICAL SURGERY CENTER, LLC BOARD OF MANAGERS
Pelz-Stout

- C-27) Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC, Administrative Report – RECEIVED AND FILED
Berjis-Pollard: All Ayes

- C-28) Proposed credentialing recommendations –
APPROVED
Berjis-Pollard: All Ayes
- C-29) Proposed Incentive Compensation payable to the Kern Medical Surgery Center Business Office Manager in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, less all applicable federal and state taxes and withholdings, based on total collections of \$5,334,054 for calendar year ended December 31, 2025 –
APPROVED
Berjis-Pollard: All Ayes
- C-30) Proposed Kern Medical Surgery Center Business Office Manager incentive compensation schedule for calendar year 2026 –
APPROVED
Berjis-Pollard: All Ayes
- 31) Proposed retroactive Letter of Participation with Johnson & Johnson Health Care Systems Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of disposable surgical supplies, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 per year, effective February 13, 2026 –
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON HEARD REGARDING THE RETROACTIVITY OF ITEM 31; DIRECTOR BERJIS INQUIRED ABOUT THE NEED FOR A SEPARATE AGREEMENT FROM THE HOSPITAL; DIRECTOR POLLARD INQUIRED ABOUT THE TERMINATION DATE; MR. THYGERSON RESPONDED TO BOTH INQUIRIES; APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN AGREEMENT 066-2026
Berjis-Stout: All Ayes
- 32) Public hearing pursuant to Government Code Section 3502.3 regarding Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC vacancies, recruitment and retention efforts (Assembly Bill 2561) –
OPENED HEARING; CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES AND TRANSFORMATION OFFICER ROBY HUNT HEARD REGARDING KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY VACANCIES, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION EFFORTS; DIRECTOR BERJIS INQUIRED IF THE LLC IS IN LINE WITH INDUSTRY TRENDS FOR VACANCY RATES; DIRECTOR ANDERSON INQUIRED IF THE LLC PARTNERS WITH EMPLOYERS' TRAINING RESOURCE; MR. HUNT RESPONDED TO BOTH INQUIRIES; CLOSED HEARING; RECEIVED AND FILED
Pollard-Pelz: All Ayes
- 33) Proposed Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC operating budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 –
APPROVED
Pollard-Berjis: All Ayes

ADJOURNED AS KERN MEDICAL SURGERY CENTER, LLC, BOARD OF MANAGERS;
RECONVENED AS KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Pelz-Anderson

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION
Pollard-Berjis

CLOSED SESSION

- 34) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 35) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health facilities (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 36) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Advanced Imaging Services, Inc., Plaintiff, v. Kern County Hospital Authority d/b/a Kern Medical Center, Defendant, Kern County Superior Court Case No. 26CUB00843 BCB – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 37) Request for Closed Session for the purpose of discussion or taking action on authority trade secrets (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(e)(1)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 38) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Agency designated representatives: Vice President & General Counsel Karen S. Barnes, and designated staff - Unrepresented Employee: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957.6) – SEE RESULTS BELOW

RECONVENED FROM CLOSED SESSION

Berjis-Pollard

REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Item 34 concerning Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – HEARD; BY UNANIMOUS VOTE (MOTION BY DIRECTOR BERJIS, SECOND BY DIRECTOR POLLARD) THE BOARD APPROVED ALL CREDENTIALING RECOMMENDATIONS; NO OTHER REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 35 concerning Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health facilities (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 36 concerning CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Advanced Imaging Services, Inc., Plaintiff, v. Kern County Hospital Authority d/b/a Kern Medical Center, Defendant, Kern County Superior Court Case No. 26CUB00843 BCB – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 37 concerning Request for Closed Session for the purpose of discussion or taking action on authority trade secrets (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(e)(1)) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

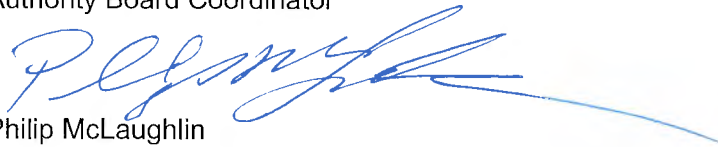
Item 38 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Agency designated representatives: Vice President & General Counsel Karen S. Barnes, and designated staff - Unrepresented Employee: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957.6) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026 AT 11:30 A.M.

Pollard



/s/ Mona A. Allen
Authority Board Coordinator



/s/ Philip McLaughlin
Chairman, Board of Governors
Kern County Hospital Authority