



## 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, May 21, 2025

11:30 A.M.

#### BOARD RECONVENED

Board Members: Anderson, Berjis, McLaughlin, Merz, Pelz, Pollard, Stout  
Roll Call: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard

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)) –

**DIRECTOR BERJIS REPORTED ON THE UPCOMING 6TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL RESEARCH FORUM ON MAY 22, 2025 AND RECOGNITION DINNER FOR GRADUATING RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS ON JUNE 12, 2025**

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

CA

- 3) Minutes for the Kern County Hospital Authority Board of Governors special meeting on April 16, 2025 –  
APPROVED  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 4) Proposed Second Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with PNC Bank, National Association (PNC Bank) for a revolving Line of Credit, extending the maturity date of the Line of Credit to a date not later than May 27, 2026 and amendments to the rate at which interest on loans incurred pursuant to the Line of Credit is calculated, provided that the Line of Credit shall otherwise be substantially on the same terms set out in the Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement and that any indebtedness incurred thereunder at any time shall be secured only by personal property, substantially the same as the personal property described in the previously executed General Security and Pledge Agreement, in favor of PNC Bank, and delegating authority to certain officers –  
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2025-014; AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED ANY TWO OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS (EACH, AN "AUTHORIZED OFFICER"), FOR AND IN THE NAME OF AND ON BEHALF OF THE AUTHORITY, TO EXECUTE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED CREDIT AGREEMENT 044-2025, AS THE AUTHORIZED OFFICERS EXECUTING THE SAME, TOGETHER WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE AUTHORITY, SHALL APPROVE: CHAIRMAN OF THIS BOARD, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THIS BOARD, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE AUTHORITY OR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE AUTHORITY  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 5) Proposed Amendment No. 4 to Agreement 17018 with NLeader Group, LLC, an independent contractor, for consulting services related to the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Program for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2025, extending the term for two years from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027, and increasing the maximum payable by \$45,000, from \$175,000 to \$220,000, to cover the extended term –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 045-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 6) Proposed Amendment One to Agreement 063-2022 with Healthfuse LLC, an independent contractor, for revenue cycle performance management services for the period June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2025, extending the term for three years from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$2,244,000, from \$1,723,404 to \$3,967,404, to cover the extended term –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 046-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 7) Proposed Agreement with Cardinal Health, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of OMNI feeding pumps in an amount not to exceed \$31,000, plus applicable tax and shipping –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 047-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 8) Proposed Supplies Purchase Agreement with Flower Orthopedics Corporation, doing business as Conventus Flower Orthopedics, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of Operating Room supplies from May 21, 2025 through May 20, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, plus applicable tax and shipping –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 048-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 9) Proposed Services Renewal Order with Oracle America, Inc., an independent contractor, for renewal of the electronic health record Single Sign On software from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$15,813 –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 049-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 10) Proposed Ordering Document CPQ-3911231 with Oracle America, Inc., an independent contractor, for purchase of a vital sign monitoring machine, in an amount not to exceed \$3,948, plus applicable tax and shipping –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 050-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 11) Proposed Amendment No. 5 to Agreement 07816 with Paul Dhanens Architect, Inc., an independent contractor, for architectural design services for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2025, extending the term for three years from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$250,000, from \$950,000 to \$1,200,000, to cover the extended term –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 051-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 12) Proposed Agreement with Hillrom, Inc., a subsidiary of Baxter Health Corporation, an independent contractor, for purchase of the Voalte Nurse Call System, in an amount not to exceed \$1,379,650, plus applicable tax and shipping –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 052-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**



CA

- 13) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 39922 with Parts Town, LLC, an independent contractor, for plumbing parts and supplies for the period June 29, 2022 through June 28, 2025, extending the term for three years from June 29, 2025 through June 28, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$50,000, from \$50,000 to \$100,000, to cover the extended term – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 053-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 14) Proposed approval of Amended and Restated Bylaws of Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Board of Directors – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 15) Proposed Amendment No. 6 to Agreement 20117 with LocumTenens.com, an independent contractor, for temporary physician staffing services for the period May 22, 2017 through May 21, 2025, extending the term for two years from May 22, 2025 through May 21, 2027, and increasing the maximum payable by \$3,000,000, from \$4,500,000 to \$7,500,000, to cover the extended term – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 054-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 16) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 051-2023 with Arturo Gomez, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical and administrative services in the Department of Surgery for the period April 22, 2023 through April 21, 2026, extending the term by three years from April 22, 2026 through April 21, 2029, modifying the compensation methodology, and increasing the maximum payable by \$5,000,000, from \$4,500,000 to \$9,500,000, to cover the extended term, effective May 31, 2025 – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 055-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 17) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 066-2022 with Michael J. Eagan, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Surgery for the period June 24, 2022 through June 23, 2025, extending the term by three years from June 24, 2025 through June 23, 2028, modifying the compensation methodology, and increasing the maximum payable by \$5,400,000, from \$3,300,000 to \$8,700,000, to cover the extended term, effective May 31, 2025 – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 056-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 18) Proposed Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 034-2022 with Antony Minasaghanian, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Radiology for the period June 8, 2022 through June 7, 2027, increasing the maximum payable by \$65,000, from \$4,250,000 to \$4,315,000, to cover the term, effective June 1, 2025 – APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 057-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 19) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 454-2022 with the County of Kern, as represented by Kern County Public Health Services Department, for multiple specialized services from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025, extending the term by three years from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 –  
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 058-2025  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**
- 20) Public hearing pursuant to Government Code Section 3502.3 regarding Kern County Hospital Authority 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; JORGE ABRAHAM RIVERA, SEIU LOCAL 521, ANA PALACIO, CLINICAL NURSE LEADER, RN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT, AND GEORGE PFISTER, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT, HEARD REGARDING VACANCY RATES AND TURNOVER; CLOSED HEARING; RECEIVED AND FILED  
**Merz-Pelz: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**
- 21) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Financial Officer report –  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; RECEIVED AND FILED  
**Pelz-Stout: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**
- 22) Proposed Kern County Hospital Authority operating and capital budgets for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 –  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED WHICH PART OF THE BUDGET IS MOST VULNERABLE TO STATE OR FEDERAL ACTION; CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON AND MR. CANTU DISCUSSED THE PROPOSED CUTS TO MEDICAID BY THE CONGRESS; DIRECTOR ANDERSON THANKED STAFF FOR THE PRESENTATION; DIRECTOR MCLAUGHLIN ASKED IF THERE IS A CONTINGENCY PLAN AND WHETHER THERE WILL BE CHANGES TO THE BUDGET AT A LATER DATE; MR. THYGERSON DISCUSSED THE POTENTIAL NEED FOR IMPLEMENTING A BRIDGE PLAN AND INDICATED THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGES TO THE APPROVED BUDGET; APPROVED; REFERRED TO KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR APPROVAL  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**
- 23) Proposed Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center operating budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 –  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED IF THE GOAL OF THE HEALTH CENTER IS TO BREAK EVEN; MR. CANTU RESPONDED THAT THE GOAL IS TO INCREASE CLINIC VISITS; CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON INDICATED HRSA REQUIRES THE SUBMISSION OF A BREAK-EVEN BUDGET; APPROVED; REFERRED TO KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR APPROVAL  
**Stout-Pelz: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**
- 24) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Executive Officer report –  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON HEARD; RECEIVED AND FILED  
**Berjis-Merz: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 25) Monthly report on What's Happening at Kern Medical Center –  
RECEIVED AND FILED  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

CA

- 26) Claims and Lawsuits Filed as of April 30, 2025 –  
RECEIVED AND FILED  
**Anderson-Berjis: 6 Present; 1 Absent - Pollard**

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION  
**Pelz-Stout**

CLOSED SESSION

- 27) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 28) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Maria Elena Lopez-Rodriguez, v. Kern County Hospital Authority (an organization form unknown) and DOES 3-100, inclusive, Defendants, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-20-100510 BCB – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 29) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Service Employees International Union, Local 521 Plaintiff/Petitioner, v. Kern County Hospital Authority, Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC, and DOES 1-25, Defendants/ Respondents, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-22-101782 GP – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 30) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Agency designated representatives: Chief Executive Officer Scott Thygerson, and designated staff - Employee organizations: Service Employees International Union, Local 521 (Government Code Section 54957.6) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 31) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Title: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 32) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Melissa Perry, individually and as successor-in-interest of Decedent Kimberly Morrissey-Scalia, Plaintiff, et al., v. County of Kern, a municipal corporation, Kern County Hospital Authority, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:17-cv-01097-KES-CDB – SEE RESULTS BELOW

RECONVENED FROM CLOSED SESSION  
**Stout-Pelz**

REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION



Item 27 concerning Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – HEARD; BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THOSE DIRECTORS PRESENT (MOTION BY DIRECTOR PELZ, SECOND BY DIRECTOR ANDERSON; 1 ABSENT - DIRECTOR POLLARD), THE BOARD APPROVED ALL PRACTITIONERS RECOMMENDED FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT, REAPPOINTMENT, RELEASE OF PROCTORING, REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN STAFF STATUS, REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES, VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION OF PRIVILEGES, AND AUTOMATIC TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGES; NO OTHER REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 28 concerning CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Maria Elena Lopez-Rodriguez, v. Kern County Hospital Authority (an organization form unknown) and DOES 3-100, inclusive, Defendants, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-20-100510 BCB – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 29 concerning CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Service Employees International Union, Local 521 Plaintiff/Petitioner, v. Kern County Hospital Authority, Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC, and DOES 1-25, Defendants/ Respondents, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-22-101782 GP – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 30 concerning CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Agency designated representatives: Chief Executive Officer Scott Thygerson, and designated staff - Employee organizations: Service Employees International Union, Local 521 (Government Code Section 54957.6) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 31 concerning PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Title: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 32 concerning CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - FORMALLY INITIATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Melissa Perry, individually and as successor-in-interest of Decedent Kimberly Morrissey-Scalia, Plaintiff, et al., v. County of Kern, a municipal corporation, Kern County Hospital Authority, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:17-cv-01097-KES-CDB – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025 AT 11:30 A.M.

**Pelz**



/s/ Mona A. Allen  
Authority Board Coordinator



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