



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
July 15, 2026**

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 THANKED BOARD MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER FOR GRADUATING RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS; ON JULY 1, KERN MEDICAL CENTER WELCOMED ITS NEWEST AND LARGEST CLASS OF INTERNS AND FELLOWS; THIS YEAR MARKS 70 YEARS OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AT KERN MEDICAL CENTER

PUBLIC REQUESTS

- 3) Request of Renee Villanueva, Executive Director, Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center (CHC), to present the CHC annual report –
CHIEF AMBULATORY AND OUTREACH OFFICER AND CHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RENEE VILLANUEVA HEARD REGARDING THE ANNUAL CHC REPORT; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED WHEN HRSA WILL RETURN FOR A POST-DESIGNATION REVIEW; MS. VILLANUEVA RESPONDED; RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Merz; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- CA
4) Minutes for the Kern County Hospital Authority Board of Governors regular meeting on June 17, 2026 –
APPROVED
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
5) Proposed Quote with Stryker Sports Medicine, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of surgical positioning equipment and instrument tray rentals from July 15, 2026 through July 16, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 109-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
6) Proposed Quote with NeurOptics, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for pupillometer warranty services from July 15, 2026 through July 14, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 110-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
7) Proposed Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 102-2023 with Aspen Street Architect, an independent contractor, for architectural design services for the period August 16, 2023 through August 15, 2026, increasing the maximum payable by \$700,000, from \$2,800,000 to \$3,500,000, to cover the term –

MADE FINDING THAT 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 111-2026

Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 8) Proposed Change Order No. 1 to Agreement 039-2026 with McMurtrey Lince, Inc., an independent contractor, for construction services related to the installation of the Nurse Call System, increasing the maximum payable by \$39,379, from \$375,775 to \$412,154 to cover the cost of the project –

MADE FINDING THAT 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 112-2026

Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 9) Proposed retroactive Service Repair Quote 7000501023 with Acist Medical Systems, Inc., an independent contractor, for the repair of a contrast injector, effective June 11, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$3,500, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN AGREEMENT 113-2026

Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 10) Proposed Quote Q-02058339 with Olympus America Inc., an independent contractor, for purchase of an endobronchial and endoscopic ultrasound system, in an amount not to exceed \$423,234, plus applicable fees and taxes –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 114-2026

Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 11) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 10426 with Gian A. Yakoub, D.O., a contract employee, for professional medical and administrative services in the Department of Pathology for the period March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2029, increasing the annual salary from \$495,000 to \$550,000, and increasing the maximum payable by \$155,000, from \$1,495,000 to \$1,650,000, to cover the term –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 115-2026

Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 12) Proposed Amendment No. 2 to Agreement 60523 with Yufan Brandon Chen, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical and administrative services in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology for the period August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2026, extending the term for three years from August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2029, increasing the base salary by 1.15 percent annually, and increasing the maximum payable by \$2,000,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000, to cover the extended term –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 116-2026

Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 13) Proposed Agreement with Barkat Ali, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Surgery from August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000, plus applicable benefits –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 117-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 14) Proposed Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 100-2023 with Mohammed A.S. Molla, M.D., for professional medical and administrative services in the Department of Psychiatry for the period August 16, 2023 through August 15, 2028, adding payment of \$173 per hour for clinical hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 118-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 15) Proposed retroactive Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 23917 with Foundation for Medical Care of Kern County, and independent contractor, for access to provider network services related to the Kern Medical Center self-insured workers' compensation program for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2026, extending the term for three years from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029, and increasing the maximum payable by \$100,000, from \$150,000 to \$250,000, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 119-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 16) Proposed resolution revising the Kern County Hospital Authority Pension Plan for Physician Employees' Pension Committee membership –
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 17) Proposed Change Order No. 2 to Agreement 052-2025 with Hillrom, Inc., a subsidiary of Baxter Health Corporation, an independent contractor, for additional labor, materials and equipment to complete the nurse call light project, increasing the maximum payable by \$21,745, from \$1,394,405 to \$1,416,150, to cover the cost of additional services –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 120-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 18) Proposed Quote Q-00263880 with Change Healthcare Technologies, LLC, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of InterQual® software for case management and quality review from August 15, 2026 through August 14, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$122,174, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 121-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 19) Report on upcoming anticipated retroactive agreements –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 20) Proposed Amendment No. 8 to Agreement 041-2023 with Tarun Rustagi, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Medicine for the period March 16, 2023 through July 24, 2026, extending the term from July 25, 2026 through August 21, 2026, and increasing the maximum payable by \$60,000, from \$8,451,435 to \$8,511,435, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 122-2026
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- 21) Proposed resolution adopting a new policy addressing a disruption of telephonic or internet services during meetings of the Board of Governors –
VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL COUNSEL KAREN S. BARNES HEARD REGARDING ADOPTION OF THE POLICY; APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2026-006
Stout-Pelz; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- 22) Proposed Business Agreement CPQ-4351275 with Cerner Corporation, a subsidiary of Oracle America, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, to supersede Cerner Business Agreement 2016-36 for use, maintenance, and future upgrades to the Electronic Health Record, effective July 15, 2026 –
CO-CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER SANDRA BAKICH HEARD; DIRECTOR BERJIS REQUESTED MS. BAKICH RETURN IN AUGUST WITH A REPORT ON HOW STAFF WILL AVOID THE SAME OR SIMILAR MISSTEPS THAT WERE ENCOUNTERED WITH THE CURRENT ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD; DIRECTOR PELZ EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH THE TERMINATION PROVISION, THE LACK OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND THE REQUIREMENT TO PAY THE ENTIRE CONTRACT PRICE IF TERMINATED EARLY; DIRECTOR MCLAUGHLIN ASKED IF EFFICIENCIES HAD BEEN ANALYZED; DIRECTOR ANDERSON INQUIRED ABOUT CLOUD-BASED SECURITY; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED WHO OWNS THE DATA IN THE CLOUD; CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON AND MS. BAKICH RESPONDED; APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 123-2026
Berjis-Merz; 5 Ayes; 1 No - Pelz; 1 Absent - Pollard
- 23) Proposed Ordering Document CPQ-4351275, CPQ-4353139, CPQ-4353141, CPQ-4352791, CPQ-4352887, CPQ-4353148, CPQ-4353325, CPQ-4349060 with Oracle America, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for continued support of the Electronic Health Record (EHR), and the addition of cloud-based services, artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities, and implementation and consulting resources to support optimization and future growth of the EHR from July 15, 2026 through December 14, 2034 in an amount not to exceed \$66,165,750 –
CO-CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER SANDRA BAKICH HEARD; DIRECTOR BERJIS REQUESTED THE BOARD BE PRESENTED WITH AN ANALYSIS OF THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT WHEN ASKING FOR ADDITIONAL DOLLARS IN THE FUTURE; DIRECTOR ANDERSON ASKED THAT ALL FUTURE REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL DOLLARS BE PLACED OFF CONSENT ON THE AGENDA; APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 124-2026; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN IMPLEMENTING DOCUMENTS
Anderson-Berjis; 5 Ayes; 1 No - Pelz; 1 Absent - Pollard

- 24) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Financial Officer report –
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; DIRECTOR ANDERSON ASKED
ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE FQHC REIMBURSEMENT RATING AND THE REASON FOR
THE RECENT DRAW FROM THE LINE OF CREDIT; MR. CANTU RESPONDED; RECEIVED
AND FILED
Merz-Pelz; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

- 25) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Executive Officer report –
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON HEARD; RECEIVED AND FILED
Stout-Merz; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

- CA
26) Monthly report on What's Happening at Kern Medical Center –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

- CA
27) Miscellaneous Correspondence as of June 30, 2026 –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

- CA
28) Claims and Lawsuits Filed as of June 30, 2026 –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson; 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION
Berjis-Pelz

CLOSED SESSION

- 29) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety
Code Section 101855(j)(2)) - SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 30) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health facilities (Health and Safety Code
Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW

RECONVENED FROM CLOSED SESSION
Berjis-Anderson

REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Item 29 concerning Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners
(Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – HEARD; BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THOSE
DIRECTORS PRESENT (MOTION BY DIRECTOR PELZ, SECOND BY DIRECTOR BERJIS;
1 ABSENT - DIRECTOR POLLARD) THE BOARD APPROVED ALL CREDENTIALING
RECOMMENDATIONS; NO OTHER REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

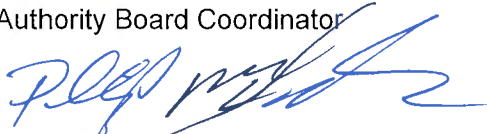
Item 30 Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health facilities (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026 AT 11:30 A.M.

Anderson



/s/ Mona A. Allen
Authority Board Coordinator



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