



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, August 19, 2026

11:30 A.M.

BOARD RECONVENED

Board Members: Anderson, Berjis, McLaughlin, Merz, Pelz, Pollard, Stout
Roll Call: 5 Present; 2 Absent - Merz, 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

NOTE: DIRECTORS MERZ AND POLLARD JOINED THE MEETING AFTER THE ROLL CALL AND PRIOR TO THE VOTE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

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 POLLARD SHARED A COMPLIMENT SHE RECEIVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FROM A COMMUNITY MEMBER REGARDING THE MOBILE CLINIC STAFF AT PANAMA BUENA VISTA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

CA

- 3) Minutes for the Kern County Hospital Authority Board of Governors regular meeting on July 20, 2026 –
APPROVED
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 4) Proposed updated Conflict of Interest Policy and Code for Kern County Hospital Authority –
APPROVED; REFERRED TO KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR APPROVAL
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 5) Proposed Agreement with Drager Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for service of four bilirubinometers from August 19, 2026 through August 18, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 125-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 6) Proposed Agreement with Stericycle, Inc., an independent contractor, for pharmaceutical and hazardous waste disposal service from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 126-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 7) Proposed Agreement with Foresight Imaging LLC, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase and maintenance of video bedside swallow evaluation equipment from August 19, 2026 through August 18, 2031, in an amount not to exceed \$60,160, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 127-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 8) Proposed Agreement with W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc., an independent contractor, for purchase of vascular implants and related supplies from August 19, 2026 through June 30, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$590,000, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 128-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 9) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 86025 with Interim Diagnostic Imaging, LLC, an independent contractor, for rental of a mobile MRI trailer for the period December 29, 2025 through July 27, 2026, extending the term from August 19, 2026 through February 28, 2027, and increasing the maximum payable by \$339,522, from \$385,000 to \$724,522, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 129-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 10) Proposed retroactive Agreement with the County of Kern for lease of a portion of the Public Services Building at 2700 "M" Street from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$1,001,790 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 130-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 11) Report on legislative update regarding Assembly Bill 1234 (AB 1234) and Senate Bill 827 (SB 827) –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 12) Proposed acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses from Oracle Health for two Kern Medical Center employees to attend the Oracle Health and Life Sciences Summit 2026 in Orlando, Florida, from September 22-24, 2026 –
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2026-007
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 13) Proposed acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses (conference fees only) from Oracle Health for 18 Kern Medical Center employees to attend the Oracle Health and Life Sciences Summit 2026 in Orlando, Florida, from September 22-24, 2026 –
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2026-008
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 14) Proposed acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses from Public Risk Innovation, Solution, and Management (PRISM) for two Kern Medical Center employees to attend the PRISM Annual Conference in Indian Wells, California, from September 29-October 2, 2026 –
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2026-009
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 15) Proposed acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses from Presidio Networked Solutions Group, Inc., for three Kern Medical Center employees to attend Presidio TechX, in Dallas, Texas, on September 15, 2026 –
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2026-010
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 16) Proposed acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses from Healthfuse, LLC, for two Kern Medical Center employees to attend the Healthfuse 2026 Client Summit, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 17, 2026 –
APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2026-011
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 17) Proposed Amendment No. 9 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 August 24, 2026, extending the term from August 21, 2026 through September 18, 2026, and increasing the maximum payable by \$2,505,352, from \$8,511,435 to \$11,016,787, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 131-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 18) Proposed rescission of 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, effective August 1, 2026 –
APPROVED
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 19) Proposed retroactive 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 maximum payable by \$2,000,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000, to cover the term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 132-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 20) Proposed rescission of Agreement 117-2026 with Barkat Ali, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Surgery, effective August 1, 2026 –
APPROVED
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 21) Proposed retroactive Quote 127160K-QUOTE-26-00023341 with Getinge USA Sales, LLC, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of flixene vascular grafts from July 28, 2026 through July 27, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN AGREEMENT 133-2026
Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 22) Proposed retroactive Agreement with Teleflex LLC, an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of an EZ Blocker Kit from July 23, 2026 through May 31, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000, plus applicable fees and taxes –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN AGREEMENT 134-2026

Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 23) Proposed policy of the Medical Staff of Kern Medical Center titled Proctoring Requirements – APPROVED

Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 24) Report on upcoming anticipated retroactive agreements – RECEIVED AND FILED

Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

- 25) Report on referral to staff from July 15, 2026 regarding monitoring costs and the return on investment related to the Electronic Health Record – CO-CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER SANDRA BAKICH HEARD; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED ABOUT A PLAN TO CONTROL FUTURE COSTS; DIRECTOR MCLAUGHLIN ASKED IF THERE IS AN ANNUAL BUDGET TO COVER THE UPGRADES; MS. BAKICH RESPONDED

RECEIVED AND FILED

Berjis-Pollard: All Ayes

- 26) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Financial Officer report – CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; DIRECTOR ANDERSON ASKED IF THE FQHC HAD RECEIVED ITS REIMBURSEMENT RATING; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED IF FQHC CLAIMS WILL BE SUBMITTED RETROACTIVELY; DIRECTOR MCLAUGHLIN ASKED WHEN THE ADDITIONAL REVENUE WILL BE ACCRUED; MR. CANTU RESPONDED; RECEIVED AND FILED

Pollard-Pelz: All Ayes

- 27) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Executive Officer report – DIRECTOR POLLARD ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE A MEDIA RELEASE REGARDING THE CANCER PROGRAM ACCREDITATION; DIRECTOR POLLARD ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEWS COVERAGE ON THE JOINT EFFORT OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND KERN MEDICAL CENTER TO CLEAR THE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS; RECEIVED AND FILED

Stout-Pollard: All Ayes

CA

- 28) Monthly report on What's Happening at Kern Medical Center – RECEIVED AND FILED

Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

CA

- 29) Claims and Lawsuits Filed as of July 31, 2026 – RECEIVED AND FILED

Pelz-Anderson: All Ayes

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

Pelz-Berjis

C-30) Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC, Administrative Report –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pollard-Anderson: All Ayes

C-31) Proposed credentialing recommendations –
APPROVED
Pollard-Anderson: All Ayes

C-32) Proposed retroactive Lease Agreement CFS-1015 with Canon Financial Services, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for Canon copier/scanner lease, maintenance and support, from August 1, 2026 through November 7, 2031, in an amount not to exceed \$29,421, plus applicable fees and taxes –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN AGREEMENT 135-2026
Pollard-Anderson: All Ayes

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

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION
Pelz-Merz

CLOSED SESSION

- 33) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 34) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Title: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957) – SEE RESULTS BELOW

RECONVENED FROM CLOSED SESSION
Pollard-Pelz

REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Item 33 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 34 concerning PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Title: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026 AT 11:30 A.M.

Merz



/s/ Mona A. Allen
Authority Board Coordinator



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