



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, September 17, 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)) –
NO ONE HEARD

PUBLIC REQUESTS

- 3) Request of Renee Villanueva, Executive Director, Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center (CHC), to present the CHC long term planning process and July 2025 community survey data –
KERN COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RENEE VILLANUEVA MADE PRESENTATION; DIRECTOR ANDERSON ASKED IF RESPONDENTS PROVIDED DETAILED ANSWERS WHEN RESPONDING TO THE SURVEY; DIRECTOR MCLAUGHLIN ASKED IF THERE ARE BARRIERS TO ACCESSING TO CARE IN CERTAIN AREAS OF BAKERSFIELD; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VILLANUEVA RESPONDED; RECEIVED AND FILED
Anderson-Merz: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- CA
4) Minutes for the Kern County Hospital Authority Board of Governors regular meeting on August 20, 2025 –
APPROVED
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
5) Proposed Seventh Amendment to Operating Agreement of Kern Medical Surgery Center, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, increasing the capital contribution amount by \$2,500,000, from \$6,781,363 to \$9,281,363, effective September 17, 2025, for additional working capital –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 102-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
6) Proposed Amendment No. 1 to Co-Applicant Agreement with Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Board of Directors, clarifying the responsibilities of Kern County Hospital Authority as the Section 330 public agency, effective September 17, 2025 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 103-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
7) Proposed First Amended and Restated Bylaws of Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Board of Directors, clarifying Health Resources and Services Administration requirements for reimbursement of expenses and wages –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 8) Proposed appointment of Juan Avila, a qualified candidate, to the Kern County Hospital Authority Community Health Center Board of Directors to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Anthony Valdez, term to expire June 30, 2026, effective September 17, 2025 –
MADE APPOINTMENT
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 9) Proposed retroactive Renewal Notice for Change Healthcare Cardiology Maintenance Services to Agreement P202610080186 with Change Healthcare Technologies, LLC, an independent contractor, for cardiology PACS maintenance services from March 5, 2025 through March 4, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$160,497 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 104-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 10) Proposed Purchase Order with Nanosonic, Inc., an independent contractor, for biomedical training, replacement parts, and repair services from September 17, 2025 through September 16, 2030, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 105-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 11) Proposed Second Amendment to Agreement 138-2023 with Virtual Radiologic Professionals of California, P.A., an independent contractor, for teleradiology interpretation services for the period October 18, 2023 through October 17, 2025, extending the term for three years from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$2,752,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$4,752,000, to cover the extended term –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 106-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 12) Proposed Quotation 136342580 with Draeger, Inc., an independent contractor, containing nonstandard terms and conditions, for purchase of a non-invasive bilirubin measuring device and service maintenance kit, in an amount not to exceed \$13,361 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 107-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 13) Proposed Second Amendment to Agreement 56422 with Medtronic USA, Inc., an independent contractor, for surgical medical devices for the period September 21, 2022 through September 20, 2025, extending the term for three years from September 21, 2025 through September 20, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 –
APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 108-2025
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 14) Proposed Amendment No. 2 to Agreement 057-2018 with Acute Care Surgery Medical Group, Inc., an independent contractor, for trauma and general surgery hospitalist services in the Department of Surgery for the period November 5, 2018 through October 31, 2025, extending the term for three years from November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2028, and increasing the maximum payable by \$17,625,266.02, from \$37,149,012.71 to \$54,774,278.73, to cover the

extended term –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 109-2025

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 15) Proposed Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 103-2022 with Jack C. Hou, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical services in the Department of Surgery for the period September 22, 2022 through September 21, 2025, extending the term for one year from September 22, 2025 through September 21, 2026, and increasing the maximum payable by \$920,000, from \$2,680,000 to \$3,600,000, to cover the extended term –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 110-2025

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 16) Proposed Agreement with Igor Garcia-Pacheco, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical and administrative services in the Department of Medicine from September 20, 2025 through September 19, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$2,300,000, plus applicable benefits –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 111-2025

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 17) Proposed Agreement with Tung Thanh Trang, M.D., a contract employee, for professional medical and administrative services in the Department of Surgery from September 20, 2025 through September 19, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$2,800,000, plus applicable benefits –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 112-2025

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 18) Proposed acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses from Healthfuse, LLC, for one Kern Medical Center employee to attend the Fall Client Summit Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 25, 2025 –

APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2025-018

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 19) Proposed retroactive acceptance of donation of travel and related expenses (conference fee only) from California Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (CAHAM), for one Kern Medical Center employee for to attend the 56th Annual CAHAM Educational Conference & Vendor Exhibition in Newport Beach, California, from September 2-5, 2025 –

APPROVED; ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2025-019

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

CA

- 20) Proposed Amendment No. 7 to Agreement 06816 with Health Advocates, LLC, an independent contractor, for financial services for the period July 1, 2016 through September 30, 2025, extending the term for two years from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2027, and increasing the maximum payable by \$9,239,738, from \$29,450,000 to \$38,689,738, to cover the extended term –

APPROVED; AUTHORIZED CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT 113-2025

Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

- 21) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Financial Officer report –
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANDREW CANTU HEARD; TODD CAREY, FOOD AND
NUTRITION DEPARTMENT AND SEIU MEMBER, ASKED WHEN THE JULY FINANCIALS
WERE PREPARED; MR. CANTU AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON
RESPONDED; DIRECTOR BERJIS ASKED WHY VACATION LEAVE FOR RESIDENTS AND
FELLOWS IS FRONTLOADED; VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL COUNSEL KAREN S.
BARNES RESPONDED; RECEIVED AND FILED
Berjis-Stout: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- 22) Kern County Hospital Authority Chief Executive Officer report –
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SCOTT THYGERSON HEARD; RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Merz: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
23) Monthly report on What's Happening at Kern Medical Center –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
24) Miscellaneous Correspondence as of August 31, 2025 –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard
- CA
25) Claims and Lawsuits Filed as of August 31, 2025 –
RECEIVED AND FILED
Pelz-Anderson: 6 Ayes; 1 Absent - Pollard

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION
Anderson-Stout

CLOSED SESSION

- 26) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety
Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 27) Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health facilities (Health and Safety Code
Section 101855(j)(2)) – SEE RESULTS BELOW
- 28) 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
- 29) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Title: Chief Executive Officer
(Government Code Section 54957) – SEE RESULTS BELOW

RECONVENED FROM CLOSED SESSION
Berjis-Pelz

REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Item 26 concerning Request for Closed Session regarding peer review of health practitioners (Health and Safety Code Section 101855(j)(2)) – HEARD; BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE (MOTION BY DIRECTOR MERZ, SECOND BY DIRECTOR PELZ; 1 ABSENT - DIRECTOR POLLARD), THE BOARD APPROVED ALL PRACTITIONERS RECOMMENDED FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT, REAPPOINTMENT, RELEASE OF PROCTORING, REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES, AND AUTOMATIC TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGES; NO OTHER REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

Item 27 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 28 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 29 concerning PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Title: Chief Executive Officer (Government Code Section 54957) – HEARD; NO REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN

ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025 AT 11:30 A.M.

Stout



/s/ Mona A. Allen
Authority Board Coordinator



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