



**MARIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL OPEN MEETING / BOARD STUDY SESSION**

**Wednesday, June 27, 2018 @ 5:30 pm
MHD Conference Room
100B Drake's Landing, Suite 250, Greenbrae**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Sparkman called the Special Open Meeting/Board Study Session to order at 5:30 pm.

Board Members Present: Chair Ann Sparkman; Vice Chair Jennifer Hershon;

Secretary Jennifer Rienks; Director Larry Bedard, MD; Director Harris Simmonds, MD

Staff Present: Jon Friedenberg, COO; Michael Lighthawk, Executive Assistant

Counsel Present: Noel Caughman (Archer Norris)

2. General Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Review Marin Healthcare District Physician Transactions and Arrangements Policy and Due Diligence Checklist

Chair Sparkman directed attention to Tab 2 (Agenda and Minutes of MHD Board Regular Meeting, June 12, 2012), page 4, item #10, which records the review and approval of the Policy. She emphasized several points and noted that the Policy was approved unanimously. She then directed attention to Tab 1, the Policy itself that was approved at that meeting. Counsel Caughman indicated Section IV.D.4 (page 4 of 12) of the Policy, which determines when Board review and approval of physician agreements is required, and noted each of the items (a through e). The "Due Diligence Checklist for Board Approvals" (included after Exhibit E of the Policy) is a tool used by administration and staff for determining whether an agreement requires Board approval, and to list procedural requirements.

Secretary Rienks suggested an amendment to the Policy regarding a physician's proposed use of a voluntary access fee, even though that possibility may now be remote. Chair Sparkman, Mr. Friedenberg, and Counsel Caughman agreed to draft together such a revision to the Policy and will present it for action at the next Regular Meeting of this Board, July 10.

4. Status Update: Physician Access Fee

Mr. Friedenberg reported that he was in direct contact with the physicians (Dr. Chase and Dr. Murphy) and with their practice managers to review the policy and to ensure that staffs communicate to patients appropriately that access fees were voluntary. He is working with the physicians to arrange to phase out access fees; each requires particular details to work out and he will report to this Board at the Regular Meeting on August 14.



Discussion ensued on the structure of the practices and clinics affiliated with MGH and the District, which are under management by Prima Medical Foundation.

There are practices in Marin that are purely “concierge”, but they are not affiliated with the District. These in discussion (Chase and Murphy) are not concierge, and when their established practices aligned with the District, management agreed that their respective existing access fee options were worth trying out to see how they would work. They related that their access fee option did not prove a problem for their patients, and made clear that no patient would be turned away who could not or would not pay the optional access fee. Mr. Friedenbergs reviewed the letters they currently send to their patients about the option, and he will present those letters to the Board at the next meeting.

Secretary Rienks reported that a patient of one of the physicians in discussion has made contact with her regarding her personal experience regarding this subject.

5. Adjournment

Chair Sparkman adjourned the Special Open Meeting/Board Study Session at 6:03 pm.