



**MARIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

REGULAR MEETING

**Tuesday, September 10, 2024
MarinHealth Medical Center
Conference Center**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Alfrey called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Board members present: Chair Edward Alfrey, MD; Vice Chair Brian Su, MD; Secretary Jennifer Rienks, PhD (via Zoom); Ann Sparkman, RN/BSN, JD; Samantha Ramirez, BSW

Staff present: David Klein, MD, CEO; Eric Brettner, CFO; Colin Leary, General Counsel; Tricia Lee, EA

2. General Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approve Agenda

Ms. Sparkman moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Ramirez seconded. **Vote: all ayes.**

4. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2024

Dr. Su moved to approve the minutes as presented with minor corrections. Ms. Sparkman seconded. **Vote: all ayes.**

5. Review and Approve Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution for Non-State Agencies

Resolution to approve designation of applicant's agent for non-state agencies as it relates to FEMA funding. Resolution was presented (Tab #2). Chair Alfrey asked for a motion to approve, Dr. Su moved to approve the Resolution. Ms. Sparkman seconded. **Vote: all ayes**

6. Review and Approve Resolution #2024-04 Resolution Honoring Dr. Matthew Willis

Dr. Alfrey presented the Resolution 2024-04 which honors Dr. Willis for his extraordinary service and leadership (Tab #3). The board express their heartfelt appreciation for Dr. Willis'



continued dedication to advancing public health and ensuring the safety and well-being of Marin County residents while serving as the Public Health Officer.

Dr. Willis expressed gratitude towards Marin Healthcare District and MarinHealth Medical Center for their outstanding partnership in achieving shared health and well-being goals.

Chair Alfrey asked for a motion to approve, Ms. Rienks moved to approve the Resolution. Ms. Sparkman seconded. **Vote: all ayes**

7. Healthcare Advocacy and Emerging Challenges and Trends

Dr. Klein provided an update on SB 977 which focuses on increasing penalties for assault and battery against healthcare workers. The bill has been delivered to the governor's desk without amendments.

Assembly Bill 1778, pertains to electric bike safety, primarily impacting Marin County. The bill is also pending the governor's signature, with local county authorities expected to implement regulations once signed.

Dr. Klein provided an update to Proposition 35, which aims to protect medical access by addressing tax regulations and health insurance. This proposition is still progressing through the legislative process.

Dr. Klein also provided an update to SB 1432, sponsored by the California Hospital Association (CHA), the bill seeks to extend the timeline for hospitals to comply with the 2030 seismic construction mandate by up to five years. It has passed the legislature and is now awaiting the governor's approval.

Dr. Klein provided an update on the Rural Healthcare Bill. This bill, supports critical access hospitals in financial distress, has passed through legislature. A technical advisory group has been established under the Department of Healthcare Services to recommend strategies for stabilizing rural healthcare services.

8. Committee Reports

A. Finance & Audit Committee

Finance and Audit Committee did not meet.

B. *Lease, Building, Education and Outreach Committee*

Ms. Rienks provided an update on upcoming and past events.

- End-Of-Life Planning Seminar: Recently held and highly successful, with 161 attendees participating both in person and online. There was a strong interest in hosting a seminar on assisted death laws in the future.
- Hypertension Seminar: Scheduled for September 24th. Registration is high, with 82 attendees confirmed so far.
- Health Fair: Scheduled for November 2nd in partnership with the Marin City Health and Wellness Center.
- Community Workers Day: Tentatively planned for September, with a date to be confirmed.
- Men's and Women's Health Fair: scheduled for November 13th.
- Careers in Medicine: Scheduled for January 28th. Local schools are actively engaged, and transportation arrangements are in place.

9. **Reports**

A. *Hospital and District CEO's Report*

Dr. Klein reported the hospital has experienced increase in volume, with high census numbers and emergency department visits over the past few weeks.

Dr. Klein reported COS (California Ortho and Spine) physical therapy group joined MarinHealth.

The Novato Imaging Center is now fully operational and experiencing high patient volume.

Dr. Klein reported the Petaluma Hub is scheduled to open for patient care in early December, with community events planned in November to celebrate its launch.

Dr. Klein reported on the recruitment efforts. Recruitment is underway for two new cardiac surgeons, a general surgeon, trauma surgeon, and an orthopedic joint surgeon. Process to begin to recruit new Vice President of Medical Affairs and Medical Network staff.

Dr. Klein reported all MRIs are now functional. The MRI magnet on South Eliseo will be replaced in the coming months.

The nuclear medicine camera (spec CT) is nearing licensure and operational readiness.

Dr. Klein shared the innovation and artificial intelligence task force remains active, exploring generative AI and other innovations for the organization.

The enhanced visitor and weapons management systems are in the final stages of implementation.

Dr. Klein reported the hospital has gone 400 days without a serious patient safety event.

Dr. Klein noted continuous improvement has been observed in patient experience scores, which will be further detailed in the next quarterly report.

Dr. Klein reported a recent visit from Fitch Rating Agency was very positive. The team conducted an on-site tour of the hospital, showcasing the facility and its operations.

Dr. Klein reported the New Grad Program is expanding, with 85+ new grad nurses hired and a reduced reliance on travel nurses. Imaging remains an area where travelers are still utilized, but overall usage is significantly down compared to 2020.

Dr. Klein shared Dr. Alan Conway was featured in a segment on CBS News for his use of AI in vascular surgery, showcasing the hospital's hybrid room and innovative capabilities.

B. Chair's and Board Members' Reports.

Ms. Ramirez shared her appreciation for the recent public events held at Pickleweed park. While attendance was lower than expected, the quality of interactions and feedback received was highly valuable.

Ms. Ramirez also highlighted her gratitude for the volunteers who consistently demonstrate dedication to the community.

Dr. Alfrey expressed the importance of the board's involvement in health fairs and community events. He noted that interventions at these events have led to early diagnosis and improved quality of life for community members. The board's role extends beyond clinical settings and contributes to overall health and well-being in the community.

Dr. Alfrey also recognized the contributions of volunteers who have been crucial in engaging the community during health fairs. He emphasized that these efforts save lives by identifying health issues early, educating the public, and connecting individuals to healthcare resources.

10. Agenda Suggestions for Future Meetings

There were no further suggestions.

11. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

Chair Alfrey adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.