



**MARIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

REGULAR MEETING

**Tuesday, January 14, 2025
MarinHealth Medical Center
Conference Center**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Alfrey called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

Board members present: Chair Edward Alfrey, MD; Vice Chair Ann Sparkman, RN/BSN, JD; Secretary Jennifer Rienks, PhD; Brian Su, MD; 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. Nomination and Election of Marin Healthcare District Officers for 2025

A. Chair – Ms. Rienks nominated Dr. Alfrey, and Ms. Sparkman seconded. Dr. Alfrey accepted the nomination. There were no further nominations. Voting took place by roll call, and each voted affirmatively for Dr. Alfrey. **Dr. Edward Alfrey was elected unanimously to be Chair of Marin Healthcare District Board for 2025.**

B. Vice Chair – Dr. Alfrey nominated Ms. Sparkman to continue as Vice Chair and she accepted. There were no further nominations. Voting took place by roll call, and each voted affirmatively for Ms. Sparkman. **Ms. Ann Sparkman was elected unanimously to be Vice Chair of Marin Healthcare District Board for 2025.**

C. Secretary – Dr. Alfrey nominated Ms. Rienks to continue as Secretary and she accepted. There were no further nominations. Voting took place by roll call, and each voted affirmatively for Ms. Rienks. **Ms. Jennifer Rienks was elected unanimously to be Secretary of Marin Healthcare District Board for 2025.**

4. Approve Agenda

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

5. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2024

Ms. Sparkman moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Rienks seconded. **Vote: all ayes.**

6. Healthcare Advocacy and Emerging Challenges and Trends

Dr. Klein provided an update on SB 1953, Seismic Compliance. Submissions of construction documents for relocation of services in a building that does not meet the seismic guidelines are required to be submitted by January 1, 2026. Stakeholder meetings will begin in the coming weeks, with preliminary plans expected in March of 2025.

Dr. Klein reported on AB 896, Seismic Safety Compliance which was recently passed. AB 869 offers potential relief for extending the seismic compliance requirement beyond 2030 for specified rural and district hospitals.

Dr. Klein noted the California governor's race is gaining momentum, with several candidates announcing their intention to run.

7. Committee Reports

A. Finance & Audit Committee

No report given.

B. Lease, Building, Education and Outreach Committee

Ms. Rienks reported the updated website is set to launch in the coming weeks. The URL will be forwarded to the board for review.

Ms. Rienks provided an update on upcoming events.

- Careers in Medicine Event is scheduled for February 27, 2025. The initial event is scheduled with Tam district (Redwood, Archie Williams, and TAM), with San Rafael schools to follow.
- Men's and Women's Health Seminar is scheduled for March 15, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Key topic include; Urinary Incontinence, Sexual Health and Menopause, Innovations for Enlarged Prostates and Diabetes Prevention.

Ms. Rienks noted several pop-up and outreach events are in the planning stage, with additional pop-up ideas to be discussed at the upcoming Board Retreat on February 21, 2025.

- Marin City Woman's Health Fair
- Marin Senior Fair
- Marin Teen Girls Event
- Library Partnerships
- Potential collaboration with Marin Mommies



Ms. Rienks also reported the first e-blast is scheduled for February 10, 2025. Content will include a recap of 2024, accessing primary care and mental health services, hospital innovations, and upcoming seminars and events.

8. Reports

A. Hospital and District CEO's Report

Dr. Klein reported 2024 was a strong financial year, exceeding budget projections in EBITDA and net revenue, surpassing last year's results.

Dr. Klein reported growth was driven by strong operational efficiencies and increased patient volume across multiple areas. Outpatient imaging volume increased by 33%, with several other service lines showing double-digit growth. ED admissions, surgeries, and overall patient visits remained high, with record-high patient volumes sustained throughout the holiday season.

Dr. Klein shared that MarinHealth has been named one of America's 250 Best Hospitals by Healthgrades for the second consecutive year, placing MarinHealth in the top 5% for clinical performance.

Dr. Klein noted the Annual MHD Board Retreat is scheduled for February 21, 2025. Key discussions will include organizational goals for 2025, facility expansions, and service line growth.

Dr. Klein provided physician recruitment updates:

- 66 new providers were recruited in 2024, 7 of which are primary care physicians.
- New Heart Program launching March 2025 with Dr. Castro and Dr. Sarkeshik.
- An Arthroplasty Surgeon has successfully been recruited and set to begin in Summer 2025.
- An Ortho Trauma Surgeon candidate is in the final stages of the interview process.
- 10 new Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) planned, with three already recruited for Petaluma.

Dr. Klein announced Katie Wickes, Executive Director of Access will be starting in her role in this month. She will be focusing on improving scheduling, testing, and procedural access.

Dr. Klein reported annual Physician Satisfaction and Employee Engagement surveys have been completed with record-high participation.

Dr. Klein reported that the Joint Commission survey is anticipated within the next three to four months. A mock survey was conducted in November 2024, which identified areas for improvement. Action plans have been established, and corrective measures are currently being implemented.

Dr. Klein also noted Stroke and Diabetes certification reviews are anticipated in early 2025.

Dr. Klein shared the Commission on Cancer survey successfully passed with strong results.

Dr. Klein reported on several facility and security updates:

- Many administrative offices at Drakes Landing have been relocated to Civic Center Dr. in San Rafael.
- Medical Network leadership will be relocating to Novato in April 2025.
- Hospital Expansion Plans under discussion, including ambulatory services building design and increased parking options.
- IV shortage crisis resolved.
- Novato Imaging Center is now fully operational and experiencing high patient volume.
- Outpatient MRI replacement on S. Eliseo has begun with completion expected in April 2025.
- New SPECT CT scanner is operational all licensure has been issued.
- Petaluma Clinic expansion: Urgent care services to start on February 1, 2025, in response to high community demand.
- Pharmacy Compounding room construction to begin February 2025.
- Emergency generator replacement in the Cypress Pavilion forecasted for 2025.
- Seismic Planning has begun for January 1, 2026 submission deadline.
- Bloom Energy Project has been initiated.
- The weapons management and visitor badging systems are scheduled to be implemented in February 2025.
- Hospital signage and branding improvements are ongoing to enhance patient experience.
- Reintroduction of Valet Service to alleviate parking challenges for patients coming in April 2025.

B. Chair's and Board Members' Reports.

Ms. Rienks expressed concern about the impact of wildfire smoke in Los Angeles and its implications for emergency preparedness. She suggested an educational initiative, such as a pop-up event or website resource, to inform the public on protecting themselves from wildfire smoke.



Dr. Su expressed gratitude to Dr. Klein for his contributions to the hospital and to Dr. Alfrey for leading the board over the past year.

Dr. Alfrey discussed the idea of promoting e-bike safety through emergency department waiting room. He suggested creating a poster or display with standard talking points about e-bikes, focusing in safety tips.

Ms. Ramirez expressed her concerns about the mental health challenges faced by the Latino immigrant community during this period of uncertainty under the new administration. She emphasized the need for ongoing support and the availability of mental health resources for vulnerable populations.

9. Agenda Suggestions for Future Meetings

Ms. Rienks suggested inviting Dr. Lisa Santora from Marin County Public Health, along with a representative from the Marin Office of Education, to discuss their strategies regarding the impact of the new administration on the immigrant community.

10. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

Chair Alfrey adjourned the meeting at 6:47 pm.