



**MARIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Tuesday, October 8, 2024  
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 Brian Su, MD; Secretary Jennifer Rienks, PhD (via Zoom); Ann Sparkman, RN/BSN, JD; Samantha Ramirez, BSW

*Staff present:* Eric Brettner, CFO; Colin Leary, General Counsel; Tricia Lee, EA

*Staff Absent:* David G. Klein, MD, CEO

**2. General Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approve Agenda**

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

**4. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2024**

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

**5. Bloom Energy Borrowing**

Mr. Brettner presented the Bloom Energy borrowing (TAB 2). The Bloom Energy project was previously brought to the board for discussion, at that time the shared saving program to finance was being explored. However, that option proved to be less than optimal. Bloom required a 25% down payment. After tax credits, \$6 million remained for financing, but with an interest rate over 12%. High penalties were set if the hospital opted out, including a termination fee covering all owed funds and an additional \$4 million. The terms were deemed too risky and financially burdensome for the hospital.

Alternative financing solutions included Bank of America (BofA). BofA proposed to finance 100% of the project at an interest rate under 6%.

BofA terms include a 10-year loan with the option to pay down after tax credits are received, reducing the \$15 million loan to \$10 million. The loan's structure minimizes initial debt impact, and the full savings of around \$2 million annually will accrue to the hospital post-loan repayment.

**6. MHD Board of Directors Resolution No. 2024-05. Approving MarinHealth Medical Center Loan from Bank of America in Connection with Bloom Energy Financing**

Resolution No. 2024-05 Approving MarinHealth Medical Center Loan from Bank of America in Connection with Bloom Energy Financing (TAB 3) was presented.

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

**7. Healthcare Advocacy and Emerging Challenges and Trends**

Dr. Alfrey provided an update on SB 1432, Seismic Reform. The bill, which would have granted hospitals additional time to comply with the 2030 Seismic Standards, was vetoed by the governor. This setback affects hospitals seeking extensions for seismic compliance, particularly those not classified as crisis, home programs, small, critical access, or district hospitals.

Dr. Alfrey provided an update to AB 896, Seismic Safety and Compliance Bill. The bill has been signed by the governor. This bill provides specific hospitals, such as crisis, critical access, and district hospitals, the ability to seek approval for a delay in the 2030 Seismic Standards compliance.

Dr. Alfrey provided an update on SB 977, which focuses on increasing penalties for assault and battery against healthcare workers. The bill has been signed by the governor.

Dr. Alfrey provided an update on Assembly Bill 1778, which pertains to electric bike safety, primarily impacting Marin County. The bill has been signed by the governor, establishing a pilot program for e-bike riders. The program restricts e-bike use for individuals under 16 and mandates helmet use.

Dr. Alfrey provided an update on SB 1432 Rural Healthcare Preservation. This bill, aimed to ensure the sustainability of small, rural, and critical access hospitals was vetoed by the governor.

Dr. Alfrey provided an update to Proposition 35, which aims to protect medical access by addressing tax regulations and health insurance. This proposition is on the ballot for the November 5, 2024 election.

## **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.

- The Hypertension Seminar was successful with high attendance.
- Community Workers' Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at Matt & Jeff's Car Wash in San Rafael.
- West Marin Community Health & Wellness Fair, tentative dates November 7, 3:00 – 5:00 pm at Williams Elementary or November 14, 2:00 – 5:00 pm at Tomales Town Hall.
- Marin City Event November 2, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Man's and Women's Health Seminar, originally scheduled for the fall has been moved to February 8, 2025.
- Careers in Medicine Event is scheduled for January 28, 2025 2:00 – 4:00 pm at Marinhealth Medical Center.
- An event in Spanish for next year related to maternal mental health.

Ms. Rienks also noted the new website redesign progressing.

## **9. Reports**

### *A. Hospital and District CEO's Report*

No report was given, Dr. Klein was not present at meeting.

### *B. Chair's and Board Members' Reports.*

Ms. Ramirez shared her recent experience attending the hypertension seminar, noting that it was well-organized and commending the presenters for their excellent work. She extended a special recognition to Jill and everyone involved in supporting the event.

Ms. Ramirez expressed an interest in diversifying both the locations and topics of future seminars to attract a broader and more varied audience.

## **10. Agenda Suggestions for Future Meetings**

Ms. Sparkman, requested the new president of College of Marin to come speak on information related to their nursing program and trade schools.

Ms. Sparkman also requested the Commission on Aging attend a future meeting.

## **11. Adjournment of Regular Meeting**

Chair Alfrey adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.