



**MARIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

REGULAR MEETING

**March 10, 2026
MarinHealth Medical Center
Conference Center**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

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

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

2. General Public Comment

Several members of the public offered comment.

Speakers commented on ongoing labor negotiations, including concerns regarding healthcare costs, wages, staff morale and employee retention.

Comments also addressed patient safety related to staffing levels and operational practices, as well as dissatisfaction with the hospital's bargaining approach and healthcare plan options.

Speakers expressed concern regarding prior remarks by Director Ann Sparkman.

3. Approve Agenda

Director Alfrey moved to approve. Director Su seconded.

Vote: all ayes.

4. Marin Healthcare District Officers

A. Ratification of succession of Vice-Chair as Chair for remainder of 2026 term

Following the resignation of the Chair, a motion was requested to ratify the succession of the Vice Chair to the position of Chair for the remainder of the 2026 term.

Director Alfrey motioned to approve. Director Sparkman Seconded.

A roll call vote was conducted with Directors Su, Ramirez, Rienks, Sparkman, and Alfrey voting in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Nomination and Election of successor Vice Chair for remainder of 2026 term

Director Alfrey nominated Director Su as Vice Chair. Director Sparkman seconded.

A roll call vote was conducted with Directors Su, Ramirez, Rienks, Alfrey, and Sparkman voting in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2026 & February 24, 2026

A. Approval of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2026 Minutes.

Director Alfrey moved to approve. Director Su seconded. **Vote: all ayes.**

B. Approval of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of February 24, 2026 Minutes.

Dr. Alfrey requested an amendment to the minutes of February 24, 2026 on page 2 “Board Discussion”. Approval of minutes were tabled until March 10, 2026.

Public comment was provided.

6. Healthcare Advocacy and Emerging Challenges and Trends

Dr. Klein noted that there were no new updates since the previous meeting.

7. Committee Reports

A. *Finance & Audit Committee*

Finance & Audit did not meet. No report given.

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

Chair Reink reported on a recent “Careers in Medicine” educational event and invited Dr. Klein to provide a summary. Dr. Klein summarized that approximately 65 local high school students participated in the all-day program, which included hospital tours, educational sessions, and a multidisciplinary panel discussion.

Survey results indicated strong success, with 100% of students reporting the event met or exceeded expectations and 94% rating the content as excellent or very good. Student feedback highlighted the value of direct interaction with healthcare professionals and exposure to various career paths.

Ms. Kinney added that the event had a meaningful impact, with at least one student stating it solidified their decision to pursue a healthcare career.

C. *Primary Care Task Force*

Chair Rienks reported that she and Director Ann Sparkman have begun conducting interviews as part of the Primary Care Task Force’s work, including two initial physician interviews, which were described as informative and productive. One additional interview will be rescheduled, and further interviews with physicians, practice managers, and other stakeholders are planned. Early discussions have provided insight into hospital initiatives aimed at addressing primary care challenges, including physician burnout and inbox management. The Task Force will continue evaluating the effectiveness of these strategies, with additional updates to follow.

8. Reports

A. *Hospital CEO’s Report:*

Dr. Klein reported that a labor strike involving members of the Teamsters union and CNA occurred on February 18. Following the strike, negotiations have resumed, and the hospital continues to bargain in good faith with the goal of reaching a timely resolution.

Dr. Klein shared that he recently participated in a Bay Area Healthcare Leaders panel hosted by the San Francisco Business Times, which was well attended and included discussion on the future of healthcare,



particularly advancements in artificial intelligence. He noted that MarinHealth compares favorably to peer organizations in this area.

Dr. Klein reported that the patient waiting list has been reduced to zero. He also reported in 2025 the addition of 11 primary care providers, with additional recruitment underway.

Dr. Klein reported that recent facility expansions are now complete, including the addition of 10 beds on 4 East in the Redwood Pavilion, which opened March 3.

He also provided an update on seismic compliance efforts, noting that under Assembly Bill 869, the District has applied for a three-year extension and has three active projects underway to meet 2032 requirements, including relocation of key services from the Redwood Pavilion to the Cedar Pavilion.

He noted the completion of the Master Fire Alarm project on February 27, acknowledging the disruption it caused but sharing that the project has been recognized by HCAI as a best practice for patient safety.

Dr. Klein discussed ongoing efforts to address parking constraints, including evaluation of off-site parking with shuttle service and plans for a new parking garage. A request is pending with the Marin County Planning Commission to add an additional floor, increasing capacity to approximately 600 spaces. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2027.

Additional facility updates included:

- Cardiac rehabilitation space on track for July occupancy
- Pharmacy compounding room expected completion in November
- Bloom Energy project progressing toward a fall launch, supporting low- to zero-carbon energy generation
- Visitor management system implemented March 3 to enhance campus safety
- Expansion planning for perioperative services and additional procedure rooms
- Installation of healthy vending machines throughout the hospital by April 15

Dr. Klein also reported on outpatient operations, noting that the Petaluma urgent care will expand to seven days per week beginning in May, and additional primary care and urgent care sites are under consideration to help alleviate high volumes in urgent care and the emergency department.

Public comment was provided.

B. Chair's and Board Members' Reports:

Chair Rienks reported that the Board is very sympathetic to the ongoing staff strike and expressed strong support for hospital staff, acknowledging the important work they perform and the hope for a timely resolution.

She also addressed recent concerns regarding petition processes, noting that while petitions are often circulated with varying levels of accuracy in how they are presented, once a sufficient number of a petition's signatures are verified by the Elections Department and a certification is sent to the Board, the Board has a legal obligation to place the petitioned measure on one ballot or another. She clarified that the Board's role is limited to determining ballot placement and that broader issues, such as signature thresholds and the petition process, are outside the Board's control. Chair Rienks



emphasized that this duty must be upheld regardless of individual perspectives on how signatures were gathered.

Director Alfrey reported on a recent meeting with the Marin County Department of Transportation, where he learned of an existing county grant opportunity that could support the District's action plan. He explained that aligning, or "dovetailing," the District's plan with an already funded County initiative would strengthen its viability and likelihood of success. He noted that discussions are ongoing with the Marin County Department of Public Works regarding incorporating the District's recommendations into this existing grant framework, which could allow the work to be funded externally rather than through the District.

Director Alfrey also discussed his recent research on e-bike safety, noting that data indicates a higher risk of fatality for electric bicycle riders compared to traditional pedal cyclists. He highlighted that a significant contributing factor is the lack of helmet use, along with regulatory gaps that classify e-bikes as bicycles despite their ability to reach higher speeds. The Board discussed the importance of public education on this issue, and staff indicated interest in collaborating with Director Alfrey to share findings in the District newsletter to better inform the community.

Public comment was provided.

9. Agenda Suggestions for Future Meetings

Dr. Klein shared that Rebecca Maxwell will present at the May 12, 2026 MHD Board Meeting. Chair Rienks requested an update on the Age Friendly Designation process.

10. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

Chair Rienks adjourned the Regular Meeting at 6:34 p.m.