



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MENDOCINO COAST HEALTH CARE DISTRICT
MINUTES
Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 11:30 AM
Redwoods Room, Adventist Health Mendocino Coast Hospital Campus
700 River Drive, Fort Bragg, CA.

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Garza called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

This meeting was held in-person in accordance with the Brown Act.

Director's Present: Chair Paul Garza, Jr. Vice Chair Paul Katzeff
 Secretary Susan Savage Jan McGourty
 Lynn Finley

A quorum of the Board was present.

Management Team: Agency Administrator Katharine Wylie
 Chief Financial Officer Wayne Allen
 RGS Consultant, Transparent Government MJ Brown
 RGS Strategic Services Consultant Chris Sliz

Chair Garza introduced RGS Consultants Chris Sliz and MJ Brown, and invited them to conduct a Board Best Practices and Planning Workshop.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

2a) Consultant Sliz led a board discussion on public comment procedure for the board workshop. The board agreed to receive 7 minutes of public comment at the beginning, midway and end of the workshop, adhering to the published agenda's 20 minute public comment period..

2b) Malcolm Macdonald commented on the public comment process.
Seeing no one else come forward, Ms. Sliz closed public comment.

3. BOARD WORKSHOP

3a) Session 1

RGS Consultants Sliz and Brown facilitated a session on board self-analysis, legal transparency, and effective governance, including the practical applications of the Ralph M. Brown Act. The discussion highlighted key practices for a high-functioning board, such as fostering collaboration, preparing thoroughly for meetings, listening to the public, and adhering to collective decisions. Conflict resolution strategies and options for enhancing public participation were also explored, emphasizing the board's commitment to representing the community's best interests and maintaining taxpayer trust.

3b) Public Comment

Terry Ramos provided general comments regarding the workshop public comment guidelines and facilities timelines. Malcolm Macdonald provided comments on public comment guidelines.

3c) Session 2

The session focused on district facilities and finances, emphasizing the board's commitment to balancing fiscal responsibility, operational feasibility, and community health priorities for long-term sustainability. Discussions highlighted the need for a strong partnership with Adventist Health to define a workplace model for healthcare facilities, informed by service patterns and reimbursement trends. The board underscored the importance of community engagement to identify healthcare needs, educate residents, and build support for funding strategies like grants, philanthropy, and bonds. Recognizing rising construction costs and limited tax revenues, members stressed efficient financial planning to address immediate facility needs while aligning with future priorities, such as transitioning to outpatient-focused services and incorporating advanced technology.

3d) Public Comment

Terry Ramos commented on a recommended board decision process for facilities improvements and community health.

Gabriel Maroney commented on the previous community meeting feedback and public comment processes.

Malcolm Macdonald provided comments on public comment guidelines and the workshop.

Peter Johnston provided general comments commending the board's transparency and public engagement process.

Agency Administrator Wylie stated January 23, 2025 at 5:00 pm as the next Regular Board meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT

4a) The workshop concluded and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katharine D. Wylie, Agency Administrator