



Ventura County Community Health Center (CHC) Board Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2024
12:30 - 2:00 PM**

**2240 E Gonzalez Rd,
Suite 200
Oxnard, CA 93036**

Theresa Cho, MD
Ventura County Ambulatory Care Chief
Executive Officer
Medical Director CHC
Executive Director

Marth Ann Knutson
County of Ventura
Assistant County Counsel

Chaya Turrow
Ventura County Ambulatory Care
CHC Co-Applicant Board Clerk

CHC BOARD MEMBERS:

RALPH REYES, District 3
Chair

RENA SEPULVEDA, District 1
Vice Chair

ESPY GONZALEZ, District 2
Secretary

JAMES MASON, District 5
Treasurer

MANUEL MINJARES, District 3

RENEE HIGGINS, MD, District 3

MELISSA LIVINGSTON, District 1

DAVID TOVAR, District 3

**LORETTA DENERING, DrPH, MPH,
District 2**

Call to Order:

Ralph Reyes called the meeting to order at 12:36 PM.

1. Roll Call

Ralph Reyes	Present
Rena Sepulveda	Present
Espy Gonzalez	Absent
James Mason	Present
Manuel Minjares	Absent
Renee Higgins, MD	Absent
Melissa Livingston	Present
David Tovar	Absent
Loretta Denering, DrPH	Present

Roll call confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. **Ventura County Staff Present**

Theresa Cho, MD, Health Care Agency
Martha Knutson – County Counsel
Lizeth Barretto, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Allison Blze, MD, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Jason Cavender, HCA – Ambulatory Care

Public Present

None

3. **Public Comments**

None

Action Items:

4. **Approval of CHC Board Meeting Agenda for December 12, 2024**

Board Vice Chair Sepulveda motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Board Member Denering seconded. Motion passed.

5. **Approval of CHC Minutes for November 14, 2024**

Board Member Denering motioned to approve. Board Treasurer Mason seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion Items:

6. **Review of the Annual Activity Report**

Ms. Turrow shared the draft of the Annual Activity Report. She requested any feedback prior to it being approved. Approval will happen at the January meeting, and then it will go to the Board of Supervisors.

7. **Continued Business**

Ms. Turrow shared that the team is beginning UDS (Uniform Data System), which is when VCCHC is required to report information on patient characteristics, services provided, clinical processes and health outcomes, staffing, costs, etc. The report is due mid-February. The team will report the final UDS data to the CHC Board in April.

Ms. Turrow also mentioned that CHC Board recruitment is still taking place. Please continue reaching out to people who the Board Members feel would be a good fit.

8. **CEO Update – Theresa Cho, MD - HCA, Ambulatory Care**

Dr. Cho shared that she and Dr. Fankhauser were part of a team of leaders representing California Health that traveled to D.C. They met with Representatives Adam Schiff and Julia Brownley to discuss three major things:

1. Disproportionate share for hospitals GPP (global payment program). Dr. Cho and Dr. Fankhauser want to ensure that we are taking care of those uninsured and there are mumblings of the new President looking here to cut. Advocacy is important.
2. FEMA funding. Our system is currently owed \$13M from 2018.
3. Telehealth is not fully paid, as it is today. This is an important part of how we deliver care.

Some of the representatives talked about not cutting DSH (Disproportionate Share Hospital).

Additionally, the VCCHC was awarded a quality award at CAPH (California Association of Public Hospitals) based on reaching screening goals.

Finally, a new Ambulatory Care CEO has been hired and will start early February.

9. Board Comments

Board Chair Reyes thanked the leadership team for their hard work throughout the year.

Board Chair Reyes also said he will consider making a digital survey for the CEO evaluation next year to standardize the process and make it easier for collection.

10. Staff Comments

Dr. Blaze said that she and Dr. Stern are excited for the new CEO to start.

Ms. Barretto wanted to give the Board a heads up that at the next meeting we will review the Sliding Fee Discount Program rates. The changes will be reviewed at the December 17 Board of Supervisors meeting and will need to be ratified by the CHC Board in January.

11. CEO Evaluation Discussion

The CHC Board went into a closed session at 1:15pm to review and approve the CEO's evaluation.

Audio files of the CHC Co-Applicant Board meetings are available by contacting the CHC Co-Applicant Board Clerk at chcboardclerk@ventura.org

Minutes submitted by: Chaya Turrow, CHC Board Clerk

**Next Meeting: Thursday, January 23, 2025
2240 E Gonzalez Rd, Suite 200, Oxnard, CA 93036**