

**Tulare Local Health Care District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, February 24, 2021 6:30 PM  
Evolutions Plaza Conference Room  
1425 E. Prosperity Ave., Tulare, CA  
(Use Prosperity Avenue entrance on north side of Plaza)**

Electronic participation will be available via Zoom Webinar link/phone number below.

Zoom Webinar link and call in information<sup>1</sup>:

<https://zoom.us/j/93448311468?pwd=ZW5XUnk5K0YxK3hiekt0ZlJOZnE1Zz09>

**You can also dial in using your phone**

United States: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: **934 4831 1468**

Passcode: **210736**

**Special notice to individuals with disabilities:**

Please email [sormonde@tulareregional.org](mailto:sormonde@tulareregional.org) or call [\(559\) 685-3465](tel:559-685-3465) in order to request any reasonable modification or accommodation as may be needed to observe or participate in this meeting telephonically/electronically.

**Availability of Public Records.**<sup>2</sup> All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the board members will be available for public inspection at TLHCD Administrative Offices, Annex Lab Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 869 North Cherry Street, Tulare, California at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the board members.

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, in order to further combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus California Governor Gavin Newsom has temporarily suspended certain provisions of the Brown Act respecting notice, quorum and accessibility requirements applicable to meetings of local legislative bodies. In accordance with said Order—a copy of which will be made available upon request—and related recommendations by the CDC, a physical location for public participation will be provided on a limited occupancy basis for the February 24, 2021, regular meeting of the Board. To avoid unintentional transmission of COVID-19, interested members of the public are encouraged to observe and participate in this meeting telephonically or electronically using the information provided above. Any member of the public requiring assistance in accessing these offsite technologies should email Sandra Ormonde at [sormonde@tulareregional.org](mailto:sormonde@tulareregional.org) or call [\(559\) 685-3465](tel:559-685-3465) at least three (3) hours prior to the scheduled commencement of this meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Due to present restrictions related to COVID-19, the District is operating under a modified schedule. Please call [\(559\) 685-3465](tel:559-685-3465) or email [sormonde@tulareregional.org](mailto:sormonde@tulareregional.org) to arrange viewing access to documents.

## MINUTES

### **Tulare Local Health Care District Board Members:**

|                   |                |            |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Kevin Northcraft  | President      | District 4 |
| Mike Jamaica      | Vice President | District 2 |
| Xavier J. Avila   | Secretary      | District 5 |
| Senovia Gutierrez | Director       | District 3 |
| Vacant            |                | District 1 |

#### **1. Call to Order**

President Kevin Northcraft called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

#### **2. Public Comment**

Randy Dodd announced he has accepted a new position as CEO at a new inpatient rehab hospital in Bakersfield. Dodd stated he will be available to provide consulting services. The Board congratulated Randy in his new endeavor and wished him well.

Alex Gutierrez was pleased to hear the Tower Construction Committee has been formed and feels this is good opportunity for our community to move forward. He also requested feedback from the District on his request in regards to public offices.

#### **3. Announcements – Board**

Kevin Northcraft read a letter he received from Catherine Doe, Joseph Oldenbourg's widow. Northcraft also mentioned the new social media law and it will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Senovia Gutierrez would like to know why has there been no response to the conflict of interest question posed several times by Alex Gutierrez. Legal Counsel Jason Howard replied that he sees no conflict of interest from the District's perspective. She thanked Jason for his response. Senovia also noted she no longer wishes to be on the Finance Committee.

#### **4. District 1 Director Selection Process**

A press release has been published and the deadline to receive letters of interest is March 17. Appointment is expected to be made prior to April 1, 2021.

#### **5. Election of Officers of the Board of Directors**

- a. Results of January Election of Officers
- b. Election of Treasurer – It was the consensus that once the District 1 Director has been appointed, the Board will then vote on a Treasurer.

#### **6. Consent Agenda**

- a. 1/21/2021 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- b. 1/27/2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- c. 2/10-11/2021 Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to approve minutes as presented. Motion approved 4-0.

**7. Tulare Hospital Foundation Update – Jan Smith**

Jan Smith reported she has met with donors and has received feedback regarding the capital campaign. Donors feel that, at this time, it is too soon to get started since not all businesses are open due to the pandemic. Tower tours and videographer virtual tours will create a natural synergy. In addition, she feels the hospital needs to “brag” better about what they have put into the hospital for the community.

**8. Evolutions Fitness & Wellness Center**

- a. Gym Status Update – EVO Management Company
- b. Transition Update – Sandra Ormonde

Paul Atlas advised the EVO Board met last week and voted 2-1 to open Evolutions in about a month. Atlas estimates it will take about \$150,000 to re-open. Mr. Atlas reported that the original PPP loan has been forgiven. He also mentioned a rumor has circulated that the hospital is wanting to sell Evolutions. Northcraft replied that the listing contract has been canceled and there is no intention to sell the property.

**9. Adventist Health Tulare Update – Sheri Pereira, Site Administrator**

Sheri Pereira shared information from the AH Annual Report. She stated ED visits are down 25% and admissions have increased by 35%. The census has increased 89% and the average daily census is up 84% over last year. Obstetrics saw an increase of 25% but has the capability of serving more patients. Throughout the AH Network, COVID cases are under 50. At this time, the Porterville site is closed but will remain available should there be a need. A vaccine clinic was held last week serving 300 persons. AH has implemented new weekly COVID testing for its employees. AH is stable and is financially in the black last month. Orthopedic equipment has been ordered. Corporate has approved the capital request to purchase new MRI equipment.

**10. Adventist Health Tulare – Capital Improvements**

- a. NPC-2 Emergency Lighting Electric Construction Services
  - i. Discussion and Action to Approve Electric Construction Services PCO #008 to Howe Electric Proposal 18177 R4 –  
Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Mike Jamaica to approve proposal as presented. Motion approved 4-0.
  - ii. Discussion and Action Determining Financial Responsibility –  
Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Mike Jamaica to accept financial responsibility. Motion approved 4-0.
  - iii. Discussion and Action to Approve Adventist Health Payment of Project Expenses as Offset Against Rent Pursuant to the Lease  
Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to approve payment as presented. Motion approved 4-0.
- b. NPC-2 Emergency Lighting Access Panel Installation, Patch & Paint
- c. NPC-2 Exit Lighting – Staff looking into determining what is the most acceptable route.
- d. IT Server Room AC Upgrade – waiting for UPC to be in place.

- e. MRI Replacement Project
  - i. Discussion and Action to Approve Adventist Health MRI Replacement Project  
Motion was made by Senovia Gutierrez and seconded by Xavier Avila to approve the MRI project as presented. Motion approved 4-0.
  - ii. Discussion and Action Determining Financial Responsibility  
Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to accept that the District has no financial responsibility for this project.  
Motion approved 4-0.
- f. Miscellaneous Projects

**11. Hospital Tower Construction Committee**

- a. Update – Press release is being published today. Staff will forward to the Board.
- b. Committee member appointments – Once the new Board member has been appointed, the Board will select two members to serve on the Tower Construction Committee as liaisons.

**12. Discussion and Action to Approve Request to Amend Records Retention and Destruction Schedule**

Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to approve request to amend Retention Schedule as presented. Motion approved 4-0.

**13. Discussion and Action to Nominate a Candidate for the Property Owners Association Board of Directors of the Tulare Medical Center, a Medical Office Complex, Located at 1068 North Cherry Street**

Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to nominate Sandra Ormonde to the Tulare Medical Center Association Board. Motion approved 4-0.

**14. Discussion and Action to Approve Demolition Proposal for Property Located at 922 North Cherry Street**

Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to accept the low bid proposal from JV Recycling in the amount of \$16,500. Motion approved 4-0.

**15. Chief Executive Officer Report**

- a. Property Management Update
  - i. Leases
  - ii. Property Repairs – Gi is performing minor repairs at Evolutions and is seeking quotes to change lighting to LED.
  - iii. Sales/Use of Properties Update – Teter will be surveying the building next month at Merritt and Gem.
- b. IT Update – Staff is working with IT to get into the Cloud.
- c. Tower – Ormonde advised that staff is continuing to work with Morris Levin & Son on this project.

**16. Financial Report**

**Discussion and Action to Approve Financials:**

- a. TLHCD Internal Financial Statements – January 2021
- b. Cash Report Update – February 19, 2021

- c. TLHCD Cash Flow FY2021 (Q2 revision)
- d. Cash Flow Summary Including Restricted Funds – FYE 6/30/2021  
Motion was made by Xavier Avila and seconded by Senovia Gutierrez to approve financial reports as presented. Motion approved 4-0.

**17. Suspend Open Session at 8:10 pm – Recess to Closed Session**

**18. Closed Session**

- a. Potential Litigation (*pursuant to Ca. Govt. Code § 54956.9*).
- b. Conference with Interim Legal Counsel – Existing litigation (*pursuant to Ca. Govt. Code § 54956.9*):
  - i. *In re Tulare Local Healthcare District dba Tulare Regional Medical Center – United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of California Case No. 17-13797*
  - ii. *Tulare Local Health Care District v. Bruce R. Greene, et al., Superior Court for the State of California for Tulare County Case No. 278333*
- c. Instructions to designated representative related to real property at 1425 E. Prosperity Avenue commonly known as Evolutions (*pursuant to Ca. Govt. Code § 54956.8*)
- d. Instructions to designated representative related to leases of real property located in Evolutions Plaza at 1425 E. Prosperity Avenue (*pursuant to Ca. Govt. Code § 54956.8*)
- e. End closed session at 8:31 pm.

**19. Reconvened Open Session at 8:32 pm – Public Report of Action Taken in Closed Session (If Necessary) pursuant to Government Code 54957.1**

Nothing to report.

**20. Adjournment at 8:33 pm – Next regular meeting scheduled for 6:30 PM on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at a location to be determined**

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**Xavier Avila**  
**Secretary**