

**Tulare Local Health Care District**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, October 25, 2017**  
**Board Convened at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Evolutions Fitness & Wellness Center**  
**Conference Room**  
**1425 E. Prosperity Ave.**  
**Tulare, CA 93274**

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**PRESENT:**

Kevin Northcraft, Chair and President  
Mike Jamaica, Vice Chair  
Senovia Gutierrez, Secretary and Treasurer  
Xavier Avila, Board Member

**OTHER PRESENT:**

Riley Walter, Attorney (Walter Wilhelm Law Group)  
Nikki Cunningham, Legal Counsel (McCormick Barstow, LLP)  
Mandy Jeffcoach, Legal Counsel (McCormick Barstow, LLP)  
Richard A Gianello (Wipfli LLP/HFS)  
Larry Blitz, Attorney (Wipfli LLP/HFS)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kevin Northcraft called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. CITIZEN REQUEST/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following individual provided public comments:

David Wells  
Dr. Fateh Entabi

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Minutes (September 29, October 2, October 4, October 9, 2017

**ACTION:** Xavier Aguilar made a motion to approve the minutes for the Special Board meetings held September 29, October 2, October 4, and October 9, 2017. Mike Jamaica seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. **OPEN SESSION AGENDA**

A. **Board of Directors' Discussion/Action Items**

1. **Welcome to New Member Xavier Avila**

The Board of Directors welcomed Xavier Avila as an official Board of Directors at TRMC.

2. **Announcement of Continuing Recruitment for District 1 Appointment**

Kevin Northcraft announced that the board has open the application to fill the vacant position for District # 1, and encouraged the public to apply for the Board of Directors position.

3. **Confirmation of joint meeting with the Tulare City Council-6 pm, November 7 in the City Council Chambers**

**ACTION:** Xavier Avila made the motion to attend the meeting in the Tulare City Council Chamber on 11/07/17 at 6:00 p.m. Senovia Gutierrez seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

4. **Board Member Reports**

Senovia Gutierrez and Xavier Avila reported to the public. President Kevin Northcraft, announced a training in hospital financial, medical and regulations for the Board of Directors on 11/16/17 at 6:30 p.m.

5. **Report by Administration**

HCCA was absent/ none

6. **Medical Staff Report**

None

7. **Report of Rich Gianello, Wipfli/HFS Consultants**

Rich Gianello Wipfli/HFS Consultants reported to the public about the transition plan for the hospital.

8. **Introduction of proposed Interim Chief Executive Officer, Larry Blitz Wipfli/HFS Consultants**

Rich Gianello introduced Larry Blitz as a partner in the Wipfli/ HFC.

V. **SUSPEND OPEN SESSION-ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Kevin Northcraft announced the closed session items, then adjourned to close session at 7:20 p.m.

VI. **CLOSED SESSION**

Location: Evolutions Fitness & Wellness Center 1425 E. Prosperity Ave. Tulare CA  
Conference with Interim Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Gov. Code §54956.9)

A. **David Phelps v. Bruce Greene, et al.; Tulare Case No. 270681**

**ACTION:** Board member Xavier Avila made the motion to deny the tenders of Dr. Benny Benzeevi and Dr. Zulim. The motion was seconded by Mike Jamaica. Motion passed 4-0.

**B. TRMC Medical Staff v. Tulare Local Healthcare District, HCCA et.al; Tulare Case No. 264227**

**ACTION:** Xavier Avila move the motion to authorize general counsel to engage settlement discussion with counsel for Dr. Betre. The motion was seconded by Senovia Gutierrez. The motion passed 4-0

**C. Voluntary Suspension of Services**

**ACTION:** Xavier Avila made the motion to notify the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) that the Board of Directors of TRMC will voluntarily suspend hospital services. The motion was also made to authorize HFS to work with the CDPH to transition patients and to create a plan that the hospital will reopen as soon as possible and to do everything possible to avoid involuntary suspension and shut down by the CDPH.

The motion was seconded by Mike Jamaica. The motion passed 4-0.

**D. Authorization to open a Bank Account:**

**ACTION:** Board member Xavier Avila moved to authorize President Kevin Northcraft to open a bank account on behalf of the Tulare Local Healthcare District (TRMC). Mike Jamaica seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

**VII. ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION/RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

Evolutions Fitness & Wellness Center. Conference Room 1425 E. Prosperity Ave. Tulare, CA

Chair Kevin Northcraft adjourned closed session and reconvened to open session at approximately 09:47 p.m.

Mandy Jeffcoach, Legal TRMC Counsel from McCormick Barstow, LLP. Informed to the public the decisions from items 1, 2, 3, and 4 taken during close session

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Kevin Northcraft adjourned the meeting at 9.50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Senovia Gutierrez, Secretary and Treasurer of TRMC

