



*North Sonoma County Healthcare District*

**North Sonoma County HealthCare District  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- a. The Board of Directors of the North Sonoma County Healthcare District met in person at 1381 University Avenue, Conf. Room 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Healdsburg, CA and via Teams Teleconference. Chair, Hector Galvan called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.
- b. Board Clerk, Juliana Dougan called the roll. The following Board members were present constituting a quorum:

**Hector Galvan**, Chair  
**Sue Campbell**, Vice-Chair, **Absent**  
**David Anderson, MD**, Director  
**Brian Callahan**, Treasurer  
**Erin Gore**, Secretary

Also present: **Richard Pio Roda, Esq.**, District Counsel  
**Juliana Dougan**, Board Clerk

Guests: **Michelle Oxford**, CAO, Healdsburg Hospital, Providence

Chair Galvan asked if there were any conflicts in regard to the Agenda. There were none. Chair Galvan asked if there were any public comments. Chair Galvan proceeded to share that there was a written public comment received and it was felt that the comment should be read into record. The below letter was read by the Board Clerk:

P.O. Box 1998  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

July 18, 2025

North Sonoma County  
Healthcare District Attn: Board  
Clerk  
P.O. Box 2126  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

re: Healdsburg Hospital failure to honor secularity

promise Dear NSCHD,

I am a Healdsburg resident and voter.

As you know, when voters were asked to approve the sale of Healdsburg Hospital to Providence in 2020, we were promised that the hospital would be operated by a "secular affiliate" of Providence called NorCal HealthConnect,

August 28, 2025



North Sonoma County Healthcare District

**North Sonoma County HealthCare District  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

as a secular institution.

This alleged arrangement went into effect on January 1, 2021.

Providence is grossly violating this promise, and has been doing so almost from the start. I have been an outpatient, and occasionally an inpatient, at Healdsburg Hospital multiple times since the transition: I have not seen the name NorCal HealthConnect anywhere on the hospital property or on any paperwork the hospital gave me, only the Providence name and logo. Today, as on several previous occasions, I did an on-line search for "Healdsburg Hospital lab hours." The page this returned, <https://www.providence.org/locations/norcal/healdsburg-district-hospital/laboratory-services>, not only did not mention NorCal Health Connect, but contained the following religious statement: "As expressions of God's healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable." Not *only* does this statement blatantly violate Providence's promise of secularity, as a non-Christian I find it extremely offensive to have it forced on me in the course of seeking medical services from the only local public hospital. This statement also appears on the home page for the hospital, <https://www.providence.org/locations/norcal/healdsburg-district-hospital>.

I would further draw the Board's attention to <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/24/business/nonprofit-hospitals-poor-patients.html>, <https://calmatters.org/health/2025/05/abortion-law-catholic-hospitals/>, and <https://lostcoastoutpost.com/2025/jun/9/attorney-general-says-providence-trying-shirk-its/>, which document Providence's long-standing pattern of prioritizing profits and religious restrictions over service to the public.

I strongly urge the NSCHD Board, which has jurisdiction over Healdsburg Hospital, to immediately compel Providence to honor their promises, by:

- \* Permanently removing all religious statements and symbols from all present and future Healdsburg Hospital Web pages.
- \* Permanently including the statement "Operated by NorCal HealthConnect, a secular affiliate of Providence" prominently on all Healdsburg Hospital Web pages that include the Providence name and logo.
- \* Permanently including a similar statement on the principal signage outside and inside the hospital that includes the Providence name and logo.
- \* Issuing a binding statement that religious instructions, including but not limited to the Catholic Bishops' Ethical and Religious Directives, are not included in any material, written or verbal, provided to patients or staff at Healdsburg Hospital, or considered in the course of any Healdsburg Hospital activity, including but not limited to personnel, admission, or treatment practices.

Please let me know how you intend to address this situation.

Sincerely,

L Peter Deutsch

cc: Healdsburg City Council



*North Sonoma County Healthcare District*

## **North Sonoma County HealthCare District Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Commentary from the Board on this public comment was postponed to after the Quarterly Report for Healdsburg Hospital, as the document was included in that topic.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **1. Consent Calendar**

- August 28, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda
- July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- July 31, 2025 Financial Statements

Chair Galvan asked if there were any comments on the items on the Consent Calendar. There were none.

**Chair Galvan called for a motion. Director Gore MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Anderson SECONDED the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Vote: Anderson: Y; Campbell: Absent; Galvan: Y; Callahan: Y; Gore: Y. The motion was approved 4-0. One Absent.**

#### **2. Discussion / Informational / Possible Action: Healdsburg Hospital Quarterly Operations and Capital Investment Report**

The Board welcomed Ms. Michelle Oxford, CAO, Healdsburg Hospital, Providence. Key takeaways include:

- Revenue Performance shows \$37M YTD with a Budget of \$52M. The largest reason for this appears to be slim or no-pay reimbursement primarily from Kaiser patients.
- The EBITA is profitable by \$2.9M.
- The Hospital has been managing expenses very well.
- Kaiser controls 78% of the market share.
- Medicare/Medicare Advantage are exiting plans in No. California.
- Volumes and Labor remain relatively stable YTD.
- Communication with patients and nurses has improved.
- A new plastic surgeon has been hired – Dr. Young.
- A new spinal surgeon has been hired – Dr. Katsura.
- There is a neurologist who lives in Windsor who is engaged in initial conversations.

Ms. Oxford next informed the Board of a recent decision to adjust Providence leadership, including her position. Ms. Oxford is not receptive to the demotion offered to her and will be leaving her position on November 14, 2025.

The Board expressed frustration at the decision and questioned whether the move was in violation of the APA. The Board asked Mr. Pio Roda to look into this matter. Director Gore will also reach out to Ms. Ramona Faith, CEO of Health Petaluma, to ascertain her opinion.



*North Sonoma County Healthcare District*

## **North Sonoma County HealthCare District Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

The Board will be inviting Mr. Garry Olney to the September Board Meeting to address the leadership change decision as well as the comments presented in the letter from Mr. Deustch.

Discussion continued on the need for the Board to issue a formal letter to Providence regarding this issue voiced by a community member. Mr. Pio Roda will assist Chair Galvan to draft a letter to Providence leadership, copying the Board.

### **3. Discussion / Action: Financial Update**

Director Callahan and Mr. Pio Roda discussed Resolution #02-2025: Authorizing the Board Chair or Designee to Determine Whether Parcels of Real Property Should be Exempted from the Obligation to Pay the District's Parcel Tax in the Upcoming Tax Year (2025/2026). This is an annual Resolution that needs to be voted upon prior to Parcel Tax season. After brief discussion,

**Chair Galvan called for a motion. Director Gore MOVED to approve Resolution #02-2025. Director Anderson SECONDED the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Vote: Anderson: Y; Campbell: Absent; Galvan: Y; Callahan: Y; Gore: Y. The motion was approved 4-0. 1 Absent.**

### **4. Discussion / Informational: Hospital Matters**

- **Community Board Meetings**

Vice-Chair Campbell was not in attendance to report on Community Board Meeting matters.

- **Quality Committee**

Vice-Chair Campbell was not in attendance to report on Quality Committee Meeting matters.

- **Community Benefit Committee**

Director Gore reported that future granting has been suspended until further notice. Additionally, pediatric services at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital may be terminated. The Board wants to assure proper messaging is provided to the community.

- **Philanthropy Board**

There was nothing new to report.

### **5. Discussion / Possible Action: Regarding District Housekeeping**

Future Agenda Items

- Financial Portfolio Review
- Healdsburg Hospital CAO Update/Role Replacement
- Response to Public Comment
- Redistricting Update



North Sonoma County Healthcare District

## **North Sonoma County HealthCare District Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

### **6. Legal Report**

- Ordinance #2025-002 – Second Reading

The Board is required to agendaize Ordinance #2025-002 pertaining to the new district mailing address two times prior to voting. Tonight's meeting was the second reading.

**Chair Galvan called for a motion. Director Gore MOVED to approve Resolution #02-2025. Director Callahan SECONDED the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Vote: Anderson: Y; Campbell: Absent; Galvan: Y; Callahan: Y; Gore: Y. The motion was approved 4-0. 1 Absent.**

- Redistricting timeline update

At the July 2025 Board meeting, the Board asked Ms. Dougan and Mr. Pio Roda to provide additional information on the timeline and budget to support redistricting.

Ms. Dougan reported that the County has a deadline of July 1, 2026, to receive new district maps and cautioned that there is a lot of work to get to that stage. Ms. Dougan also shared that when Healthy Petaluma went through this process, these activities and public meetings spanned from September-December 2023, including publishing in local papers.

Discussion continued on the need to proceed with redistricting and the potential legal and financial challenges that may be realized. The cost of engaging the demographer was discussed as well as any potential legal action against the District.

The demographer would cost approximately \$25,000. If the District is challenged prior to redistricting, plaintiff and attorney's fees can be in the \$44,000 range. Director Callahan would need to build this potential cost into the budget.

After further discussion, the following follow-up item was as follows to be presented at the September 25, 2025, Meeting:

- Contact the Demographer, NDC, to determine the latest date to make a decision to go forward to support the 2026 election as well as their proposed timeframe if the Board were to move forward. (Mr. Pio Roda)

### **7. Share other meetings attended by Board Members**

Chair Galvan and Director Anderson reported that Narcan is being made available more broadly in No. Sonoma County.

### **8. Consideration of Materials Disseminated by Board Members.**

No additional materials were shared.



*North Sonoma County Healthcare District*

**North Sonoma County HealthCare District**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

9. Chair Galvan adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.