WESTSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MONDAY, July 27, 2026, 7:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY BUILDING, KERN STREET

NEWMAN, CA 95360

CALL TO ORDER 6:57 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board of Directors: DIRECTOR VARGAS, DIRECTOR CASTEEL, DIRECTOR GUAJARDO
VICE PRESIDENT LOPES, PRESIDENT VARNELL
Legal Counsel-Nick Cardella

CLOSED SESSION

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION-MEETING WILL BE RECORDED

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Please take a moment to silence your cell phones

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Please take a moment to silence your cell phones

REPORT FROM SESSION CLOSED

PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may bring matters not listed on the agenda before the Board. The Board may refer such a matter to the Board Clerk to take it under advisement but shall not take action at that time. Comments will be accepted during this time concerning any action item on the agenda. The Board will consider all comments prior to taking action on the item as listed on the agenda in the Action Item section . (Gov. Sec. 54954.03). Individual speakers shall be allowed three (3) minutes to address the Board on each agenda or non-agenda items.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and may be approved by one action of the Board of Directors, unless any member of the Board of Directors wishes to remove an item for separate consideration.

Are there any items on the consent calendar that any member of the public would like to comment on?

1. Minutes of June 22, 2026, Regular Meeting
   Recommendation: Review and Approve
2. Cash Disbursement Journal
   Recommendation: Review and Approve

President Varnell introduced the consent calendar. There was no public comment. Vice President Lopes moved to approve the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Director Guajardo and carried by vote, 5-0

Public Hearing

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. **Discussion regarding procedures for self-pay billing classification and potential improvements to District processes**
   Chief Courtney gave a PowerPoint presentation from Quickmeds explaining the billing process and self-pay statistics.

   Public Comments:

   *Ed Brooks from Newman, made a comment stating that the self-pay percentage still looked too much on the high end of the range. He would like to challenge the district to bring it down to 13%, which would require solving around eight more cases a month. He would like to set a challenge for 90 days, set for October 31, receiving monthly updates.

Board Comments:

*Director Casteel asked Chief Courtney if he believed it was possible to bring self-pay down to 13% as Mr. Ed Brooks suggested. Chief Courtney said he is not sure, but efforts can be made to try, himself going to hospitals getting information or sending out crew more to hospitals to get information.

2. Discussion and possible action to adopt a renewal contract for accounting services from Greenland Advisors

Staff Report by Administrative Assistant, Jazmin Ramirez.

Greenland Advisors is currently the financial advisor for the district.

The financial impact would be $11,255 per month, with a 3% increase every year on the anniversary of the Effective Date.

There were no public comments.

Board Comments:

*Director Vargas asked if other servicers charged more, less, or about the same as Greenland Advisors. Legal advised that an option would be to get quotes/RFP from other accounting services, but given the history with Greenland Advisors, they have been doing a good job for the district.

*Director Casteel made a comment stating she is happy with the work Greenland Advisors has done for the district and has no interest in changing companies.

Director Casteel made a motion to renew the agreement with Greenland Advisors. Director Guajardo seconded and carried a roll call vote of 5-0 ayes.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of cardiac equipment and a preventive maintenance agreement with Stryker for gurneys.

Staff Report by Administrative Assistant, Jazmin Ramirez.

Currently, the district's preventive maintenance service agreement for the power cots and power loads has expired and should be renewed for compliance.

Staff is presenting proposals on preventive maintenance agreements to inspect and service the equipment.

Staff is also presenting a quote to purchase or lease Cardiac Monitors/Lifepaks. The district's current Lifepak monitors are at the end of life; the manufacturer no longer assumes responsibility for the equipment, and any liability associated with their continued use rests with the district.

The cost for the preventive maintenance agreement for three years is $44,528.40, $1,236.90/ Monthly

5 Lifepaks:

Lease option, monthly payments of $4,778.27 for 60 months.

Purchase option, $4,769monthly for a total of $286,180.

Public Comments:

*Ed Brooks from Newman stated that without knowing expenditures longer than a month or two, it would be hard to find outside funding. He would like to see staff come in with a five-year plan. President Varnell commented that this was previously discussed, and the district knew it was coming. Board members commented it was discussed about a year ago and is in the current budget for the fiscal year as previously discussed.

Board Comments:

*Director Vargas questioned if the same company would be doing maintenance and selling the cardiac monitors. Director Vargas asked if there was any funding from Stan County. Chief Courtney commented that he asked both Stan County as well as Merced County and was told there was no funding available.

Director Casteel made a motion to purchase the cardiac monitors. Director Guajardo seconded the motion, and it carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0 ayes.

At the end of the meeting, Director Vargas asked for clarification on the pricing of the Cardiac Monitors, which seemed unclear, and Chief Courtney said he would get clarification from the company on the quote.

There is an amended motion pending for clarification from the Stryker company. The amended motion was made by Vice President Lopes and seconded by Director Guajardo, carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0 ayes.

Director Casteel made a motion to sign the maintenance agreement. Director Guajardo seconded the motion and carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0 ayes.

4. Discussion and possible action to ratify Michael Courtney's transition from Interim Chief Administrative Officer to Permanent Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report by Administrative Assistant Jazmin Ramirez.

The Chief of Operations position is currently being filled on an interim basis. The interim appointment began on October 4, 2025, and the current contract is scheduled for renewal in October 2026.

There were no public comments.

Board Comments:
*Director Casteel commented that Section C of the agreement states an annual review is needed, gathering staff feedback and feedback from others.

Legal counsel commented that a way to get the information would be to create a motion to create a sub-committee to take care of the review and then report back to the board their findings.
A motion to establish a sub-committee was made by Director Guajardo and seconded by Vice President Lopes.

Director Vargas, Director Casteel, Director Guajardo, and Vice President Lopes volunteered; therefore, President Varnell decided that Director Vargas and Director Casteel will oversee the committee developing the review.
Motion to have Director Vargas and Director Casteel as the committee was made by Director Guajardo and seconded by Director Casteel

Legal will draft and send out survey questions for the Administrative Assistant to send out to staff and other officials for feedback. The committee will then create a report to present to the board at the next meeting.

Director Casteel made a motion to authorize legal counsel to draft a survey and administration to send out for feedback to staff and other officials, creating a report to present to the board, and Director Guajardo Seconded, followed by a vote of 5-0 ayes by roll call.

FINANCIAL REPORT-

1. PowerPoint Financial Statements
   - Leo Landaverde reviewed with the board and public the end of the fiscal year financial Statements.

AMBULANCE REPORT

1. Receive Staff Report on Ambulance Statistical and Administrative Report.
   Statistical Report: Michael Courtney presented the June 2026 operations report to the board, which outlined responses and transport for both Counties.
   - Total Responses 211, 147 transports for service
   - 0 Requests for Service to Merced resulting in 0 transport
   - 11 requests to assist AMR, resulting in 4 transport
   - 14 request to assist Patterson, resulting in 11 transport

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE MANAGER COMMENTS

There are no administrative service comments.

DISTRICT'S LEGAL COUNSEL COMMENTS

Legal Counsel did not have any comments.

BOARD CORRESPONDANCE/COMMENTS

Director Vargas made a comment regarding needing clarification on the Cardiac Monitor pricing. Chief Courtney commented that he will get clarification and bring it back to the board at the next meeting. Amendment created on item #3 of the agenda.

Director Vargas made a comment asking Leo to send the financial report earlier to receive it by Friday before the meeting. Leo agreed to send it to the Administrative Assistant by Thursday.

Vice President Lopes commented Thank you to Leo for the financial report and she is glad that an annual review is being initiated for staff.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION (if needed)

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Lopes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Casteel seconded the motion at 8:24 p.m.

1. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a disabled person requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting must contact the district office at (209) 862-2951. Requests must be made as early as possible, preferably one full business day before the start of the meeting.
2. Any document provided to a majority of the Board of Directors regarding any open session item on this agenda is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the front counter of the District Office located at 990 Tulare Street, Suite C, Newman, CA. Documents or writings received after the general distribution of the agenda are also available for inspection.

Attested by

Debbie Lopes

Debbie Lopes
Vice President/Secretary