



Ventura County Community Health Center (CHC) Board Meeting Minutes

John Fankhauser, MD
Ventura County HCA,
Interim Director

Vikram Kumar, MD
Ventura County Ambulatory Care
Chief Executive Officer
CHC Executive Director

Marth Ann Knutson
County of Ventura
Assistant County Counsel

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

Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2026
12:30 - 2:00 PM

2240 E Gonzales Rd,
Suite 200
Oxnard, CA 93036

CHC BOARD MEMBERS:

RALPH REYES, District 3
Chair

LORETTA DENERING DrPH, MS,
District 2
Vice Chair

ESPY GONZALEZ, District 2
Secretary

JAMES MASON, District 5
Treasurer

RENEE HIGGINS, MD, District 3

ROGER ROBINSON, District 2

RENA SEPULVEDA, District 1

Call to Order:

Loretta Denering called the meeting to order at 12:34 PM.

1. Roll Call

Ralph Reyes	Present
Loretta Denering, DrPH, MS	Present
Espy Gonzalez	Absent
James Mason	Present
Renee Higgins, MD	Absent
Roger Robinson	Present
Rena Sepulveda	Present

Roll call confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. Ventura County Staff Present

Vikram Kumar, MD, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Allison Blaze, MD, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Lizeth Barretto, HCA – Ambulatory Care

Octavius Gonzaga, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Martin Hahn, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Jason Cavender, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Cynthia Fenton, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Amy Peake – Supervisor Lopez Office
Terrie Soto, HCA – Ambulatory Care
Seong Kang, MD, HCA – Ambulatory Care

Public Present

3. Public Comments - None

Action Items:

4. Approval of CHC Board Meeting Agenda for March 26, 2026

Board Treasurer Mason motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Board Vice Chair Denering seconded. Motion passed.

5. Approval of CHC Minutes for January 22, 2026

Board Vice Chair Denering motioned to approve the meeting minutes from January 22, 2026, as there wasn't a quorum at the February meeting. Board Chair Reyes seconded. Motion passed.

6. Approval of CHC Minutes for February 26, 2026

Board Treasurer Mason motioned to approve the meeting minutes from February 26, 2026. Board Member Robinson seconded. Motion passed.

7. Approve 2026 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines and Discount Schedule

Since there was no quorum at the February meeting, the report approval was added to this meeting's agenda. Board Treasurer Mason asked what is the full cost per visit? Lizeth Barretto said that it depends on what is done during the visit. All services are flat. There is a charge master. Dr. Blaze shared that the rates are also available on the website.

Board Treasurer Mason motioned to approve the 2026 FPL Guidelines and Discount Schedule, as there wasn't a quorum at the February meeting. Board Vice Chair Denering seconded. Motion passed.

8. Review and Approve 2026 Hours of Operation

Since there was no quorum at the February meeting, the Hours of Operation approval was added to this meeting's agenda. Board Vice Chair Denering motioned to approve the Hours of Operation. Board Member Robinson seconded. The motion passed.

9. Presentation and Approval of the Q1 FYTD Fiscal Report

Octavius Gonzaga shared the Q1 Fiscal Year to Date September 2025 Report, which takes place between July 2025 and September 2025. This report is annualized.

Mr. Gonzaga shared that the Net Patient Revenue FY25-26 is \$99,325,411. The Net Operating Income/(Loss) is (\$17,993,531). And the provider visits were 372,180.

The FQHC Net Patient Revenue per Provider Visits decreased from \$272.69 in FY 24-25 to \$266.87 in FY 25-26 because of the 7 clinics with the rate scope change. But the visits increased from 366,339 in FY 24-25 to 372,180 in FY 25-26.

The chart showing the FQHC Statement of Revenue and Expenses Comparative shows that there was a 1% loss in Net Patient Revenue (\$569,900). The Total Operating Expenses experienced a 0% variance, showing a loss of (\$388,508) in FY 25-26.

As for the Ventura County Medical System Summary, VCMS showed a 1% loss in total operating expenses compared to the budget, and an 8% gain in total operating expenses compared to the prior year.

Board Treasurer Mason motioned to approve the fiscal report. Board Member Robinson seconded. The motion passed.

10. Review and Approval of the 2025 Annual Activity Report

Ms. Turrow shared the revised 2025 Annual Activity Report. This was shared with the Board Members at the February meeting, and via email for any additional updates.

Initial updates included updating the Organizational Chart to include Dr. Kumar, changing the population numbers, adjusting the UDS numbers, and moving some of the Top 5 Diagnoses around. The 2024-25 Activity Highlights included adding in an overview of the Strategic Plan, AI Scribe Program, Well-Child Passport, and Process Improvement Strategies. Additionally, there is a detailed run-down of the FTCA Deeming Process and a callout for VCCHC receiving the Bronze Health Center Quality Leader CQHR Badge from HRSA.

Additional updates included updating some photos. Once approved, this will go to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

Board Member Sepulveda motioned to approve the 2025 Annual Activity Report. Board Vice Chair Denering seconded. The motion passed.

Presentation Items:

11. Las Posas Family Medical Group Presentation

Terrie Soto and Dr. Seong Kang shared a presentation regarding the Las Posas Family Medical Group clinic in Camarillo. Being between East and West County, it is in a strategic location. Las Posas is a smaller clinic open Monday – Friday from 8am to 5pm. There is a draw station and a lab, available for walk ins. Las Posas sees about 190 patients per month. The clinic offers primary and a few specialty services including BHI, phlebotomy, pulmonary, and cardiology (EKG, monitoring, and Zio Patches). There are a large number of VCHCP patients.

There were 14,422 encounters in 2025. Family medicine is the top service provided and VCHCP is the most used insurance. 80% of the patients seen are older than 20, with 19% being younger than 19.

The team met 8/10 metrics in 2025, and there were only 7 cervical cancer screenings missed. The Las Posas team also changed any acute visits to well-care visits, where possible. There is a new provider starting in April that will be there every Friday. This will help to maintain low no-show rates. And Ms. Soto shared that Dr. Eric Marks received a score of 10 on our NRCs.

Board Treasurer Mason asked if physical therapy was the clinic's number one referral? Dr. Kang confirmed. He said that the clinic has a very high elderly population. Board Member Robinson asked how long encounters are and the reasoning for seeing a decreased no-show rate? Dr. Kang said that each visit is about 15-30 minutes. Ms. Soto said that there are automated messages 2 days before the visit, and an actual call from the front office the day before to remind patients.

Discussion Items:

12. New Business

a. Medicine Specialty Center West (MSCW) – FQHC Status

Martin Hahn spoke to the board about adding MSCW as an FQHC. He mentioned that the team has been looking at current service lines and finding ways to reduce rates. Some of the work at MSCW is within scope, already. The goal is to be set up by FY 7/1 and to make it intermittent. By making this change, we would draw in revenue. Without doing a rate reset, we are leaving money on the table.

Board Treasurer Mason asked if this is \$1M revenue? Mr. Hahn confirmed, yes, and it would be realized immediately.

Board Member Robinson asked if we could add a 'triggering event' to current FQs? Mr. Hahn said yes, but it would be a further delay.

Board Vice Chair Denering asked if there was a maximum allowed intermittent clinics? Mr. Hahn said no and once set up you can keep it and then move it around.

Since this was not placed on the agenda, the Board would like to vote on this during a future meeting. Ms. Turrow will add to the April agenda.

13. Continued Business

a. UDS Review

Ms. Turrow confirmed that UDS was fully submitted and there will be a presentation in May.

14. Ambulatory Care Chief Executive Officer Update

Compliance – Dr. Kumar shared that the team has begun Operational Site Visit preparations. There is a small working group. The team is currently reviewing policies and procedures.

Strategic Plan –

Access:

- Encounters are bouncing up and down month to month
- Tracking higher in March

Medi-Cal Enrollment:

- Slightly higher at risk or vulnerable populations. The patients do not know how to enroll. The challenge is that the team is not currently receiving utilization data.
- Working with Roger and HSA team. Currently losing about 1% of patients per month. Losing slightly higher than Gold Coast. The team is looking into this and working with the PIO team.

Indigent Care:

- California Welfare and Institution Code Section 17000 mandates counties act as the healthcare 'provider of last resort'.
- As people disenroll, we will be looking at this and how we can provide indigent care.
- This does not cover UIS (unsatisfactory immigration status) patients.
- Behavioral health might be covered.
- Some counties contract to 3rd parties.
- This is contingent on how much state and counties can provide.

Customer Service – Dr. Kumar shared that the Ambulatory Care patient experience score is trending in the right direction. The organization goal is 87% and is currently 84.5%. We currently do well with providers and location.

The patients that respond tend to be older. These patients prefer calling to email and texting.

Managing Staff -

Budget:

- Currently in conversation. Striving toward neutral. The budget is shared with the hospitals.

Provider Contracts:

- Surgical services (non FQ) are provided by Anacapa.
- Completed neuro, ENT, plastics, and urology.
- Will retain the sub-specialties and will need to recruit.
- There is a separate contract with the County, which ends in June.
- Any change is disruptive.
- VCOE: Conversations around school-based clinics in Santa Paula and Fillmore. We have one pilot.

Staffing and Recruitments:

- Still in a hiring freeze. Any hirings will be scrutinized by the CEO. Prioritizing patient-focused positions.

15. **Board Comments** – Ralph thanked the Board and the specific members who stepped in during his absence.

16. **Staff Comments** - None

17. Adjournment – 1:35pm

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, March 26, 2026
2240 E Gonzalez Rd, Suite 200, Oxnard, CA 93036**