

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Washington Township Health Care District was held on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 via Teleconference. Director Yee called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

*CALL TO ORDER*

Roll call was taken. Directors present: Jeannie Yee; Bernard Stewart, DDS; Jacob Eapen, MD; William Nicholson, MD

*ROLL CALL*

Absent: Michael Wallace

Also present: Kimberly Hartz, Chief Executive Officer; Ed Fayen, Chief Operating Officer; Tina Nunez, Vice President; Larry LaBossiere, Vice President; Paul Kozachenko, Legal Counsel; Dee Antonio, District Clerk

Guests: Marta Fernandez, Attorney

Director Yee welcomed any members of the general public to the meeting. She noted that in order to continue to protect the health and safety of the members of the Board, District staff, and members of the public from the dangers posed by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, the Brown Act allows a local agency to continue to hold its meetings remotely as opposed to being required to meet in-person. Section 54953(e)(3) of the Government Code requires that the Board make certain findings every 30 days to continue meeting remotely. One such finding is that “state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.” The Alameda County Health Officer continues to recommend social distancing and the wearing of masks indoors, as referenced by the Alameda County Health Care Services Public Health Department COVID-19 website at [www.covid-19.acgov.org](http://www.covid-19.acgov.org). The Board made such a finding at its meeting earlier in the month.

*OPENING REMARKS*

There were no oral or written communications.

*COMMUNICATIONS*

Director Yee presented the Consent Calendar for consideration:

*CONSENT CALENDAR*

A. Philips Monitoring Project – Phase III

Director Eapen moved that the Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar, item A. Director Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken:

- Jeannie Yee – aye
- Bernard Stewart, DDS – aye
- Michael Wallace – absent
- Jacob Eapen, MD – aye
- William Nicholson, MD – aye

The motion carried.

Director Yee presented the following Resolution No. 1240 for consideration.

*CONSIDERATION OF  
RESOLUTION NO. 1240:  
SUPPORT OF  
LOCATING A TRAUMA*

Kimberly Hartz talked about Alameda County’s trauma system and the fact that the two existing trauma centers are distant from South County resulting in travel times

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 23, 2022

Page 2

anywhere from 45 to 75 minutes, an unacceptable delay in accessing trauma care. She noted that the recent polling of District residents showed that 90% of the residents surveyed want access to life-saving care that is located close to home.

*CENTER IN SOUTHERN  
ALAMEDA COUNTY*

Three Bond Measures have been approved by the voters resulting in almost \$1B in bond financing for emergency and critical care infrastructure. Washington Hospital already demonstrates a readiness to meet the strict criteria of a Level II trauma center. The physical plant is able to support trauma operations and the Morris Hyman Critical Care Pavilion trauma-ready Emergency Department already has two trauma bays. Our Life-saving infrastructure is already operational. Our UCSF affiliation provides access to advanced medical specialists. We have a nationally recognized neurosurgical program as well as Advances Primary Stroke Program certification. Our Chief Nursing Officer has extensive trauma experience.

Ms. Hartz stated that two hospitals in Alameda County were interested in applying for a Trauma Center designation: Washington Hospital and Stanford-ValleyCare. Resolution No. 1240 asks for support of the Board of Directors to move forward with this application.

Directors Nicholson, Stewart, Eapen, and Yee all expressed strong support for moving forward with this application process citing the lengthy travel time to transport a critically injured patient to an existing trauma center in North county, especially during heavy commuter traffic hours. Director Nicholson spoke about the golden hour as the hour immediately following a traumatic injury in which medical treatment to prevent irreversible internal damage and optimize the chance of survival is most effective. Director Eapen noted that we are located between Routes 580 and 680 where many traffic accidents occur; those same freeways are the transport routes to the trauma centers. Director Stewart commented that the voters in this District have been requesting trauma services at this end of the county for several years.

Director Eapen moved that the Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 1240 in support of locating a Trauma Center in Southern Alameda County. Director Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken:

Jeannie Yee – aye  
Bernard Stewart, DDS – aye  
Michael Wallace – absent  
Jacob Eapen, MD – aye  
William Nicholson, MD – aye

The motion carried.

Ms. Hartz stated that Miroslav Garcia has resigned his position on the DEVCO Board of Directors.

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 23, 2022

Page 3

In accordance with Health & Safety Code Sections 32106, 32155 and California Government Code 54956.9(d)(2), Director Yee adjourned the meeting to closed session at 6:18 p.m., as the discussion pertained to a Report of Medical Staff and Quality Assurance Committee, Health & Safety Code section 32155. Director Yee stated that the public has a right to know what, if any, reportable action takes place during closed session. Since this meeting is being conducted via Zoom and we have no way of knowing when the closed session will end, the public was informed they could contact the District Clerk for the Board's report beginning March 24, 2022. She indicated that the minutes of this meeting will reflect any reportable actions.

*ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION*

Director Yee reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:02 pm and stated there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

*RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION & REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION*

Marta Fernandez, Attorney, conducted the mandatory training on Preventing Sexual Harassment to the Board Members. The session was recorded and given to Director Wallace for completion.

*EDUCATION:  
HARASSMENT  
TRAINING FOR  
ELECTED OFFICIALS*

There being no further business, Director Yee adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

*ADJOURNMENT*

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Jeannie Yee

President

DocuSigned by:



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William Nicholson, M.D.

Secretary

## **RESOLUTION No. 1240**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HEALTH CARE DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF LOCATING A TRAUMA CENTER IN SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY**

Whereas the Washington Township Health Care District, dba Washington Hospital Healthcare System (WHHS) was founded in 1948, the voters passed the first bond for \$1.25 million in 1952 to build the hospital, which opened on November 24, 1958 to serve the South County.

Whereas the local voters have continually approved bond measures for seismic upgrades and facility improvements required by State mandates, and the expansion of emergency and critical care services.

Whereas WHHS has a publicly elected Board of Directors, which provides governance for this community-owned hospital, which has demonstrated a history of financial stability, responsible stewardship, and wide-ranging collaboration with Alameda County and EMS.

Whereas in 2018-2019 WHHS engaged an independent third party to assess the feasibility of a WHHS trauma center, which, using data provided by Alameda County EMS, projected there is sufficient volume to support a trauma center in the southern portion of the County.

Whereas Alameda County Department of Public Health retained Bishop & Associates to assess the demand for and feasibility of additional trauma centers in Alameda County. In July 2021, Bishop began working with Washington Hospital, Stanford Healthcare-Valley Care, Sutter Health Eden Medical Center, Alameda Healthcare System, and UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland.

Whereas in April or May 2022 Bishop & Associates will release their report to the East Bay Hospital Council, and the Alameda County Health Committee, which will in turn make a recommendation to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to consider action on changing the Alameda County trauma network.

Whereas ambulance transport to Eden Medical Center and Regional Medical Center for trauma services from Fremont, Newark and Union City often takes between 45 minutes to over an hour to arrive, long beyond what is acceptable for trauma response.

Whereas in November 2018, WHHS opened the 224,000-square-foot Morris Hyman Critical Care Pavilion, proudly named after Morris Hyman, community leader, visionary, philanthropist, and Fremont Bank founder. The Emergency Department is designed to handle large-scale disasters, with two dedicated resuscitation rooms specifically for trauma care, which allows Washington Hospital to apply for trauma center designation. On the second floor of the pavilion, the Critical Care Unit houses 48 patient care rooms, offering more than adequate capacity for trauma cases.

Whereas WHHS's affiliation with UCSF provides residents with access to the advanced specialties of an academic medical center close to home. Hence Washington Hospital's application to become a trauma center is strongly supported by the medical community and labor, and has vast community support.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

Washington Township Health Care District supports locating a trauma center at Washington Hospital that will provide advanced life-saving medical care and ambulance transport within an acceptable trauma response time, and encourages the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to approve a trauma center at Washington Hospital in Southern Alameda County.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Washington Township Health Care District this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Yee, Stewart, Eapen, Nicholson

NOES:

ABSENT: Director Wallace

DocuSigned by:



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JEANNIE YEE

President, Board of Directors

Washington Township Health Care  
District

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WILLIAM F. NICHOLSON, MD

Secretary, Board of Directors

Washington Township Health Care District