

**BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BUSINESS BOARD MEETING MINUTES
41870 GARSTIN DRIVE, BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315
MAY 13, 2026**

PRESENT: Mark Kaliher, RN, President
Peter Boss, MD, 2nd VP
Evan Rayner, CEO

Steven Baker, 1st Vice President
Amber Gonzalez, Secretary
Joanne Merrill, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Holly Elmer, Foundation
Sheri Mursick, RN, VP of Outpatient Services/Risk/Patient Experience

Ellen Clarke, Treasurer

STAFF: Kerri Jex, RN, COO/CNO
Erin Wilson, HR Director
Shannon Coillot, RN, Risk Manager

Jeffrey Orr, MD, Chief of Staff
Jim Schlenker, CFO

OTHER: Suzette Duhe, Ovation
Kirsten Wild, RN, Compliance Officer

Scott Nave, Legal Counsel
Barbara Yocum, Auxiliary

COMMUNITY

MEMBERS: Robert Hendricks, MMBR
Steve Bastasini

Ann Brown, BBMR

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER:

President Kaliher called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

1. PUBLIC FORUM FOR CLOSED SESSION:

President Kaliher opened the Hearing Section for Public Comment on Closed Session items at 1:01 p.m.

- Robert Hendricks and Ann Brown of Big Bear Mountain Resorts addressed the Board to express concerns regarding the resort's recent change in health insurance coverage and the resulting challenges related to access to care for resort staff.

President Kaliher closed Public Forum for Closed Session at 1:03 p.m.

2. ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION:

President Kaliher called for a motion to adjourn to Closed Session at 1:03 p.m.

Motion by Director Baker; Second by Director Boss. President Kaliher called for a vote. A vote in favor of the motion was 4/0.

- President Kaliher - yes
- Director Gonzalez - yes
- Director Baker - yes
- Director Boss - yes

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER:

President Kaliher called the meeting to Open Session at 1:53 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Mark Kaliher, Steven Baker, Amber Gonzalez, and Peter Boss were present. Also present was Joanne Merrill, Executive Assistant. Absent was Ellen Clarke.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Director Gonzalez led the flag salute. All present participated.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

President Kaliher called for a motion to adopt the May 13, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda as presented. Motion by Director Boss; Second by Director Baker. President Kaliher called for a vote. A vote in favor of the motion was 4/0.

- President Kaliher - yes
- Director Gonzalez - yes
- Director Baker - yes
- Director Boss – yes

5. RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION:

President Kaliher reported that the following action and approvals was taken in Closed Session:

- Chief of Staff Report:
 - Initial Appointment
 - 1) Chibudem Ugweze, MD- Tele-Radiology
 - 2) Bushra Khan, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - Re-Appointment
 - 1) Erika Franco, NP- Orthopedics
 - 2) Jeremy Heiner, CRNA- Nurse Anesthetist
 - 3) Tamer Ammar, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 4) Edward Boyer, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 5) Annie Burnett, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 6) Rachel Carlin, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 7) Zachary DeCant, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 8) Paulo Gonzalez, DO- Tele-Neurology
 - 9) Sara Hocker, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 10) Christopher Kelesoglou, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - 11) Kevin Schmitt, MD- Tele-Neurology
 - Resignations
 - 1) None

6. PUBLIC FORUM FOR OPEN SESSION:

President Kaliher opened the Hearing Section for Public Comment on Closed Session items at 1:58 p.m.

- Steve Bastasini thanked the Board of Directors for considering the local community foundation that he is setting up. He has met with several key staff to create additional assistance for behavioral health/mental health and substance use within the Big Bear community. Mr. Bastasini is hoping to have a district designee to sit on the Board of Directors for this new foundation.

President Kaliher closed Public Forum for Open Session at 2:04 p.m.

7. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS/RECOGNITIONS

- None

8. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. Foundation Report:

- Ms. Elmer was absent at this meeting. Mr. Rayner reported that the Foundation's annual Cinco de Mayo fundraiser was well attended and successful.

B. Auxiliary Report:

- Ms. Barbara Yocum reported that the Auxiliary is undergoing some changeover in officers due to Judy Moody's recent departure. The annual scrub event was quite successful. The Auxiliary is preparing to award two scholarships to local graduates this year.

9. CONSENT AGENDA:

- April 8, 2026 Business Board Meeting Minutes: Joanne Merrill, Executive Assistant
- May 1, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes: Joanne Merrill, Executive Assistant
- March 2026 Human Resource Report: Erin Wilson, HR Director
- March 2026 Plant and Maintenance Report: Michael Mursick, Plant & Maint. Manager
- March 2026 Infection Control Report: Heather Loose, Infection Preventionist
- Committee Meeting Minutes
 - (1) April 7, 2026 Finance Committee: Joanne Merrill, Executive Assistant

President Kaliher called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion by Director Boss, Second by Director Baker. President Kaliher called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was 4/0.

- President Kaliher - yes
- Director Gonzalez - yes
- Director Baker - yes
- Director Boss - yes

10. OLD BUSINESS*

- None

11. NEW BUSINESS*

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following Physician Agreements:

- (1) Bikramjit Ahluwalia, MD, Inc.

President Kaliher called for a motion to approve the physician agreements, pending Medical Executive Committee approval. Motion by Director Boss, Second by Board Member Gonzalez. President Kaliher called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was 4/0.

- President Kaliher - yes
- Director Gonzalez - yes
- Director Baker - yes
- Director Boss – yes

12. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. Ovation Report:

- Ms. Duhe reported the following information.
 - Mayra Pineiro recently completed the Case Management Assessment and is expected to have the Management Action Plan finalized next week.
 - Compliance Program Assessment. Philip will be onsite soon to provide feedback and conduct Board education.
 - Quality Assessment/Patient Safety review is also scheduled, with an Ovation team member expected onsite in the near future.
 - Leadership University applications are due 5/20/26, for any participants of the district interested in attending this year.

B. CEO Report:

- Mr. Rayner reported the following information:
 - Discussed ongoing construction and state licensing matters, noted a willingness to continue conversations with the district regarding various future projects.
 - Discussion was held with local CDPH representatives regarding potential Flex Unit opportunities, including the possible development of an ICU Step-Down Unit and a Telemetry Unit.
 - Administration reported that the new echocardiography vendor will now allow the district to offer several additional diagnostic studies, including transthoracic echocardiograms and stress echocardiograms.
 - The MRI Project continues to progress, with several vendor proposals currently under review. Administration anticipates presenting the top three proposals to the Board for consideration.
 - Discussion continued regarding the Emergency Generator Project, including coordination with HCAI on project requirements and available space considerations necessary to achieve seismic compliance.
 - HCAI is requiring installation of a one-hour fire wall as part of the Retail Pharmacy project requirements.
 - Teleneurology services are anticipated to begin in July 2026.
 - The district is participating in a consortium of approximately nine Critical Access Hospitals collaborating to apply for RHTP funding. If awarded, the funds are anticipated to support the EHR project and other qualifying initiatives consistent with RHTP program guidelines.

C. March 2026 Finance Report:

- Mr. Schlenker reported the following information:
 - Cash on hand \$ 4,855,863
 - Cash Collections \$ 3,526,224
 - Investments \$ 21,841,298
 - Board Designated Funds \$ 25,000,000
 - Days Cash on hand, including investments with LAIF – 426
 - Operating Loss for the month of \$554,225 vs projected Loss of \$71,275
 - Total Surplus of \$160,509 (vs a budgeted Surplus of \$761,057)
 - YTD Surplus \$712,802 (vs bud. of \$3,593,836 and PY Loss of \$330,751)
 - Total Patient Revenue was 7.0% Higher than Budget for the month (\$499K)
 - Revenue deductions were at 52.9% of total revenue or 14.6% over budget (\$512K)
 - Net Patient Revenue was 0.4% under budget (\$13K)
 - Total Operating Revenue was 0.4% under budget (\$13K)
 - Total Expenses were 12.3% over budget (\$470K)

D. COO/CNO Report:

- Ms. Jex reported the following information:
 - The COO/CNO reported that efforts toward ACHC Accreditation continue to progress.
 - The Life Safety Gap Analysis has been completed, and the Clinical Gap Analysis is scheduled for August 5–7, 2026. Upon completion of the Clinical Gap Analysis, the accreditation survey may be scheduled.
 - An update was provided regarding staffing challenges, including ongoing RN, LVN, and CNA vacancies. Active recruitment efforts continue, including international recruitment resources.
 - Surgical Services continues to expand orthopedic service offerings.
 - The annual survey may occur at any time.
 - Respiratory Therapy services are currently booked approximately three weeks out for Pulmonary Function Tests (PFTs) and echocardiograms. The team is evaluating expanded echocardiography service hours through the new vendor partnership.
 - SCORE survey results have been received and will be distributed to department managers tomorrow. A facility-wide overview report is anticipated for presentation to the Board at the June meeting.
 - Michelle Jones, RN, was recognized as this year's DAISY Award recipient.

13. RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION – Reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

- It was reported that no action was taken on the CEO Evaluation in Closed Session.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

President Kaliher called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m. Motion by Director Boss, Second by Director Baker to adjourn. President Kaliher called for the vote. A vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved 4/0.

- President Kaliher - yes
- Director Gonzalez - yes
- Director Baker - yes
- Director Boss - yes