Minutes

Minutes	
	Maricopa County Special Health Care District Board of Directors Meeting Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Pavilion 2609 East Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85008 3 rd Floor, Board Room March 27, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
Present:	J. Woodfin Thomas, Chairman, District 4
	Mark G. Dewane, Vice Chairman, District 2 Kate Brophy McGee, Director, District 3
Absent:	Mary A. Harden, RN, Director, District 1 Mary Rose Garrido Wilcox, Director, District 5
Others Present:	Steve A. Purves, FACHE, President & Chief Executive Officer Claire Agnew, CPA, MBA, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer Lia Christiansen, MBC, Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer Sherry Stotler, RN, MSN, Senior Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer
	Mark M. MacElwee, MD, Chief of Staff Ijana Harris, JD, Senior Vice President, General Counsel
Guest Presenters/ Speakers:	Crystal Garcia, MBA/HCM, RN, Vice President, Specialty Services, Quality and Patient Safety Michael Fronske, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Director Eric Rustand, CBIZ, Senior Benefits Consultant Runjhun Nanchal, MHA, Senior Vice President, Strategy, Marketing and Communications
Recorded by:	Melanie Talbot, Chief Governance Officer; and Clerk of the Board Cynthia Cornejo, Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board

Call to Order:

Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Talbot called roll. Following roll call, she noted that three of the five voting members of the Maricopa County Special Health Care District Board of Directors were present, which represented a quorum.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Brophy McGee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to the Public

Chairman Thomas called for public comment. There were no comments.

Mission Statement

Chairman Thomas read the mission statement aloud.

General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action:

- 1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. <u>Minutes</u>:
 - i. Approve Maricopa County Special Health Care District Board of Directors meeting minutes dated February 28, 2024
 - b. Contracts:
 - i. Approve amendment #1 to the agreement (90-24-003-1-01) between Maricopa County Department of Public Health and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, for services related to the Community Health Needs Assessment (2023-2026)
 - ii. Approve amendment #9 to the provider services agreement (90-13-242-1-09) between Health Choice and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, for participation in the quality incentive program
 - iii. Approve a new agreement (MCO-24-007-MSA) between Humana Dental Insurance Company and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, to allow members to receive dental services through Valleywise Health dental providers
 - iv. Approve amendment #3 to the facility participation agreement (MCO-20-003-03) between United Behavioral Health, Inc and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, to allow members to continue to receive behavioral health services through Valleywise Health facilities
 - v. Approve a new cooperative agreement (90-24-239-1) between Progressive Services, Inc dba Progressive Roofing and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, for future roof repair projects for Valleywise Health facilities
 - vi. Approve a new mission support program commitment (90-18-239-4) between Dignity Health dba St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, to provide mission support for behavioral health services in Maricopa County
 - vii. Approve amendment #1 to the contract (90-23-106-1-01) between LaneTerralever, LLC and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, to extend the contract for creative, digital marketing, web and/or media services
 - viii. Approve an intergovernmental agreement (90-24-274-1) between Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, for the administration of the Safety Net Services Initiative (SNSI) for the Contract Year ending September 30, 2024. Valleywise Health shall transfer public funds to AHCCCS in the amount of \$2,474,249.88 for the administration of the SNSI

- 1. Approval of Consent Agenda, cont.
 - b. <u>Contracts, cont.</u>:
 - ix. Approve an intergovernmental agreement (90-24-274-2) between Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and Maricopa County Special Health Care District dba Valleywise Health, for the support of the Safety Net Services Initiative (SNSI) for the Contract Year ending September 30, 2024. Valleywise Health shall transfer public funds to AHCCCS in the amount of \$61,856,247.10 in support of the SNSI
 - c. <u>Governance</u>:
 - i. Approve affidavit appointing Adeola Adelayo, MD, as Deputy Medical Director in the Department of Psychiatry
 - ii. Approve Amended and Restated Maricopa County Special Health Care District Cafeteria Plan (Internal Revenue Code Section 125)
 - iii. Approve Valleywise Health Foundation's ALL IN Campaign donor recognition requests
 - d. Medical Staff:
 - i. Approve Valleywise Health's Medical Staff credentials for March 2024
 - ii. Approve Valleywise Health's Advanced Practice Clinician/Allied Health Professional Staff credentials for March 2024
 - iii. Approve proposed revisions to policy 39016 S Credentialing in the Event of a Disaster
 - iv. Approve proposed revisions to policy 39020 T Medical Staff Credentials
 - v. Approve proposed revisions to policy 39026 T Operational Credentialing
 - vi. Approve proposed revisions to the Nurse Practitioner Emergency Medicine Privileges and Practice Prerogatives
 - vii. Approve proposed revisions to the Physician Assistant Emergency Medicine Privileges and Practice Prerogatives
 - viii. Approve proposed revisions to the Nurse Practitioner Surgery Privileges and Practice Prerogatives
 - ix. Approve proposed revisions to the Physician Assistant Surgery Privileges and Practice Prerogatives
 - e. <u>Care Reimagined Capital:</u>
 - i. Intentionally Left Blank

- 1. Approval of Consent Agenda, cont.
 - f. <u>Capital:</u>
 - i. Intentionally Left Blank

Director Brophy McGee requested item 1.d.i., Valleywise Health Medical Staff credentials, be removed from the consent agenda.

- **MOTION:** Director Brophy McGee moved to approve the consent agenda minus 1.d.i. Vice Chairman Dewane seconded.
- VOTE: 3 Ayes: Chairman Thomas, Vice Chairman Dewane, Director Brophy McGee 0 Nay 2 Absent: Director Harden, Director Wilcox Motion passed.
- **MOTION:** Director Brophy McGee moved to approve consent agenda item 1.d.i., minus Scott Graham Edwards, MD.

Chairman Thomas announced that the motion failed due to lack of a second.

- **MOTION:** Vice Chairman Dewane moved to approve consent agenda item 1.d.i., as submitted. Chairman Thomas seconded.
- VOTE:
 2 Ayes: Chairman Thomas, Vice Chairman Dewane

 0 Nay
 1 Abstain: Director Brophy McGee

 2 Absent: Director Harden, Director Wilcox
 Motion passed.
- 2. Update on Valleywise Health's Workplace Violence Committee

Ms. Garcia outlined the scope of Valleywise Health's Workplace Violence Committee, which was to address and mitigate the increase in workplace violence in the healthcare setting. The goal was to establish a workplace violence plan based on reliable data and to provide effective staff training, resulting in a reduction of reportable incidents and injuries from workplace violence and complying with Arizona Senate Bill 1311, which was effective July 1, 2023.

Recent statistics show that healthcare workers were 12 times more likely to encounter workplace violence than the overall workforce. Reporting increased when there was an injury associated with workplace violence; however, staff wanted all workplace violence to be reported so improvements could be made.

The committee met monthly and included a variety of disciplines, including but not limited to security, nursing leadership, and leaders from behavioral health, inpatient and outpatient settings. Since its inception, the committee had created a focus study and launched an electric reporting system, prompting post-assault huddles after an incident was reported.

A policy was developed, which outlined the individual responsible for the plan. The policy also required conspicuous signs to be placed in public areas, delineated reporting and post-incident procedures and ensured the plan was evaluated annually for the effectiveness of the plan.

2. Update on Valleywise Health's Workplace Violence Committee, cont.

Ms. Garcia reviewed the process in place when there was violence in the workplace. The event was entered into the electronic reporting system, the employee's manager monitored the employee, and the Employee Health and Wellness department assessed the employee and assigned the severity of the injury, if any.

The Workplace Violence Committee ensured all staff received Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training, with some employees receiving the training online, while others receiving the training in person. The committee also documented the post-assault huddles to determine if there were ways to de-escalate the situation.

Ms. Garcia stated that staff was working with EPIC, the electronic medical record, to install a banner on the record of a patient that had a history of violent behavior to alert the clinicians caring for the patient. There was also signage throughout the organization, advising patients and visitors that aggressive behavior would not be tolerated.

Ms. Garcia reviewed the workplace violence events reported between July 2023 and December 2023. There were 206 total events, with 60% occurring in the behavioral health setting. The types of incidents reported were punching or slapping, verbal abuse, and kicking.

She stated the data was categorized by the severity of injuries, noting there were five events that resulted in an injury or visit to the emergency department, or offsite occupational health center, or loss of time since July 2023. The data was also categorized by service line, behavioral health, inpatient, and emergency departments. There was an emphasis on encouraging staff to report all workplace violence incidents, and to develop plans to reduce and mitigate future occurrences.

Chairman Thomas asked if staff received de-escalation training.

Ms. Garcia said the CPI training included de-escalation techniques.

Director Brophy McGee requested additional information related to the banner added to a patient chart, asking under what circumstances the banner would be added.

Ms. Garcia said the banner would be added to a patient chart once violent behavior was documented in the record and would remain.

Director Brophy McGee expressed concern about the possibility of mislabeling a patient and impacting the care received.

Ms. Garcia commented that the Workplace Violence Committee had ongoing discussions on when and how to alert staff of a patient with previous violent behavior.

Mr. Purves commented on the escalation of violence against healthcare workers post-pandemic and stated that staff safety was of utmost importance. It was important to be informed of the patient's behavioral history, just as it was important to know a patient's medical history and other social determinants of health.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Valleywise Health's 2024 Legislative Agenda and/or the Maricopa County Special Health Care District's position regarding proposed State and Federal legislative items

Mr. Fronske reviewed the statistics of the current legislative session, which had been in session for 80 days and had passed 18 bills, with nine being signed by the Governor. He reviewed the legislative deadlines, noting the House Bills had been heard in the Senate committees, and the Senate Bills had been heard in the House committees. There had been no update on the budgeting process, but there were reports that all parties began meeting.

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General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action, cont.:

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Valleywise Health's 2024 Legislative Agenda and/or the Maricopa County Special Health Care District's position regarding proposed State and Federal legislative items, cont.

Mr. Fronske mentioned that 66 bills had been sent to staff for comment, with 35 of those bills continuing through the process. He provided a status update on several bills that would have an impact on the organization. House Bill (HB) 2035, insurance; claims; appeals; provider credentialing, passed out of the various committees and was awaiting a Senate vote. Senate Bill (SB) 1402, healthcare; cost reimbursement, continued to move through the process; however, had been amended to reduce the impact on the organization.

He provided an update on the bills the Board authorized staff to oppose, including HB 2744, involuntary treatment; guardians; agents; rights. Staff had worked with the sponsor of the bill and other stakeholders and amended the language to remove direct petitions by guardians. Another bill, SB 1578, involuntary treatment; substance abuse had died; however, a study committee may be developed to bring stakeholders together to discuss the topic. The final bill, SB 1609, was a striker bill that would require a 30-day supply of prescriptions be provided to all patients being discharged from an inpatient psychiatric hospital. The bill had been amended to share medication information with those that would continue to care for the patient.

He provided information related to SB 1731, public meetings; comments; members, which would allow members of a public body to engage in discussions during a call to the public; however, no legal action may be taken. The bill was awaiting House Rules and did have opposition from the Arizona Association of Counties.

Mr. Fronske had originally requested the ability to oppose three bills, however, he was now seeking ability to oppose just two. The first, HB 2504, forced organ harvesting; insurance; prohibition, contained broad language related to equipment and software that may have unintended ramifications for the organization. The second bill, SB 1216, NOW government employees; online use, stated that governmental entities would not be allowed to track an employee's social media activity.

- **MOTION:** Vice Chairman Dewane moved to authorize staff to oppose House Bill 2504; forced organ harvesting; insurance; prohibition, and Senate Bill 1216; NOW Government employee, online use. Director Brophy McGee seconded.

On federal issues, Mr. Fronske stated staff continued their focus on the essential hospital designation legislation and advocating for 340B funding and protecting hospitals from site-neutral payment cut proposals.

Director Brophy McGee requested additional information related to SB 1731, public meetings, and asked the likelihood of the legislature passing the bill.

Mr. Fronske said that he was unsure and would keep the Board apprised.

Ms. Talbot informed the Board of another bill related to public meetings; HB 2481. The bill included several proposals, including removing the legislature from the definition of a public body, allowing an opportunity for individuals to make comments in person, requiring a public body to have a call to the public, and publishing the meeting documents on the public body's website including a link to the documents on the agenda. Other proposals included publishing a notice of action taken by a public body within three days and publishing approved minutes within two days on the website. The final proposal would change the notice period from 24 hours to 48 hours. She explained why she believed the proposals would not negatively impact the organization.

4. Discuss and Review Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Calendar

Ms. Agnew outlined the budget calendar for fiscal year (FY) 2025, noting that the Board would be presented preliminary patient volumes and capital targets in April 2024. In May 2024, the Board would review capital, volumes, revenue, expenses, and other assumptions. The final operating and capital budget would be presented to the Board in June 2024.

5. Discuss and Review Valleywise Health's February 2024 Financials and Statistical Information

Ms. Agnew explained that the FY 2024 budget was developed under the assumption that the new acute care hospital would open in late January 2024 or early February 2024 and the volumes and revenues were forecasted based on that assumption, causing variances in the monthly statistics.

Total admissions for February 2024 missed budget by 9.3%, emergency department visits missed budget by 1.6%, and ambulatory visits missed budget by 1.9 percent.

On a year-to-date basis, total admissions were nearly one percent better than budget, emergency department visits were six percent better than budget, and ambulatory visits were 1.5% better than budget.

She discussed the payer mix for January 2024, noting that significant charge corrections had been made during the month, which skewed the data. The year-to-date data was accurate, demonstrating the decrease in Medicaid utilization, while increased utilization in other categories, including other government, uninsured and commercial insurance.

Ms. Agnew reviewed the income statement, stating that the lower volumes and payer mix impacted net patient service revenue, causing a negative 5.4% variance. There was a positive 38.5% variance in other revenue due to the 340B program, retail pharmacy, and the Health II payment.

While reviewing operating expenses, she acknowledged the negative 2.5% variance in salaries and wages and the negative 14.9% variance in contract labor. She provided an explanation for the variances for other expenses, including negative variances in employee benefits, supplies and rent, attributing to an overall 3.7% negative variance in operating expenses.

Net assets, after factoring in non-operating revenue and expenses, and removing bond-related activity, decreased by \$10,190,786, compared to a budgeted decrease of \$7,357,291, resulting in a negative \$2,833,496 variance.

On a year-to-date basis, net assets, normalized, decreased by \$65,815,741, compared to a budgeted decrease of \$61,159,303, resulting in a negative \$4,656,438 variance. There were 54.8 days of cash on hand, which was impacted by the delay in receiving the graduate medical education (GME) funding. There were 75.2 days in accounts receivable; however, she noted that the February 20, 2024 cyberattack on Change Healthcare affected collections in late February 2024, and she anticipated an ongoing delay in payments.

6. Discuss, Review and Approve the Maricopa County Special Health Care District's Employee Benefits Program for Fiscal Year 2025

Ms. Christiansen explained that a benefits committee was formed to review information and form a recommendation on benefit program revisions. The guiding principles in formulating the recommendation were to remain competitive to attract new employees and retain current employees, assist employees and families in attaining optimal health and well-being, encourage employees to utilize services at Valleywise Health, and manage the overall cost to the organization and to the employees.

6. Discuss, Review and Approve the Maricopa County Special Health Care District's Employee Benefits Program for Fiscal Year 2025, cont.

Ms. Christiansen explained that benefit program costs were expected to increase by 10.35% due to high utilization and high-cost therapeutic drug use in the employee population. The recommendations assumed the same enrollment levels and that employees would stay within their current plan.

The overall costs for the medical and pharmacy plan were projected to increase by 9.3% over the current year due to various factors, including increased enrollment over previous years. The recommendation was to split the cost between Valleywise Health and the employee, based on the plan the employee selected. Valleywise Health would continue to pay 80% of the cost for employees selecting the Preferred Health Plan, 60% of the cost for employees selecting the Point of Service Health Plan, and 81% of the cost for employees selecting the High Deductible Health Plan.

The benefits committee benchmarked the benefits of similar healthcare organizations in the local community and revisions to the medical plan were based on those results. It was recommended that the out-of-pocket maximums be increased by \$1,000 for individuals and \$2,000 for families, reduce the copay for telemedicine and urgent care services, and increase the copay for emergency department visits. It was recommended that the High Deductible Health Plan deductible be increased based on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidance. For the Preferred Health Plan, it was recommended that the specialist copay be increased by \$10, and for the Point of Service Health Plan, the specialist copay be shifted to 20% of charges after the deductible was reached.

There was one recommended change to the pharmacy plan, to add an accumulator adjustment program to eliminate manufacturer coupons being leveraged to reduce employees' financial responsibility and negatively impact the plan.

There were no recommended changes to the dental and vision plans, as the rates were guaranteed through FY 2025. There were no recommended changes to the services provided by Lincoln Financial: life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, short-term disability, leave management, critical illness, and accident insurance, as there was a rate guarantee on all service lines through FY 2026.

Ms. Christiansen recommended the addition of a benefits billing program, which would assist employees who were on a leave of absence for more than 90 days. There were no recommended changes to the Employee Assistance Program.

Director Brophy McGee asked what mechanisms were in place to gather employee feedback on how the increases in benefit costs were absorbed. She also asked if Valleywise Health was benchmarked against other employers based on cost, competitive options, or employers similarly structured.

Ms. Christiansen stated that employee input was gathered through an annual employee engagement survey. While there was not a question specific to the cost of benefits, there were opportunities for employees to provide feedback on the work environment and the benefits offered in general. Other opportunities to submit input included quarterly employee forums and one-on-one meetings with their supervisors.

Director Brophy McGee asked how many employees participated in the annual employee engagement survey and, of those, how many answered the question related to benefits.

Ms. Christiansen said she would review the latest results and provide that information to the Board.

Mr. Rustand said that extensive benchmarking was done, including local and other self-insured hospital systems, comparing benefits offered, the structure, and how the cost was shared with the employees.

Director Brophy McGee asked when employees would be notified of the changes and if there would be an opportunity to provide input.

6. Discuss, Review and Approve the Maricopa County Special Health Care District's Employee Benefits Program for Fiscal Year 2025, cont.

Ms. Christiansen said the recommended changes would be effective at the start of the new fiscal year, July 1, 2024. After the Board approved the contracts, the communication plan would be activated. Informational sessions would be provided, and information was available online and through an application, that employees could access 24 hours a day. The open enrollment period would span several weeks.

Director Brophy McGee restated the question on how employees could provide input on the benefits offered.

Ms. Christiansen explained that employees had the ability to email questions specific to benefits to a designated email address, in addition to the other previously mentioned options.

Director Brophy McGee noted that Valleywise Health paid a large portion of benefit costs and asked if employees were aware of the employer's contribution to the benefits program.

Ms. Christiansen said the benefit brochure delineated the total cost and the employee's per pay period cost, highlighting the amount Valleywise Health contributed on their behalf.

Chairman Thomas asked if employees had a general understanding of what the benefits included.

Ms. Christiansen said there was an emphasis on educating the employees on the variety of benefits available, including information included in the online application, and there was an opportunity to reach out to staff to gain further details.

- **MOTION:** Vice Chairman Dewane moved to approve the Maricopa County Special Health Care District's employee benefits program for fiscal year 2025. Director Brophy McGee seconded.
- VOTE: 3 Ayes: Chairman Thomas, Vice Chairman Dewane, Director Brophy McGee 0 Nay 2 Absent: Director Harden, Director Wilcox Motion passed.
- 7. Update on Care Reimagined Projects

Ms. Christiansen provided an update on the Care Reimagined projects, noting that the opening of the new acute care hospital had been delayed. However, patient and building safety were top priorities and she would keep the Board apprised of a new opening date. She expressed her appreciation to the leaders of the organization for their ongoing dedication to the project.

She announced that several celebratory events were scheduled for the first week of April 2024. There was an event specific for emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and first responders, two employee events, a physician event, two Valleywise Health Foundation events, an event for elected officials and stakeholders, and concluding with an event for the community.

To date, approximately 14,345,251 manhours had been accumulated throughout the duration of the various projects. The dashboard reflected the deviation from the original schedule and Ms. Christiansen noted that staff was in the process of reassessing the opening date.

7. Update on Care Reimagined Projects, cont.

Ms. Christiansen reviewed the construction progress of the new acute care hospital, highlighting the tasks that had been completed, including the certification of all elevators, lab automation line installation, and the completion of the med gas testing. The pharmacy, central sterile and surgery departments would begin transitioning to the new acute care hospital within the next 30 days. There would also be revisions to the air handler units and fire dampers.

She outlined the patient move schedule, noting that it was decided to move the labor and delivery department earlier in the day. There were no other changes to the patient move schedule.

The Day in the Life (DIL) and Mock Move activities were highlighted and she thanked the volunteers for participating, as the activities allowed staff to work through various scenarios to gain familiarity with the new space and make adjustments as needed.

Throughout the months of March 2024 and April 2024, medical equipment would continue to be deployed from the warehouse to the final locations, and specific departments would migrate to the new acute care hospital.

Ms. Christiansen provided an update on the Piper Pavilion, announcing that the physicians would move into the space on the fifth floor in mid-April 2024.

- 8. Review and Possible Action on the Following Reports to the Board of Directors:
 - a. Monthly Marketing and Communications Report (February 2024)
 - b. Monthly Care Reimagined Capital Purchases Report (February 2024)
 - c. Monthly Valleywise Health Employee Turnover Report (February 2024)

Chairman Thomas addressed item 8.c., the Monthly Valleywise Health Turnover Report, and congratulated staff on the continued improvement.

- 9. Concluding Items
 - a. Old Business:

February 28, 2024

Legislative Agenda

- Provide more information on House Bill 2686
- Provide status of House Bill 2042

Care Reimagined Update

- Provide information on the type of seating that will be in the chapel at the new acute care tower
- Provide a list of the action items identified during the Day in the Life and Mock Move for Facility/Building Systems and Construction categories, and how they relate to late change orders

January 24, 2024

Compliance Training

• Future discussion on disclosure of gifts District Board members receive

- 9. Concluding Items, cont.
 - a. Old Business, cont.:

<u>January 24, 2024, cont.</u>

Care Reimagined Update

 Once available, provide the date that the Conference and Administration Center will be decommissioned

November 21, 2023

Consent Agenda

• Future discussion on disclosure of gifts District Board members receive

Behavioral Health Update

 Provide information to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors on projects, programs and services made possible with the ARPA grant funding

Care Reimagined Update

 Once available, provide the date that the Conference and Administration Center will be decommissioned

June 28, 2023

Care Reimagined Update

 When projects are complete, compose a letter from the Board, outlining everything that was accomplished/made possible, and send to stakeholders

May 24, 2023

April 2023 Financials

 How will fixed costs change (old facilities vs new facilities); include the change in utility costs and maintenance costs

August 24, 2022

Monthly Update on Care Reimagined Projects

- Work with organized neighborhood groups near Valleywise Health Medical Center to build connections and invite to opening of new hospital
- b. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items or Reports
- c. Comments
 - i. Chairman and Member Closing Comment
 - ii. President and Chief Executive Officer Summary of Current Events

Ms. Talbot reiterated the requests made throughout the meeting. She reviewed old business, noting the items that were completed, as well as the ongoing items.

Ms. Nanchal addressed the request from August 24, 2022, related to working with organized neighborhood groups and extending an invitation to the grand opening events. She stated that various community organizations were invited to the event scheduled on Saturday, April 6, 2024. She also provided the anticipated number of attendees for the various events scheduled, stating that the local press was also invited to attend.

Mr. Purves said that he continued to work with the American Hospital Association (AHA) and America's Essential Hospitals (AEH), to advocate on various topics impacting the healthcare industry, including but not limited to safety net hospital designation, private equity consolidation, and the increase in pre-authorization and denial rates.

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General Session, Presentation, Discussion and Action, cont.:

9. Concluding Items, cont.

Mr. Purves highlighted emergency department nurse, Ms. Leigh Ann Sondrup, who was honored at the Phoenix Fire Department's Salute to Excellence Award Ceremony. Ms. Sondrup assisted a man who was in a car accident and trapped inside the car until first responders could arrive, saving his life. He applauded her bravery and expressed his appreciation.

<u>Adjourn</u>

- **MOTION:** Vice Chairman Dewane moved to adjourn the March 27, 2024, Maricopa County Special Health Care District Board of Directors General Session Meeting. Director Brophy McGee seconded.
- VOTE: 3 Ayes: Chairman Thomas, Vice Chairman Dewane, Director Brophy McGee 0 Nays 2 Absent: Director Harden, Director Wilcox Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

J. Woodfin Thomas, Chairman Maricopa County Special Health Care District Board of Directors