

# The County of Santa Cruz Integrated Community Health Center Commission

**Minute Taker: Mary Olivares**

Minutes of the meeting held February 4, 2026

**TELECOMMUNICATION MEETING:** Microsoft Teams Meeting - or call-in number +1 916-318-9542 – PIN# 500021499#

Attendance	
Christina Berberich	Executive Board – Chair
Len Finocchio	Executive Board – Co-Chair
Rahn Garcia	Member
Dinah Phillips	Member
Marco Martinez-Galarce	Member
Michelle Morton	Member
Amy Peeler	County of Santa Cruz, Chief of Clinics
Raquel Ruiz	County of Santa Cruz, Senior Health Services Manager
Julian Wren	County of Santa Cruz, Admin Services Manager
Mary Olivares	County of Santa Cruz, Admin Aide
<b>Meeting Commenced at 1:00 pm and concluded at 1:45 pm</b>	
Excused/Absent:	
Absent: Maximus Grisso	
Absent: Nicole Pfeil	
1. Welcome/Introductions	
2. Oral Communications:	
Amy is out today.	
3. January 7, 2026, Meeting Minutes – Action Required	
Review of January 7, 2026, Meeting Minutes: The minutes were reviewed and recommended for approval. Len motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Rahn seconded the motion, and all members present voted in favor.	
4. Quality Management Update	
<p>Raquel provided a Quality Management update. She reported that the Watsonville clinic is discussing restarting a pilot program for Retinal Eye Exams for patients with diabetes. The pilot would include performing retinal eye exams and sending images to a designated provider for diabetic retinopathy (DR) review.</p> <p>Raquel also presented the Staff Satisfaction Survey that is distributed at the end of the year. She reviewed the survey results with the committee. The results will be brought to the upcoming managers’ meeting to identify areas for improvement.</p> <p>Lastly, Raquel provided an update on the Peer Review and Risk Management Committee. She reported a change in the Peer Review Chart Audit process: three clinicians will be reviewed each month by six different clinicians. She also reported that the committee has completed two chart reviews.</p> <p>A Commission member raised concerns regarding delays in referral processing. The member expressed frustration with the lack of timely follow-through. Raquel stated she will follow up to determine why the referral took four weeks to process. The Commission member reported having to make multiple follow-up calls due to the delay.</p>	
5. Sliding Fee Scale Survey Report	
<p>Julian presented the Sliding Fee Scale Survey results. He reported this survey is part of their regular sliding fee discount scale review and meets HRSA compliance expectations. It was distributed through MyChart to all patients. He reported the purpose today is program improvement, not evaluation of staff or patients. The survey went to all patients, regardless of income or enrollment status, Julian reviewed the results with the commissioners. Based on these results, their focus is improving communication, not redesigning the program. This includes clearer MyChart messages, clearer enrollment confirmation, and better explanations at intake and renewal. Outreach to patients which are critical comments, these changes are within our control and directly address what patients raised.</p>	
6. Financial Update	

Julian reported on the Health Centers FY 26/27 budget proposal. Julian reported they are proposing a budget that uses the following as a foundation:

- **Access:** maintain staffing and revenue levels to support providing services to the patients that need it
- **Quality:** maintain staffing and increase revenue to the levels needed to continue to provide quality services
- **Cost:** continuing to implement strategies to reduce supply costs, eliminate/reduce costs that are less directly related to our core functions, increase revenue to cover expenditure budget
- **Workforce:** submitting budget with no change to current staffing FTEs to support to increase our PPS Rate

Julian reported the proposed budget reflects deliberate choices, not across-the-board increases. Revenue growth assumptions are tied to volume, PPS mechanics, and known grants. Expense growth is targeted and justified. This is a controlled glide path, not an expansion. The key takeaway is that revenue increases are doing heavy lifting, not staffing growth. Services and supplies move where they support care delivery, billing and salary growth. This is consistent with their PPS objective. Lastly Julian reported This budget respects County constraints while still positioning the division for long-term self-support.

7. CEO Update

No updates at today's meeting.

Next meeting: March 4, 2026, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

**Meeting Location: In- Person-** 150 Westridge Drive, Suite 101, Watsonville, Ca 95076 and 1080 Emeline Ave., Bldg. Clinic. Cruz, CA 95060. Commission will connect through Microsoft Teams Meeting or call in (audio only) [+1 831-454-2222,191727602#](tel:+18314542222191727602) United States, Salinas Phone Conference ID: **191 727 602#**

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ / / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Board Chair or Co-Chair) (Date)