

- CALL TO ORDER** Northern Inyo Healthcare District (NIHD) Governance Chair Lent called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.
- PRESENT** David Lent, Governance Chair
Laura Smith, Governance Committee Vice-Chair

Christian Wallis, Chief Executive Officer
Allison Partridge, Chief Operations Officer / Chief Nursing Officer
Alison Murray, Chief Business Development Officer / Chief Human Resources Officer
Patty Dickson, Compliance Officer
- PUBLIC COMMENT** Chair Lent reported that at this time, audience members may speak on any items on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of the Board.

Public Comment: None
- BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT ACTION PLAN** Board Clerk Reed presented the Board Self-Assessment Action Plan Checklist, confirming that all items were complete through committee and board work. She recommended that the action plan be considered complete and forwarded to the full board.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: None
- JOINT BOARD MEETING** CEO Wallis discussed a draft agenda being developed for the upcoming joint board meeting scheduled for May 4 at 3:30 p.m., outlining planned topics such as establishing ground rules, reviewing the history of inter-organizational relationships, and identifying areas for future collaboration. He also addressed considerations related to antitrust in the context of inter-organizational discussions.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:
Board members discussed potential agenda topics, including service line development and regional collaboration. A board member also requested that Mammoth include a presentation addressing their involvement with Mono County tribal communities.
- MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 13, 2026** **Public Comment:** None

Board Discussion: None

Motion by Smith to approve the meeting minutes for March 10, 2026
2nd: Lent
Pass: 2-0

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Legislative Affairs Lobbyist

CEO Wallis presented information on legislative affairs and the potential engagement of a lobbyist to support the district's advocacy efforts. He explained the role of a lobbyist in monitoring legislation, providing insight into political context, assisting with strategic positioning, and advocating on behalf of the district at the state level.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Board members discussed the potential value of hiring a lobbyist, including improved awareness of legislative impacts and stronger representation of rural healthcare interests. Concerns were raised regarding cost, competing organizational priorities, and whether similar support could be achieved through existing relationships or internal efforts, with general agreement to bring the topic forward for further discussion with the full board.

This item will move forward to the full board.

AB 2311 Support Association of California Healthcare District

CEO Wallis presented information regarding AB 2311, legislation related to physician employment for certain healthcare districts. He explained that although the bill does not directly impact the district, a support letter was submitted in alignment with partner organizations and to maintain collaborative relationships.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Board members discussed the rationale for supporting the legislation, noting the importance of maintaining alignment with peer districts and potential future reciprocity. There was also a discussion acknowledging that the support action had been taken due to timing constraints and would be formally reported to ensure transparency.

Motion by Lent to approve this item and report this item to the full board

2nd: Smith

Pass: 2-0

Opposition to the Health Care Endangerment Act (HCEA) by the California Hospital Association

CEO Wallis presented information regarding the Health Care Endangerment Act (HCEA), describing it as proposed legislation related to capping executive compensation in healthcare organizations, with prior similar efforts introduced in past legislative sessions. He noted a proposed compensation cap and indicated that additional information would be needed to fully evaluate the measure.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Board members discussed the item and agreed there was insufficient information to take a position at this time.

Motion by Smith to take no action

2nd: Lent

Pass: 2-0

AB 2353 Support California Hospital Association

CEO Wallis presented information regarding AB 2353, explaining that the legislation involves a proposal affecting healthcare organizations and labor-related processes, including provisions related to employee or union participation in decision-making. He noted that the bill could have operational and financial implications for hospitals.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Board members discussed the potential implications of the legislation and expressed concerns about becoming involved in a politically sensitive issue. There was general agreement to avoid taking a position at this time.

Motion by Smith to take no action

2nd: Lent

Pass: 2-0

AB 2665 Tangipa

CEO Wallis presented AB 2665, legislation associated with Assemblymember Tangipa that includes proposed funding for rural critical access hospitals, including \$2.5 million for Northern Inyo Healthcare District. He noted that due to timing constraints, a letter of support was submitted on April 7 with approval from the Governance Committee Chair.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Board members acknowledged the need to act quickly on legislative items with short deadlines.

Motion by Smith to move to the full board

2nd: Lent

Pass: 2-0

**GREEN FEEDBACK
DISCUSSION**

gather input on the experience and whether to use a facilitator for future evaluations.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Director Lent expressed support for the facilitated evaluation process, noting that the presence of an external facilitator helped keep discussions focused, provided structure, and allowed board members to concentrate more fully on evaluating the CEO rather than managing the process. He also highlighted the value of outside expertise and emphasized that the board itself is responsible for providing input reflective of local priorities.

Director Smith acknowledged the value of facilitation but noted that external facilitators may lack familiarity with the local community context. She stated that while facilitation can help maintain focus and organization, the board could potentially conduct the evaluation process independently, though with some risk of becoming unfocused without structured guidance.

**MISSION, VISION,
VALUES, AND
STRATEGIC PLAN – NEXT
STEPS**

CEO Wallis presented draft mission and vision statements developed by Jacob Green, explaining that revisions were made to reflect feedback and priorities expressed by the board during prior discussions. He noted that the drafts are intended to align with what the board identified as important for the organization moving forward.

Motion by Smith to move to the full board

2nd: Lent

Pass: 2-0

GENERAL INFORMATION


None

Adjournment

Adjourn at 3:15 pm.



David Lent
Northern Inyo Healthcare District
Governance Chair

Attest: 
Laura Smith
Northern Inyo Healthcare District
Governance Vice-Chair