

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment - Group 1

A-22



From: Julianne McGandy <jmcgandy@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2023 1:34 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Termination of Lawrence J. Bines, MD contract

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today in hopes that you have thoroughly investigated the eagerness of the PHD in terminating the contract of Dr. Bines and the solution the PHD has given you. Dr. Bines has worked for the PHD since 1991. Both Lompoc and the clinics in south county (Santa Barbara, Franklin, and Carpinteria) as an OB/GYN.

His contract was renewed in July, then was suspended from working in Santa Barbara, however able to continue his position at the Lompoc Clinic. Which was a blessing for us. Now termination.

I have been working with the PHD at the Lompoc Health Care Center for 17 1/2 years as a Nurse Practitioner with Dr. Bines. I could have not have asked for a better Supervising Physician to work with. He runs the clinics like a well oiled machine with organization so there is no chaos. It has to be when you are the Provider responsible for what the staff does in patient care. He strives for safety for all the staff and patients.

Dr. Bines has worked to implement the Policies and Procedures with Caroline Cahn, Nurse Practitioner so that as a Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant or Mid wife we have guidelines to adhere to. He is always available by phone to all staff members for consultation or any questions that may arise, no matter what time of day. He is well respected by the physicians he has worked with and those in the OB/GYN community in Lompoc and Santa Barbara.

I hope you reconsider honoring Dr. Bines contract. I cannot see how multiple OB/GYN's can orchestrate what 1 person has been able to achieve over the 32 years working for the SBC PHD.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julianne McGandy OB/GYN , Nurse Practitioner

Katherine Douglas

From: Anne Stewart <annecat53@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2023 12:56 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board Item A-8, 10/10/23, Dr. Laurence Bines Contract

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October 14, 2023

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Supervisor Capps

Re: Board Item A-8, continued to 10/17/23 meeting, Dr. Bines contract with the Public

Health Department

Dear Supervisors:

I am a retired employee of the County of Santa Barbara. The last twelve years of my County employment were with the Public Health Department, Primary Care and Family Health Division. I worked with Dr. Larry Bines on a monthly basis to collect and process labor and delivery information from Cottage Hospital and forward it to Billing and Accounting.

I find it reprehensible that Public Health presents Dr. Bines' contract termination as an acceptable way to treat a physician who has provided over two decades of dedicated care to women throughout Santa Barbara County. Dr. Bines has been a champion for his patients, and for those of us who worked closely with him.

I am troubled by the representation of Dr. Hammami that this termination of the contract has no relation to the personnel investigation. The assertion that the early contract termination request is not connected to internal politics or personal bias is ludicrous.

And, really, people. The budget was finalized at the end of June, and only NOW are they realizing that they need to save an additional 250,000?? This cost-cutting maneuver is one that affects the continuity of quality and safety of care for women of this County. In addition, Dr. Bines service to Santa Barbara County was free of malpractice claims or lawsuits. One malpractice suit would cost the County far in excess of the \$250,000 "savings"....

Dr. Hammami states that there will be no lapse in OB/GYN care in the wake of Dr. Bines' dismissal. I would ask the Board to request specific factual information as to how this transition will occur with the seamless ease that the Public Health Director asserts. Supervisors Williams and Hartman stated in the Board meeting that it was up to the PHD Director to deal with situations within his department; however the Director is accountable to the Board of Supervisors as the public's representatives, especially when the health and safety of vulnerable populations is at stake.

This is a despicable way to treat anyone, let alone a physician who has provided a high level of patient care, and has a deep commitment to the well-being of his patients and his team at the Public Health Clinics throughout the County.

I would urge the Board of Supervisors to deny the Public Health Department's request for contract termination for Dr. Bines.

Respectfully,

Anne Stewart
annecat53@me.com