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Wednesday, Mar 14, 2007

## Breaking News XML

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### Hospital management plan seeks county approval Tuesday

By Tom Lochner  
CONTRA COSTA TIMES

A joint powers authority to manage Doctors Medical Center will go before the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors today for final approval, after the hospital's governing board unanimously endorsed the plan Monday.

If approved today, as is widely expected, the prospective JPA's board would hold its inaugural meeting Feb. 12 at the San Pablo hospital, Doctors officials said Monday.

The hospital board also appointed its chairman Dr. Desmond Carson and member Jim Beaver to represent the West Contra Costa Healthcare District, the entity that owns the San Pablo community hospital, on the prospective seven-member JPA board.

They will join Dr. Sharon Drager, whom the hospital's medical executive committee selected earlier, Doctors CEO Irwin Hansen announced Monday.

The county will hold the majority on the JPA board with four seats, including one held by District 1 county Supervisor John Gioia.

Under the joint powers agreement, the healthcare district would retain responsibilities related to state licensing and certification as well as day-to-day operations of the hospital. The Joint Powers Authority would provide direction on management, finances, and personnel and employment issues and oversee contracts and marketing. The JPA would also oversee budgets and business plans and plan a healthcare delivery system.

Drager, a vascular surgeon who has practiced at Doctors and its predecessor, Brookside Hospital, for 28 years, is a past president of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association. Dr. John Rampulla, the hospital's medical chief of staff, will be Drager's alternate, Hansen announced.

The healthcare board picked member Beverly Wallace as the alternate for Carson or Beaver.

Carson won approval on a 5-0 vote. The board picked Beaver, 3-2, with Wallace and Nancy Casazza voting no. Earlier, the board, by 3-2, turned down Wallace, who had been nominated by Casazza, when Carson, Beaver and Deborah Campbell voted no.

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