

**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2010**

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Desert Healthcare District was held in the Arthur H. "Red" Motley Boardroom, Palm Springs, CA

Attendance:

Members

Glen Grayman, MD – President (VIA Video Conference)  
Kay Hazen – Vice President/Secretary  
Mark Matthews - Treasurer  
Sidney Rubenstein, DDS - Director  
Michael Solomon, MD - Director

Staff

Lenny Pepper, Chief Executive Officer  
Peter Young, Chief Operating Officer  
Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer  
Tricia Wheeler, Program Manager  
Samantha Prior, Operations Support Manager

Legal Counsel

Jeffrey Scott, Esq

Guests

Bruce Hebets, Borrego Community Health Foundation  
Cynthia Preciado, Borrego Community Health Foundation  
Mark Connelly, Borrego Community Health Foundation  
Nerieda Morfin, Borrego Community Health Foundation  
Rita Andersen, Borrego Community Health Foundation  
Yvonne Parks, Mayor, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Karl Baker, Council Member, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Jan Pye, Council Member, City of Desert Hot Springs and Treasurer, Regional Access Project  
Foundation  
Rick Daniels, City Manager, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Laura Green, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Steven Hernandez, Legislative Aide, 5<sup>th</sup> District Riverside County Board of Supervisors  
Kate McGinty, Desert Sun  
Richard DeSantis, ACT for MS  
Tim O'Bayley, O'Bayley Communication  
Bob Adams, Highmark Capital

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Vice-President Hazen who presided over the meeting as President Grayman was participating via web conferencing.

Vice-President Hazen then requested that all attendees introduce themselves and who they were representing. Each attendee did so and all names are noted in the "Guest" section of these minutes.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice-President Hazen asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Counsel Scott requested that a closed session item be added to the agenda in accordance with Government Code section 54954.2(b)(2) as a matter had arisen subsequent to the posting of the agenda which needed to be brought to the Board. Counsel Scott reported that the item was a personnel matter in accordance with Government Code section 54957.

Director Rubenstein informed the Board that Grant #552 from Angel View Crippled Children's Foundation (Section I.1.d. of the Agenda) will not be presented at this time and asked that the item be pulled from that section of the Agenda.

**#10-32 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director Rubenstein to approve the agenda with the addition of closed session as requested by Counsel Scott and the omission of Grant #552. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

Vice-President Hazen asked if there was any objection from the Board to moving the Grant request from Borrego Community Health Foundation (Section I.1.d.1) forward to the beginning of the meeting, immediately following the Consent Agenda. There was no objection.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Submitted for approval:

1. Board Minutes
  - a. Regular meeting-March 23, 2010
  - b. Regular meeting-October 27, 2009 (amended minutes to reflect previously undocumented motion #09-95)
2. District March 2010 financial statements.

President Grayman noted that the Consent Agenda (Section D.1.b.) should actually reflect regular meeting minutes of October 27, 2009, not November 27, 2009 as listed.

**#10-32 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director Rubenstein to approve the Consent Agenda with the change of date to the meeting minutes from November 27, 2009 to October 27, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**

Director Rubenstein presented a grant request from Borrego Community Health Foundation in the amount of \$159,604.00 for the renovation/build-out costs of a temporary medical clinic in the City of Desert Hot Springs. The Program Committee has recommended approval of this request.

It was explained by Mr. Hebets that difficulty has arisen with acquiring the chosen location; however, should this location not be obtainable there are three alternate sites available and he will move quickly to secure a site.

President Grayman stated that he would support the approval of the grants funds regardless of location; the funding for the renovation/build-out will be necessary at any site utilized.

Vice-President Hazen confirmed that the grant funding was not specific to address location, beyond occurring in the City of Desert Hot Springs, and that the funds are sufficient for any location chosen. She stated that the Board wishes to remove obstacles in the establishment of this clinic; she asked Mr. Hebets that should an alternate site be chosen would this grant request amount be sufficient? She also inquired if there were any other obstacles establishing this clinic. Mr. Hebets responded that the funding is sufficient regardless of location, and that there are no other known obstacles. Mr. Daniels also responded, stating that the City of Desert Hot Springs strongly supports this endeavor and intends to fast track the permitting process. There will be no obstacles from the City of Desert Hot Springs.

Vice-President Hazen noted that due to the nature of this project, it is important that the funding be available for use in a timely fashion; she proposed Staff be authorized to release funds as necessary.

Director Matthews noted that the City of Desert Hot Springs, the County of Riverside, the Desert Healthcare District and Borrego Community Health Foundation are all in support of this project. He also expressed his support to have these funds available as necessary.

Vice-President Hazen commented that it has been a long road for everyone - for the citizens of Desert Hot Springs, for the City, for the stakeholders, for the non-profit community, for Supervisor Ashley and for Riverside County – all of whom have remained committed throughout this entire effort to improving and enhancing health services for the citizens in Desert Hot Springs. Our entire District Board and Staff have worked hard to get to a point where we can actually see a clinic in our immediate future, so we are thrilled to be able to take this action today.

**#10-33 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rubenstein and seconded by President Grayman to approve the grant request in the amount of \$159,604.00 to the Borrego Community Health Foundation for the build-out costs of a temporary medical clinic in the City of Desert Hot Springs. Additionally, Staff is authorized to release these funds as necessary to expedite the project (in accordance with the payment schedule of the agreement, which states funds are to be released upon receipt of signed contract). Motion passed unanimously.**

Council Member Baker, City of Desert Hot Springs, expressed on behalf of the citizens of Desert Hot Springs their great appreciation for this; a clinic is long overdue and well needed; the City has quite an underserved population. He is “so pleased” the district is stepping up and helping out.

Mayor Parks, City of Desert Hot Springs, also expressed her appreciation. She also noted that it is likely the Emergency Room at Desert Regional Medical Center will be utilized less by the citizens of Desert Hot Springs as they will now have a clinic of their own to service their needs. She again thanked the District for the support.

Vice-President Hazen commended Council Member Pye's (City of Desert Hot Springs) leadership, commitment and ongoing participation as well as the Staff of the City of Desert Hot Springs. They have been great to work with throughout. She noted that the District is not done; there is more to do and it is great to know that the District has such good partners to move forward with plans for a permanent clinic facility and additional enhancements to community health.

Council Member Pye noted that this project is an example of great collaboration and has proven that bureaucracy does not have to get in the way of progress; all of us have no idea how many lives will be saved by this action.

Vice President Hazen noted an additional benefit. When the facility in Desert Hot Springs is open, many of their citizens who have been travelling to clinics in Cathedral City and other valley locations will now be served locally, freeing up the capacity of these other clinics to serve additional residents.

Mr. Hebets expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Borrego Community Health Foundation. He stated they will not disappoint and that they look forward to working with all of the partners.

\*\*Note – all guests from the City of Desert Hot Springs, Borrego Community Health Foundation, The County Supervisor's Office and the Desert Sun left the meeting at the conclusion of this topic. Ms. Pye remained to represent the Regional Access Project Foundation for a later agenda item.

## **QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT**

Bob Adams of Highmark Capital reviewed the quarterly Cash and Investment Summary for the District.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Ms. Wheeler presented for Board Consideration a 2-year proposal from the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) for the administration of the Healthy Eating Active Living Network (HEALNet). Ms. Wheeler reviewed the recommendation of the HEALNet RFP Steering Committee, whose members included: Paula Simons, YMCA of the Desert; Eileen Packer, HARC; Wanda Grant, PSUSD; Josette Harris, Riverside County Dept. of Pub Health; Christy Porter, Hidden Harvest; and Lisa Houston, FIND. The Committee reviewed and scored the three proposals submitted in response to the District's RFP for a program administrator for HEALNet. The Committee unanimously recommended RAP be chosen as the administrator for several reasons, among them RAP's oversight of the California Endowment's Building Healthy Communities initiative as well as RAP's high level of involvement with the Riverside County coalition as well as HEALNet.

**#10-34 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rubenstein and seconded by Director Solomon to approve the proposal from the Regional Access Project Foundation for the administration of HEALNet. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Ms Wheeler presented for Board consideration approval of a contract (with budget proposal) with the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) in the amount of \$363,363.00 for the administration of HEALNet.

Vice-President Hazen questioned the line item in the budget which designated \$10,000 per year for discretionary projects. Ms. Pye indicated that RAP had no objection with the line item and \$10,000 being removed from the budget and proposal.

Vice-President Hazen encouraged RAP to pursue personnel efficiencies and avoid duplication, if and when possible, with the California Endowment's Building Healthy Communities initiative.

**#10-35 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by President Grayman to approve the contract with the Regional Access Projection Foundation in the amount of \$343,353.00 for the administration of HEALNet. Motion passed unanimously**

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Director Rubenstein reported that President Grayman, Vice-President Hazen, himself and Ms. Craig attended the dedication at the Wellness Park of a memorial for local resident and healthcare advocate Catherine McMillan.

#### **DRMC GOVERNING BOARD DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Director Rubenstein reported the Board of Governors for Desert Regional Medical Center met on April 15, 2010. Director Rubenstein informed the Board that DRMC continues to monitor quality; participate in community activities; and is moving forward with various construction projects within the facility.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **1. Program Committee – Director Rubenstein**

Director Rubenstein stated the agenda and meeting minutes of April 13, 2010, and the active grant requests with grant balances schedule were enclosed for review.

Director Rubenstein stated the Final Grant Reports for Grant #258 (Borrego Community Health Foundation), Grant #287 (Jewish Family Services of the Desert) and Grant #260 (LifeStream) were enclosed for review.

Director Rubenstein presented grant requests recommended by the Program Committee for approval:

1. Grant request in the amount of \$134,580.00 from ACT for MS for Enhanced Strength Training.

**#10-36 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rubenstein and seconded by Director Solomon to approve the grant request in the amount of \$134,580.00 from ACT for MS for Enhanced Strength Training. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Consideration to approve Program Committee criteria and policies – additional revisions.

Discussion ensued regarding the addition of “reside or be primarily employed within the District”.

**#10-37 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rubenstein and seconded by Director Solomon to approve the Program Committee criteria and policies, with the addition of “reside or be primarily employed within the District”. Motion passed unanimously.**

**2. Finance Committee – Director Matthews**

Director Matthews stated the agenda and meeting minutes of April 01, 2010 and April 13, 2010 were enclosed for review.

The COO/Las Palmas Medical Plaza reports were reviewed as provided in the Board Packet.

Director Matthews presented for Board Consideration:

1. Education Reimbursement Policy – consideration to approve increasing the reimbursement amount from \$2,500.00 per fiscal year to \$10,000.00 per fiscal year, with the additional requirements of a minimum twelve months of employment prior to eligibility; a grade “B” or better required for reimbursement; and a two-year employment commitment for cumulative reimbursements that exceed \$5,000 per fiscal year received.

**#10-38 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director Solomon to approve the revision to the Education Reimbursement Policy, increasing the reimbursement amount from \$2,500.00 per fiscal year to \$10,000.00 per fiscal year, with the additional requirements of a grade “B” or better, a minimum one year employment with the District and a two-year employment commitment for each \$10,000.00 per fiscal year received. Additionally, with correction to section B1, changing “two years for cumulative reimbursements that exceed \$10,000” to “...that exceed \$5,000”. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Consideration to approve the WWCOT “LPMP Roof Evaluation and Recommendations Report”.

**#10-39 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Mathews and seconded by Director Solomon to approve the WWCOT “LPMP Roof Evaluation and Recommendations Report” and to authorize Staff to move forward with issuance of an RFP and an investigation of a potential Solar PPA. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Consideration to approve an extension to the contract with the County of Riverside for land acquisition in Desert Hot Springs.

**#10-40 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director Rubenstein to authorize the CEO to execute the proposed amendment to the purchase agreement with the Housing Authority of Riverside County subject to dedication of the proceeds of the Bonds to the Desert Hot Springs project by September 01, 2010. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Pepper reviewed his report as provided in the Board Packet.

Ms. Craig updated the Board on the status of the County of Riverside State Share Match request. This proposal is moving forward; the State decreased the requested amount so that the District match would be decreased from \$200,000 to approximately \$182,000. It is expected that the Scope of Work and the MOU will be brought before the Board at the July 27, 2010 meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the Family Medical Leave Act. Staff was requested to work with Counsel regarding this policy and to make a recommendation to the Finance and Administration Committee at the May 11, 2010 meeting.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN**

1. Consideration to approve the updated FY09-11 Strategic Work plan (with Goals and Tactics).

**#10-41 MOTION WAS MADE by President Grayman and seconded by Director Solomon to approve the updated FY09-11 Strategic Work plan (with Goals and Tactics), including the addition of the following:**

#### **2.5 Improve access to primary health care in underserved communities**

##### **Strategies:**

- i. Short term – support an interim clinic in the City of Desert Hot Springs**
- ii. Long term – support a permanent clinic in the City of Desert Hot Springs**
- iii. Enhance and/or support health and wellness program**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33p.m.

#### **RECONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was reconvened to closed session. Topic discussed:

1. Government Code section 54954.2(b)(2). The item is a personnel matter in accordance with Government Code section 54957.

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10p.m.

#### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The meeting was reconvened to open session at 4:10p.m.

**REPORT AFTER CLOSED SESSION**

Staff and Counsel were directed to take appropriate action concerning the closed session matter.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Kay Hazen, Vice President/Secretary  
Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Tricia Wheeler, Executive Administrative Assistant*