

**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
July 19, 2011**

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Attendance:

Members

Director Sidney Rubenstein, DDS – Chair  
Director Glen Grayman, MD  
Bev Greer, Administrator, Stroke Recovery Center  
Robert Taylor, Superior Court Judge (retired)  
Mitch Nieman, Community Member  
Elizabeth Toledo, Program Manager, Building Healthy Communities  
Matthew Keane, PA-C, ICON  
Allen Howe, City of Cathedral City

Absent Committee members

Kim McNulty, Project Manager, CVEP

Staff

Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer  
Tricia Wheeler, Program Manager  
Steve Brown, Executive Assistant  
Peter Young, Chief Operating Officer  
Kathy Greco, Chief Executive Officer

Guests (per the sign-in sheets)

Ginny Foat, Mizell Senior Center  
Jack Newby, Mizell Senior Center  
Dick Olds, MD, University of California Riverside  
Rick Daniels, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Yvonne Parks, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Fred Jandt, California State University San Bernardino Palm Desert Campus  
David Brinkman, Desert Aids Project  
Joy Hamilton, MD, Desert Aids Project  
Sofia Campos, United Cerebral Palsy of the Inland Empire  
Bill Wickham, Piranha Swim Club  
Karolee Sowle, Desert Regional Medical Center  
Frank Ercoli, MD, Desert Regional Medical Center  
Wanda Grant, Palm Springs Unified School District  
Brian Harnik, Boys and Girls Club of Coachella Valley  
Phyllis Guze, MD, University of California Riverside  
Paul Lyons, University of California Riverside  
Donna Wick, University of California Riverside

Neal Schiller, University of California Riverside  
Raul Ruiz, MD, University of California Riverside  
Fred DeHaro, Borrego Community Health Foundation  
Maria Macias, Student, University of California Riverside  
Barbara Allen, Indian Wells Rotary Club  
Robert Allen, Indian Wells Rotary Club  
Joshua Legua, Future Physician Leaders program  
K. T. Valdez Benhunua, Student, HCC/FPL/RAILES  
Tizol DeAztlan, DeAztlan Consulting  
Albert Chevez, University of California Riverside  
Jocelyn Narashige, University of California Riverside  
Ruth Kwake, Cathedral City High School  
Khoa Nguyen, University of California Riverside  
Mitch Blumberg, Desert ARC  
C W Porter, Community Member  
Juan DeLara, Federated Insurance  
Claudia Galvez, Clinicas De Salud Del Pueblo  
Amalia Ruiz Deaztlan, Deaztlan Consulting  
Teresa Cofield, University of California Riverside

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Director Rubenstein.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A Motion was made by Committee member Taylor and seconded by Directory Grayman to approve the agenda. Motion was approved.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Bill Wickham, of the Piranha Swim Team, addressed the Committee regarding a grant request from his organization; the grant request has not been processed as Piranha Swim Team does not have the required audited financial statements. Mr. Wickham requested the Committee consider the request with the organization's tax returns supplementing for the audited financial statements. Chairman Rubenstein informed Mr. Wickham that the Board of Directors will be reviewing the current grant requirements at a future Board meeting and that District Staff will inform him of the outcome.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A Motion was made by Director Grayman and seconded by Committee member Toledo to approve the minutes of June 14, 2011 as submitted. Motion was approved.

## GRANTS

### a. Grant administration reports

Members received the latest update of current active grants.

### b. Progress Reports

Chairman Rubenstein reviewed the grant progress reports (as provided in the packet) from:

- Stroke Recovery Center, Grant #625
- Health Assessment Resource Center, Grant #370

### c. Final grant reports

Chairman Rubenstein reviewed the final grant reports from:

- Family Services of the Desert, Grant #563
- Jewish Family Services of San Diego, Grant #562

### d. Pending requests for consideration

ID# 671. The Committee reviewed a request for \$175,068 from the Mizell Senior Center to support Meals on Wheels. A Motion was made by Committee member Taylor and seconded by Committee member Howe to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved.

ID# 679. The Committee reviewed a request for \$12,000,000 from the University of California, Riverside, School of Medicine to support Imagining the Future of Medicine for the Coachella Valley and Surrounding Communities.

Dean Olds provided an overview of the UCR School of Medicine goals, the accreditation process and the current financial need that would allow the accreditation process to move forward (presentation attached). Members of the Community, including Dr. Raul Ruiz, Karolee Sowle, Dr. Frank Ercoli, Fred DeHaro and current pre-med college students spoke in support of the UCR School of Medicine.

Committee members expressed concern regarding the large dollar amount of funding, and if funded the impact this would have on local non-profit organizations' funding requests.

In response to an inquiry regarding available District funds, Chairman Rubenstein gave an explanation of the Desert Healthcare District's source of funds and financial responsibility in regards to the current 30-year lease agreement with Tenet Healthcare Corporation (signed in 1997). As Chairman Rubenstein explained:

- The District receives funds through property tax dollars. These funds have been decreasing and are anticipated to continue to decrease due to the current housing market decline/foreclosures.
- The District also has a source of income through investments; the current economic market is not strong so this also is not anticipated to increase and may, in fact, decline.

- Desert Regional Medical Center is leased to Tenet Healthcare Corporation (Tenet); at the time of the execution of agreement, Tenet pre-paid the rent for the entire 30 year length of the lease. At the time the lease expires, should it be prior to the end of the lease, the prorated funds will need to be refunded. Additionally, the District will have the financial obligation to repay Tenet for capital improvements to the facility (at the lower of book value or current market value) and then to operate the facility (with a delayed revenue stream of 3-6 months during the transition period). The anticipated financial obligation and funds necessary to continue operations at the end of the lease period is expected to be over \$100 million.

Chairman Rubenstein stressed that the funds the District has in the budget for facilities replacement are not readily available for use. The District has an obligation to insure that the hospital is open and available for the people.

The Committee expressed support for the School of Medicine in general but has concerns regarding the amount of funds requested. The Committee felt a joint study session with the Board of Directors to fully explore the details of the request and the financial impact of funding is necessary prior to making a recommendation.

A Motion was made by Director Grayman and seconded by Committee member Taylor to recommend a joint study session be held consisting of members of the Board and the Program Committee to further study if and how the funding of this request may be accomplished. Motion was approved.

ID# 668. The Committee reviewed a preliminary request for approximately \$1,200,000 from the City of Desert Hot Springs to support the Executive Director position at the Desert Hot Springs Wellness Center. Mr. Daniels outlined the current medical needs of the City of Desert Hot Springs, focusing on the need for wellness and education. Representatives of Desert Hot Springs will work with District Staff to complete a grant application for this request.

ID# 668. The Committee reviewed a request for \$300,000 from California State University, San Bernardino, Palm Desert Campus to support the Bachelors of Science, Nursing, three year program. A Motion was made by Director Grayman and seconded by Committee member Toledo to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved.

ID# 669. The Committee reviewed a request for \$151,438.72, a two-year project, from the Desert AIDS Project to support Electronic Medical Records Management. A Motion was made by Committee member Taylor and seconded by Committee member Keane to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved.

ID# 677. The Committee reviewed a request for \$28,000 from the United Cerebral Palsy of the Inland Empire to support the Palm Springs Skills Builders/Community Integration Program. A Motion was made by Committee member Greer and seconded by Committee member Keane to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

None

**STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

DRAFT