



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 28, 2020**

<b>Directors Present – Video Conference</b>	<b>District Staff Present – Video Conference</b>	<b>Absent</b>
President Leticia De Lara Vice-President/Secretary Karen Borja Treasurer Mark Matthews Director Carole Rogers, RN Director Evett PerezGil Director Les Zendle, MD Director Arthur Shorr	Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO Chris Christensen, CAO Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer Will Dean, Marketing and Communications Director Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Outreach Director Eric Taylor, Accounting Manager Meghan Kane, Programs and Research Analyst Vanessa Smith, Special Projects and Program Manager Ericka Huskey, Administrative and Program Assistant Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board  <u>Legal Counsel</u> Jeff Scott	

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>A. Call to Order</b>	President De Lara called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.	
<b>Roll Call</b>	The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all Directors' present.	
<b>B. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	President De Lara asked those in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.	
<b>C. Approval of Agenda</b>	President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	<b>#20-68 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director Zendle to approve the agenda.</b> <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b> <b>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b>



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<b>D. Public Comment</b>	Silvia Paz, Executive Director, Alianza, recommends considering the economic instability when budgeting funds as part of the work of the District.	
<b>E. Consent Agenda</b> 1. <b>BOARD MINUTES</b> a. <b>Board of Directors Meeting – March 24, 2020</b> b. <b>Special Meeting of the Board of Directors – April 3, 2020</b> c. <b>Special Meeting of the Board of Directors – April 13, 2020</b>	<p>President De Lara requested a revision to the April 3 minutes for funding the collaborative and FQHCs as she recused herself from discussions and the vote.</p> <p>Director Rogers explained the quote for Governor Cuomo on the March 24 meeting minutes stating action and not words.</p> <p>President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.</p>	<p><b>#20-69 MOTION WAS MADE by Director PerezGil and seconded by Director Zendle to approve the consent meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<b>F. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</b> 1. Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) Ballot for a Special District Member, Vice-President Borja, and an Alternate Special District Member, Director Shorr to serve on the LAFCO Commission – Due Date May 5  2. Community Health Needs Assessment, Jenna LeComte-Hinely, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, Health Assessment and Research Communities  3. Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) Office	<p>Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO, explained the LAFCO ballot for a Special District Member and an Alternate Member. The ballot has been submitted by the May 5<sup>th</sup> deadline.</p> <p>Jenna LeComte-Hinely, PhD, CEO, HARC, provided an overview of the Community Health Needs Assessment and the modifications since December. The Advisory Council meetings, data, and other aspects of the Assessment were discussed.</p>	<p><b>#20-70 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by</b></p>



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Lease – 1,028 Sq. Ft. – 12 Month – \$2,000 Per Month	<p>President De Lara rescued herself from the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) office lease. Dr. Bárzaga explained that the current office occupancy at the RAP office is small, with the expansion for staff, a larger office is necessary. The lease term is a 12-month lease commencing on May 31 with automatic renewal or termination with notice at \$2k per month and will not increase with a yearly renewal.</p> <p>Public Comment: Silvia Paz, Executive Director, Alianza, inquired whether the District considered other locations in the east Valley. Dr. Barzaga explained that the District has been leasing an office at the RAP Foundation for the past 2 years, and a larger space is necessary as the District continues to expand.</p>	<p><b>Director Shorr to approve the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) Office Lease – 1,208 Sq. Ft. – 12 Month – \$2,000 Per Month Motion passed 6-1.</b>  <b>AYES – 6 Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</b>  <b>NOES – 0</b>  <b>ABSENT – 0</b>  <b>RECUSAL – 1 President De Lara</b></p>
<b>G. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</b>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center, provided an update on the recent activities, which includes testing 438 patients for COVID-19, 379 negative cases and 49 positive tests. There are currently 10 COVID-19 patients inhouse. The hospital will begin to resume deferred healthcare focusing on the protocols set by the California Department of Public Health, Riverside County, Center for Disease and Control, governing authority, and others for surgical work and onboarding to meet the guidelines.</p>	
<b>H. COVID-19 Updates</b>		



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1. FQHCs Core Operating Support Grants (Borrego Health, Desert AIDS Project, and Clinicas De Salud)	Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided an update on the funding allocations to the Federally Qualified Health Centers.	
2. FQHCs Expansion of COVID-19 Testing	Dr. Foltz, Internal Medicine & Infectious Disease, Desert AIDS Project (DAP), explained the work DAP is doing on COVID-19 testing. Gary Rotto, Vice-President of Policy, provided additional information, such as the dates and times of testing.	
3. FIND Food Bank Ending Hunger Today, Tomorrow, and for a Lifetime – Latest Activities	Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the staff report on the latest activities for FIND Food Bank. Debbie Espinosa, Executive Director, FIND Food Bank, provided an update on the grant activities and preparations for the summer.  Silvia Paz, Executive Director, Alianza, thanked the District for supporting FIND Food bank.	
4. Riverside University Health System (RUHS) Drive-Thru Testing	Dr. Bárzaga explained that the District invited Riverside University Health Systems (RUHS) Public Health to provide an update on COVID-19 in Riverside County and the Coachella Valley; however, Dr. Kaiser, Riverside County Public Health Officer, Department of Public Health, had a conflict and provided a report that is included in the packet.  Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, provided an update on the antibody testing and other specifics on a public	



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	health recovery plan to mirror the governor's four phases.	
5. Regional Economic Protection Plan, Heather Vaikona, President and CEO, Lift to Rise	Heather Vaikona, President and CEO, Lift to Rise, provided a presentation on the updates of the Regional Economic Protection Plan outlining the need for housing-related costs, and a public-private partnership.	
6. Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) COVID-19 Collaborative Fund	Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) Collaborative Fund match approval of \$100,000, totaling \$200,000 in the collective, with \$85,000 remaining, opening the fund for applications, and 29 households have applied to date.	
7. Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the Coachella Valley – \$30,000	Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained the \$30,000 allocation, including donations due to the challenges of purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE). 2,100 face shields were approved through a Nike grant, and the District will receive the shipments in 150 increments. The District received approval from Panda Express for donations of 10,000 respirators and surgical masks.	
8. DHCD COVID-19 Website Resource Center	Dr. Bárzaga, explained the \$50,000 contract to CV Strategies for the website resource center for COVID-19 information in English and Spanish, also creating resources for the agricultural community, such as	



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9. Community Donations of Medical Supplies	<p>challenges with internet access. The District will be working with FIND Food Bank to ensure the needs are met to educate agricultural workers.</p> <p>Will Dean, Communications and Marketing Director, explained that the District received \$500, oxygen, cups, razors, and toothbrushes; however, the District is not receiving enough supplies, but continue to accept the donations, providing them with a donation tax letter for tax filing purposes.</p>	
<b>I. Legal Comments and Reports</b>	<p>Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, described his legislative report concerning next Monday, May 4, as the legislators return date with direction to limit their bills to five with the emphasis on the COVID-19 crisis.</p>	
<b>J. Immediate Issues and Comments</b>	<p>Director Zendle encouraged staff to commence the committee meetings again as the District is not only focused on COVID-19.</p> <p>President De Lara explained that discussions with the CEO involved the committees and other items to bring forward to the Board.</p>	
<b>K. Adjournment</b>	<p>President De Lara adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Audio recording available on the website at</b>  <a href="http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents">http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</a></p>

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

Karen Borja, Vice-President/Secretary  
Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board*