



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 26, 2020**

Directors Present – Video Conference	District Staff Present – Video Conference	Absent
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. Bázquez, 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 Erica Huskey, Administrative and Program Assistant Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board  <u>Legal Counsel</u> Jeff Scott	

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>A. Call to Order</b>  <b>Roll Call</b>	President De Lara called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.  The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all Directors' present except Director Matthews, who joined the meeting shortly after roll call.	
<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>#20-71 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda.            Motion passed unanimously.            AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</b>



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<p><b>for the Expansion of the Regional Economic Protection Plan Collaborative Fund</b></p>	<p>Heather Vaikona, Executive Director, Lift to Rise, explained that funds were disbursed to over 3,500 households, and Lift to Rise received over 6,000 applications with 100 volunteers assisting in the efforts.</p> <p>Public Comments were read and provided by the following:          Maria Rodriguez          Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez          Mariela Ceballos          Leslie Martinez, Policy Associate, Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability          Joselyn Vargas, Director of External Relations, Lift to Rise, and Thermal resident</p>	<p><b>Regional Economic Protection Plan Collaborative Fund.</b>  <b>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>ABSTAIN – 1 President De Lara</b></p>
<p><b>b. Consideration to approve a \$150,000 Match to Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees Partnership (GCIR) to support recipients in Coachella Valley</b></p>	<p>Dr. Bázaga, CEO, described the strategic partnership opportunity with a nonprofit created by several foundations that support the work of immigrants and refugees. Farmworkers represent a significant portion of the Coachella Valley, furthering explaining the partnership with matching dollars and the collaborators. All immigrants will receive \$500 each, and the District can ensure that the funding is available to the residents of the Coachella Valley.</p>	

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	<p>Silvia Paz, Executive Director, Alianza, a recipient to distribute funding to those impacted by COVID-19, described the match with Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees and the recipients of the funds.</p> <p>The Board considered possible violations of AB 2019, even during times of emergency whereas, legal counsel explained that at this time, there are emergency matters that require Board approval and are accepted without a recommendation from the committee. Director Matthews explained that although it is a worthy cause with Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees, the way District funding functions, the grant impacts the entire grant budget, and he will not support the funding.</p> <p>Public Comments were read and provided by the following: Brad Anderson, District Resident Maggie Hamilton, District Resident Megan Beaman-Jacinto, Coachella City Councilmember</p>	<p><b>#20-74 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve \$150,000 Match to Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees Partnership (GCIRP) and amended to include directing staff to seek reassurances with Alianza that the need, regardless of immigrations status will support recipients in the Coachella Valley. Motion passed 6-1. AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr ABSTAIN – 1 Director Matthews</b></p>
<p><b>c. Consideration to approve a \$150,000 allocation to Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Grant</b></p>	<p>Dr. Bázquez, CEO, explained the current structure, and vulnerability due to COVID-19 with Volunteers in Medicine, also serving the uninsured</p>	<p><b>#20-75 MOTION WAS MADE by Vice-President Borja and seconded by Director Matthews to approve to Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Grant Request for a \$150,000</b></p>





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	<p>Affairs Officer, Clinicas De Salud del Pueblo, explained that the organization hired additional staff to assist with the need, such as clinic overflow, personal protective equipment, expanded oral health virtual platforms, and drive-thru clinics.</p>	
<p><b>G. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</b></p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center, provided an update on the recent activities. The hospital has maintained a stable level with of in-patient COVID-19 or persons under investigation for COVID-19. The complete protocol is in place for COVID, and as the state enters the next phase of reopening the community, onboarding services have returned, offering prescheduled procedures, acute rehab unit, and reintroducing outpatient speech services, physical therapy, operating outpatient imaging, and wound care as a measured approached. The hospital has reduced schedules to accommodate physical distancing for those receiving services and offering current clinical treatments for treating COVID-19. The procurement of a million-dollar capital request for expansion of telemonitoring and anesthetic machines in the operating room was moved forward. The hospital has entered an agreement with Loma Linda Medical</p>	

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	<p>University Medical Center for pediatric hospitalist services. Lastly, the completion of the ER remodel is on schedule for concluding in mid-June while fully operational.</p>	
<p><b>H. Program Committee</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2020</b></li> <li><b>2. Letters of Intent and Other Funding Requests</b></li> <li><b>3. Grants Payment Schedule</b></li> <li><b>4. Regional Access Project Foundation Collaborative Fund Update</b></li> <li><b>5. Consideration to approve Grant #1085 – Olive Crest Treatment Center: General Support for Mental Health Services to Vulnerable Children and Families in the Coachella Valley – \$50,000</b></li> <li><b>6. Consideration to approve Grant #1057 – Desert Cancer Foundation: Patient Assistance Program –</b></li> </ol>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga provided an overview of the May 12, Program Committee meeting minutes, the letters of intent, funding requests, and the grants payment schedule.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga described the Regional Access Project Foundation’s (RAP) collaborative, the initial funding, and the second round of funding as illustrated in the staff report.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, provided an overview of the \$50,000 grant request from Olive Crest Treatment Center for general support and mental health services to vulnerable children and families in the Coachella Valley.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the Desert Cancer Foundation’s grant request for \$150,000 with the</p>	<p><b>#20-76 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Matthews to approve Grant #1085 – Olive Crest Treatment Center: General Support for Mental Health Services to Vulnerable Children and Families in Coachella Valley – \$50,000 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> <p><b>#20-77 MOTION WAS MADE by Vice-President Borja and seconded by Director Matthews to approve Grant #1057 – Desert Cancer</b></p>

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<p><b>\$150,000</b></p> <p><b>7. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) Cooling Centers – Consideration to approve a \$20,000 reserve fund for incidental expenses of the Overnight Cooling Centers</b></p> <p><b>I. Strategic Planning Committee</b></p> <p><b>1. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2020</b></p> <p><b>2. Non-Profit Organizations COVID-19 Community Survey Results</b></p>	<p>patient assistance program as recommended by the Program Committee.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained the report for Greg Rodriguez’s request for a \$20,000 reserve of the cooling centers for incidental expenses, also explaining last year’s support of the Cooling Centers by the District.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, Government Affairs and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, explained the success of the program last year, and this year, the county general fund is not available, so other opportunities are underway, such as with the CARES ACT and other options.</p> <p>Director Zendle explained the minutes of the May 13, Strategic Planning Committee meeting, which includes a community survey and organizations impacted by COVID-19, leading into other strategic ideas, presenting Dr. Bárzaga to provide the recommendations.</p>	<p><b>Foundation – Patient Assistance Program - \$150k.</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></p> <p><b>#20-77 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Shorr to approve a \$20,000 fund for incidental expenses of Overnight Cooling Centers</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></p>
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<p><b>2. Discussions and Recommendations for Grantmaking</b></p> <p><b>3. Trends in FY 20-21 Equity, Fairness, Transparency, and Accountability in Grantmaking</b></p>	<p>Dr. Brzsaga, CEO, highlighted the important aspects of the COVID-19 community survey, such as high dependency on grant revenue, and all organizations surveyed impacted by COVID-19. Most organizations have received some form of funding, further describing the \$4M allocation recommendations in pockets from the grantmaking program, allocating additional funds to the Foundation, and outlining the trends for equity, fairness, transparency, and accountability in the District’s grantmaking.</p> <p>Director Zendle explained that the recommendations from the committee as an interim period between the 3-year strategic goals and this year, and the next set of strategic goals to prepare the budget for the coming year. It should be viewed as an interim proposal, and the Board will have plenty of time to review the community health needs assessment at the end of the year to reprioritize for the next 3 years.</p> <p>The committee discussed housing and homelessness, and President De Lara explained that staff has identified the key areas to address transparency and accountability, and she hopes that the Board will adopt the recommendations as an</p>	
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	<p>are an issue, and a study session for educational purposes of district-wide funding is necessary.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, Government Affairs and Public Policy, Officer of Supervisor Perez, supports the discretion of the District to fund the Coachella Valley District-wide.</p>	
<p><b>J. F&amp;A</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2020</b></li> <li><b>2. Desert Hospital Investment Portfolios, Highmark Capital Management – March 31, 2020</b></li> <li><b>3. FY 2020-2021 Annual Budget Review and Consideration for Approval</b></li> </ol>	<p>Director Matthews explained that the minutes of the meeting are in the packet and provided an overview of the investment plan.</p> <p>Director Matthews provided an overview of the FY 20-21 annual budget in the packet for review.</p> <p>The directors discussed the budget considering the economic downturn and potential tax reductions.</p>	<p><b>#20-79 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Matthews approved the FY 2020-2021 Annual Budget. 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>
<p><b>K. Old Business</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) – CV Link Project Q1 Report</b></li> </ol>	<p>Chris Christensen, CAO, explained that the Q1 CV Link report is included in the packet, and Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) has submitted a grant payment request for \$1.2M.</p>	



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	<p>Director PerezGil inquired on an updated CVLINK budget for the guardrails and restrooms, and if the revised plans and budget have been presented to the District.</p> <p>The Board suggested that staff set up a meeting with CVAG to explain the specifics and inquire about updated financials.</p>	
<b>L. Immediate Issues and Comments</b>	There were no immediate issues and comment.	
<b>M. Adjournment</b>	President De Lara adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.	<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*