

Directors Present – Video Conference	District Staff Present – Video Conference	Absent
President Leticia De Lara	Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO	Director Evett
Vice-President/Secretary Karen Borja	Chris Christensen, CAO	PerezGil
Treasurer Mark Matthews	Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer	
Director Carole Rogers, RN	Will Dean, Marketing and	
Director Les Zendle, MD	Communications Director	
Director Arthur Shorr	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
A. Call to Order	President De Lara called the	
	meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.	
Roll Call	The Clerk of the Board called	
	the roll with all Directors'	
	present except Director	
	PerezGil.	
B. Pledge of Allegiance	President De Lara asked those	
	in attendance to join in the	
	Pledge of Allegiance.	
C. Approval of Agenda	President De Lara asked for a	#20-91 MOTION WAS MADE by
	motion to approve the	Director Zendle and seconded by
	agenda.	Director Matthews to approve the
		agenda.
		Motion passed unanimously.
		AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-
		President Borja, Director
		Matthews, Director Rogers,
		Director Zendle, and Director Shorr
		NOES – 0
		ABSENT – 1 Director PerezGil



	September 22, 2020	
D. Public Comment	There was no public comment	
	for items not listed on the	
	agenda.	
Consent Agenda		
1. BOARD MINUTES	President De Lara asked for a	#20-92 MOTION WAS MADE by
<ul><li>a. Board of Directors – July 28,</li></ul>	motion to approve the	Director Shorr and seconded by
2020	consent agenda with the Clerk	Director Rogers to approve the
b. Special Meeting of the Board	of Board noting corrections to	consent agenda with the
of Directors – August 25, 2020	the August 25, Special	amendment to the minutes.
2. FINANCIALS	Meeting of the Board Minutes	Motion passed unanimously.
a. Approval of the July and	for Motion 20-96 passing 5-2	AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-
August 2020 Financial	with Director Zendle	President Borja, Director
Statements – F&A Approved	abstaining.	Matthews, Director Rogers,
September 08, 2020		Director Zendle, and Director Shorr
3. LAS PALMAS MEDICAL PLAZA		NOES – 0
a. Service Agreement		ABSENT – 1 Director PerezGil
Addendum - Magdalena		
Martinez dba Personnel 411		
HR Consulting – \$833.33 per		
month		
b. LPMP Lease Agreement –		
LABCORP – 3 Year Lease		
c. LPMP – Early Lease		
Termination Agreement –		
Dennis Spurgin		
d. LPMP - Temporary Lease		
Agreement – Arrowhead		
Evaluation Services, Inc.		
F. Desert Healthcare District CEO		
Report		
1. Local Area Formation	Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO,	
Commission (LAFCO)	described the update of the	
Municipal Services Review	Local Area Formation	
(MSR) Review Update	Commission (LACFO)	
	Municipal Services Review and	
	the comprehensive report of	
	the District and Desert	
	Regional Medical Center.	
2. Coordination of DHCD efforts	Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained	
to ensure community access	the access to healthcare by	
	federally qualified health	
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to COVID-19 testing and	centers (FQHC) for COVID-19	
healthcare	testing, describing the stigma	
	and legal liabilities with the	
	farm working community and	
	coordination with other	
	community partners.	
	community partitions:	
	Director Zendle thanked the	
	CEO and indicated that there	
	is some confusion about	
	whether the County can only	
	count polymerase chain	
	reaction (PCR) tests toward its	
	testing goals in the	
	community. Additionally, it	
	would be helpful for the	
	County to share anecdotes of	
	how the community testing	
	efforts have led to the	
	identification of asymptomatic	
	coronavirus positive people,	
	who they have contact	
	•	
	tracing, isolation and	
	treatment, further preventing	
	the spread of the virus which	
	could also encourage others	
	to get tested. Stories from the	
	community could assist	
	others, explaining the	
	possibility of inviting them to	
	the next Board meeting.	
	3	
3. Community Health Needs	President De Lara thanked	
Assessment and Health	Director Zendle and the CEO	
Improvement Plan – Timeline	for the recent editorial on	
1		
Update	testing to inform the	
	community, including the	
	meeting hosted by the County	
	Supervisor for input and	
	questions, and highlighting	
	the need for policies with the	
	safety and the health of the	
	public as the number one	
	priority.	
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Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained that Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC) has begun to engage the community with focus groups that are coordinated and scheduled. A rough draft report is available for guidance on the facts and data, how the community will react to the data, and to continue working with community participation as much as possible.

President De Lara explained that she reached out to the CEO concerning involvement and if the Board has thoughts about organizations or individuals that are not included in the focus groups to contact the CEO.

Director Zendle inquired on outreach to city council members and other elected officials to provide feedback with Dr. Bárzaga explaining that the school districts have been contacted, and he will discuss other mechanisms with HARC.

4. Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) COVID-19 Emergency Collaborative Update Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained the organizations benefiting from the Regional Access Projects' (RAP) COVID-19 emergency collaborative funding and the funding impact with organizational operations.



5. DHCD 20-Year Historical Grant Report

Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided an overview of the District's 20-year historical grant report, explaining that staff has worked on the report, which is available to the public and published on the website.

Approximately \$80M in grants has been awarded to the community over 20-years.

 Lift to Rise Rental Assistance Program – Updates and Enrollment Events Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the report that Lift to Rise provided to address the economic instability due to COVID-19, securing over \$13M, and distributing \$1M to over 4,000 households.

Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Outreach Director is working with Lift to Rise and is assisting with reviewing applications and providing feedback to the community.

Public Comments:
Tayor Libolt Varner, Regional and Affordable Housing
Planner, Lift to Rise, thanked the District and Board,
explaining the high housing costs and personal struggles of the rent burdened.

Rubyd Olvera, Community and Engagement Coordinator, Lift to Rise, extended her gratitude to the District for their support as an option during the pandemic.

Heather Vaikona, President & CEO, reiterated the comments of the Lift to Rise staff and



7. Association of California
Healthcare Districts (ACHD)
Annual "Virtual" Meeting –
September 23-25

thanked Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Outreach Director, for his assistance.

8. Special Meeting of the Board

- Board and Communications

Workshop with Rauch

Communications 
September 23

Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) virtual annual meeting taking place this week.

California Special Districts
 Association (CSDA) – DHCD
 Certification Presentation,
 Chris Palmer, Senior Public
 Affairs Field Coordinator,
 CSDA

Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided an overview of the upcoming Workshop on Board development and governance in terms of working together, and programs to respond to the needs of the community.

Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) certification program the District recently received, introducing Chris Palmer, Senior Public Affairs Field Coordinator, CSDA. Mr. Palmer described the requirements listed on the District's website, such as the financials, Board minutes, and packets, and going above and beyond with the District's outreach with emails to the constituents and community members, including transparency and accountability. On behalf of the CSDA, Mr. Palmer presented the District with its certificate of certification.



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	President De Lara thanked the	
	staff and the community for	
	their work and interest in the	
	District's endeavors.	
G. Desert Regional Medical Center	Michele Finney, CEO, Desert	
CEO Report	Care Network, Desert Regional	
	Medical Center, provided an	
	update explaining the	
	fabulous work of the District	
	and congratulating to the	
	Board and Staff on their CSDA	
	certification. The COVID	
	positivity and PUI census are	
	in the single digits, there is not	
	an influx from the holiday, and	
	several units have returned to	
	standard operations.	
	Pediatrics reopened to	
	admissions and is currently	
	staffed with Loma Linda	
	University Medical Center	
	pediatric hospitalist. The	
	Acute Rehab Unit was moved	
	back to its home location, and	
	the Family Residence program	
	is resuming the backpack	
	medicine program and visiting	
	those in need at parks and	
	churches. DRMC welcomed a	
	new Assistant Chief Nursing	
	Officer, Kathleen Moore, with	
	20-years of ICU, ED, and	
	Pediatrics experience. Ms.	
	Moore will focus on working	
	with the Quality and Safety	
	Officers on clinical practice	
	and protocol advancement to	
	elevate the overall practice of	
	nursing. The county is moving	
	from Tier 1 to Tier 2 for	
	reopening with DRMC	
	monitoring the trend and	
	reevaluating some of the	
	visitor restrictions, including	
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tier two's impact. The **Emergency Room** refurbishment with paint, flooring, and laminates is nearing completion. As the flu season approaches, DRMC is partnering with the county and other health care facilities to stress the importance of the flu vaccination, which is strongly recommended as appropriate. DRMC will be vaccinating the hospital employees and physicians starting October 5. Early indications are counties that couple flu vaccinations with masking, distancing, and handwashing are, thus far, experiencing a mild flu season. Historically, only 45% of U.S. adults receive the vaccination, and everyone needs to do their part to avoid a possible Twin-Demic. Symptoms of the flu and COVID have many similarities; thus, DRMC is prepared to test for both.

Director Rogers explained the county tiers and shared a press release from the city of Palm Springs detailing the colored tiers.

Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Supervisor Perez's Office, explained that over 100 people attended the Supervisor's meeting concerning reopening the economy, and the matter may



		September 22, 2020	<u> </u>
		be on the agenda at the	
		October 6 meeting.	
H. Des	ert Regional Medical Center	Director Rogers provided an	
Gove	erning Board of Directors	overview of the Governing	
Repo	ort	Board meeting explaining that	
		the meeting agenda items for	
		financial standards, quality	
		reports, medical staffing, and	
		the new approval of Dr.	
		Levinsons' credentials to the	
		psychiatry staff for behavioral	
		health purposes. The four tiers	
		from Riverside County have	
		explained, as well as the news	
		release from the city of Palm	
		Springs.	
I.1. Pro	ogram Committee		
1.	Draft Meeting Minutes -	Donna Craig, Chief Program	
	September 08, 2020	Officer, inquired on any	
		questions concerning the	
2.	Funding Requests	meeting minutes, explaining	
		the funding requests	
3.	Progress and Final Report	withdrawals due to operations	
		and COVID. Vice-President	
4.	Grants Payment Schedule	Borja explained the	
		committees request to add a	
		line item for the grant	
		program funding strategic	
		areas.	
5.	Consideration to approve	Donna Craig, Chief Program	#20-93 MOTION WAS MADE by
	Grant #1139 –	Officer, described the one-	Director Zendle and seconded by
	California State University San	year project for the nursing	Director Borja to approve Grant
	Bernardino Palm Desert	students, the street medicine	#1139 – California State University
	Campus (CSUSB-PD) Street	partnerships, program	San Bernardino Palm Desert
	Medicine Program - \$50,000	outreach, and learning and	Campus (CSUSB-PD) Street
		reaching out to vulnerable	Medicine Program - \$50,000
		populations.	Motion passed unanimously.
			AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-
			President Borja, Director
			Matthews, Director Rogers,
			Director Zendle, and Director Shorr
			NOES – 0



#### I.2. Finance & Administration

- 1. Draft Meeting Minutes September 08, 2020
- 2. Retirement Protection Plan -Actuarial Valuation Report -June 30, 2020
- 3. Consideration to approve the Consulting Services
  Agreement Strategies 360 Voter Education Project NTE \$30,000

Director Matthews described the F&A Committee meeting minutes, explaining the Retirement Protection Plan Actuarial Valuation Report, and the other matters approved in the consent agenda.

Director Matthews explained the failed motion in the F&A Committee meeting, permitting Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, to describe the specifics of the consulting services agreement.

Dr. Bárzaga described the specifics of the consulting services agreement discussed in the F&A Committee, and at the request of the Board, with Vice-President Borja's recommendation to use \$30k of unexpended funding for the unopposed zones towards District education in Zone 3.

Public Comments:
Heather Vaikona, President
and CEO, Lift to Rise,
described the disconnect on
the ballot, discissions that
affect the Valley long-term,
the sense of confusion, fear of
going to the polls, and she
supports the use of funding
for educating the public.

After a lengthy discussion as a responsible authority, voting safely, involvement in the

ABSENT – 1 Director PerezGil

#20-94 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Vice-President Borja to approve Consulting Services Agreement – Strategies 360 – Voter Education Project – NTE \$30,000 Motion failed 3-3.

AYES – 3 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, and Director Rogers

NOES – 3 Director Matthews,

Director Zendle, and Director Shorr

ABSENT – 1 Director PerezGil



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J. Old Business	District, staff's past education in the community not associated with the election, educating in the entire District boundaries, the timing and impact, sponsoring a virtual town hall meeting on education with members of the community providing feedback, and the importance of educating the community, Director Rogers motioned to approved the service agreement with Strategies 360.	
1. 2020 Census – Coachella Valley – September 30, count end date	Communications Manager, Alianza, described the response rate, the goal of reaching the 2010 response rate, especially in the Valley due to the challenges with this particular Census, such as fears with citizenship and immigration, and with COVID, the approach was changed, further describing the due date and having an as accurate account as possible. Maria Lemus, Executive	
	Director, Vision y Compromiso, provided an update on the promotoras on the project and the continuing outreach efforts.  Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, explained that the county implemented an	



aggressive program for a direct shelter count and the outreach workers performing the census in homeless encampments.

President De Lara thanked the organizations for their outreach in a different and challenging climate with COVID and the antimmigration policies, applauding their efforts.

2. Update on the District's History Book

Will Dean, Communications and Marketing Director, explained the draft history book, the committee's review, and feedback, the second draft, and the committees current review with notes compiled for the writer. The history book is on track for completion in early 2021.

 Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) – CV Link Quarterly (Q2) Progress Report Erica Felci, Governmental Projects Manager, Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), described the quarterly report with the most recent updates and the goal of completing 20 miles in 2020.

Director Shorr specified that although the District has committed to the CVLink financial contribution, CVAG has not received the entire funding from the District to date, suggesting revising the list on the financial report for the project to committed funding as it misrepresents



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		September 22, 2020	
		the District, which is more	
		accurate.	
K. New Bus	siness		
four exte UCR COV wor	asideration to approve a r (4) month no-cost grant ension for Grant #1124 – R School of Medicine – I/ID-19 Testing for Farm rking Communities in Eastern Coachella Valley	Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, provided an overview of the no-cost grant extension with UCR School of Medicine for COVID-19 testing in farm working communities due to the challenges early-on to continue the work through February 2021.	#20-95 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Matthews to approve a four (4) month no-cost grants extension for Grant #1124 – UCR School of Medicine – COVID-19 Testing for Farm working Communities in the Eastern Coachella Valley Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice- President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director PerezGil
L. Legal			
_	islative Update	Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel,	
1. 205.	Stative opaute	described the recent legislation, including SB 758 and SB 977 that failed in the state senate.	
		Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, inquired on SB 855 – Wiener: health coverage for	
		mental health and substance abuse disorders. Mr. Scott will follow the bill and provided an update.	
M. Immedia	ate Issues and Comments	Director Zendle would like the	
		board to support and get	
		involved in the Ivy project –	
		an old hotel on Palm Canyon	
		housing people experience homelessness, and the	
		importance of continuing to	
		support the issue of	
		homelessness when the	
			Dago 12 of 15



matter comes forth to the city of Palm Springs.

President De Lara would like to send an official letter from the Board to the City supporting the lvy project.

Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, suggests a Workshop on affordable housing given the complex and broad issue that includes a conversation to dig deeper, and how the work of the city of Palm Springs fits with the issues of the District, such as a regional approach than merely supporting one matter.

**Public Comments:** 

Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, explained that the project is 85-units that includes some efficiency components, and a letter from the District would assist, including a broader scope that Dr. Bárzaga has mentioned. It is a county project working in partnership with the city. Due

to the CARES Act requestions, funding must be expended by

December 30.

Heather Vaikona, President and CEO, Lift to Rise, explained that the organization would be thrilled to participate in a session on the projects in the Coachella Valley, and the Housing



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	Collaborative Network (CAN)	
	contribution in the workshop.	
	The Board's consensus is to	
	send a letter to the City	
	supporting the Ivy project for	
	housing and establish a	
	Workshop with Lift to Rise.	
	President De Lara requests a	
	policy on issues concerning	
	the District, the options, and	
	when it is appropriate for the	
	CEO to act, when it is	
	appropriated for the Board to	
	act as a whole, and signature	
	authority, or consensus for	
	adherence by the Board.	
	·	
	Director Zendle reminded and	
	encouraged everyone to	
	obtain a flu shot.	
N. Adjournment	President De Lara adjourned	Audio recording available on the
	the meeting at 7:48 p.m. in	website at
	memory of Supreme Court	http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-
	Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg,	<u>Documents</u>
	her life and work, noting that	
	she will be missed.	
	-	

	DocuSigned by:	
ATTEST:	Earen Bona 68762779F3F46C	
	Karen Borja, Vice-President/Secretary	
	Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors	

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