



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 25, 2021**

Directors Present – Video Conference	District Staff Present – Video Conference	Absent
President Leticia De Lara Vice-President/Secretary Karen Borja Director Arthur Shorr Director Carole Rogers, RN Director Les Zendle, MD Director Evett PerezGil Director Carmina Zavala	Conrado E. Bázquez, MD, CEO Chris Christensen, CAO Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer Alejandro Espinoza, Chief of Community Engagement Jana Trew, Senior Program Officer Will Dean, Marketing and Communications Director Meghan Kane, Programs and Research Analyst 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 5:30 p.m.  The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all Directors' present.	
<b>B. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	President De Lara led the Pledge of Allegiance.	
<b>C. Approval of Agenda</b>	President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the agenda.  Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, provided a report out of the closed session of the Board explaining that counsel was directed to take the appropriate action concerning the evaluation of the CEO.	<b>#21-40 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda.            Motion passed unanimously.            AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala            NOES – 0            ABSENT – 0</b>
<b>D. Public Comment</b>	Kay Hazen, a former long-term Board member thanked the Board for their work and	



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	<p>efforts in the community during these challenging times. Ms. Hazen described Mr. and Mrs. Supple's relationship with the District, additional background on Mr. Supple's effect on Desert Regional Medical Center and throughout the Coachella Valley.</p> <p>Mark Matthews, a prior long-term Board member provided remarks on Mr. &amp; Mrs. Supple's leadership with then Desert Hospital, their philanthropy throughout the Valley, involvement in the lease, and the El Mirador rebuilding.</p>	
<p><b>E. Consent Agenda</b></p> <p><b>1. BOARD MINUTES</b></p> <p>    <b>a. Special Meeting of the Board of Directors Meeting – April 16, 2021</b></p> <p>    <b>b. Board of Directors Meeting – April 27, 2021</b></p> <p><b>2. FINANCIALS</b></p> <p>    <b>a. Approval of the April 2021 Financial Statements – F&amp;A Approved May 11, 2021</b></p> <p><b>3. SERVICE AGREEMENTS</b></p> <p>    <b>a. East Valley Satellite Office at the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) – Lease Addendum – One Year Renewal with ten (10) Additional One-Year Renewal Options</b></p> <p>    <b>b. Extension of the Consulting Services Agreement between the Desert Healthcare District and Dale E. Barnhart to</b></p>	<p>President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda pulling item 3.a. - East Valley Satellite Office at the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP) – Lease Addendum – One Year Renewal with ten (10) Additional One-Year Renewal Options.</p> <p>President De Lara recused herself from the consent agenda for item 3.a., which was moved by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Shorr.</p>	<p><b>#21-41 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve the consent agenda.</b></p> <p><b>Motion passed 6-1.</b></p> <p><b>AYES – 6 Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</b></p> <p><b>NOES – 0</b></p> <p><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p> <p><b>ABSTAIN – 1 President De Lara</b></p>



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<p><b>Conduct Ongoing Quarterly Inspections of Desert Regional Medical Center</b></p> <p><b>c. Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC) Consulting Services Agreement Addendum #2</b></p> <p><b>d. Service Agreement Addendum #2 for Rauch Communications Consultants, Inc. – NTE \$50,000</b></p>		
<p><b>F. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</b></p> <p><b>1. COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign for Underserved Communities in the Coachella Valley</b></p>	<p>Conrado Bárzaga, MD, CEO, described the COVID vaccination campaign highlighting that 55% of the population is fully vaccinated in the Coachella Valley with the assistance of the county and community partners compared to other cities in the county, further detailing the partnerships to vaccinate young people ages 12-15. Staff is monitoring the reopening efforts, and currently, there is no clear guidance other than large events with no specifics about public meetings.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor, explained that the county is following the state guidance, and as of June 15<sup>th</sup> the colored tier system is complete with full capacity, it is up to individuals and business in what way they want to conduct their meetings, and</p>	



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<p><b>2. The Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District (CVRCD) Feasibility Study</b></p>	<p>they may continue the use of virtual meetings.</p> <p>Alejandro, Espinoza, Chief of Community Engagement, updated the Board on the mobile unit feasibility study describing the estimate from the manufacturer, including the amenities.</p> <p>Ann Cheney, PhD, Assistant Professor CHC, Co-Chair Healthy Campus, University of California Riverside, explained her role with mobile services in the Eastern Coachella Valley, the need for a mobile unit, and other partnerships, such as Health for Hope.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor described the intersection between healthcare and homelessness and events to use both services with the mobile unit.</p>	
<p><b>3. Consideration to approve the acceptance of \$175,000 from The Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District (CVRCD) for the Purchase of a Mobile Unit</b></p>	<p>The Board provided positive feedback requesting a budget and management of the unit for usage, outreach, and advertising with custom wraps, and professional sanitizing.</p>	<p><b>#21-42 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Vice-President Borja to approve the acceptance of \$175,000 from The Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District (CVRCD) for the Purchase of a Mobile Unit Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala NOES – 0</b></p>



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<p><b>4. City of Palm Springs Blue Zones Initiative</b></p> <p><b>5. Desert Healthcare District Rezoning Procedure Calendar</b></p> <p><b>6. Community Health Needs Assessment and Health Improvement Plan</b></p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described his report on the May 17 Blue Zones meeting organized by Councilmember Geoff Korrs to explore the Blue Zones Project in the Coachella Valley. As additional information is provided staff will update the Board.</p> <p>Chris Christensen, CAO, described the 2018 and 2019 rezoning processes. The final census count is in August 2021 with the rezoning deadline for the November 2022 election on May 12, 2022, which is ample time to complete the rezoning process further outlining the timeline.</p> <p>President De Lara suggested four public forums – two meetings east of Palm Desert and two forums west of Palm Desert also proposing that the CEO meet one-on-one with Director Zavala to understand the process.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided a brief update on Health Assessment Research for Communities (HARC) final report and the need for elevate the visibility of the disparities and inequities.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja described a data set necessary on firefighters and law enforcement answering</p>	<p><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>
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<p><b>7. Strategic Planning Retreat Update</b></p> <p><b>8. Community Engagement and Presentations</b></p> <p><b>9. Kaufman Hall Associates Letter of Engagement</b></p>	<p>health-related emergency phone calls, especially in the east, and the importance of collecting the information from the first responders.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained that the Strategic Planning retreat sessions are split into two parts on September 9 and September 11 for more time to reflect on the discussions and to continue the dialogue on the second day.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided an overview of the activities he participated in the community and informing the Valley of the District's work.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the engagement letter with Kaufman Hall to commence the negotiations with Tenet Health, a continuation of the work of Kaufman Hall, further explaining the request for proposals process and final selections.</p>	<p><b>#21-43 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Shorr to approve the Kaufman Hall Associates Letter of Engagement. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<p><b>G. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</b></p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center, explained that they are extremely pleased with the completion of the four-day accreditation survey, which is a condition of the lease with 350 standards and over 1,600 elements of performance.</p>	



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	<p>Desert Care Network held events during the employee recognition with Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) honoring the staff by providing meals for all 2,000 employees.</p> <p>Desert Regional Medical Center now has an epilepsy monitoring unit – a request for service not offered in the community to monitor and diagnose patients. The Electronic Medical Records (EMR) for a common platform has launched and is in the adoption phase. JFK Memorial Medical Center commenced the assembly of the CT Scanner and HVAC system before the middle of summer, the replacement MRI, which is under review by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), upgrading CT scanners, and nuclear medicine thermals.</p> <p>Modernization of the sterile processing department upgrades are complete (4) in use and functioning well.</p> <p>Mrs. Finney expressed enthusiasm about the purchase of a mobile unit, the community needs, and use with the street medicine program by partnering with the District.</p>	
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<p><b>H. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board</b></p>	<p>Director Zendle provided a brief report of the Governing Board describing the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JACHO) report, review of the open and closed case with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), medical staff credentialing, peer reviews, and the commencement on July 1 of the residents at Desert Regional Medical Center.</p>	
<p><b>I.1. Program Committee</b></p> <p><b>1. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2021</b></p> <p><b>2. Grant Payment Schedule</b></p> <p><b>3. Consideration to approve Grant #1280 Desert AIDS Project – DAP Health: DAP Health Expands Access to Healthcare – \$100,000</b></p>	<p>President De Lara inquired on any questions of the Board concerning the May Program Committee meeting minutes and the grant payment schedule.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, highlighted the prior payments of the grant payment schedule and the \$1.9M available in the current fiscal year for grant funding as of April 30.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the DAP Health grant request to expand the Behavioral Health Program with two components further detailing the psychotherapy and medication management to fund the University of California Riverside (UCR) approved psychiatrist.</p>	<p><b>#21-44 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve Grant #1280 Desert AIDS Project – DAP Health: DAP Health Expands Access to Healthcare – \$100,000 Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala NOES – 0</b></p>





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<p><b>I.2. Finance, Legal, Administration &amp; Real Estate</b></p> <p><b>1. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2021</b></p> <p><b>2. District &amp; Retirement Protection Plan (RPP) Investment Reports 1Q21</b></p> <p><b>3. New Job Description – Senior Program Officer, Public Health</b></p> <p><b>4. Review and Consideration for Approval – FY 2021-2022 Annual Budget</b></p>	<p>Director Shorr provided an overview of the May F&amp;A Committee meeting minutes, which included the investment reports, Senior Program Officer, Public Health new job description, and the FY 2021-2022 annual budget. President De Lara explained that during the F&amp;A Committee she recused herself from item #8 of the F&amp;A Committee meeting minutes.</p> <p>Chris Christensen, CAO, provided an overview of the FY 2021-2022 highlighting the conservative projections of the property tax revenues, which has an increase at 3% of the projections, the bond investment is at net zero, and will not incur much income from the bond’s investments. The rental income from the Las Palmas Medical Plaza reflects the 92% occupancy rate and the updated CAM fees increase. Mr. Christensen detailed the significant items, such as staffing expenses for the current staff and two additional staff during the year with merit increases. All employee and staff expenses are incurred on the District side, but the Foundation is increasing the pass-through funding from the COVID initiatives, such as the Public Health Institute with \$1.4M in</p>	<p><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p> <p><b>#21-45 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve the FY 2021-2022 Annual Budget Motion passed 6-1.</b></p> <p><b>AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</b></p> <p><b>NOES – 0</b></p> <p><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p> <p><b>ABSTAIN – 1 Director Zendle</b></p>
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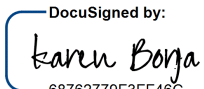
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<p><b>I.3. Hospital Lease Oversight Committee Meeting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 17, 2021</b></li> <li><b>2. Q1 Facilities Inspection – January 23, 2020</b></li> <li><b>3. Q1 Facilities Inspection – March 2, 2021</b></li> <li><b>4. Quarterly 2021-2022 Inspection Schedule</b></li> <li><b>5. Desert Regional Medical Center Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade</b></li> </ol>	<p>the salary expense line item and \$660k allocated to the Foundation. Professional fees with \$750k for costs negotiations for the hospital lease consultant work, and the grantmaking budget includes \$4M.</p> <p>Director Shorr acknowledged Mr. Christensen and the Finance staff for their detailed work.</p> <p>Director Zendle provided an overview of the May Hospital Lease Oversight Committee meeting explaining that he was impressed with the Chief Quality Officer’s presentation. Director Rogers noted that Desert Regional Medical Center has an average score, as well as other hospitals other than Eisenhower because they are not a trauma center and do not accept Medi-Cal patients.</p>	
<p><b>J. Communications &amp; Marketing</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. COVID-19 Vaccinations, Testing, Outreach, and Education</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. Website Content and Design Updates</b></li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Will Dean, Marketing and Communications Director, provided an update on the modifications to the website and the April 2020 resource center as the landing page for safety, videos, and COVID news articles. Since that time,</p>	



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	<p>the website is modified back to the original home page further detailing the analytics of first-time visitors and 3,900 visitors to the website.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja explained that the banners using a mobile do not link to the sources, and Mr. Dean will research the matter.</p>	
<b>K. Legal</b>	There was no legal report.	
<b>L. Immediate Issues and Comments</b>	Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, acknowledged the staff for their contributions to the Board packet, which is very extensive this month.	
<b>M. Adjournment</b>	President De Lara adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m. in honor of Mr. Ric Supple.	<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>

DocuSigned by:  
  
 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Karen Borja, Vice-President/Secretary  
 Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

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