



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 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 Eric Taylor, Accounting Manager 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
A. Call to Order Roll Call	President De Lara called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all directors' present. President De Lara commenced the meeting by acknowledging the passing of Luciano Crespo, a community member on the Program Committee, further recognizing his contributions to the District and the Coachella Valley.	
B. Pledge of Allegiance	President De Lara led the Pledge of Allegiance.	
C. Approval of Agenda	President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	#21-64 MOTION WAS MADE by Director PerezGil and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.



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		<p>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p>
D. Public Comment		
E. Consent Agenda		
<p>1. BOARD MINUTES</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Board of Directors Meeting – September 28, 2021</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. Special Meeting of the Board – October 09, 2021</p> <p>2. FINANCIALS</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Approval of the September 2021 Financial Statements – F&A Approved October 14, 2021</p> <p>3. POLICIES</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Policy #FIN-06 – Financial Reserve</p>	<p>President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda while abstaining her vote related to the meeting minutes due to an absence at the September meeting.</p>	<p>#21-65 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve item 1 – Board Minutes of the consent agenda.</p> <p>Motion passed 6-1.</p> <p>AYES – 6 Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSTAIN – 1 President De Lara</p> <p>#21-66 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve consent agenda items 2 – Financials and item 3 Policies.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT - 0</p>
F. Public Hearing		
<p>1. Rezoning Background and Census Data</p> <p>2. Zone Mapping Process, Justin Levitt, Vice-President, National</p>	<p>Justin Levitt, Vice President, National Demographic Corporation (NDC), provided an overview of the rezoning background commencing with the expansion, the 2020</p>	



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<p>Demographic Corporation (NDC)</p>	<p>census, and the May 2022 rezoning deadline for the November 2022 election.</p> <p>Mr. Levitt detailed the demographics of the District’s current zones explaining that Desert Hot Springs and Indio are the fastest growing communities in the Coachella Valley over the last decade, also detailing the undercounting of areas with part-time residents, as well as agricultural workers. Details of the minimal changes of the Quail Map that would only require the exchange of zones six (6) and seven (7), three (3) and five (5), and two (2) and four (4) while keeping with the principles of redistricting to keep communities together and follow major boundaries.</p> <p>A description of the Roadrunner map’s minimal changes was described with the eastern area map illustrating changes to Thousand Palms into zone four (4) to unify the community in district four (4). zone three (3) in the Roadrunner map move to La Quinta instead of creating a new division in Indio, as well as the area surrounding JFK Memorial Hospital from zone six (6) to zone seven (7). Zone one (1) remains as is in the Quail and Roadrunner maps.</p> <p>The Hummingbird map option unifies different communities</p>	
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	<p>with the western portion of the map merging Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, and the Southern section of Cathedral City into one zone with the remainder of those communities placed into zone one (1), and zone four (4) further into the population of Cathedral City instead of Thousand Palms. Zone one loses most of the palm desert population to zone five. Areas east of Monterrey in zone five (5) to the north with areas south of Hwy. 111 would remain in zone three (3).</p> <p>The Hummingbird map to the east in zone two (2) would lose north Indio instead of Thousand Palms and places the northern portion of Indio in zone five (5) and redraws zone five (5) out of La Quinta to reduce the number of communities divided or split and unite the north Indio community. Mr. Levitt noted that the maps will not affect the directors' zones they are currently in; thus, multiple directors are not in a single zone.</p> <p>The Board discussed the three maps with Vice-President Borja preferring the Quail and Roadrunner maps that coincide with the California Voter Rights Act (CVRA) zones while requesting a map solely on the voting rights districts and not based on where directors</p>	
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	<p>reside. Director Zendle explained the communities of interest together, favoring the Hummingbird map.</p>	
<p>G. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</p> <p>1. Consideration to approve the Desert Healthcare District and Foundation Five (5)-Year Strategic Plan (FY21-22, FY22-23, FY23-24, FY24-25, FY25-26)</p> <p>2. Consideration to approve the FY 2021 Audit Reports – District, Retirement Protection Plan - presented by Gary Dack, CPA, Partner, and Shannon Maidment, CPA, Partner – Lund & Guttry LLP</p>	<p>Conrado Bárzaga, MD, CEO, described the specifics of three (3) strategic planning retreats facilitated by Mark Dubow, MPH, MBA, Director, Veralon, and Steve Valentine, MPA, President, Valentine Health Advisers, available at to address any questions in the final strategic plan for consideration of approval.</p> <p>Director Zendle suggests modifying the critical planning issues, goal (1) one, and other areas that reference the “Tenet lease” to “hospital lease.”</p> <p>President De Lara thanked the board, staff, and consultants for planning, participating, and contributing to the strategic plan.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, introduced the team of Lund & Guttry commencing with Gary Dack, CPA, Partner, Lund & Guttry describing the FY 2021 audit reports, which included the opinion, statement of net position, footnotes, notes to financial statements, and retirement protection plan assets.</p>	<p>#21-67 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the Desert Healthcare District and Foundation Five (5)-Year Strategic Plan (FY21-22, FY22-23, FY23-24, FY24-25, FY25-26).</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p> <p>#21-68 MOTION WAS MADE by Vice-President Borja and seconded by Director Shorr to approve the FY 2021 Audit Reports – District, Retirement Protection Plan - presented by Gary Dack, CPA, Partner, and Shannon Maidment, CPA, Partner – Lund & Guttry LLP.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers,</p>



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<p>3. Review the Foundation and A-133 Single Audit Reports for FY 2021 presented by Gary Dack, CPA, Partner, and Shannon Maidment, CPA, Partner – Lund & Guttry LLP</p>	<p>Subsequent to the District and Retirement Protection Plan, Mr. Dack described the Foundation audit opinion, revenues, and footnotes.</p> <p>Shannon Maidment, CPA, Partner, Lund & Guttry, provided an overview view of the single audit, auditors report summary, and management letter specifics.</p> <p>President De Lara thanked the entire finance team and the team of Lund & Guttry for a successful audit.</p>	<p>Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>
<p>4. COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign for Underserved Communities in the Coachella Valley</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, highlighted the data explaining that the Coachella Valley currently has a 75% vaccination rate of the eligible population compared to the county and the state. The results of the vaccination rates and the monthly COVID cases illustrate the third wave due to the Delta Variant, but at the highest peak, cases were lower than the initial wave of approx. 5,200 cases and 4,000 cases of the Delta Variant in August 2021. A large percentage of 80,000 still require vaccinations, and the population with the highest vaccination rate is 65 and older followed by the 45-64 age ranges with the 12-17 and 25-44 still lagging with anticipated changes due to the new school mandates and expanded eligibility.</p>	



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<p>5. Governance Workshop, Martin Rauch, Rauch Communications – November 08, 2021</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, reminded the Board of the next Governance Workshop on November 8, facilitated by Martin Rauch, Rauch Communications.</p>	
<p>6. Desert Healthcare District & Foundation In-Person Board and Committee Meetings</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained the return to in-person Board meetings is a work in progress but anticipates the planning for return with a delay due to the holidays and an increase in the Delta Variant or Delta Plus while continuing to protect the health of the board and staff. Staff is working on a hybrid model to facilitate the in-person meetings using the meeting Owl camera with the public participating virtually.</p> <p>Director Zandle recommends policies for vaccinations and testing in the planning process.</p>	
<p>7. Community Engagements and Presentations</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the community engagements and presentation during the month of October.</p> <p>President De Lara congratulated the CEO for his work and leadership commitment over the past year, congratulating Dr. Bárzaga on his Corazon Award at Vision y Compromio’s annual conference.</p>	



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<p>8. Consideration to close the District and Satellite Office between Christmas and New Year's Day</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the same item last year for consideration with the upcoming holidays for three days of office closure between Christmas and New Year's.</p>	<p>#21-69 MOTION WAS MADE by Director PerezGil and seconded by Director Zavala to approve closing the District and Satellite Office between Christmas and New Year's Day. 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</p>
<p>H. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center, Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC) provided an overview of her report, explaining that JFK Memorial and Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC) are performing well with the decrease in positive COVID census of ten (10) to fifteen (15) cases at DRMC. Unvaccinated cases represent twelve (12) in-house with one (1) partially vaccinated. Most of the staff is vaccinated with a few suspended until they are fully compliant.</p> <p>The maternity care department has commenced its SB 464 Implicit Bias Training compliance for treating patients with equity and fairness while reporting to the state on the content and staff completion.</p> <p>Long-term capital projects are still underway for the next few</p>	



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	months as reported in September.	
I. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board	Director Rogers detailed her report from the governing board meeting with a review of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) reports that are also available on the CDPH website. The governing board provided an update on the new and renewed credentials, the human resources department provided a detailed presentation on salaries and shortage of nurses, further explaining that Desert Regional Medical Center has the best retention throughout Tenet Healthcare Corporation.	
J. Committee Meetings – Program Committee		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Meeting Minutes – October 12, 2021 2. Funding Requests Update 3. Grant Payment Schedule 4. Progress and Final Reports Update 	President De Lara inquired on any questions from the Board concerning the October Program Committee draft meeting minutes, funding requests, grant payment schedule, and progress and final reports.	
J.2. Finance, Legal, Administration & Real Estate		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2021 2. Retirement Protection Plan – Actuarial Valuation Report 	President De Lara inquired with the Board on any questions concerning the F&A Committee meeting minutes with Chris Christensen, CAO, providing details on the property tax revenue. Director Zendle suggested a footnote when revenue is lower due to	



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	<p>seasonal income, which will be addressed in the next F&A Committee meeting. Mr. Christensen also provided an overview of the net pension liability in the retirement protection plan.</p>	
<p>K. Old Business</p> <p>1. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) – Q3 CV Link Progress Report</p>	<p>Dr. Brzsaga, CEO, described the most recent report of the Coachella Valley Association of Government (CVAG) Q3 CV Link progress report.</p>	
<p>L. Legal</p> <p>1. End of Session Legislative Update</p> <p>2. Consideration to approve Resolution #21-05 Re-Ratifying the State of Emergency and Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings</p>	<p>Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, provided an overview of the end of session legislative update that does not include many healthcare issues. The election recall did not influence any controversial issues, such as seismic legislation with a current stalemate on any changes, further explaining additional bills.</p> <p>Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, described Resolution #21-05 that re-ratifies the state of emergency and re-authorizes remote teleconference meeting.</p>	<p>#21-70 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Zavala to approve Resolution #21-05 Re-Ratifying the State of Emergency and Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Shorr, Director Rogers, Director Zandle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>



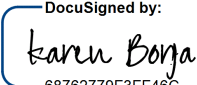
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<p>M. Immediate Issues and Comments</p>	<p>Director Shorr explained that since the District is moving forward with the five-year strategic plan if the staff could release a request for proposals to progress the seismic issues and concerns. After discussion, the consensus among the Board is to direct staff to capital implementation and the foundation of understanding the seismic matters to assist with the hospital lease negotiations.</p> <p>Director Rogers described the city of Palm Springs's approval for a homelessness navigation center and the District's evaluation some time ago about a position and support to the city council based on the District's community needs assessment. Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained that all board members should agree on supporting the city council's decision, time is necessary to create a position based on the facts, further detailing that the strategic plan does not incorporate homelessness.</p> <p>Director Zendle explained that community input is necessary, and the strategic plan does not prohibit a low priority for assisting with homelessness.</p> <p>Director Rogers inquired on the vacancy rate at the Las Palmas Medical Plaza and a study for more medical office buildings in the area that the</p>	
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	<p>management company could explore, also inquiring on the next hospital inspection.</p> <p>President De Lara acknowledged the staff that assisted to put together the Night of Stars event, including the sponsor's Rite Aid, IEHP, also thanking speakers, elected officials, and promotoras'.</p>	
<p>N. Adjournment</p>	<p>President De Lara adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.</p>	<p>Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</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