



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
November 23, 2021**

Directors Present – Video Conference	District Staff Present – Video Conference	Absent
President Leticia De Lara Vice-President/Secretary Karen Borja Director Carole Rogers, RN Director Les Zendle, MD Director Evett PerezGil Director Carmina Zavala	Conrado E. Bárzaga, 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	Director Arthur Shorr

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.	
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.	#21-73 MOTION WAS MADE by Director PerezGil and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda. Motion passed 6-0. AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr
D. Public Comment		



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<p>E. Consent Agenda</p> <p>1. BOARD MINUTES</p> <p> a. Board of Directors Meeting – October 26, 2021</p> <p> b. Special Meeting of the Board – November 08, 2021</p> <p>2. FINANCIALS</p> <p> a. Approval of the October 2021 Financial Statements – F&A Approved November 09, 2021</p> <p>3. GRANT FUNDING</p> <p> a. #1296 – Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine: Improving Access to Healthcare Services – \$154,094</p> <p>4. RESOLUTIONS</p> <p> a. Subsequent Emergency Resolution #21-07 Re-Ratifying the State of Emergency and Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings</p>	<p>President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.</p> <p>Directors Rogers pulled item 3.a. inquiring about services for mental health counseling with the telehealth component. Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, explained that Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine (CVVIM) has an area for behavioral health and testing, but as explained by Doug Moran, Executive Director, CVVIM, it is an area they would like to move into with telehealth in the near future.</p>	<p>#21-74 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve the consent agenda removing item 3.a.</p> <p>Motion passed 6-0.</p> <p>AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p> <p>#21-75 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Zendle to approve Grant #1296 – Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine: Improving Access to Healthcare Services – \$154,094</p> <p>Motion passed 6-0.</p> <p>AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
<p>F. Public Hearing</p> <p> 1. Zone Mapping Process – Quail, Roadrunner, and Hummingbird Maps – Justin Levitt, Vice-President, National Demographic Corporation (NDC)</p>	<p>Justin Levitt, Vice President, National Demographics Corporation (NDC), provided an overview of the district’s rezoning detailing the individual zones of under and overpopulated areas while detailing an in-depth overview of the maps. Mr. Levitt explained that the map Vice-President Borja requested at</p>	



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	<p>the prior meeting to maximize the voter rights act isn't possible to create with a third majority Latino seat in the East Valley that still has a registration or voting majority that are Latino, and it would divide Thermal, Indio, and the Coachella communities into two zones.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja inquired on the number of zones within the California Voter Rights Act (CVRA) district with Mr. Levitt explaining zones 4, 6, and 7 are protected by the CVRA.</p> <p>Director Zendle explained that the Hummingbird map boundaries ensure the LGBTQ communities in zones 1 and 4 are together as opposed to divided.</p> <p>Felice Chiapperini, Palm Desert Resident, provided a written public comment read aloud during the public hearing.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, supports the Hummingbird map for communities of interest to keep the contiguity of the city, such as the LGBTQ district, and supports the voter rights act for the majority-minority districts.</p>	
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	<p>Mr. Levitt outlined the 6,600 residents of Desert Palms as illustrated by Mr. Chiapperini’s comment. If the area were considered part of zone 5, it would lose population in another area, and zone 2 would gain population in another area. Since zones, 4, 6, and 7 are three voting rights districts with Latino voters to pick up the population for zone 2, the population would necessitate a contiguous area. Removing from one area requires a balance in another area.</p> <p>The board’s consensus is to move forward with all three maps for the next public hearing in December.</p>	
<p>G. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</p> <p>1. Consideration to approve Director Les Zendle, MD, and Director Carole Rogers, RN reappointment to the Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board</p> <p>2. COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign for Underserved</p>	<p>Conrado Bárzaga, MD, CEO, described the yearly reappointment of Director’s Zendle and Rogers to the Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board as stipulated in the Hospital Lease.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the report on the most recent COVID cases and deaths in the</p>	<p>#21-76 MOTION WAS MADE by Director PerezGil and seconded by Director Zavala to approve Director Les Zendle, MD, and Director Carole Rogers, RN reappointment to the Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board.</p> <p>Motion passed 6-0.</p> <p>AYES – 6 President De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary Borja, Director Rogers, Director Zendle, Director PerezGil, and Director Zavala</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>



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<p>Communities in the Coachella Valley</p>	<p>Coachella Valley, the downward trend, and the vaccination population rate continuing at a higher percentage than Riverside County.</p>	
<p>3. Seismic Retrofit Legislative and Funding Update</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the background of the seismic retrofit initially established by The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) explaining the three buildings at Desert Regional Medical Center that require retrofitting in Seismic Performance Category (SPC) 2 and into the SPC 3 range. Meetings to discuss exploratory funding mechanisms with Congressman Ruiz and the Department of Treasury are ongoing with more information in the near future for financing the seismic retrofit.</p> <p>Director Roger requested engaging with organizations that fund financing for hospital construction bonds available to districts, if applicable.</p> <p>President Dr Lara inquired on the CARES Act funding to assist with Dr. Bárzaga explaining that the district is exploring all possibilities for funding.</p>	
<p>4. Community Engagements and Presentations</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the past and most recent community engagements and presentations.</p>	
<p>H. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</p>	<p>Linda Evans, Chief Strategy Officer, Desert Regional</p>	



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	<p>Medical Center, Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC) provided an overview of the CEO report in Michelle Finney’s absence explaining that the COVID trends peaked in August with local subsiding numbers and an increase in other areas of the country. The hospital ranges from a 22% positivity rate at Desert Regional Medical Center and 75% at Hi-Desert Medical Center with the unvaccinated and some breakthrough cases. The PPE remains at an adequate supply while continuing with the vaccination clinic, boosters, and flu shots.</p> <p>The entire infant security system is being overhauled for the Safe Place Hugs system conversion at Desert Regional. The CAT Scans relocation replacement with upgrades and moves of 120 sliced CT into the Comprehensive Cancer Center and the process of moving the slice into the main hospital.</p> <p>A new robot will be updated, and the nuclear medicine camera completion is awaiting OSPHD's final approval. Additional capital updates were described, such as the two (2) new CAT scans in the design phase, a complete wireless network overhaul is in the works, the nursing call system replacement, and OB rooms upgrades.</p>	
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	<p>JFK Memorial Hospital is now a trauma 4 designation with treatment in Indio before transfer to Desert Regional Medical Center.</p> <p>Mrs. Evans thanked Director Zendle and Rogers for attending the Star Reveal in Palm Springs followed by the reception at Hansen House founded by Dr. Ercoli.</p> <p>A survey completion from the Joint Commission for the perinatal program recertification with no deficiencies, and the DNV comprehensive stroke reaccreditation.</p> <p>An overview of events was provided with Desert Care Network hosting the annual pride breakfast before the pride parade, participation in the upcoming festival of lights, and the blood drive while thanking various organizations.</p> <p>Lifestream blood bank is working to educate the community on minority blood donations due to particular health conditions, blood types, and antibodies for county-wide assistance for the demand.</p>	
<p>I. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board</p>	<p>Director Zendle described the standard credentialing and peer review with preparations for the 2022 budget and a presentation on the 2021 experience, such as 8% of the admissions to Desert Regional</p>	



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	<p>Medical Center were COVID-related.</p> <p>Director Rogers described her inquiry into the new trauma center qualification at JFK Memorial generating more traffic in the area for ambulance visits and wait times, further outlining the expansion of the emergency department beds. An overview of the tour of the new construction at Acadia psychiatric hospital in Indio was detailed, and the psychiatrist and mental health professionals on staff will be shared with Desert Regional and JFK Memorial. The CEO of Acacia is on the Board of JFK Memorial Hospital Governing Board with upcoming information on the needs of the community.</p>	
<p>J. Committee Meetings –</p> <p>J.1. Strategic Planning Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2021 2. Funding Strategic Program Grants 3. Strategic Plan Marketing Approaches 	<p>President De Lara inquired on any questions from the Board concerning the November Strategic Planning Committee draft meeting minutes.</p> <p>Director Zendle described the discussions of the strategic plan categories of high, moderate, and low priority grant funding, in what way the categories will apply, and the next steps of the program committee and the board in the next year.</p>	



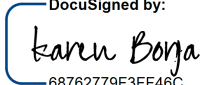
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<p>J.2. Finance, Legal, Administration & Real Estate</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2021 2. District & Retirement Protection Plan Investment Reports – 3Q21 <p>J.3. Program Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2021 2. Clear Impact Platform/Results Based Accountability (RBA) – Update 3. Funding Requests 4. Grant Payment Schedule 5. Progress and Final Reports 	<p>President De Lara explained that she is looking forward to moving ahead with the Strategic Plan as a guide in the future.</p> <p>President De Lara inquired with the board on any questions concerning the F&A Committee meeting minutes.</p> <p>President De Lara inquired with the Board on any questions concerning the Program Committee meeting minutes.</p>	
<p>K. Old Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communications and Marketing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Media, Promotions, and Advertising 	<p>Will Dean, Communications and Marketing Director, highlighted the media coverage, promotions, and advertising of the district primarily for the COVID Collaborative with television and radio programming in English and the applicable Spanish organizations.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja</p>	



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	President De Lara thanked staff for shining a light on the district.	
L. Legal	There were no legal updates.	
M. Immediate Issues and Comments	<p>Director Rogers inquired about office space needs at Las Palmas Medical Plaza and the possibility of Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC) leasing an office space, a needs assessment survey, tenants plan for expansion, and discussions with the DRMC recruiter on anticipated office needs, requesting that staff determine if we are adequately serving our community.</p> <p>President De Lara requested that the matter is addressed at the next F&A Committee meeting.</p>	
N. Adjournment	President De Lara adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.	Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents

DocuSigned by:

 ATTEST: _____
 68762779E3EE46C
 Karen Borja, Vice-President/Secretary
 Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

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