



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
May 23, 2023**

Directors Present	District Staff Present	Absent
President Evett PerezGil Vice-President Carmina Zavala, PsyD Secretary Carole Rogers, RN Treasurer Arthur Shorr Director Les Zendle, MD Director Leticia De Lara, MPA Director Kimberly Barraza	Conrado E. Bázquez, MD, CEO Chris Christensen, CAO Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer Alejandro Espinoza, MPH, Chief of Community Engagement Jana Trew, Senior Program Officer Will Dean, Marketing and Communications Director Andrea S. Hayles, Board Relations Officer <u>Legal Counsel</u> Jeff Scott	

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION
A. Call to Order Roll Call	President PerezGil called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all directors present.	
B. Pledge of Allegiance	Director Zendle led the pledge of allegiance.	
C. Approval of Agenda	President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	#23-22 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0 #23-23 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director Zendle to approve moving agenda item F.1. - Fair Market Value Analysis of Desert



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		<p>Regional Medical Center following public comment.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p>
D. Public Comment	There were no public comments.	
<p>E. Consent Agenda</p> <p>1. BOARD MINUTES</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Special Meeting of the Board of Directors – April 18, 2023</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. Board of Directors Meeting – April 25, 2023</p> <p>2. FINANCIALS</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Approval of the April 2023 Financial Statements – F&A Approved May 10, 2023</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. FY23-24 Annual Budget</p> <p>3. AGREEMENTS</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Addendum #4 to Consulting Services Agreement – Magdalena Martinez – HR Consultant – 3% increase - \$955/month</p> <p>4. LAS PALMAS MEDICAL PLAZA</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Las Palmas Medical Plaza Security Plan – Green Security Solutions Proposal NTE \$144,000 Annually (\$36k decrease in cost)</p> <p>5. GRANT</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Grant #1392 Galilee Center – Galilee Center Extended Shelter – \$268,342 one-year term – Goal #2 Access to Primary and Specialty Care; Strategy 2.7 Increase</p>	<p>President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.</p> <p>Director De Lara requested pulling item E.5.a. describing her participation in the discussions as an individual serving on the advisory committee of the Galilee Center with no financial interest.</p> <p>Director De Lara also pulled item E.2.b. inquiring about the Cost-of-Living increase (COLA) as discussed at the F&A Committee meeting recommending a policy for the Policy Committee to review in next year’s budget. The Board discussed the COLA excluding the CEO, and discussion of the Foundation budget with specific details and the possibility of an ad hoc committee for the annual recognition event.</p>	<p>#23-24 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director Zendle to approve the consent agenda.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p> <p>#23-25 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Barraza to approve the consent agenda except items E.2.b., E.5.a., and E.5.b.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p>



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<p>equitable access to primary and specialty services and resources in underserved communities in CV; Strategy 5.1 Reduce the negative impacts of social determinants of health on homelessness in CV</p> <p>b. Grant #1391 Lift To Rise – Driving Regional Economic Stability Through Collective Impact – \$900,000 over a 3-year term – Goal #5: Be responsive to and supportive of selected community initiatives that enhance the economic stability of the District residents (on a situational basis) – Strategies 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4</p>	<p>Director Rogers requested that the Policy Committee review the Ticket Distribution Policy, further describing other districts’ policies and the importance of supporting nonprofits in their fundraising efforts.</p> <p>Director Zendle pulled item E.5.b for further discussion of access to primary and specialty care and the \$15k related to staffing and motel costs.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, provided an overview of the Galilee Center’s grant request as the only organization in the Coachella Valley providing housing to asylum seekers.</p> <p>Public Comments: Claudia Castorena, CFO, co-founder, Galilee Center, described the results of Title 42, continuing the program, and the unpredictability of a migrant surge.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, deputy director of housing and workforce solutions Riverside County, described the county averages of 250 asylum seekers per day and occasionally up to 1,000.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, provided an overview of Lift to Rise’s grant request and support for the staff’s</p>	<p>#23-26 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Shorr to approve E.2.b. - FY23-24 Annual Budget. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p> <p>#23-27 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Shorr to approve Grant #1392 Galilee Center – Galilee Center Extended Shelter – \$268,342 one-year term. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p> <p>#23-28 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director De Lara to approve Grant #1391 Lift To Rise – Driving</p>
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	<p>efforts of the housing goals in the Coachella Valley.</p> <p>Public Comments supporting the Lift to Rise grant were made by the following individuals:</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, deputy director of housing and workforce solutions, Riverside County</p> <p>Analisa Vargas, Community Organizer and Community Leader</p> <p>Frank Elmore, Desert Hot Springs Resident, School District Contractor</p> <p>Rick Saldivar, Outreach Pastor, Local Community Leader, Cathedral City</p> <p>Karena Heredia, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Jose Alino, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Geraldine Ortega, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Juan Ramos, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Juan Ortega, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Claudia Cassades, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Blanca Banuelos, Coachella Valley Resident</p> <p>Christina Aguirre, Coachella Valley Resident, Community Organizer</p> <p>The Board thanked the public commenters for attending the meeting, provided remarks on personal experiences with housing, its relation to behavioral health and primary</p>	<p>Regional Economic Stability Through Collective Impact – \$900,000 over a 3-year term.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p>
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	<p>care, the priorities of the strategic plan, ensuring access to healthcare in other areas of the Coachella Valley where disparities exist, such as Desert Highland Gateway and northern Palm Springs, including FQHCs.</p> <p>Heather Vakona, Chief Executive Officer, thanked the Board.</p>	
<p>F. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</p> <p>1. Fair Market Value Analysis of Desert Regional Medical Center – Colin McDermott, VMG Health</p> <p>2. 75th Anniversary – History Book Release Reception</p>	<p>Conrado Bárzaga, MD, CEO, introduced Colin McDermott, CFA, CPA/ABV, Managing Director, VMG Health. Mr. McDermott presented on the Desert Regional Medical Center fair market value analysis and responded to questions from the Board.</p> <p>Steve Hollis, Consultant, described the value and assets compared to the business enterprise value or goodwill.</p> <p>Public Comments: Ezra Kaufman, Palm Desert Resident, inquired about the corporate overhead as illustrated on page 24 and the business values accuracy and journal entries.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided an overview of the 75th Anniversary History Book Release Reception, well</p>	<p>#23-29 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Shorr to approve the Fair Market Value Analysis of Desert Regional Medical Center. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>



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<p>3. Recertification Update – Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) and California Special Districts Association (CSDA)</p> <p>4. Activate Inclusion Completed Board DEI Training – Next Steps</p> <p>5. Special Meeting of the Board Self-Assessment – June 1</p> <p>6. Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation 2023 – The U.S. Surgeon General’s Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community</p>	<p>attended by staff, partners, and other community members.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, provided an update on the ACHD and CSDA recertifications and pending approval from both associations.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the Board and Staff’s final DEI Training with Activate Inclusion and the importance of strengthening the culture of the District and extending an agreement with the organization to assist with fostering a culture of belonging.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the Board Assessment and an agreement with the Walker Company to provide an overview of the assessment, reminding the Board of the special meeting on June 1.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described the Surgeon General’s Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community and a summary report for the District with recommendations specific to grant-making, expanding connections in the workplace and the DEI knowledge, adopting a values statement, external initiatives to highlight the social impact, funding considerations for projects to advance social connections, and convening</p>	
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<p>7. CEO Community Engagements and Media Visibility</p>	<p>with community based organizations.</p> <p>The Board recommended collaborating with the school districts on the new report, especially related to the effects of social media and children.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, highlighted his community engagements and media visibility of attending the PEAK Grantmaking Conference and advancing a stronger community of nonprofit organizations for grantees, including an overview of AB 869 delaying seismic compliance.</p>	
<p>G. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center, provided an update on the sunset of the COVID emergency order, the state resuming Medi-Cal redetermination, and working with managed care partners for outreach. Ms. Finney provided an overview of neurosurgeon Dr. Shield’s first deep brain stimulation for Parkinson’s, DRMC new hires, hospital week honoring the workforce, road closures on campus for re-paving and safety purposes, and the upcoming medical students and residency program presentations in the Stergios Building.</p>	
<p>H. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board</p>	<p>President PerezGil provided an overview of the most recent governing board meeting,</p>	




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	emphasizing the usual monthly reports and a presentation on the neuroscience’s programs.	
<p>I. Committee Meetings –</p> <p>I.1. Program Committee</p> <p>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 09, 2023</p> <p>b. Progress and Final Reports Update</p> <p>c. Grant applications and Request for Proposals Submitted and Under Review</p> <p>d. Grant Payment Schedule</p> <p>I.2. Finance, Legal, Administration, & Real Estate Committee</p> <p>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2023</p> <p>b. Las Palmas Medical Plaza – New Lease – Suite #2W102 – Howard Aaron Aronow, M.D., Inc. – 2-Years and 3-Months</p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired about any questions concerning the May Program Committee meeting minutes, progress and final reports, grant applications and request for proposals submitted and under review, and grant payment schedules.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired about any questions concerning the May F&A Committee meeting minutes.</p> <p>Director Shorr, Chair, F&A Committee, provided an overview of the meeting, thanking Chris Christensen, CAO, and staff for their work on the budget.</p> <p>Chris Christensen, CAO, described that the draft 2-year lease for Dr. Aronow in suite 2W102 wasn't available in time</p>	<p>#23-30 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director Zendle to approve the Las Palmas Medical Plaza – New</p>



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	for the F&A Committee to review requesting approval of the Board.	Lease – Suite #2W102 – Howard Aaron Aronow, M.D., Inc. – 2-Years and 3-Months. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0
J. Legal	There was no legal update, and Counsel Scott thanked the public for their comments related to the Lift to Rise grant request.	
K. Immediate Issues and Comments	There were no immediate issues or comments.	
L. Adjournment	President PerezGil adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.	Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents

DocuSigned by:

 ATTEST: _____
 Carole Rogers, RN, Secretary, Board of Directors
 Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea S. Hayles, Board Relations Officer

From: [Karina Rodriguez](#)
To: [Andrea Hayles](#)
Subject: Public Comment-5/23/23
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:00:04 PM

Good afternoon, Desert Healthcare District & Foundation Program Committee! My name is Karina Rodriguez, I am here to express my support for Lift to Rise's proposal for "Driving Regional Housing Affordability Solutions" as outlined in their grant application to the Desert Healthcare District & Foundation. As a resident of Coachella, I am well aware of the housing insecurity that Coachella Valley residents are facing and the ways that this impacts the health and resilience of our community. With the cost of living increasing and families working to make ends meet it's important to have resources and support for working families and individuals to be able to have affordable housing.

It's great to see the Desert Healthcare District considering proposals like these because it recognizes the crucial link between health and housing. Lift to Rise is a trusted force for change in our community – their great work has already made a tremendous impact on the lives of so many folks across the Coachella Valley.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this proposal.

Karina Rodriguez

Hello Desert Healthcare District & Foundation Program Committee!

My name is Agustin Arreola, and I am writing to express my support for Lift to Rise's proposal for "Driving Regional Housing Affordability Solutions" as outlined in their grant application to the Desert Healthcare District & Foundation. As a resident of the City of Coachella I am aware of the housing insecurity that Coachella Valley residents are facing and the ways that this impacts the health and resilience of our community. Lift to Rise and its partners in the Housing Collaborative Action Network (Housing CAN) are working towards a shared goal of radically increasing the availability of affordable housing and are committed to connecting that affordable housing with healthcare and childcare facilities and programs. Additionally, there is overwhelming evidence that links stable and affordable housing to improved physical and mental health outcomes. So, it's great to see the desert Healthcare District considering proposals like these because it recognizes the crucial link between health and housing.

As such I strongly recommend you approve Lift to Rise's grant.