



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 19, 2023**

<b>Directors Present</b>	<b>District Staff Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
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	Chris Christensen, Interim CEO 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	

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>A. Call to Order</b>  <b>Roll Call</b>	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>B. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	President PerezGil led the pledge of allegiance.	
<b>C. Approval of Agenda</b>	President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	<b>#23-86 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda.</b> <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b> <b>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b>
<b>D. Public Comment</b>	Ezra Kaufman, Palm Desert Resident, provided remarks concerning the hospital lease negotiations.	
<b>E. Consent Agenda</b>		



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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>BOARD MINUTES</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Special Meeting of the Board – November 04, 2023</li> <li>b. Special of the Board – November 16, 2023</li> <li>c. Board of Directors Meeting – November 28, 2023</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>FINANCIALS</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Approval of the November 2023 Financial Statements– F&amp;A Approved December 13, 2023</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. <b>REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Human Resources Consultant – Proposals Submission Due Date February 02, 2024</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. <b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECRUITMENT FIRM</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Selection of Bob Murray &amp; Associates for the executive recruitment services search of a Chief Executive Officer – NTE \$40,000</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. <b>LEASES</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Las Palmas Medical Plaza Desert Regional Medical Center Temporary Lease Extension – Suite 2E-107</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <b>STRATEGIC PLAN</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. FY2021-2026 Strategic Plan                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. November Strategic Planning Retreat Revisions</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.</p>	<p><b>#23-87 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the consent agenda.</b>  <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b>  <b>AYES – 7</b> President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza  <b>NOES – 0</b>  <b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<p><b>F. Annual Election of Officers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel</b></li> </ol>	<p>Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, opened the nominations for the annual election of officers</p>	



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	<p>commencing with the board president.</p> <p>Director Barraza nominated Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers nominated President PerezGil to a second term, and Vice-President Zavala nominated herself.</p> <p>Director Barraza voted for Vice-President Zavala and Directors De Lara, Zendle, Shorr, and Rogers voted for President PerezGil, with Vice-President Zavala and President PerezGil voting for themselves.</p> <p>Counsel Scott called for nominations to elect the Vice-President.</p> <p>Director De Lara nominated Vice-President Zavala, Vice-President Zavala nominated Director Barraza, and President PerezGil nominated Director Zendle.</p> <p>Directors Barraza, De Lara, and Shorr voted for Vice-President Zavala, Director Rogers, and President PerezGil voted for Director Zendle, and Vice-President Zavala and Director Zendle voted for themselves.</p> <p>Counsel Scott called for nominations to elect a secretary.</p>	<p><b>#23-88 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director Rogers to unanimously elect President PerezGil to a second term as Board President Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</b></p> <p><b>#23-89 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Director Shorr to unanimously elect Vice-President Zavala to a second term as Vice-President. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</b></p>
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	<p>Vice-President Zavala nominated Director Barraza and Director Zendle nominated Director Rogers.</p> <p>Directors PerezGil, Zavala, Rogers, Shorr, and De Lara voted for Director Barraza, Directors Zendle voted for Director Rogers, and Director Barraza voted for herself.</p> <p>Counsel Scott called for nominations to elect a treasurer.</p> <p>Director Barraza nominated Director Shorr and Director De Lara nominated Director Zendle who declined the nomination.</p>	<p><b>#23-90 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director De Lara to unanimously elect Director Barraza as Secretary</b> <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b> <b>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b></p> <p><b>#23-91 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Barraza and seconded by Director De Lara to unanimously elect Director Shorr to a second term as Treasurer.</b> <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b> <b>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<p><b>G. Presentations</b></p> <p><b>1. Scott Hullinger, Chief Executive Officer, Coachella Valley Behavioral Health – New Acute Care Psychiatric Hospital Presentation</b></p>	<p>Scott Hullinger, CEO, Coachella Valley Behavioral Health, provided a detailed presentation of Acadia Healthcare and the opening of Coachella Valley Behavioral Health, while answering questions from the Board and Staff.</p>	
<p><b>H. Strategic Funding</b></p> <p><b>1. Grant #1403 Vision To Learn: Palm Desert and Coachella</b></p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the committee concerning any questions</p>	<p><b>#23-92 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by</b></p>



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<p><b>Valley VTL Program - \$50,000 – Goal 2 – Strategy 2.3</b></p>	<p>about Vision To Learn’s VTL Program and \$50,000 grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or concerns.</p>	<p><b>Director De Lara to approve Grant #1403 Vision To Learn: Palm Desert and Coachella Valley VTL Program - \$50,000 – Goal 2 – Strategy 2.3.</b></p> <p><b>Motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b></p> <p><b>NOES – 0</b></p> <p><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<p><b>2. Grant #1419 Blood Bank of SB &amp; Riverside Counties aka LifeStream: LifesStream’s Attracting New Donors Initiative - \$104,650 – Goal 7 – Strategy 7.1</b></p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the committee concerning any questions about LifeStream’s Attracting New Donors Initiative and \$104,650 grant request specifically for the Coachella Valley.</p> <p>The Board inquired about sustainability related to the funding with Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, outlining the totality of the grant review and the seventy-seven percent of the funding grant request to the District with no concerns about sustainability.</p>	<p><b>#23-93 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Director Rogers to approve Grant #1419 Blood Bank of SB &amp; Riverside Counties aka LifeStream: LifesStream’s Attracting New Donors Initiative - \$104,650 – Goal 7 – Strategy 7.1</b></p> <p><b>Motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b></p> <p><b>NOES – 0</b></p> <p><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<p><b>3. Grant #1420 Braille Institute: Low Vision Telehealth Services - \$36,697 – Goal 2 – Strategy 2.4</b></p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the committee concerning any questions about the Braille Institute’s Low Vision Telehealth Services grant request for \$36,697.</p>	<p><b>#23-94 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director De Lara to approve Grant #1420 Braille Institute: Low Vision Telehealth Services - \$36,697 – Goal 2 – Strategy 2.4</b></p> <p><b>Motion passed unanimously.</b></p>



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<p><b>4. Grant #1421 Olive Crest: General Support for Counseling and Mental Health Services to Vulnerable Children &amp; Families in the CV – \$359,594 over a 24-month period – Goal 3 – Strategies 3.2; 3.3; 3.6. and 3.7</b></p>	<p>There were no questions or concerns.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired with the committee concerning any questions about Olive Crest’s General Support for Counseling and Mental Health Services \$359,594 grant request.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the separation of the family preservation and assistant director positions as requested by Vice-President Zavala at the Program Committee meeting.</p>	<p><b>AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b></p> <p><b>#23-95 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Barraza to approve Grant #1421 Olive Crest: General Support for Counseling and Mental Health Services to Vulnerable Children &amp; Families in the CV – \$359,594 over a 24-month period – Goal 3 – Strategies 3.2; 3.3; 3.6. and 3.7 Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Rogers, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Barraza</b></p>
<p><b>I. Reports</b></p> <p><b>1. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report – Michele Finney, CEO</b></p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO of Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC), provided a brief overview of the CEO report describing the most recent updates, modifying the flu data, which is higher than reflected for predominantly adolescents, and providing additional updates on the residency program and the seismic retrofit.</p>	



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<p><b>2. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report – Chris Christensen, Interim CEO</b></p> <p><b>a. Reappointment of Director Evett PerezGil and Director Les Zendle, MD to the Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board</b></p> <p><b>b. Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) Call for Nominations of an Eastern and Western County Special District Member</b></p> <p><b>c. 2024 Environmental Health Summit – Update</b></p> <p><b>d. Community Engagements and District Media Visibility</b></p>	<p>Chris Christensen, CAO, described President PerezGil and Director Zendle’s reappointment to the Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board.</p> <p>Andrea S. Hayles, Board Relations Officer, provided a brief overview of the LAFCO notice of election to fill a commission vacancy in Eastern and Western Counties. Directors will contact President PerezGil directly with their interest in representing the District on the commission.</p> <p>Chris Christensen, CAO, described the developments with the environmental health summit, including sponsors to assist with the expenditures.</p> <p>The Board expressed concerns about the DJ and open bar; however, the District will not expend funds on the two items. The Board also conveyed support for the summit, requesting a final budget for approval.</p> <p>Chris Christensen, CAO, described his brief report on community engagements and media visibility noting his dates of vacation.</p>	
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<p><b>3. Legal – Jeffrey G. Scott, Esq., Law Offices of Jeffrey G. Scott</b></p>	<p>There were no legal updates from Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel.</p>	
<p><b>J. Committee Meetings –</b></p> <p><b>J.1. Program Committee</b></p> <p><b>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2023</b></p> <p><b>b. Progress and Final Reports Update</b></p> <p><b>c. Grant Applications and RFP Proposals Submitted and Under Review</b></p> <p><b>d. Grant Payment Schedule</b></p> <p><b>J.1.2. Strategic Planning Committee</b></p> <p><b>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2023</b></p> <p><b>b. Updates and Developing Grants Allocated to the Strategic Plan Goals</b></p> <p><b>J.1.3. Finance, Legal, Administration, &amp; Real Estate Committee</b></p> <p><b>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2023</b></p> <p><b>b. District Portfolio Investments – High Mark Capital Management</b></p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired about any questions concerning items J.1., a – d. of the Program Committee meeting.</p> <p>The Board clarified that the \$1M grant balance in the grant payment schedule does not include the grants approved at the Board meeting. The \$338k previously awarded unexpended funds are reallocated to other approved grantees.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired about any questions concerning items J.1.2., a – b. of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired about any questions concerning items J.1.3., a – b. of the F&amp;A Committee meeting.</p>	





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	<p>Director Shorr described the 5% investment depreciation and the fund manager’s strategic positioning where necessary.</p>	
<p><b>K. Board Member Comments</b></p>	<p>Director Barraza thanked the staff for fulfilling the District’s mission and vision, also wishing everyone a Happy New Year.</p> <p>Director De Lara provided an update on the Farmer Workers Lunch hosted at Tudor Ranch, thanking the staff for their collaboration.</p>	
<p><b>L. Adjournment</b></p>	<p>President PerezGil adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Audio recording available on the website at <a href="http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents">http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</a></b></p>

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DocuSigned by:  
  
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 Carole Rogers, RN, Secretary, Board of Directors  
 Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

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