



DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2024

Directors Present	District Staff Present	Absent
President Evett PerezGil Vice-President Carmina Zavala, PsyD Kimberly Barraza, Secretary Treasurer Arthur Shorr Director Les Zendle, MD – Virtual Participation Director Leticia De Lara, MPA Director Carole Rogers, RN	Chris Christensen, CPA, Interim CEO Andrea S. Hayles, MBA, Board Relations Officer Will Dean, Director of Communications and Marketing Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel	

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION
A. Call to Order Roll Call	President PerezGil called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all directors present.	
B. Pledge of Allegiance	President PerezGil led the Pledge of Allegiances.	
C. Approval of Agenda	President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	#24-01 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Barraza to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Shorr, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0
D. Public Comment	The following individuals provided public comments: Luke Holliday, RN Kevin Bohan, NP Lonnie D., RN Lori Ruggiero, RN Cyd Greenhorn, RN Ruth Hill, RN Stephanie Salter, RN	



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2024**

	<p>Ezra Kaufman, Palm Desert Resident Carlotta Ricky, Retired MD Paula Sofal, Coachella Valley Resident Tom Tocai, Coachella Valley Resident, retired hospital administrator</p>	
<p>E. Revised Tenet Proposal for a 30-Year Lease Extension with the Option to Purchase</p> <p>1. Background and presentation of Tenet response to Board concerns raised on December 6, 2023, Special Board meeting - Steve Hollis, District Consultant</p>	<p>Steve Hollis, consultant, provided an overview of his presentation on Tenet’s response to the Board’s concerns regarding their proposal.</p> <p>The Board encouraged the public to provide complaints to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), described various options with the negotiations, ensuring the public’s participation, exploring a study session on the grant program, concerns about hospital operations with the transfer of management, and the seismic completion by 2030.</p> <p>The following individuals provided public comments: Stephanie Salters, RN, Tom Tocai, Coachella Valley Resident, retired hospital administrator Deborah Edwards, RN Carlotta Ricky, Retired MD Ezra Kaufman, Palm Desert Resident</p>	



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2024**

<p>2. Ad Hoc Committee report and recommendations</p>		
<p>3. Consideration of a contract with Probolsky Research to conduct public opinion study – Chris Christensen, Interim CEO</p>	<p>On behalf of the ad hoc committee Director Rogers recommended an opinion study to determine the public’s viewpoint on the hospital and motioned to consider the Probolsky Research contract.</p>	<p>#24-02 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director De Lara to approve the contract with Probolsky Research to conduct public opinion study. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Shorr, Director Zende, Director De Lara, Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>
<p>4. Update on the process of retaining a consultant to advise the Board on the process and costs of assuming operational responsibility of the hospital in the event the Tenet Lease is not extended – Chris Christensen, Interim CEO</p>	<p>Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, described an update on option B for the District to assume operational responsibility of the hospital and provide a consulting firm contract at the February Board of Directors meeting.</p> <p>Michele Finney, CEO, DRMC, DCN, read a recent positive review of Desert Regional Medical Center and thanked the Board for their thoughtful consideration for the best interest of the community and</p>	



DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2024

	their work towards finalizing the lease.	
F. Adjournment	President PerezGil adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.	Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents

DocuSigned by:

ATTEST: _____

Kimberly Barraza, Secretary, Board of Directors
Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

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