



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
July 23, 2019**

Directors Present	District Staff Present	Absent
President Les Zendle, MD Vice-President/Secretary Leticia De Lara Treasurer Mark Matthews Director Carole Rogers – <i>Video Conference</i> Director Evett PerezGil Director Karen Borja Director Arthur Shorr - <i>Video Conference</i>	Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, CFO Donna Craig, Senior Program Officer Will Dean, Marketing and Communications Director Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Outreach Director Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board <u>Legal Counsel</u> Jeff Scott	

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION
A. Call to Order Roll Call	President Zendle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all Directors present. <i>Director Shorr's location was not listed on the agenda before publication; thus, Director Shorr did not vote and listened in to the meeting.</i>	
B. Pledge of Allegiance	Director Borja led the pledge of allegiance.	
C. Approval of Agenda	President Zendle explained that the presentation by Jill Gover, Ph.D., Clinic Director, LGBT Community Center of the Desert, F.1. is postponed until September. Item K will replace F.1., and President Zendle asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended.	#20-17 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Vice-President De Lara to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja. NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0
D. Public Comment	No public comment for items not listed on the agenda.	
E. Consent Agenda 1. Board Minutes	President Zendle asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.	#20-18 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Board of Directors Meeting – June 25, 2019 2. Finance and Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approval of June 2019 Financial Statements (Preliminary) – F&A Approved July 9, 2019 3. Ad Hoc Committee on Board and Staff Communications and Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Filling a Vacancy on the Board – BOD-6 b. Board Meetings – BOD-8 c. Rules of Order for Board and Committee Meetings – BOD-9 d. Board Meeting Conduct – BOD-10 e. Minutes of Board Meetings – BOD-12 f. Memberships in Organizations, Training, Education, Conferences, and Reimbursement procedures – BOD-13 g. Ethics Training and Education Training related to Workplace Harassment h. Compensation Policy – OP-12 		<p>by Vice-President De Lara to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>
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<p>i. Financial Reserve Policy – FIN-06</p>		
<p>F. Presentations 1. Presentation, Jill Gover, Ph.D., Clinic Director, LGBTQ Community Center of the Desert – Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC) report deliverable for Grant #866 – Mental Health Counseling Services 2015-2018</p>	<p>Dr. Gover’s presentation is postponed to the September 24, 2019, Board of Directors meeting.</p>	
<p>G. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report 1. Proposition 68 – Parks, Environment, and Water Bond 2. National Innovative Communities Conference</p>	<p>Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, described the staff report on Proposition 68 and staff continuing to learn and participate in forums.</p> <p>Vice-President De Lara explained that since the state is not accepting letters of support from applicants, it is acceptable for agencies to describe the District’s backing when completing the applications, which should be reflected in the minutes given the upcoming August 5th deadline.</p> <p>Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, provided an overview of the National Innovative Communities Conference including the goals.</p>	<p>#20-19 MOTION WAS MADE by Vice-President De Lara and seconded by Director PerezGil to support Proposition 68 – Parks, Environment, and Water Bond, reflecting support from the District in agency applications throughout the Coachella Valley. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>
<p>H. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network (DCN), Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC), provided an update on the June and July activities detailing the steady patient care volume which has not decreased in the summer months. As a result, additional employees</p>	



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	<p>will be hired with program flexibility for usage in areas of the hospital on an interim basis. The second phase of the emergency department should be complete by the end of the year; however, 10 beds were out of service during the second phase and moved to isolation rooms. The Sinatra 5 elevator is scheduled for inspection; the fire system upgrade is 50% complete and awaiting the strobe light installments; pharmacy upgrades are in process based on new codes for sterile compounding; the sterile processing department is a rebuild, and replacement of equipment is currently in phase 2. The nurse call upgrade for 3 east will commence next week. During the most recent earthquake, the building's systems worked properly during the 7.1 earthquake, including the quality control process. The elevators in the east tower functioned as required meeting the current codes. iRound, a new staff training tool to individualize patient care, is now in place; a new tracking board for patients' families to keep track of surgeries is live and operating. The continuity clinic is up and running; the medical staff has a scholarship program and received applications from employees that resulted in awarding three more scholarships to high school graduates; disaster preparedness, stroke education, and the details of the blood drive were described.</p>	
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<p>I. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board of Directors Report</p>	<p>President Zendle explained the most recent meeting highlighting the biomedical director report on equipment and maintenance. Details of the Comprehensive Cancer Center presentation was provided with 73,000 patient visits in 2018, and a new co-marketing campaign with the City of Hope. The center has performed cancer clinical trials for 26 years and is also designated as a comprehensive breast care health facility. The governing board reviewed the California Department of Public Health cases for the prior month with a significant decrease in staff turnover for the first year of employment. The quality improvement reports were also reviewed and discussed.</p>	
<p>J. 1. Finance, Legal, Administration, and Real Estate Committee a. Meeting Minutes – July 9, 2019 b. Consideration to approve the Las Palmas Medical Plaza Desert Modern Landscape Architect Service Proposal</p>	<p>Director Matthews described the July meeting minutes and detailed the committee’s choice for Board consideration of the service proposal for Desert Modern Landscape.</p> <p>Vice-President De Lara inquired about the committee's selection of accepting the higher rate as opposed to the lower rate of TKD. Director Matthews explained the recommendation from the architect firm and other advantages and disadvantages.</p>	<p>#20-20 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director Borja to approve the Las Palmas Medical Plaza Desert Modern Landscape Architect Service Proposal. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>



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<p>c. Consideration to approve Las Palmas Medical Plaza Lease Renewal – Brad A. Wolfson, MD – Suite 2W 102</p> <p>2. Program Committee</p> <p>a. Meeting Minutes – July 9, 2019</p> <p>b. Grant Proposals Under Development</p> <p>3. Ad Hoc Committee on Board and Staff Communications and Policies</p> <p>a. Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2019</p>	<p>Director Matthews explained the renewal lease at Las Palmas Medical Plaza for suite 2W 102.</p> <p>Director Rogers explained that the committee reviewed the grant process with committee members and staff.</p> <p>Director Rogers explained that the most recent report of the current grants under development are included in the Board packet for review.</p> <p>The minutes of the most recent Ad Committee on Board and Staff Communications and Policies is included in the Board packet for review as detailed by President Zendle.</p>	<p>#20-21 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director Borja to approve Las Palmas Medical Plaza Lease Renewal – Brad A. Wolfson, MD – Suite 2W 102.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p>
<p>K. Ad Hoc Committee – Tenet Healthcare Lease</p> <p>1. Meeting Minutes – July 18, 2019</p> <p>2. Tenet Healthcare Proposal</p>	<p>President Zendle explained the background of the Board’s work since 2017, commencing with the</p>	<p>#20-22 MOTION WAS MADE by Vice-President De Lara and seconded by Director PerezGil to</p>



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	<p>market analysis, hospital appraisal, and valuation study while engaging the services of consultant Kaufman Hall. An overview of the proposal from Tenet for the acquisition of Desert Regional Medical Center was described, and the appointment of an ad hoc committee to review the proposal and provide input to the entire Board.</p> <p>Director Matthews described the most recent meeting of the ad hoc committee and the appointed Directors, outlining the three elements of the purchase price that includes the base purchase price, seismic, and investments in the Coachella Valley. The committee recommended to the Board that Tenet resubmit the proposal with more substantial financial consideration, specifics of the proposed future configuration of Desert Regional Medical Center, and more specifics of the investments of healthcare services and capital projects in the entire Coachella Valley.</p> <p>After public comment (see below), President Zendle inquired on comments from the Board. Director Rogers explained that there is a lot of community engagement ahead, and the District should have a clear position on the issues.</p> <p>President Zendle explained that there will be a lot of work going forward, such as negotiating with Tenet. The District serves the entire</p>	<p>move forward with the recommendations of the ad hoc committee – Tenet Lease. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 0</p>
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<p>3. Consideration to approve Kaufman Hall & Associates Letter of Engagement</p>	<p>Coachella Valley, and there are other matters the District is tasked with such as the social determinants of health, and outpatient care, ensuring that the Board listens to the public, including local elected officials and other government agencies – with a likely vote for the potential sale of the hospital in the November 2020 election.</p> <p>President Zendle inquired if the Board approved accepting the recommendation of the ad hoc committee and moving forward as suggested.</p> <p>Director Matthews explained the initial meeting of the ad hoc committee describing the work of Kaufman Hall & Associates for two to three months to discuss the acquisition, Tenet’s monetary investments in the community, and the seismic issues at Desert Regional Medical Center – further detailing that the decision is ultimately for the voters to decide.</p>	<p>#20-23 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve Kaufman Hall & Associates Letter of Engagement. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>
<p>Public Comments</p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network (DCN), Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC), explained that she has been the CEO for the past two (2) years, thanked the Board, and on behalf of DCN and Tenet Healthcare, Mrs. Finney explained that she is pleased to acknowledge that a proposal has been submitted to the District for</p>	



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	<p>the purchase of DRMC further describing Tenet's strong commitment to the Coachella Valley. The lease does not expire until 2027, but Tenet is prepared to take responsibility for the capital improvements to meet seismic requirements and the additional commitment and investment in the Coachella Valley. The District has expressed the need for additional funding sources, and the purchase would provide the District with financial resources to support its various initiatives while DRMC continues to thrive with its services and programs. The acquisition would allow the District to focus on the expansion and initiatives making way for DCN to better plan for the future.</p> <p>Other public commenters supporting the sale of Desert Regional Medical Center were: Dr. Rick Axelrod, President/CEO, Life Stream; Jeff Hocker, President, Hocker Productions, Board member, United Way of the Desert; Joshua Bonner, President and CEO, Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce; Darla Burkett, Executive Director, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission; Roy Pitkin, Board Member, Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine; Kristal Granados, CEO, United Way of the Desert; Carl Baker, Director Legal and Legislative Affairs, Desert AIDS Project; Courtney Weir, Regional Director, Alzheimer's Association; Harriett Barron, Director of Development, Mizell Center;</p>	
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	<p>Jennifer Jank, President, Women’s Leader Forum; Jenna LeConte-Hinely, CEO, Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC); Mitch Blumberg, Chair Emeritus, Governing Board, Desert Regional Medical Center; Hank Goudreault, RN, emailed comment was read aloud; and Brad Anderson, Rancho Mirage resident, explained that he does not have a position on the sale of DRMC, and is trying to understand the mission of the District.</p>	
<p>L. Old Business 1. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) a. MOU memo regarding CV Link request for funding b. CV Link Q2 2019 Report</p>	<p>Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, provided an overview of the MOU between the District and Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), also detailing the most recent meeting with CVAG. CVAG will provide additional information on the contingencies and conditions as outlined in the MOU, and staff will complete the formal grant process in September.</p> <p>Sergio Carranza, Pueblo Unido CDC, Founder and Executive Director, explained the details of the organization on air quality issues and their work with the largest mobile home community consisting of mostly farm workers. In 2014, the organization commenced work with the community, receiving a grant for a \$1.4M investment to improve air quality in the mobile home parks. This is an opportunity to invest in the mobile home project paving for better living conditions. The organization supported the expansion for these</p>	



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<p>2. Communications and Marketing</p>	<p>type of projects with resilient communities. It will leverage additional funding for state and federal dollars and hopes for a commitment from the Board for the better conditions of farm workers.</p> <p>Will Dean, Communications and Marketing Director, explained that the staff report is provided in the packet for review.</p>	
<p>M. New Business 1. Consideration to appoint Conrado Bárzaga, CEO, to the City of Desert Hot Springs – Health and Wellness Foundation Board</p>	<p>Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, stated that in 2013, the Board approved the development of a health and wellness facility in Desert Hot Springs with the assistance of the New Market Tax Credit. In the past, the CEO has served on the Board of the Desert Hot Springs Health and Wellness Foundation and should continue in that role.</p>	<p>#20-24 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Borja and seconded by Vice-President De Lara to appoint Conrado Bárzaga, CEO, to the City of Desert Hot Springs – Health and Wellness Foundation Board Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, and Director Borja NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</p>
<p>N. Legal Comments & Report</p>	<p>No report was given.</p>	
<p>O. Directors’ Comments, Reports, Informational Items, & Staff Direction and Guidance</p>	<p>There were no additional comments from Board members.</p>	
<p>P. Adjournment</p>	<p>President Zendle adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.</p>	<p>Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</p>

ATTEST: 
 Leticia De Lara, Vice-President/Secretary
 Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

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