



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 24, 2019**

| <b>Directors Present</b>  | <b>District Staff Present</b>  | <b>Absent</b> |
|---|--|---------------|
| President Les Zendle, MD<br>Vice-President/Secretary Leticia De Lara<br>Treasurer Mark Matthews<br>Director Carole Rogers<br>Director Evett PerezGil<br>Director Karen Borja<br>Director Arthur Shorr | Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO<br>Chris Christensen, CFO<br>Donna Craig, Senior Program Officer<br>Will Dean, Marketing and<br>Communications Director<br>Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and<br>Outreach Director<br>Meghan Kane, Community Health<br>Analyst<br>Vanessa Smith, Health Coordinator<br>Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board<br><br><u>Legal Counsel</u><br>Jeff Scott |               |

| <b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>            | <b>DISCUSSION</b>  | <b>ACTION</b>   |
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| <b>A. Call to Order</b>        | President Zendle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.  |   |
| <b>Roll Call</b>               | The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all Directors present.   |   |
| <b>B. Pledge of Allegiance</b> | Director Matthews led the pledge of allegiance.  |   |
| <b>C. Approval of Agenda</b>   | President Zendle asked for approval of the agenda.   | <b>#20-24 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Vice-President De Lara to approve the agenda.</b><br><b>Motion passed unanimously.</b><br><b>AYES – 7 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Borja, and Director Shorr</b><br><b>NOES – 0</b><br><b>ABSENT – 0</b> |
| <b>D. Public Comment</b>       | Numerous residents of the Oasis Mobile Home Park explained the rising costs of rent and utilities, detailing the arsenic in the water, poor air quality, and housing |   |



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|  | <p>conditions. The residents requested that the District assist them with the quality of life matters in the mobile home park.</p> <p>Other speakers included Blaz Gutierrez, environmental and legal advocacy attorney, California Rural Legal Assistance, and Monica Telles, Senior Development Specialist, Riverside County Economic Development Agency, explained her work with the families detailing the LOI submission for assistance in the mobile home park.</p> <p>Jacqueline Lopez, District Director, Congressman Raul Ruiz, explained that the Congressman is aware of the issues and he is working with the EPA and scheduling upcoming meetings, monitoring the situation, and speaking with the tribe that owns the land.</p> <p>Sergio Carranza, Executive Director, Pueblo Unido, described the complexities in Mecca and the necessity of partnering with other agencies.</p> <p>Vice-President De Lara thanked the residents for expressing their views at the meeting and explained the importance of understanding the housing conditions as it relates to health and the needs of the Eastern Coachella Valley.</p> |   |
| <p><b>E. Consent Agenda</b><br/> <b>1. Board Minutes</b><br/> <b>a. Board of Directors Meeting – July 23</b></p> | <p>President Zendle asked for a roll call to approve the consent agenda.</p>   | <p><b>#20-25 MOTION for approval of the consent agenda was approved. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director</b></p> |



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| <p><b>2. Finance and Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. Approval of July and August 2019 Financial Statements– F&amp;A Approved September 10, 2019</b></li> <li><b>b. Revised Organizational Chart, Proposed Salaries, and Job Descriptions</b></li> <li><b>c. Human Resources Consultant Service Agreement</b></li> <li><b>d. Las Palmas Plaza Lease Extension – Suite 1W 201 – Peter Jamieson, MD</b></li> <li><b>e. Las Palmas Plaza Lease – Suites 1W 105-106 – Cohen, Much, &amp; Thomas Medical Group</b></li> <li><b>f. Las Palmas Plaza Lease Extension – Suite 1W 204 – Dennis Sprugin, DC</b></li> <li><b>g. First Amendment to CEO Employment Agreement – Auto Allowance \$500/month</b></li> </ul> |   | <p><b>Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Borja, and Director Shorr</b><br/><b>NOES – 0</b><br/><b>ABSENT – 0</b></p> |
| <p><b>F. Public Hearing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Expansion and Rezoning Background</b></li> <li><b>2. Zone Mapping Process for the New District Boundaries ~ 7 zones –</b></li> </ul>   | <p>Justin Levitt, PhD, Vice-President, National Demographics Corporation, detailed the rezoning of the District, districting criteria, federal laws, and shaping the District. Dr. Levitt</p> |  |



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| <p><b>Justin Levitt, Vice President, National Demographics Corporation</b></p> | <p>detailed the draft maps that include Agave, Mesquite, Yucca, and Cholla.</p> <p>Linda Evans, Mayor, City of La Quinta, described the Cholla Map that keeps La Quinta together as opposed to dividing the area.</p> <p>Gary Rotto, Borrego Health, inquired on the projections for individuals that may be eligible to vote in the next 2-4 years. Dr. Levitt explained that the eligible voters and registered voter numbers are available, and he encouraged Mr. Rotto to review the eligible voters that can provide some detail, including the population group. Areas near Interstate 10 in Palm Desert and Rancho Mirage are the largest growing areas followed by the Eastern Valley.</p> <p>Sergio Carranza, Executive Director, Pueblo Unido, recommends the Agave map explaining that Vice-President De Lara and Director Borja are aware of the work that is ahead, and the Agave map is an effective way to move forward.</p> <p>Barrett Newkirk, Communications Manager, Alianza, stated that the Agave map has strong areas and the Cholla map would redraw districts 6 and 7.</p> <p>Joslyn Vargas, Thermal resident, approves of the Agave map.</p> <p>Director Rogers explained that the map selection is a difficult task, but she is concerned about keeping the</p> |  |
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|  | <p>communities together, and the maps represent the entire communities.</p> <p>Director Borja explained that the Agave map population would make elections challenging.</p> <p>Vice-President De Lara explained that it is important to hear public input as it relates to the public comments heard earlier, the issues will not be resolved in one night, it is important for the public to observe who will be representing those areas long-term, and how they can strengthen representation. There are pros and cons with the maps, but the map that is presented for the first time, the Cholla map, includes unincorporated area, but there is a preference for the Agave map since it includes two representatives.</p> <p>President Zendle explained that some of the zones include more than one Director, rezoning will take place again in 2020 after the Census, and he is concerned that the Cholla map in Palm Springs is divided into areas with three Directors.</p> <p>Dr. Levitt inquired with the Board on their direction, such as a map with Palm springs divided into two, not three, that has a zone for each Board member; the north communities should remain together, and if there should be two zones in Indio to the Salton Sea.</p> <p>Vice-President De Lara requested that the far east area of the Coachella Valley have two zones, and narrow</p> |  |
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|   | <p>down the maps to two, such as Agave and Cholla – three minority-majority districts per Director Borja.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>G. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</b><br/><b>1. AB 1095 Desert Healthcare District – Revised term limits for the appointments of Vice-President De Lara and Director Borja</b></p> | <p>Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO, detailed AB 1095, and the revised term limits for the appointments of Vice-President De Lara and Director Borja, which enables both Directors to run for election at the end of their terms.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga explained his ongoing efforts with the District, upcoming meetings with council members, assemblymembers, and congressional members, including his extensive work with the staff.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga expressed his intention to create an evidence-based path to advancing the District’s mission and role in the community, in order to create:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A shared Vision</li> <li>- An inclusive framework for action, and</li> <li>- Clearly defined benchmarks, goals, and targets.</li> </ul> <p>Highlighting the importance of having an evidence-based districtwide Needs Assessment, Dr. Bárzaga invited all sectors of the community to participate in this task, including government agencies, nonprofits, and the business community.</p> <p>He concluded by saying that a path to creating a Vibrant Coachella Valley requires relentless leadership, long-term vision, and audacious action.</p> |  |
| <p><b>H. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</b></p>  | <p>President Zendle explained that Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care</p>   |  |



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|  | Network, Desert Regional Medical Center was unable to attend the meeting; thus, no report was provided.   |   |
| <b>I. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board of Directors Report</b>   | President Zendle explained that the meeting was brief, and the EVS Department contract has changed. The quality measures were discussed, as well as the credentialing of new and current physicians.  |   |
| <b>J. 1. Finance, Legal, Administration, and Real Estate Committee</b>   | Director Matthews explained the F&A Committee items as approved in the consent agenda, and the meeting minutes that are available for review.   |   |
| <b>a. Meeting Minutes -- September 10, 2019</b>  |   |   |
| <b>2. Program Committee</b>  | Director Rogers described the Program Committee meeting, the grant proposals under development, and the consideration to approve the grant for Jewish Family Services.  | <b>#20-26 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Shorr to approve Grant #1017 Jewish Family Services (JFS) - \$90,000 to support case management services for homeless prevention. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Borja, and Director Shorr NOES – 0 ABSENT – 0</b> |
| <b>a. Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2019</b>   |   |   |
| <b>b. Grant Proposals Under Development</b>  |   |   |
| <b>c. Consideration to approve Grant #1017 Jewish Family Services (JFS) - \$90,000 to support case management services for homeless prevention</b> | Maureen Foreman, Executive Director, Jewish Family Services, explained the work of the organization and individuals that will benefit from the grant. Ms. Foreman also encouraged the residents of Oasis Mobile Home Park to contact their office for rental assistance.          |   |
| <b>d. Consideration to approve Grant #1025 Ready Set Swim (RSS) to the Desert Healthcare Foundation - \$200,000</b>                                | Director Rogers described the grant for Ready Set Swim (RSS) from the Desert Health District to the Desert Healthcare Foundation.<br><br>Vanessa Smith, Special Projects and Programs Manager, explained the Ready Set Swim program that also incorporates nutrition. The program | <b>#20-27 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Shorr to approve Grant #1025 Ready Set Swim (RSS) to the Desert Healthcare Foundation. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President Zendle, Vice-President De Lara, Director Matthews, Director Rogers,</b>  |



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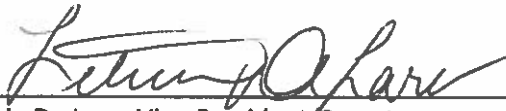
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| <p><b>3. Strategic Planning Committee</b></p>  | <p>will expand to the East Valley in the coming year.</p> <p>President Zendle provided an update on the Strategic Planning Committee explaining that the committee discussed the possibility of a community health needs assessment, an inventory of other agencies with assessments, and describing the specifics of phase 1 and phase 2 of the RFP that includes the Association for Community Health Improvement’s Community Health Assessment Toolkit nine-step guide.</p> <p>Vice-President De Lara requested that staff consider partnering with other agencies such as Kaiser and Borrego Health to share resources that benefits the District and those agencies.</p> | <p><b>Director PerezGil, Director Borja, and Director Shorr</b><br/><b>NOES – 0</b></p> |
| <p><b>K. Old Business</b></p> <p><b>1. LGBTQ Community Center of the Desert – Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC) report deliverable</b></p> | <p>President Zendle explained the report deliverables of the LGBTQ Community Center of the Desert that is available in the packet for review.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>L. New Business</b></p>  |   |   |
| <p><b>M. Legal Comments &amp; Reports</b></p>  | <p>Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, described the background and aspects of AB 1184 – Public Records Email Retention, AB 1486 – Surplus Property, and SB 227 – Nurse Patient Ratios.</p>  |   |
| <p><b>N. Directors’ Comments, Reports, Informational</b></p>   | <p>Director Borja explained that the issues from the Oasis Mobile Home</p>  |   |





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| <b>Items, &amp; Staff Direction and Guidance</b> | Park are not the only issues and encouraged the residents to continue to provide public participation. |  |
| <b>O. Adjournment</b>                            | President Zende adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.   | <b>Audio recording available on the website at <a href="http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents">http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</a></b> |

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

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