



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 28, 2020**

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

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>A. Call to Order</b>	President De Lara called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.	
<b>Roll Call</b>	The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all Directors present.	
<b>B. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	President De Lara asked Vice-President Borja to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.	
<b>C. Approval of Agenda</b>	President De Lara asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	<b>#20-49 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the agenda.</b> <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b> <b>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b>
<b>D. Public Comment</b>	There was no public comment.	
<b>E. Consent Agenda</b> <b>1. Board Minutes</b> <b>a. Board of Directors Meeting – December 22, 2019</b>	President De Lara described the consent agenda items. Director Zendle explained the change to the minutes and asked for a motion of approval with the correction.	<b>#20-50 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Shorr and seconded by Director PerezGil to approve the consent agenda.</b> <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b>



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<p><b>b. Approval of the November and December 2019 Financial Statements – F&amp;A approved January 14, 2020</b></p>	<p>Director Borja inquired on the Desert Sun expenses. Chris Christensen, CAO, explained that the expenses are related to advertising and the public hearings on rezoning.</p>	<p><b>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>
<p><b>F. Appointment of Committees</b></p>	<p>President De Lara made the following committee appointments:</p> <p>Strategic Planning Committee – President De Lara; chair, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</p> <p>Program Committee – Chair, Director PerezGil; Vice-President Borja, Director Rogers</p> <p>F&amp;A Committee – (unchanged) President De Lara; chair, Director Matthews, and Director Shorr</p> <p>Hospital Lease Oversight Committee – Chair, Director Zendle; Director Rogers, and Director Shorr</p> <p>Board and Staff Policies &amp; Communications Ad Hoc Committee is now a standing committee – Chair, President De Lara; Director PerezGil, and Director Zendle</p> <p>Behavioral Health Ad Hoc Committee is now dissolved.</p> <p>Tenet Lease Committee Ad Hoc (unchanged) Chair, Director Matthews; Vice-President Borja, and Director Shorr.</p>	<p><b>#20-51 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Matthews and seconded by Vice-President Borja to approve the committee appointments. Motion passed unanimously.</b> <b>AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr</b> <b>NOES – 0</b> <b>ABSENT – 0</b></p>



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	<p>Directors Rogers and Zendle will continue to serve as District appointees on Desert Regional Medical Center’s Governing Board, and Director Rogers will continue to serve as the District designee at the monthly Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) Homelessness Committee meetings.</p>	
<p><b>G. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. LAFCO – Municipal Services Review</b></li> <li><b>2. Community Health Needs Assessment</b></li> </ol>	<p>Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO, explained the Municipal Services Review (MCR) questionnaire that has been received must be completed by February 11, and the upcoming meeting with the executive director of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to ensure the District is providing all the necessary information.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga thanked the supporters that provided funding to the community health needs assessment including Borrego Health, Desert Regional Medical Center, and The California Endowment.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga explained his participation in a call with The California Endowment on an update for the completion of the first 10 years of Building Healthy Communities. The Endowment is unsure of the next steps and which grantees will no longer receive funding, but the communities in the initiative will be doubled regionally.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga highlighted AB 890 which is advancing the scope of</p>	



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	<p>practice for nurse practitioners to have unsupervised practice – passing with bill amendments and headed to the assembly floor by January 31.</p>	
<p><b>H. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report</b></p>	<p>Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Care Network, Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC), explained that the flu season in January had more ER visits than in all of January 2019. The bed demands were reviewed with the appropriate adjustments; with declining birth rates the area of overflow for postpartum opened 32 surgical beds and added additional capability of 18 additional telemeds. The ER Department currently has an 8 percent higher patient flow than usual, and the ER Department remodel will be completed by March. DRMC is monitoring the coronavirus, following the care requirements with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and staff is interviewing patients with an emphasis on patients traveling internationally.</p> <p>In December there were \$1M of investments in capital equipment purchases; new services that include the savi scout localization – an implant for better monitoring of the surgical intervention; cryophasion to freeze misfired nerves that is less evasive; the peds unit was vacated to refurbish the HVAC system; DRMC hosted several events throughout the month that included stroke awareness, heart care, blood drives, and other community events.</p>	



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	<p>Director Rogers thanked DRMC for providing flu vaccines to the homeless population.</p>	
<p><b>I. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board of Directors Report</b></p>	<p>Director Zendle explained the visit from Tenet Health CEO Ron Rittenmeyer on quality improvement focusing on resources and processes. There is a net increase of 47 RNs in 2019 from 2018. A presentation was provided on the quality reports for CMS and Leapfrog from DRMC's most recent scores. Credentialing and peer review for every physician takes place every two years, and sometimes more often.</p> <p>Director Rogers acknowledged that a new member of the governing board will be appointed given the passing of board member Thomas Smith.</p>	
<p><b>J. FY2019 Audit Report Overview – Per Board direction from the November 2019 meeting</b> <b>1. FY2019 Audit Reports Overview (District &amp; Foundation) – Craig Hartzheim, Managing Partner, Moss Levy &amp; Hartzheim</b></p>	<p>Craig Hartzheim, Managing Partner, Moss Levy &amp; Hartzheim, provided an overview of his work with the District over the years, explaining that he can review the financials with any interested Board members. The audit firm ensures that the Retirement Protection Plan (RPP) financials are consistent, and the investment advisor does the remainder of the work. Mr. Hartzheim answered questions about investments, cash, and depreciation.</p>	
<p><b>K.1. Finance, Legal, Administration and Real Estate Committee</b></p>	<p>Director Matthews explained the minutes of the January meeting,</p>	



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<p><b>1. Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2020 meeting</b></p>	<p>also describing that the committee is working on the upcoming fiscal budget.</p>	
<p><b>2. Program Committee</b>  <b>a. Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2020</b>  <b>b. Progress and Final Reports</b>  <b>c. Funding Requests</b></p>	<p>Director Rogers described the minutes of the January meeting, also providing an overview of the progress and final reports, and funding requests.</p>	
<p><b>3. Hospital Lease Oversight Committee</b>  <b>a. Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2019</b></p>	<p>Director Zendle explained the minutes of the December 2019 Hospital Lease Oversight meeting that included the Desert Regional Medical Center Leapfrog scores presentation.</p>	
<p><b>4. Strategic Planning Committee</b>  <b>a. Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2020</b>  <b>b. Consideration to approve the selection of Health Assessment &amp; Research for Communities (HARC) as the contractor to implement all phases of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) – NTE \$300,000</b></p>	<p>Director Zendle explained the minutes of the January meeting describing the community health needs assessment service agreement for approval with the Health Assessment &amp; Research for Communities (HARC).</p> <p>Dr. Bázquez explained the long-term vision that requires understanding the needs of the community and identifying the tasks to embark on to improve the health outcomes for a vibrant Coachella Valley. Once in place, the District will be able to drive the strategies, looking outward for the needs of the community and inward for the District to strengthen and build while addressing the needs in the next few years. An assessment is necessary with a chosen methodology and a community-driven community engagement. As</p>	<p><b>#20-52 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve the selection of Health Assessment &amp; Research for Communities (HARC) as the contractor to implement all phases of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) – NTE \$300,000. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 7 President De Lara, Vice-President Borja, Director Matthews, Director Rogers, Director PerezGil, Director Zendle, and Director Shorr          NOES – 0          ABSENT – 0</b></p>



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	<p>we advance on the needs, the District will work on a health improvement plan, also providing an overview of the background, proposals received, the external reviewers, the tools and scoring with the highest score belonging to HARC to conduct the assessment and develop a health improvement plan.</p> <p>The Board discussed the plan such as matters that make a difference like smoking cessation, the social determinants of health, and thanked the staff for its work.</p>	
<b>L. Old Business</b>	There was no old business.	
<b>M. New Business</b>	There was no new business.	
<b>N. Legal Comments &amp; Reports</b>	Jeff Scott, Legal Counsel, provided a legislative report outlining the fiscal year budget of \$222B with a 3% increase, also describing funding for homelessness and behavioral health services.	
<b>O. Directors' Comments, Reports, Informational Items, &amp; Staff Direction and Guidance</b>	<p>President De Lara explained that she was asked by a candidate to endorse them for political office. Mrs. De Lara contacted the District's legal counsel to ensure it is appropriate in her capacity and common courtesy to the other Board members. An overview of the Black History Month Awards Gala was provided, also explaining that the Board can request any agenda items in this section of the monthly meetings.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja described her meeting with Dr. Bärzaga, last year's report from JFK CEO Gary</p>	



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	<p>Honts, and she is requesting a similar report from Eisenhower and JFK Memorial, given that the hospitals serve all the residents across the Coachella Valley, similar to Michele Finney’s monthly verbal reports.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga explained that the District has a good relationship with Tenet Health, and he can request a report from JFK Memorial, but the District has no influence over the work of Eisenhower.</p> <p>Director Shorr recommended and the Board agreed for staff to come back with strategies and recommendations for keeping the community informed and a better understanding of the community needs with the hospitals in the valley.</p> <p>Director Rogers explained the past funding of the family practice residency program at Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC), and she is requesting information on the contract with DRMC. Staff was directed to investigate the history and provide a report.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga explained that he will discuss the request with DRMC, but due to the legal sensitive issues the report may not be provided to the Board. Staff can also prepare a report on the prior \$5M commitment to the program.</p>	
<b>P. Adjournment</b>	President De Lara adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.	<b><i>Audio recording available on the website at</i></b>





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		<a href="http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents">http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</a>
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ATTEST:   
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Karen Borja, Vice-President/Secretary  
Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

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