



Morongo Basin Health Care District
Community Health Center

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

MINUTES of Thursday, November 12, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

- Convened via GoToMeeting, an electronic, remote-site platform temporarily permitted as per the Executive Order issued by California's Governor in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Additionally, a physical meeting was convened on the District's campus at 6530 La Contenta Road, Yucca Valley, suite 700. The public was screened for COVID-19 symptoms before entering the building and were asked to wear a face mask while inside. Seating was limited to accommodate the six-foot distancing guidelines.

Mission Statement: To improve the health and wellness of the communities we serve.

Vision Statement: A healthy Morongo Basin.

Core Values: Commitment, Collaboration, Accountability, Dignity, Integrity

PRESENT:

- Paul Hoffman, Chairperson (*on-site*)
- Beverly Scott, Vice Chairperson (*remote*)
- Barbara "Cassie" Souter, Secretary (*remote*)
- Bryan Goldfarb, Treasurer (*remote*)
- Mary Ann Shirbourn, Member (*on-site*)
- Patricia "Pat" Cooper, Member (*on-site*)
- Alejandro Penalva, Member (*remote*)
- Cecelia St. Clair (*on-site*)
- Misty Evans, Member (*remote*)
- Dianne Greenhouse, Member (*on-site*)

STAFF:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Debbie Anderson, CFO
- Cindy Schmall, COO
- Joe Ruddon, Director Community Programming
- Bennett Pafford, M.D.
- Stephanie Eigner, CHC Manager

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Karen Graley, board clerk, conducted roll call and declared a quorum.

OBSERVANCES:

- Paul Hoffman led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Mary Ann Shirbourn read the mission and vision statements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Hoffman introduced clinics' new physician, Bennett Pafford, M.D., and invited him to speak to the assembly. He is Internal Medicine for adults and specializes in geriatrics.

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion 20-15: Motion by Dianne Greenhouse to approve the meeting Agenda; motion seconded by Mary Ann Shirbourn; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF CHC MEETING MINUTES:

Motion 20-16: Motion by Mary Ann Shirbourn, second by Beverly Scott, to approve the Governing Board meeting minutes dated October 8, 2020; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

PRESENTATION

UPDATE: DISTRICT BOARD'S DECLARATION OF RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Ms. Combs introduced the presentation which was presented to the District board at their November meeting.

1. The declaration stated that the District will actively participate in the dismantling of racism by promoting equity through enhancing studies and education aiming to understand, address, and reduce health disparities and racism.
2. Solidify and establish alliances and partnerships with other organizations and community groups and members to address health disparities caused by racism. And continue to promote and support policies that prioritize the health of all people, especially of color.
3. Provide racial equity training to all staff personnel.
4. Study and evaluate existing District and community policies and practices through a lens of racial equity to promote and support changes that prioritize all areas of health in an equitable way, especially for people of color, and mitigate exposure to adverse childhood experiences.
5. Based on community assessments, identify clear goals and objectives to improve community health disparities and periodically report to the Board progress on the goals.
6. As a learning organization we seek to improve the health and wellness of the communities we serve. We cannot effectively achieve this if we do not understand the issues and barriers members of community face.

She presented a list of meetings and webinars that were related to racism and the specific take-aways. She has made a point to share what she learned with executive and management staff. She highlighted some of the data and impressions from the webinars.

- **Battling Over Birth – Black Women and the Maternal Healthcare Crisis in California:** Black women are three to four times more likely than white women to die of pregnancy-related causes. Black babies born in California are twice as likely to die before their first birthday. One in seven black babies are born too soon or too small.
- **CHAISR:** young children of all races were tested over different periods of time from 1950 forward. Children were shown a black doll and a white doll, or shown drawings of children that range in color from very dark to white and asked to rate good/bad: the children always pointed to the white for good and the black for bad. Racial trauma can be either experienced, observed, observed over media or observed from history. It causes increased stress which can lead to increased obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, and cardiac disease. 31% of blacks receive behavioral healthcare as compared to 48% of whites.

The next step is Jackie Combs, Joe Ruddon and Cindy Schmall will participate in a 15-month fellowship, Reach Out and Center for Civic Policy 2020 Healing Communities through Racial Justice.

BEVERLY SCOTT thanked Jackie for the presentation. The County is also addressing the topic and issuing a declaration. She asked if Ms. Combs had any contact with the County on this. Ms. Combs said she hasn't She was invited by ReachOut to represent the Morongo Basin to address the issue with both San Bernardino and Riverside County.

DISCUSSION

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER GOVERNING BOARD BYLAWS REVIEW – *Paul Hoffman*

Mr. Hoffman introduced the discussion and stated that there were additional edits since last month's meeting. Ms. Combs compared the Bylaws to the HRSA Compliance Manual and incorporated that language. She walked through the redlined document with the board.

CHC GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS – *Paul Hoffman*

Mr. Hoffman stated that in January new officers are elected. He encouraged members to be involved in the leadership of the CHC governing board.

REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT – *Debbie Anderson, CFO*

Units for September remained flat with the previous month, landing at 2,985 (as compared to 2,989 for August. Average units for FY 19-20 pre COVID were 3,606, which puts units at about 83% of pre COVID numbers. However, COVID testing is beginning soon and with that, we expect units to increase. Additionally, the Women & Children's services have started, so that also should help to boost units.

Due to the clinics positive bottom line, September had no net income recognized for "lost revenue". Additionally, new regulations came out concerning the calculations for this on October 22, 2020. Deferred monies received (but not expended yet) is still at \$798,604 as of September 31, 2020.

Finally, the first quarter has been completed for FY 19-20. In the district board meeting, it was discussed revising the budget and reviewing units (revenue), the allocation between district and clinic, & transportation income/expense.

September 2020 operating income after allocation came in at \$89,017, and the change in net position also came in at \$43,068, both of which were over budgeted expectations.

Bryan Goldfarb asked if the CARES Act monies could be redirected since the rules changed. Ms. Anderson responded that the definition changed for lost revenue in that the financial statement must show a negative net income for the grant period. CHC does not have a negative net income and cannot apply the monies as lost revenue. The monies are being directed for the purchase of PPE supplies. A six-month extension may be available.

- Motion by Mary Ann Shirbourn to accept the fiancé report for August and September; second by Beverly Scott; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

CEO REPORT – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs referred the Board to Tab 4 of the agenda packet for her written report. She presented the following additional information:

- COVID-19 testing and flu vaccines for the community launches on Monday.
- We have applied with the County for approval as a COVID-19 vaccination provider.
- We have hired Dr. Pafford, internal medicine; a psychiatrist for tele-health services; and a nurse practitioner.

BOARD CALENDAR:

- Food Distribution event Saturday, November 21, 8:00 a.m. at 29 Palms and Yucca Valley clinics.
- November quality committee moved to Tuesday, November 17.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

- Approval of CHC Governing Bylaws

MEMBER COMMENTS:

- BEVERLY SCOTT: I am very grateful to hear of a new psychiatrist and other medical providers. It's great.
- BARBARA SOUTER: The racism program is so important.
- MARY ANN SHIRBROUN: Great reports tonight.
- PAT COOPER: "The racism report was upsetting and god bless you for pursuing this" She thanked staff for their reports; "COVID-19 testing at clinics is fantastic."
- CECELIA ST. CLAIR: "I'm very happy to hear we have a new psychiatrist and hope it helps alleviate the patient wait time."
- DIANNE GREENHOUSE: Thanked staff for their reports, and was pleased to hear of the provider recruitment success. She welcomed Dr. Pafford.
- MISTY EVANS: Thanked staff for the reports and their hard work.
- ALEJANDRO PENALVA: no comment
- GOLDFARB: Thanked staff for their successful recruitment of providers.
- PAUL HOFFMAN: Thanked Dr. Pafford for being at the meeting and said he was hoping for a long journey together. He thanked every board member for their attendance and for achieving 100% attendance to work together and improve patient access for our patients. "My wife got COVID-19 this year and was hospitalized for nine days. She speaks highly of the Hi-Desert Medical Center care team. We both recently were tested as negative for COVID-19." He thanked Michelle Zicarria for taking care of them. He clarified to the board members that if a patient comes to a board member with a complaint, call the CEO who will direct it to the appropriate personnel to assist the patient. Do not insert yourself into the situation. "Finally, I wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving."

MEETING ADJOURNED

Mr. Hoffman adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Karen Graley, Board Clerk



Paul Hoffman, Chairperson



Cassie Souter, Secretary