



Morongo Basin Health Care District
Community Health Center

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

MINUTES of Thursday, December 10, 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 (*on-site*)
- Bryan Goldfarb, Treasurer (*remote*)
- Mary Ann Shirbourn, Member (*EXCUSED*)
- 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
- Janeen Duff, Manager Mobile Dental

CALL TO ORDER: 6:02 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.
- Alejandro Penalva read the mission and vision statements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion 20-19: Motion by Dianne Greenhouse to approve the meeting Agenda; motion seconded by Bryan Goldfarb; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF CHC MEETING MINUTES:

Motion 20-16: Motion by Barbara Souter, second by Misty Evans, to approve the Governing Board meeting minutes dated October 8, 2020; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF CHC BYLAWS – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs stated that after review of the Bylaws at the November meeting, she has received no additional feedback for change. Mr. Hoffman called for the vote.

- **Motion 20-21:** Motion by Beverly Scott to approve the CHC Bylaws revisions as presented; second by Barbara Souter; motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF POLICY FS-213 SLIDING FEE DISCOUNT PROGRAM – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs made revisions at HRSA's request from the last audit, and incorporated the copy from the HRSA compliance manual. There was no discussion.

- **Motion 20-22:** Motion by Barbara Souter to approve Policy FS-213 Sliding Fee Discount Program as presented; second by Dianne Greenhouse; motion passed by unanimous vote.

REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT – *Debbie Anderson, CFO*

Ms. Anderson reported that the October 2020 financial statements for the clinics have been adjusted to \$(16,225) to accommodate the stimulus grant. Based on the latest guidance, healthcare expenses incurred must be "net of other reimbursed sources". The net income of the clinics from Jan 2020 to June 2020 was \$16,225. As such, the calendar year to date net income for the clinics is now at \$0.

Finally, the budget is in the process of being revised, as requested at the last board meeting. However, in order to do this accurately, the grant income for the stimulus funds needed to be better understood.

October 2020 operating income after allocation came in at \$62,590, and the change in net position also came in at \$62,590, both of which were over budgeted expectations. Year to date clinic operating income after allocation came in at \$(16,225), and the change in net position also came in at \$(16,225), both of which were under budgeted expectations.

The current District budget is being adjustment to accommodate new projects like the food distribution project and recent grants. She does not anticipate adjusting the CHC budget.

- **Motion 20-23:** Motion by Bryan Goldfarb to accept the finance report for October; second by Dianne Greenhouse; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

CEO REPORT – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs referred the Board to Tab 5 of the agenda packet for her written report. She presented the following additional information:

- It was brought to her attention that the board has requested an on-going presentation about CHC service lines and programs. Those presentations will begin in January, 2021.
- Vision care has been approved by HRSA; we have finished credentialing the optometrists; and the patient record system is being updated to interface with their system.
- Dr. Puglisi has passed. The behavioral health nurse practitioner is on maternity leave. Mary Ann Shirbroun, nurse practitioner, has taken a leave of absence from the CHC board to assist with our behavioral health patients. Dr. Krassner, psychiatrist, was hired and will begin seeing patients in January.

- We have received the UC Riverside executed contract for telehealth for behavioral health services for children. We are recruiting for a second psychiatrist who will not be telehealth but local.
- Cecelia St. Clair asked for clarification on why the chiropractic team moved to the Split Rock facility. Ms. Combs explained that Dr. Pafford, who will see adult patients at the 29 Palms clinic, needed dedicated exam rooms.
- Food insecurity: The health centers will administer a vital signs survey as part of the data collection process and to create opportunity to provide patients in need with a bag containing food.
- Beverly Scott asked about the HRSA hypertension grant. Ms. Combs explained that it is a grant of \$90,000/year over three years to improve the health of our patients with hypertension issues. This will include providing an electronic monitoring unit so the provider can intervene when blood pressure readings are high.

BOARD CALENDAR:

- Food Distribution event Saturday, December 19, 8:00 a.m. at 29 Palms and Yucca Valley clinics.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

- Election of officers
- Board education / presentation
- Virtual ways we're reaching out to the community

MEMBER COMMENTS:

- BEVERLY SCOTT: "This last year has been bittersweet with COVID; but the healthcare district has stepped up and kept things going in such an efficient manner. Staff's dedication is impressive. Glad to hear that all patients will be screened for food insecurity. It's an opportunity for patients living on the margin to get help. Great job, everybody."
- BARBARA SOUTER: "Sad to hear about Dr. Puglisi passing; it's great that his staff are stepping into the gap for our patients."
- PAT COOPER: Thanked Debbie Anderson for her report, "She does such a great job in making the finance report understandable. It's wonderful that Dr. Puglisi's work will continue."
- CECELIA ST. CLAIR: She shared her personal experience regarding dental services. Her grandson was distressed by previous dental visits; when he came to the Mobile Dental Program, Janeen and her staff did such a great job with her grandson that he wanted to go visit the "big bus" the next day. She noted that Dr. Shih is very good with children. "Nothing but great regards for him."
- DIANNE GREENHOUSE: Thanked the staff for another stellar calendar year.
- MISTY EVANS: She offered condolences to staff and the family of Dr. Puglisi. "Happy to hear about the potential hypertension grant. Thank you for the reports."
- ALEJANDRO PENALVA: no comment.
- BRYAN GOLDFARB: "Great to hear about the additional grants. Lastly, thank you to staff for their hard work."
- PAUL HOFFMAN: "Thank you all for your attendance. Your contributions for healthcare in the Basin has made a difference in our community. The CCC has an annual program to assist patients with needs at Christmas time. Because of COVID, they are at a disadvantage. Multiple organizations in the community are making contributions for their holiday celebration. I have a list

of items still needed for the residents if anyone is interested in participating. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.”

MEETING ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

Paul Hoffman adjourned open session at 6:46 to closed session Pursuant to Section 32155 of the Health and Safety Code for report involving quality assurance matters.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hoffman adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m. and reported that the board received report on the patient satisfaction survey; there were no negative outcomes.

Minutes recorded by Karen Graley, Board Clerk



Paul Hoffman, Chairperson

Cassie Souter, Secretary