

Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District dba  
**Morongo Basin Healthcare District**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**December 9, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.**

*Convened at the District Offices*

6530 La Contenta Road, Suite 100, Yucca Valley CA 92284  
760.820.9229

- **Mission Statement:** *To improve the health and wellness of the communities we serve.*
- **Vision:** *A healthy Morongo Basin.*
- **Core Values:** *Commitment, Collaboration, Accountability, Dignity, Integrity.*

Board of Directors:

- Director Cooper, President
- Director Avels, Vice President
- Director Doyle, Secretary
- Director Sullivan, Treasurer
- Director Hoffman, Member at Large

Administrative Staff:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Dean Moore, President, HDMHCD Foundation
- Nora Maughan, Hi-Desert Family Health Clinics (HDFHC), Executive Director
- Kathy Alkire, HDFHC, Director Clinical Operations

Media:

- None present

Guests:

- Korina Cole, past Board of Director
- Stan Helgesen, HDMC Auxiliary President
- Diane Swella, past Board of Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Cooper called the meeting to order at 5:39.

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Graley, Board Clerk, conducted roll call:

- Director Cooper: present
- Director Avels: present
- Director Sullivan: present
- Director Doyle: not present
- Director Hoffman: present

**OBSERVANCES**

- Director Sullivan read the healthcare district's mission statement.
- Director Cooper read the healthcare district's vision statement.
- Director Doyle read the healthcare district's core values statement.
- Director Hoffman led the Pledge of Allegiance.



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion 15-89:** Director Doyle motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Sullivan; motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### HDMCHD: A Retrospective Journey and Presentation, Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs presented a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the history of the healthcare district from initial construction of the medical center in 1975 to current day.

Ms. Combs shared that a gift of Nambe had been purchased to memorialize the legacy decision of the Board of Directors to affiliate and lease the medical center to Tenet Healthcare Corp. The gifts were inscribed and presented to each Director, and to past Directors Korina Cole and Dianne Swella; all of whom were instrumental in the lease of the medical center.

The Directors, who had not been informed of the memorial gift, were deeply appreciative of the recognition of their personal effort to secure the affiliation with Tenet and the guarantee of the medical center for the community.

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda presented the following items for approval:

- Minutes: Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, November 23, 2015
- Policy LD-224: Conflict of Interest Code

**Motion 15-90:** Director Avels motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Doyle; motion passed by unanimous vote. Director Sullivan abstained because he was not present at the previous meetings.

## **REPORTS**

### Hi-Desert Family Health Clinics, Nora Maughan, Executive Director

Ms. Maughan reported 2,200 visits for November between both clinics, even with a provider out for vacation and the loss of another who moved to Oregon. A replacement provider has interviewed for the vacancy.

The \$300,000 transportation grant through SANBAG has been awarded but documentation still has not arrived; therefore, no monies in hand. The program continues to operate at a loss; the grant will be retroactive to September 2015.

Sheree Fansler is the certified enrollment counselor for Covered California. She finalized 23 applicants in November and assisted on many Medi-Cal applications. Ben Costello has completed the application for certified enrollment counselor with Covered California and will soon be able to assist with enrollment.

HRSA grant compliance is almost complete; requested policies will be forwarded to HRSA for compliance.

Currently in the process of completing a grant application of \$350,000 for oral health care service expansion. The grant allows \$150,000 in the first year toward equipment.



HDMHCD Foundation, Dean Moore, President

Mr. Moore referred the Directors to tab 3 in the packet. The Foundation board will begin their strategic planning on Monday.

The Foundation received the TAG grant from Morongo Basin Transit Authority, which, like the SANBAG grant is waiting for disbursement of monies.

A year-end holiday appeal has been mailed with the hope of raising \$5,000.

The Foundation has been working with a hospital-based committee to prepare the HRSA Rural Health Network Planning grant (funded for two years). The grant focuses on COPD home care to help prevent readmission to the hospital. A locally funded grant will provide for an individual to receive training to secure additional resources for the local program. Until the grant is funded, the San Bernardino paramedics are looking to implement a program where the paramedics make the home visits.

Morongo Basin Healthcare District, Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs added to the printed report in the packet.

A Controller has been hired for the District; Patricia White comes from the City of Desert Hot Springs. She is excited about the District's mission and the opportunity to participate in its fulfillment.

Ms. Combs plans to attend the California Association of Healthcare District training. She is particularly interested in the conference agenda that covers good governance, the Brown Act, and public entity accounting.

Ms. Combs also reported that Attorney Salenko gave an update on the monument land which was overlooked in the lease agreement with Tenet. She advised that a side-letter is in process to give Tenet oversight.

Ms. Combs met with Donna Munoz regarding annexing Morongo Valley into the District; it would require an additional tax for the 3,500 residents. She does not believe the residents would be receptive to the additional taxation. California District Law allows the District to provide services outside of its geographic boundaries if it benefits the residents within the District. Should we decide to expand services into Morongo Valley, it would alleviate the patient load on the Yucca Valley clinic. A mobile van would be a good scenario for services in Morongo Valley; Ms. Combs will meet with Ms. Munoz again to explore opportunities.

We are going to purchase manikins to provide CPR training to our staff and to the community. The hospital is no longer offering CPR training so this will meet a need within the community.

Director Doyle inquired about the wound specialist in the written report. Ms. Combs explained the sequence of events that led to the opportunity. Dr. Nalam recommended a wound specialist to launch a wound program. Ms. Combs met with the physical therapist and is currently working with the clinics to design the program for implementation in the Morongo Basin.

**ACTION ITEM:** *Election of Board Officers*

Director Cooper turned the meeting over to Board Clerk, Karen Graley who opened the floor for nomination of officers for the Board of Directors and conducted the election process.



**Motion 15-91:** Motion by Director Avels to nominate Director Sullivan for President of the Board of Directors, 2016; seconded by Director Doyle; no other nominations or discussion were presented; roll call vote in favor of Director Sullivan for the position of President:

- Director Avels: yes
- Director Cooper: yes
- Director Doyle: yes
- Director Hoffman: yes
- Director Sullivan: yes

**Motion 15-92:** Motion by Director Avels to nominate Director Doyle for Vice-President of the Board of Directors, 2016; seconded by Director Sullivan; no other nominations or discussion were presented; roll call vote in favor of Director Doyle for the position of Vice-President:

- Director Avels: yes
- Director Cooper: yes
- Director Doyle: yes
- Director Hoffman: yes
- Director Sullivan: yes

**Motion 15-93:** Motion by Director Avels to nominate Director Cooper for Secretary of the Board of Directors, 2016; seconded by Director Sullivan; no other nominations or discussion were presented; roll call vote in favor of Director Cooper for the position of Secretary:

- Director Avels: yes
- Director Cooper: yes
- Director Doyle: yes
- Director Hoffman: yes
- Director Sullivan: yes

**Motion 15-94:** Motion by Director Doyle to nominate Director Hoffman for Treasurer of the Board of Directors, 2016; seconded by Director Sullivan; no other nominations or discussion were presented; roll call vote in favor of Director Hoffman for the position of Treasurer:

- Director Avels: yes
- Director Cooper: yes
- Director Doyle: yes
- Director Hoffman: yes
- Director Sullivan: yes

#### **CALENDAR REVIEW AND COODINATION**

The calendar for the Board of Directors was reviewed and coordinated:

- Regular meeting of the Board of Directors: Wednesday, January 13 and Thursday, January 28.
- Auxiliary installation of officer, December 10: Director Doyle offered best wishes and regrets to Stan Helgesen that she would be unable to attend the event; Director Avels also offered her regrets but her grandchild trumped the Auxiliary this time. She noted she will miss it as it is one of her favorite annual events.



## NEXT AGENDA

- Criteria for evaluating the CEO
- November financial to be presented at the January 13 meeting; the December financials to be presented at the January 28 with a draft budget for 2016.

## DIRECTOR COMMENTS

- Director Sullivan: stated he is thankful for the vote of confidence for President of the Board; he has learned a lot this last year and a half and is ready for the challenge; he looks forward to the continuing cooperation between the board and staff. Going forward, he sees nothing but success as we continue with this team. He wished everyone happy holidays, Merry Christmas and New Year.
- Director Avels: thanked Ms. Combs for dinner, it was excellent. She reminisced that she started her HDMC journey in 1980 and has dedicated her life to it. She is very pleased with next year's slate of officers; the rotation of positions provides opportunity for increasing skill sets. She stated she values Director Hoffman's skill set in finance. She thanked Director Cooper for hanging in there for this difficult year of transition with the Tenet affiliation. Ms. Combs has met every expectation Director Avels could have had over the last six months and now we're seeing our mission come together. She thanked Dianne Swella and Korina Cole for their part in the process to get to the right place and thanked them for being here tonight and being part of the solution. We have lots to be thankful for.
- Director Cooper: Thanked Korina Cole and Dianne Swella for their help in getting here; she thanked the board members for a great year, stating she is grateful for everyone's help this past year.
- Director Doyle: wished everyone Merry Christmas and happy holidays. She thanked Ms. Combs for the beautiful Nambe gift, saying, "I'm extraordinarily touched to have been a part of this history. I'm really proud of our staff, particularly the leadership team. We have the ability to make a difference in the community, it's already started. I'm so privileged to be a part of that."
- Director Hoffman: wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- Dianne Swella: thanked the District for the beautiful gift and the acknowledgement that comes with it. She wished everyone the best.
- Korina Cole: reminisced, "I think when we talked about the affiliation, I never imagined what the other end of the process would be like. Now, I see it was a good thing that we did. The outreach, the better access to medical care to the underserved, it's pretty exciting to see what you are going to be able to do as the healthcare District. I'm very impressed; you're going in an awesome direction. This is an amazing gift, thank you for including me. I look forward to the future."

## MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Director Cooper adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

*Board meeting minutes recorded by K. Graley, Board Clerk.*

Patricia Cooper, President

Marge Doyle, Secretary