



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

**March 10, 2016 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 Sullivan, President
- Director Doyle, Vice President
- Director Hoffman, Treasurer
- Director Avels

Media:

- None present

Administrative Staff:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Patricia White, Controller
- Dean Moore, President, MBHD Foundation
- Nora Maughan, Hi-Desert Family Health Clinics, Executive Director

Guests:

- Jerry Mattos and Art Miller, Joshua Tree Gateway Communities

**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Graley, Board Clerk, conducted roll call:

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

**OBSERVANCES**

- Director Doyle read the healthcare District's mission, vision and core values statements.
- Director Hoffman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion 16-13:** Director Hoffman motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Avels; motion passed by unanimous vote.

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda presented the following items for approval:

- Minutes: Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, February 25, 2016

**Motion 16-08:** Director Doyle motioned to approve the consent agenda as amended; motion seconded by Director Avels; motion passed by unanimous vote.

## EDUCATION

Mr. Jerry Mattos and Mr. Art Miller gave a presentation to the Board of Directors regarding the Joshua Tree Gateway Communities project. A grassroots movement of local citizens drawn from every community in the Basin came together to change the branding of the community in the interest of tourism. Mr. Mattos asked that whenever the community talks about our area that we use “Joshua Tree Gateway Communities” and help brand our community. The name “gateway” is commonly used with our National Parks. The consortium is seeking to market our community outside of the Basin. Joshua Tree Gateway Communities unifies the region with a single, familiar branding.

## REPORTS

### Strategic Plan Update, Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs used a PowerPoint presentation to update the Board of Directors regarding further changes to the strategic plan for fiscal years 2017-2019. The goals and objectives have been refined.

The purpose of the plan is to fulfill the District’s mission statement (*improving the health and wellness of the communities we serve*); sets in place a foundation for future efforts; provides an opportunity to collaborate with local government agencies and organizations; and reinforces District branding.

Three primary goals were presented but were restated for broader scope.

- **GOAL #1:** *Residents of the Morongo Basin will be able to make healthy lifestyle choices. Healthy lifestyle choices will reduce obesity and health conditions associated with obesity such as type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, hypertension and dyslipidemia.* Ms. Combs stated that this goal may be refined further to address chronic disease rather than the narrow category of obesity. Six objectives were defined and supported by 18 strategies.
- **GOAL #2:** *Residents of the Morongo Basin will have access to quality healthcare.* One objective was presented and supported by four strategies.
- **GOAL #3:** *Residents of the Morongo Basin who need assistance with non-emergent medical transportation will have access to low and no-cost transportation services.* One objective was presented; strategies are yet to be determined.

Ms. Combs invited the Directors to email Karen Graley with opportunities that could be incorporated into the strategic plan.

Director Avels suggested that the District explore offering an employee benefit of a gym membership as part of Goal 1, objective 1A.

The board discussed providing resource information to organizations and agencies; the District may function as a clearinghouse for resources.

### Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Contract Overview, Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs used a PowerPoint presentation to update the Board of Directors regarding details of the WWTP contract. Previously, Director Doyle had asked why the District was responsible for the

capacity fee of \$74,000/year; Ms. Combs explained that the District retained ownership of the facility but that Tenet reimburses the maintenance and capacity fees. WWTP repairs and replacements of the treatment plant are the responsibility of the District. Assuming the facility's 15-life span and the 30-year lease agreement, Tenet may pay for the facility replacement as a capital alteration as defined in the lease agreement.

Director Avels complimented Ms. Combs for her report and the transparency of information.

Hi-Desert Family Health Clinics, *Nora Maughan, executive director*

Ms. Maughan summarized her printed report under tab 4 in the board packet. The Directors asked for clarification on the following topics:

- The annual summary of services and statistics has been submitted to HRSA. The written report presents some patient statistics; the clinics are required to collect patient statistics as part of the HRSA report. Of note, the uninsured population of the clinics is low because the majority of uninsured patients are able to enroll for Medi-Cal benefits.
- The application for quality improvement has been submitted to HRSA. Director Doyle asked that the board recognize Kathy Alkire and her team for the extensive work they did to deliver the application for the grant.
- Director Hoffman asked that the financial reports be uniform with the District's format, including a budget comparison and variance. Ms. Maughan said the clinics will soon have a new budget and it will include Director Hoffman's requests. Ms. Combs stated that Ms. White is working with Mr. Best to audit past numbers and that future financial reports will be as requested.
- Director Doyle asked where the District support of "outreach" is shown on the finance report. This report is a consolidated report and that detail is not presented. She requested a breakout of the categories.
- Director Hoffman asked for detail of the "other" category for \$7,000.
- Ms. Maughan presented the working "to-do" list of the tasks/projects that drove last year's separation from the medical center. It shows that everything on the list has been completed. She noted that the list was completed without support from the medical center's CEO and most of the department directors. Ms. Maughan stated that she is very proud of what has been accomplished. The Directors complimented her for a job well done and thanked her for her efforts. Director Doyle noted that this board directed past leadership to provide for the transition process but past leadership grossly failed; she apologized that it happened.
- Ms. Maughan announced that she has hired Cindy Dietz as a clinical manager to work hand in hand with Angie Villaluz at the Twentynine Palms facility.

Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District Foundation, *Dean Moore, president*

Mr. Moore referred the directors to tab 5 in the agenda packet and summarized the written report.

- The Foundation board has created an ad hoc committee to gather input from the community to help formulate their strategic plan. As they engage individuals they are hoping to use the engagement as a recruitment opportunity for the Foundation board.
- SANBAG has a capital program; the Foundation will apply for a grant to fund a new vehicle for the transportation program.
- Mr. Moore attended the SANBAG meeting at the Twentynine senior center to give input regarding patient transportation needs. It was a great networking opportunity as well. The transportation consortium has a long-term goal of coordinating and maximizing resources.



Morongo Basin Healthcare District Update, Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs referred the Directors to tab 6 in the agenda packet and provided the following additional information:

- The District had been at risk for \$1.4 million from a state take-back initiative for SNF payments. The District joined a class action suit against the state recall of funds; the Governor recently signed a bill that eliminated the take-back initiative due to positive state economics. However, we received an invoice for attorney fees related to the class action suit of district hospitals to fight the initiative. Director Hoffman asked that the District contact the offices of Chad Mayes to thank him for his effort to eliminate this risk.
- Received a call from the National Park Services regarding an existing contract and funds for the “Take A Hike” program. The local representative will meet with us next week to relaunch the program in our community as a function of the park’s centennial celebration. Ms. Combs was pleased that the program dovetails into the strategic plan.

**ACTION ITEM:** *Restated Budget for FY 2015-16*

Ms. Combs introduced the action item with a PowerPoint presentation and referred the Directors to tab 7 in the agenda packet. The restated Budget is based on actual District reoccurring revenues and expenses, and does not include the Clinics or Transportation program.

- Total revenue is \$2.6 million.
- Expenses were presented in common groups. Director Hoffman requested a subtotal for each of the groups.
- Operational supplies and expenses: the treatment plant expense will be removed from the budget as it is reimbursable from Tenet; it will be reflected on the balance sheet as a liability.
- District Expenses: Director Hoffman suggested that mileage be raised to \$1,000 total or incorporated into “meals.”
- Total Revenues and expenses show a \$1.5 million net gain for the year.

Director Hoffman spoke to future finances. As we implement the strategic plan we will need to pursue increased revenue, such as grants, to offset growing expenses and a static revenue. He challenged District leadership to begin thinking about the future and strategize for success.

**Motion 16-10:** Director Hoffman motioned to approve the restated Budget FY 2015-2016 as presented with recommended changes in the agenda packet; motion seconded by Director Doyle; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**CALENDAR REVIEW AND COORDINATION**

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

- The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is Thursday, March 24 at 5:30 p.m.
- April 30 is the clinic resource fair; HDMC is no longer collecting drugs and sharps; the program will be hosted by the clinics at quarterly resource fairs.
- The Foundation board has moved their March meeting to the 23<sup>rd</sup>.



### **DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- Director Sullivan: “At each meeting we see evidence of great progress. Staff needs to be recognized consistently for their great work.”
- Director Avels: Thanked everyone for her birthday memorial.
- Director Cooper: not present
- Director Doyle: “Thanks for your good work.”
- Director Hoffman: no comment.

### **OPEN SESSION ADJOURNED**

Director Sullivan adjourned the open session at 7:55 p.m.

### **CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Directors convened at 8:00 p.m. to Closed Session pursuant to:

- Government Code section 54957 of the Health and Safety Code: Employee Performance Evaluation, Chief Executive Officer; and,
- Government Code section 32106 of the Health and Safety Code: Report involving Trade Secret. Estimated date of public disclosure is projected to March 2016.

### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

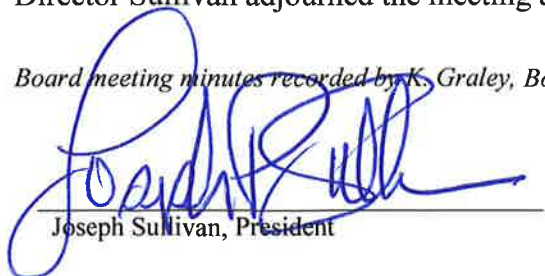
The Board of Directors reconvened to Open Session at 9:05 p.m. Director Sullivan reported that:

- CEO Evaluation: The evaluation was presented to Ms. Combs.
- Trade Secrets: Ms. Combs was instructed to continue fact gathering and report at the next closed session.

### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Director Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

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

  
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Joseph Sullivan, President

  
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Patricia Cooper, Secretary