



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

**December 8, 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 Cooper, Secretary
- Director Hoffman, Treasurer
- Director Avels

Media:

- None present

Guests:

- The Honorable Rodney A. Cortez,  
Supervising Judge for the Superior  
Court of San Bernardino County

Administrative Staff:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Kathy Alkire, Director Operations, CHC
- Cindy Dietz, clinic staff
- Cindy Schmall

- Dianne Market-Greenhouse
- Bob Armstrong

**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Graley, Board Clerk, conducted roll call:

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

**OBSERVANCES**

Director Avels read the mission, vision and core value statements.

Director Hoffman lead the assembly in the pledge to the American flag.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion 16-59:** The Agenda was amended to add Joseph Sullivan to the Oath of Office Ceremony. Director Doyle motioned to approve the meeting agenda as amended; motion was seconded by Director Avels; motion passed by unanimous vote.

## OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY

The Honorable Rodney A. Cortez, Supervising Judge for the Superior Court of San Bernardino County administered the oath of office to Joseph Sullivan, Dianne Markel-Greenhouse and Bob Armstrong.

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda presented the following items for approval:

- Minutes: Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, November 10, 2016

**Motion 16-60:** Director Hoffman requested the following corrections to the minutes: (page 3, “recognition of Veterans;” and page 3 “direct to director.” Director Hoffman motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Doyle; motion passed by unanimous vote.

## REPORTS

### MORONGO BASIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT UPDATE, Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs referred the Directors to Tab 2 in the agenda packet and provided the following additional information:

- She reminded board members that it’s time to register for the ACHD conference in Sacramento, February 2-3.
- The new dental office served its first patient on December 1.
- Ms. Combs introduced Cindy Schmall as the new HR Director.
- A consultant was hired for clinic operation, Ron Stewart; he is conducting an assessment of the structure and operations of the clinics.
- Still waiting to purchase the HDMC van; staff was informed that it will be a few more weeks.
- HDMC CFO, Scott Wartelle, consulted with Tenet legal regarding the District’s requested written report; they anticipate presenting that document in January.
- Ms. Combs and Joe Ruddon met with Stan Helgesen, HDMC Auxiliary; there were no proposed changes to the current relationship between the two organizations. The Directors requested that staff explore a Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Auxiliary.
- Ms. Combs gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed Community Health Needs Assessment. A handout was presented to the board and public.
  - ♦ The vendor is working with organizations in the Coachella Valley for a similar product.
  - ♦ The proposal recommends to study the social and environment influence upon health.
  - ♦ The product will provide data for the clinic use and reporting.
  - ♦ By the time the assessment is delivered we will be preparing for the next strategic plan.Director Hoffman expressed concern that the needs assessment report will use 2014 data. Ms. Combs was not sure whether newer data is available. Discussion followed about who the team should interview in the assessment process; the Directors want to include HDMC employees.

Director Avels inquired if there were other community organizations that could contribute to the expense of the study. There was discussion about partnering with HDMC, but the conclusion was that we need to move forward with the study rather than delaying it by seeking community partnerships. It was agreed that once we have the data we can explore partnerships.



## ACTION ITEM

**Motion 16-61:** Motion by Direct Hoffman to instruct Staff to contract with the University of Southern California for the Health Needs Assessment report as presented; second by Director Doyle; motion passed by unanimous vote.

## CALENDAR REVIEW AND COORDINATION

The calendars for the Board of Directors were reviewed and coordinated.

- December 16 District employee holiday party.
- Because of multiple conflicts, it was agreed to not convene the December 22 board meeting.

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Appointment of Board assignments, January 12 meeting.
- Discussion of new members participating in the election of officers; review of bylaws.

## DIRECTOR COMMENTS

- Director Cooper: Somehow with our different personalities, we were a good team; I will miss you a lot.
- Avels: This has been a 30-year ride for me. I do value this board. There's been dysfunctional boards in the past but this board has worked well. The new guys are lucky; the future is bright; the hardest work is behind. I am the last representative of 29 Palms, don't forget that underserved area. This has been a hard journey but worth it. The District is lucky to have Bob and Dianne.
- Director Doyle: I too want to welcome the newly seated members and incumbent Sullivan; I'm excited about the things to come and am looking forward to doing more good things for our community. Pat has been such a centered and kind influence on all of us; that cannot be diminished; thank you for your dedication to this board, community and process. Martie you made a huge difference.
- Director Hoffman: Congratulations to Joe, Bob and Dianne; I'm looking forward to working together. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- Director Sullivan: I've made it a practice to hold my comments to the end. However, I put some notes together. I want to thank Judge Cortez for administering the oath tonight. Thank you Pat and Martie for your service to the District; we will miss you both, and want you to know that you are always welcome. Welcome to our new Directors, Bob and Dianne. Thank you Paul and Marge for your continued service as we head into the New Year. Thank you all for your patience with me and your courtesy to me. We've overcome many challenges this year that got little notice except from us. My personal appreciation for Jackie Combs and the entire District staff. It's been extraordinary and so much more than we had any right to expect. As new officers are installed, I'm excited about the future. The District is stronger than when I found it. The incoming board should read Article 5 of the Bylaws; the current, sitting board does not have the ability to incorporate new board members into the election process. I recommend we consider amending the Bylaws to allow incoming board member to have input as to their contribution for the new year. Also, a good President should be able to serve for more than one year if the organization would benefit; it's not about ego but a possible win-win for the organization. Our current Bylaws neither affirms or prevents this possibility. Thank you for your service and cooperation with me this past year.



- Director Hoffman spoke to the history of the organization and that it is acceptable to nominate a seated president for another term.
- Director Avels suggested that the recommendation be placed on the agenda.

### **OPEN SESSION ADJOURNED**

Director Sullivan adjourned the open session at 6:30 p.m.

### **CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Directors convened at 6:45 p.m. to Closed Session pursuant to:

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

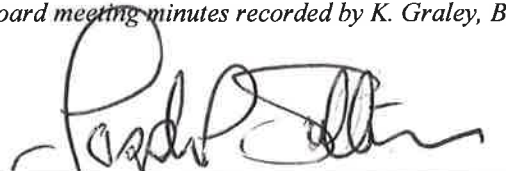
### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board of Directors reconvened to Open Session at 8:00 p.m. Director Sullivan reported that Staff was directed to pursue additional information regarding discussed business opportunities and report back to the board as appropriate.

### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Director Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

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



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Joseph Sullivan, President



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Marge Doyle, Vice President