

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

October 4, 2018 at 3:00 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 Armstrong, President
- Director Doyle, Vice President
- Director Markle-Greenhouse, Secretary
- Director Sullivan, Treasurer
- Director Hoffman

Guests:

- Jenna Hunt, Desert Trail
- Eric Knabe, Z107fm
- Fred Simeou, CHC board member

Staff Present:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Cindy Schmall, Director of Operations
- Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development
- Tricia Gehrlein, Director Population Health
- Deborah Anderson, Controller
- Ron Stewart, Executive Director, CHC
- Kathy Alkire, Director Education

CALL TO ORDER

Director Armstrong called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Karen Graley, Board Clerk, conducted roll call. Directors Armstrong, Doyle, Sullivan, Hoffman and Greenhouse were present for a quorum.

OBSERVANCES

Director Greenhouse read the mission, vision and core value statements.
Director Paul led the assembly in the pledge to the American flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT None presented.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion 18-69: Director Sullivan motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Hoffman; 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, September 20, 2018
- Minutes: Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, September 26, 2018

Motion 18-70: Director Doyle motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Greenhouse; motion passed by unanimous vote.



PRESENTATION

INCREASING ACCESS TO INTERNET SERVICES – *Tricia Gehrlein, Director Population Health*

Ms. Gehrlein gave an overview of the current Basin status and the value of Internet access to the community. Empire Regional Broadband Consortium has had good success in expanding broadband services to rural areas of Riverside County. Martha van Rooijen, their Executive Director, is seated on this local committee to expand Internet access in the Morongo Basin. Additionally, the committee includes several influential regional and local community members.

Morongo Basin is underserved by Internet technology. The best connectivity is along the Hwy 62 corridor, but the speed is questionable and certainly not positioned for improved technologies. Most of the past Internet funding for the area has come through State channels which is restricted to Internet providers; if the provider is not interested in expansion, then there are no alternative resources for the community. The committee is exploring alternative funding sources.

Director Armstrong stated he believes that this issue is critically important for the welfare of the Basin and to position it for growth. Opportunities include Morongo Unified School District expanding educational access, introducing telehealth services, economic development and more. The opportunity is incredible.

Director Doyle thanked Director Armstrong, Jackie Combs and Tricia Gehrlein for their leadership in the project.

Director Greenhouse shared that students who live south of Hwy 62 are hobbled by lack of Internet access. She is pleased the community is seeking solutions.

Director Sullivan has been following this issue for some time and is pleased that the District is part of influencing this access for the benefit of the entire community.

MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT PROGRAM OPERATIONS – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs summarized the mobile medical unit project with information about operating the unit. At this time, we are not sure of an operations schedule as we are still assessing the need, frequency and site availability for medical services. Services will include primary care, screenings and vaccinations.

Staff will include a driver to set-up the vehicle and provide patient transportation, a mid-level provider and medical assistant. Operations are expected to begin January, 2019. The unit will be operated by the District.

Director Doyle asked about site locations not listed, such as Landers. Mr. Ruddon stated that Landers leadership suggested that their public would travel to the Yucca Mesa Community Center. Pioneer Town has not yet been investigated for a site location.

ACHD UPDATE – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

ACHD represents healthcare districts throughout California and enhances public awareness, training and education of its members, and advocating for legislation and regulatory policies that allow healthcare districts to deliver the best possible health services in California.

ACHD committees include:

- Education: responsible for education program content, such as webinars and conferences.
- Advocacy: responsible for oversight of legislative, regulatory collaboration and grassroots activities of the Association, including access to care, community health, labor relations, local government, finance, and public works.



- Governance: responsible for board and committee member succession, planning and orientation; annual assessment of ACHD bylaws and board/committee policies and procedures.
- Finance: responsible for financial oversight of ACHD.
- Executive: provides oversight, acts on behalf of the ACHED board when necessary and evaluates the performance of the CEO.
- Legislation: we receive a weekly newsletter as to their legislative activities. Director Doyle sits on the Advocacy Committee. Director Hoffman suggested that we, as the healthcare District, should be informed about the propositions on the next public ballot.

ACHD recommends Districts meet with legislators and representatives. They host designated days with legislatures in Sacramento.

Certification: we are working towards ACHD certification. A web-portal is available on their website for assistance in achieving certification.

Director Doyle asked about District education and the transition of new board members; Ms. Combs stated we are updating the MBHD orientation manual.

Director Greenhouse announced that she has been appointed to the ACHD education committee.

Director Sullivan was very impressed with an education conference he attended in the past which presented valuable information.

CALENDAR REVIEW AND COORDINATION

The calendars for the Board of Directors were reviewed and coordinated. Board members requested that District events be included on the calendar.

- Director Hoffman will attend the October 23 CHC board meeting.
- Director Armstrong will attend the November 27 CHC board meeting.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- Financial report (2 months)
- Legislation Update (Tricia)

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

- Director Sullivan: “Another good meeting; it’s an exciting day for the mobile medical unit project;” he thanked Jackie and Tricia for their presentations.
- Director Greenhouse: “There’s a lot happening within the District; thank you to staff for all you do.”
- Director Hoffman: “Thrilled to see the mobile medical unit.” He requested a copy of the operating schedule to observe the operation on site.
- Director Doyle: “Excited about today with mobile medical unit; it looks beautiful. It’s potential impact on the health of our community is exciting.” She thanked Tricia for her work on the broadband project.
- Director Armstrong: “It’s exciting to be a part of a board that identified a need and moved forward. We received the community needs health assessment document in August 2017 and now we have the mobile medical unit. It’s exciting to be a part of this organization.”

OPEN SESSION ADJOURNED

Director Armstrong adjourned the open session at 4:00 p.m.

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Directors convened at 4:05 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 October, 2018.

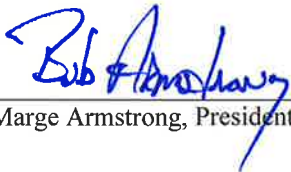
RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Board of Directors reconvened to Open Session at 4:45 p.m. and Director Armstrong directed Staff to continue the discussion at a special board meeting on October 11, 2018.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Director Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m.

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



Marge Armstrong, President



Dianne Markle-Greenhouse, Secretary