



Morongo Basin Health Care District
Community Health Center

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

MINUTES of Thursday, April 22, 2021, 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:

- Misty Evans Sharma, Chairperson (*on-site*)
- Beverly Scott, Vice Chairperson (*remote*)
- Barbara "Cassie" Souter, Secretary (*absent*)
- Bryan Goldfarb, Treasurer (*remote*)
- Mary Ann Shirbourn, Member (*excused*)
- Patricia "Pat" Cooper, Member
- Alejandro Penalva, Member (*on-site*)
- Cecelia St. Clair (*on-site*)
- Dale Mondary, Member (*on-site*)

STAFF:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Debbie Anderson, CFO
- Cindy Schmall, COO
- Joe Ruddon, Director Community Programming
- Stephanie Eigner, Clinic Manager (*on-site*)
- Anita Geletko (*on-site*)
- Janeen Duff, Mobile Dental Manager (*on-site*)

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Karen Graley, board clerk, conducted roll call and declared a quorum.

OBSERVANCES:

- Alejandro Penalva led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Dale Mondary read the mission and vision statements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

- **Motion 21-20:** Motion by Cecelia St. Claire to approve the meeting Agenda as presented; motion seconded by Beverly Scott; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF CHC MEETING MINUTES:

Motion 21-21: Motion by Dale Mondary, second by Alejandro Penalva, to approve the Governing Board meeting minutes dated March 11, 2021; the motion passed by unanimous vote

PRESENTATION

CHC LAB SERVICES – *Stephanie Eigner, Health Center Manager and Anita Geletko, Phlebotomist*

Ms. Eigner introduced Anita Geletko, phlebotomist at 29 Palms clinic. Ms. Eigner shared how lab services came to be located within the CHC clinics. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Anita became available from LabCorp and was subsequently hired by the District. She has 20 years' experience as a manager at LabCorp. Korine Quinn is the phlebotomist at the Yucca Valley clinic. Patient compliance has increased since the introduction of lab services on site.

Ms. Geletko's presentation stated that lab testing impacts clinical decisions made by healthcare professionals. Between 60% and up to 85% of diagnosis and treatment plans are based on laboratory results. CHC lab services collect samples for processing by LabCorp. Since August 2020, clinic lab services have seen 2,400 patients and collected over 7,000 specimens with a 95% error-free rate. Having a phlebotomist in the clinic makes lab work quick and convenient for patients.

Bryan Goldfarb asked about the 95% error-free rate compared to the national average; Ms. Geletko didn't know the national average but stated that locally LabCorp in Yucca Valley has a 93% accuracy rate. Specialized testing is not performed by the clinic to expensive equipment and lack of volume for those specialized tests. Cecelia St. Claire asked about random drug testing; such testing is contracted directly with LabCorp and is not available to the clinic. There was discussion about expanding testing at the clinic.

ACTION ITEMS

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER – *Misty Evans, Chairperson*

Ms. Evans presented the action item of the resignation of Mary Ann Shirbroun from the Governing Board. She has chosen to continue employment with the District and is no longer eligible to serve as per HRSA guidelines (employees and/or their family members are not eligible to sit on the board).

- **Motion 21-22:** Motion by Bryan Goldfarb to accept the resignation of Mary Ann Shirbroun from the CHC Governing Board; second by Beverly Scott; motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF QA-QI PLAN– *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs gave background history of the plan that originated in 2015. HRSA requires the policy to be reviewed every three years. Beverly Scott asked that the language for Goals be changed from evidence-based to recovery-based for behavioral health patients. Ms. Combs will add a sentence specific to behavioral health. There was discussion about reporting data to the board and the methodology used for that reporting.

- **Motion 21-23:** Motion by Beverly Scott to approve the quality assurance and quality improvement plan with changes as requested; second by Cecelia St. Clair; motion carried with one no vote (Goldfarb).

APPROVAL OF CHC BYLAWS – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs presented the CHC Bylaws for approval and provided the sequence of board actions leading to the Bylaws as an action item for tonight's agenda. The document incorporates suggested language presented by the District Board of Directors.

There was discussion about eliminating the standing Quality Committee from the Bylaws since the same data is presented to both committee and board, making the committee redundant. The Bylaws allow for an ad hoc committee as needed should any quality assurance issues arise, allowing for a

deeper exploration of the issue. Conclusion: the action item will be tabled to the next meeting so the board has opportunity to consider the points of discussion presented tonight.

- **Motion 21-24:** Motion by Dale Mondary to table the approval of CHC Bylaws to the next meeting; second by Cecelia St. Clair; motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION

Jackie Combs introduced the discussion regarding the CEO recruitment process, whether to allow Dale Mondary and Misty Evans (also seated on the District board) to represent the CHC board in the selection process of a new CEO, or to present an additional representative from the CHC board. The timeframe for the candidate interview process is short and immediate. Discussion. Misty Evans took a poll of board members; the board members were satisfied with Dale Mondary and Misty Evans representing the CHC Governing Board. One board member suggested an additional member be a part of the interview process, if desired. It was agreed that if any additional board member wanted to participate in the process, they would advise Ms. Combs by end of day tomorrow.

REPORTS

CEO REPORT – Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs referred the board to Tab 4 of the agenda packet for her written report. She highlighted the following information:

- She asked Cindy Schmall, who has been managing the COVID-19 testing and vaccination process, to update the board. According to Ms. Schmall, the clinics have administered about 1,400 vaccinations between Yucca Valley and 29 Palms locations. Vaccine is from California's Blue Shield and HRSA. Karen Graley is working on a marketing campaign to increase vaccination participation. Two full time RNs will be hired for the program. There is an emergency preparedness event at WalMart next month; we will have the mobile medical unit there to provide on-site vaccinations.
- Ms. Combs reported that the District is moving forward with a residency program for psychiatry through Desert Regional Medical Center. They will host telehealth care. We're hoping for a full residency program in a year.
- We received a little over \$1.8 million dollars from the American Rescue Act with which, among other things, we expect to fund a second mobile unit specific to dental care.

BOARD CALENDAR:

- Mural unveiling on May 14 at 1 p.m., Split Rock clinic, 29 Palms

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

- Take A Hike presentation
- Bylaws review

MEMBER COMMENTS:

- BRYAN GOLDFARB: Appreciates the hard work by staff.
- PAT COOPER: Thanked Stephanie Eigner and Anita Geletko for the presentation.
- BEVERLY SCOTT: Appreciated the presentation and staff's hard work.
- CECELIA ST. CLAIR: Appreciates the congeniality of the board members and Misty Evans' leadership.

- DALE MONDARY: Appreciated the lab services presentation.
- ALEJANDRO PENALVO: Likes the idea of another mobile medical unit.
- MISTY EVANS: Appreciates the board members and their feedback and passion for the clinics. “It’s important to have these discussions but we need to stay on topic.” She thanked the presenters for their informative overview of lab services; and thanked staff for their hard work.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Karen Graley, Board Clerk



Misty Evans, Chairperson



Pat Cooper, Secretary