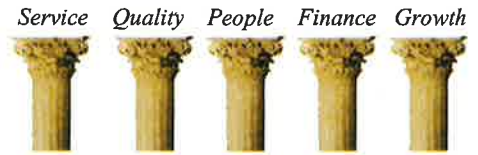




**HI-DESERT  
MEDICAL CENTER**  
*HI-DESERT MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE DISTRICT*



**HI-DESERT MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE DISTRICT**  
**\*SPECIAL\***  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**January 26, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**  
*Yucca Valley Senior Center*  
*57090 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, CA 92284*  
*760-366-6262*

***Mission Statement:** Hi-Desert Medical Center will provide superior service to improve the quality of life for people in the Morongo Basin*

***Vision:** We are caring people providing extraordinary healthcare services.*

***Core Values:** Integrity, Superior Service, Stewardship, Innovation, Teamwork, Dignity*

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Board of Directors:            Director Cooper, President  
   Director Avels, Vice President  
   Director Sullivan, Treasurer  
   Director Doyle, Secretary  
   Director Hoffman, Member-at-Large

Administrative Staff:        Bob Tyk, CEO  
   Karen Graley, Marketing Manager  
   Robin Schmelling, Board Clerk  
   Other Department Managers and Staff

Media                                Tami Roleff, Morongo Basin Broadcasting

Guests                              Michael Maloney, Vice President Acquisition & Development, Tenet  
   Alexander Reynolds, Project Manager Acquisition & Development, Tenet

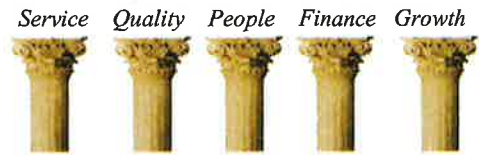
**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Robin Schmelling, Board Clerk, conducted roll call:

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



**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Director Cooper asked Director Hoffman to lead the pledge of allegiance.

**READING OF MISSION STATEMENT:**

**Mission Statement:** Read by Director Sullivan.

**Vision Statement:** Read by Director Hoffman.

**Core Values:** Read by Director Doyle.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PARAMETERS:**

The Public Comment Parameters were read by Director Cooper.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:**

▶▶ **MOTION 15—04:** Director Hoffman made the motion to approve the meeting agenda, and Director Doyle seconded. Director Sullivan, Director Avels and Director Cooper all voted in favor and the agenda was approved as submitted.

**AFFILIATION PRESENTATION:**

Mr. Tyk presented an overview of the affiliation for those present. (copy of presentation with original minutes).

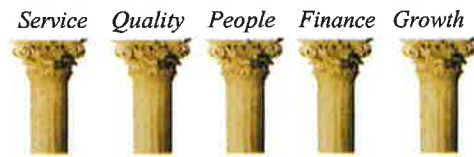
**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*Mitch Blumberg, Rancho Mirage, CA*

Mr. Blumberg spoke as both the Sr. Vice President of Desert ARC and the Vice Chair of the Governing Board of Desert Regional Medical Center (DRMC), a Tenet Healthcare hospital. The governing board runs similar to other boards. Since Tenet affiliated with DRMC in 1997, he stated they have invested approximately \$128 million in improvements. The quality of physicians as well as commitment and dedication is exceptional. Mr. Blumberg fully supports the affiliation.

*Dr. Renato Guzman, Desert Hot Springs, CA*

Dr. Guzman spoke briefly about his long history with HDMC. The current healthcare environment makes it increasingly difficult for smaller organizations to survive. The decision to affiliate was made by the board of directors with input from medical staff, community leaders, employees and expert advice from the consulting firm, The Camden Group. He strongly urges each and every community member to vote in favor of the affiliation to not only continue our current health care services, but have the opportunity to expand our services.



*Kelley Coe, Yucca Valley, CA*

Ms. Coe spoke as both a resident of Yucca Valley and on behalf of the Desert AIDS Project. Ms. Coe works with Tenet Corporation on an almost daily basis and they have gone above and beyond in their efforts for the Desert AIDS Project within the Coachella Valley. Tenet is very active in giving back to the local community. Ms. Coe strongly urges support of the affiliation.

*Bob Baker, Yucca Valley, CA*

Mr. Baker, Director of Facilities, HDMC. Mr. Baker stated when he first came on board with HDMC, he had a feeling we would need to head towards affiliation. He is pleased that the board decided on Tenet Healthcare. He has previously worked for two organizations under Tenet and they were a great organization to work for and very supportive of their facilities. With today's market, he feels HDMC will not remain open without affiliation and urged the public to vote yes.

*Mickey Luckman, Joshua Tree, CA*

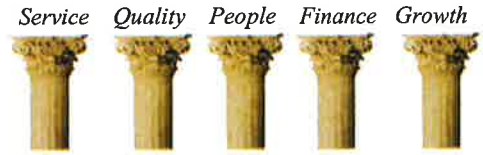
Ms. Luckman is a long time resident of Joshua Tree. She stated economic changes make it very difficult for small hospitals to survive. Hospital problems are widespread across the country. In her opinion, DRMC and JFK seem to be operating well under Tenet. We will be in a much stronger position with more services and options if we affiliate. She urged those present to join her in voting yes.

*Mike Lipsitz, Landers, CA*

Mr. Lipsitz spoke as both a resident of the Morongo Basin and as Field Representative for County Supervisor James Ramos. As the third largest employer in the Morongo Basin, Mr. Lipsitz stressed the point that every family here in one way or another is touched by the economic engine that is HDMC. Expectations are extremely high in hospitals and they are operating in an extremely mandated industry, including the same mandates that larger institutions must follow such as UCLA Medical Center. Mr. Lipsitz stated he himself had an extreme medical emergency and feared he wouldn't be here today if his only option was to drive down the hill, due to the distance. Keeping our hospital open is of great importance. Mr. Lipsitz and Supervisor Ramos both encourage voters to vote in favor of the affiliation.

*Leslie Moody, Yucca Valley, CA*

Ms. Moody worked for HDMC for 22 years, was a board member and currently works with state and regulatory enforcement. Ms. Moody stated that HDMC has survived when other small hospitals have closed. She feels HDMC would continue to survive, but not as well. She feels it is definitely time for the hospital to become a part of something bigger and tap into major resources. She feels services will be directed towards quality and would hope to see a focus on maintaining existing services. Her biggest concern is that the mental health services remain as they are extremely important to our community. Maintaining our mission statement is also of great importance. She closed by stating she trusts the board of directors and knows they have done their due diligence in selecting Tenet as the one who can bring the best service to our hospital. She trusts their decision to affiliate and suggested those present spread the word to their friends and neighbors and anyone they can to vote yes.



*Christine Gilbert, Lakewood, CO*

Ms. Gilbert has been the Interim Director for the FQHC clinics for approximately three months. She doesn't work directly for HDMC, but rather B.E. Smith. She volunteered to come to the forum and speak. Being from Colorado, she has no vote. She wanted to commend the community, the board of directors, the FQHC board and past board members. She realizes this was a serious undertaking to make the decision to affiliate. She views this as a very good deal for the community and the organization. In her past experience, she has also worked for Tenet.

*Dr. Dianne Swella, Yucca Valley, CA*

Dr. Swella stated she fully supports the decision to affiliate and the direction HDMC is moving towards. As a previous board member, she was involved in many strategic planning meetings and the board reviewed all options. She feels it is a win win situation for all involved. No cost involved to the community and more physicians will be recruited. She urged those present to get the word out to vote yes so we can keep our current services and expand them as well.

*Margo Sturges, Yucca Valley, CA*

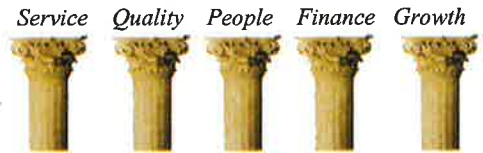
Ms. Sturges commented about the quality care she has received previously from HDMC. She was also a hospice volunteer and is aware of the CCC and the physicians there. Ms. Sturges stated she was in favor of the affiliation and presented the following questions:

- Do you need 50 percent plus 1 on the vote? Mr. Tyk addressed this and stated it would require a 50 percent plus 1 vote to pass.
- Will the District be allowed to advocate for the vote? You need money to promote – are there any legal ramifications?
- Water district will also have a ballot vote – word needs to get out yes on this affiliation – separate from HDWD. Hoping funds can be used to promote yes on affiliation.
- Would like to see 15 year lease with 15 year option
- \$2 to \$5 million per year. Is there any consideration for cost of living increases built in?
- Would like to see a mobile health van to be able to reach people within the boundaries of the District.

These questions will be addressed and posted on HDMC's website.

*Dawn Rowe, Yucca Valley, CA*

Ms. Rowe spoke as both a resident and the Field Representative for Congressman Paul Cook. Congressman Cook has two areas of concern. The first is the safety for all of us that live up here in the Morongo Basin. Access to medical care is an integral part needed in our community. He would like to see it continued for all. In addition, many residents aren't able to access health care down in the lower desert either due to finances or lack of resources. His second concern was jobs. He is concerned and hopes employees keep and retain their jobs to the best of Tenet's ability. He is in favor of the affiliation and entrusts the health decisions to the board of directors. If they have chosen to affiliate with Tenet, then he will absolutely advocate for affiliation as well. Ms. Rowe stated as a community member, she too will advocate for affiliation.



**DIRECTORS COMMENTS:**

**Director Hoffman:** Director Hoffman thanked all for attending tonight. As a longtime resident, he has personally accessed the services provided by HDMC. He wanted to echo the thoughts expressed tonight in keeping our hospital community oriented.

**Director Doyle:** Director Doyle agreed with Director Hoffman. Thanked those present for their input. There are two more meetings this week where the board looks forward to hearing from the community as well as getting the word out. We can't afford to lose the hospital.

**Director Avels:** Director Avels thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting. Reminded those present that the affiliation will not cost the residents of the community any money. However, if we don't affiliate, it will cost us our hospital. Director Avels also thanked Mr. Tyk for his presentation and leading the board through the process.

**Director Sullivan:** Director Sullivan stressed the importance of trying to visualize our community without a hospital. Considerable review has been done and thought given to the process. He feels it is extremely important for this hospital to go forward with support from the community.

**Director Cooper:** Director Cooper introduced Tenet Healthcare representatives Alex Reynolds, Project Manager, Acquisitions and Development and Michael Maloney, Vice President, Acquisitions and Development.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On motion duly made and seconded, Director Cooper adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

*Board meeting minutes recorded by R. Schmelling, Board Clerk*

  
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*Patricia Cooper, President, Board of Directors*

  
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*Marge Doyle, Board Secretary*