



Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District dba  
**Morongo Basin Healthcare District**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 20, 2018 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 Doyle, Vice President
- Director Markle-Greenhouse, Secretary
- Director Sullivan, Treasurer
- Director Hoffman

Staff Present:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development
- Tricia Gehrlein, Director Population Health
- Ron Stewart, Executive Director, CHC

Guests:

- Jenna Hunt, Desert Trail
- Eric Knabe, Z107fm
- Jeff Grabow, community member
- Laura Grabow, CHC board member
- Beverly Scott, community member and granddaughter

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Graley, Board Clerk, conducted roll call. Directors Doyle, Sullivan, Hoffman and Greenhouse were present for a quorum; Director Armstrong was not present.

**OBSERVANCES**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT** None presented.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion 18-64:** Director Hoffman motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; Director Doyle noted that the agenda meeting time was posted at 6 p.m. rather than 5:30 p.m. and that the meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. as typical with action items on the agenda addressed after 6 p.m.; motion seconded by Director Greenhouse; 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 6, 2018
- Policy: HR-218 Paid Time Off (*revised*)

**Motion 18-65:** Director Sullivan motioned to approve the consent agenda as; motion seconded by Director Greenhouse; motion passed by unanimous vote.



## **PRESENTATION**

### **EMPLOYEE ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING** – *Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development*

Mr. Ruddon presented information about the employee active shooter training presented to District employees in August.

Director Doyle confirmed that the District will present this training annually to staff; and asked that safety policies be updated to reflect this new information.

### **SPLIT ROCK FAMILY WELLNESS GARDEN** – *Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development*

Mr. Ruddon presented information about the Family Wellness Garden at the new Split Rock property. The garden will enhance the property and is intended to be a community garden. It will create an inviting space to enjoy the natural beauty of the desert while near downtown. It will be water-wise and preserve the existing mature, native plants on site. Open pathways will encourage walking. The plan includes a kid-friendly area with fragrant and tactile plants.

The District is collaborating with The Mojave Desert Land Trust, Morongo Basin Conservation Association, Joshua Tree National Park, and other community leaders interested in the project. The project committee plans to procure and/or grow native plants. The project will include plant installation and signage; procuring local artwork, benches and supplies; trail and path designs, and possible fund raising. It is projected to be a three-year project.

Director Hoffman shared how the Rotary Clubs were planting trees in the community and suggested that local clubs might be interested in helping with the garden. Director Doyle suggested another community member who would be interested in participating.

### **HEALTH FAIR UPDATE** – *Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development*

Mr. Ruddon spoke to the upcoming Health Fair at 29 Palms on October 6. The event is in partnership with the City of 29 Palms, and the Chamber of Commerce. Our new mobile medical unit will be presented to the public.

He introduced Mr. Jeff Grabow, president of the local Flying Doctors chapter. He shared that they are very excited to present the program to the Morongo Basin. It is comprised of medical professionals who volunteer their time to care for underserved populations in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. Membership is very diverse, from members without medical training to members of Congress. They partner with local organizations to present the clinic with local resources. There will be 15 treatment chairs staffed by eight local dentists. This year they have partnered with Healing California who will be providing equipment and supplies for the health fair event. A local optometrist will provide exams and new glasses.

Director Hoffman thanked Mr. Grabow for his service and partnering with the District. Director Doyle introduced Laura Grabow who sits on the Community Health Center board. She was instrumental in introducing this program to our community.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **TRANSFER OF INVESTMENT FUNDS** – *Jackie Combs, CEO*

Ms. Combs referred the board to Tab 3 in the Agenda packet to reference the justification for the transfer of monies and to review Resolution #18-04. The request to transfer monies is made to cover large capital expenditures such as the mobile medical unit and the Yucca Valley campus upgrades from operation monies. Ms. Combs has made the request to offset that expense for the benefit of cash flow.



Director Sullivan, treasurer, stated that Ms. Combs financial management has been sound. He is comfortable with her recommendation. Director Hoffman inquired if the transferred funds should be restricted; she stated that some of the monies for the capital project have been paid out so these funds should not be restricted.

**Motion 18-66:** Director Greenhouse motioned to approve Resolution #18-04 to transfer \$500,000 from the investment fund to the operations fund; motion seconded by Director Sullivan. A roll call vote was taken; motion passed 4:0 with Director Armstrong absent.

#### RBC WEALTH MANAGEMENT LETTER – Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs referred the board to Tab 4 in the Agenda packet to review the letter from RBC Wealth Management which documents a review of the District portfolio against the District’s current investment policy and public funds code (53600).

Director Hoffman commented that for longevity purposes and benefit of future board members, that RBC should provide a justification for no limit on the U.S. Treasuries and U.S. Agency Bonds. Ms. Combs will ask for a recommendation about that. Director Doyle suggested that the investment policy be brought to the board for review. Director Sullivan requested information on how the accounts are secured and that the board discuss the information. Ms. Combs noted that our representative will be in the area during the next few months.

**Motion 18-67:** Director Hoffman motioned to accept the RBC Wealth Management letter; motion seconded by Director Sullivan. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **REPORTS**

#### ACHD CONFERENCE REPORT – Director Greenhouse

Director Greenhouse said that three themes were prominent at the conference: (1) social determinants; (2) ACHD certification and (3) health equity.

One presentation addressed making healthcare available, focusing on the industry transition from sick-care to well-care. The speaker recommended a community health needs assessment every three years to align resources. Health behaviors, diet and exercise, social and economic factors, education, community safety net, housing, transportation and telemedicine are all a part of the evolving health picture.

A second presentation was given by Lyfting Healthcare. Purpose driven companies are built by purpose driven people. Lyfting Healthcare provides health facilities patient transportation, arranging pick up and deliveries for disadvantaged and the aged. The program provides better patient flow, patient compliance, and increased productivity for staff. Lyft has a one percent “give back to the community” program.

A third presentation addressed the effects of powerful psychology. We can create our own happiness-factor by expressing our success and appreciation, and by interacting with others.

#### ACHD CONFERENCE REPORT – Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs also attended seminars and presented the following report.

Raising Health: A nationally recognized leader spoke to addressing inequities in healthcare with a goal improving communities. Targeted issues included chronic care needs and ambulatory care coordination. Social determinants are now recognized as key factors in quality of life. The speaker’s



presentation aligned with our goals and population health. Ms. Combs noted that she was reassured, as an organization, we are going in right direction.

**The Future of Healthcare:** This seminar's speaker was a national advisor on long-term healthcare strategies. He stated that the industry is moving from procedures to alternative care; from population to personal care; health or human services to health and human services (more than medical care in the community). He suggested we watch for changes in precision medicine, smart parts, artificial intelligence, machines learning, alternative health, self-directed care, urgent care and retail clinics, and elective admissions.

**The Importance of Children's Well-Being:** The presenter spoke to improved quality, patient satisfaction, physician satisfaction and decreased costs. When children are screened for delayed development, treatment can be prescribed to bring children up to speed. Medical assistants can be trained to ask diagnostic questions during intake and record the information in the electronic record; thereby identifying a greater number of children needing intervention. The parents are happy; patients are better; and healthcare costs are decreased because of early intervention. Ms. Combs stated she was inspired by the described process.

#### **MORONGO BASIN HEALTHCARE DISTRICT REPORT – Jackie Combs, CEO**

Ms. Combs referred the Directors to Tab 5 in the agenda packet for her written report.

Additionally, she announced that with Joe Ruddon's connections, the 29Palms Band of Mission Indians tribe has partnered with the District and gave \$175,000, to be paid over five years, toward the Mobile Medical Unit project. The vehicle will be on site October 1. A ribbon cutting ceremony is schedule on October 4 at 5p.m. It will be open for tours. County, State and federal representatives will speak at the ceremony, and the tribe will be present.

#### **CALENDAR REVIEW AND COORDINATION**

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

#### **NEXT AGENDA ITEMS**

- ACHD certification and related policies
- Employee safety policy for workplace violence
- Investment policy review
- December: audited financial report

#### **DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- Director Sullivan: Great reports and presentations; compliments to staff on a continued job well done.
- Director Greenhouse: It was an honor to represent our healthcare district at the ACHD conference.
- Director Hoffman: Great reports; looking forward to attending the October 6 health fair; please support the orchid festival on Oct 7. The four rotary clubs in the Basin have collected over \$5,000 for the shoes for Basin children.
- Director Doyle: She thanked everyone for their presentations; thanked the Grabows for the Flying Doctors report; she's excited about mobile medical unit and Split Rock projects. She's also very proud of the work staff is doing.

#### **OPEN SESSION ADJOURNED**

Director Armstrong adjourned the open session at 6:44 p.m.



### CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Directors convened at 6:51 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

to schedule a special meeting on September 26 at 4 p.m. to continue discussion on the Trade Secret topic.

### MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Director Doyle adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

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



---

Marge Doyle, Vice President



---

Dianne Markle-Greenhouse, Secretary