



Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District dba  
**Morongo Basin Healthcare District**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 6, 2020 at 6:00 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, Treasurer
- Director Doyle, President
- Director Evans, Secretary
- Director Markle-Greenhouse, Vice President
- Director Sullivan

Administrative Staff:

- Jackie Combs, CEO
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk
- Debbie Anderson, Controller
- Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development
- Cindy Schmall, Director Operations
- Michelle Zaccaria, Manager Performance Improvement

Guests:

- ~~Paul Hoffman, CHC board member~~
- Pat Cooper, CHC board member
- Beverly Scott, CHC board member
- Earnest Figueroa, Z107fm, media
- Jenna Hunt, Hi-Desert Star, media
- Dr. Lewis, guest

**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Graley, Board Clerk, conducted roll call and declared a quorum.

**OBSERVANCES**

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

Director Sullivan led the assembly in the pledge to the American flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None presented

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion 20-09:** Director Armstrong motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Sullivan; 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, January 9, 2020

**Motion 20-10:** Director Evans motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Armstrong; motion passed.

**PRESENTATION:**

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE – Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs provided a PowerPoint presentation to update the assembly on the Strategic Plan for 2019-22.



Strategy #1: Increase access to non-emergent transportation for residents in the Morongo Basin.

- Staff meets regularly with Reach Out Morongo Basin to seek collaboration on transportation opportunities. Currently working on the 5310 Mobility (Cal-Trans) grant. LIFT Transportation services have been expanded to transports to a higher level of care (down the hill).

Strategy #2: Improve access to primary care and specialty care in the Morongo Basin

- The District has hired for the Behavioral Health department a psychologist, psych nurse practitioner and an LCSW. Family Practice, Pricilla Campos, MD, joined the clinics. The partnership with UCR Residency program has yielded a part-time pediatrician.
- The Mobile Medical Unit has been visiting community centers around the Basin; new locations include Morongo Valley, Center for Healthy Generations and Johnson Valley Community Center. The Virtual Dental Program uses telemedicine as it visits school sites throughout the Basin.
- Clinic hours have been expanded in 29 Palms; the Split Rock location is expected to open soon. Both clinics have been evaluated and staff rearranged for improved work flow. Non-direct care giver staff are being moved out of the clinics to other office locations, such as the La Contenta campus.

Strategy #3: Develop and present routinely scheduled health classes to the community.

- The Education department has a routine schedule for patient and community education: Optimal Health, Chronic Health and Diabetes Prevention (CDC). Additionally, health seminars have been presented but response has not been as expected. There seems to be better reception as guest presenters to organizations.

Strategy #4: Develop collaborative relationships with government, public and non-profit agencies to establish and accomplish community health goals.

- Staff continues to meet with Morongo Unified School District to collaborate on children's health; the dietician and outreach team attend monthly Farmer's Market in 29 Palms to provide nutrition education; staff serve on the broadband committee; LIFT Transportation collaborates with Reach Out Morongo Basin; and the stakeholder group on senior services is now meeting ad hoc.

## REPORTS

### FINANCIAL REPORT – Presented by Debbie Anderson, Controller

Ms. Anderson reported that overall, the District showed a positive operating income; year to date (July 2019 – December 2019) was \$1,090,849 and the Change in Net Position for the same period was \$732,190.

- Revenue: overall operating income for December 2019 is 7% over budget, a dollar amount of \$69,574. YTD operating income is 6% over budget, a dollar amount of \$347,074.
  - ♦ District operational revenue for December 2019 is 2% over budget, a dollar amount of \$6,150.
  - ♦ Community Health Center revenue for December 2019 is 6% under budget, a dollar amount of \$63,424. YTD operating income is 6% over budget, a dollar amount of \$250,770.
- Expense: overall monthly operating expenses for December 2019 are 1% over budget, a dollar amount of \$(11,855). YTD operating expenses are 2% over budget, a dollar amount of \$(99,841).



- ♦ District monthly operating expenses for December 2019 are 10% under budget, a dollar amount of \$18,970. YTD operating expenses are 4% under budget, a dollar amount of \$45,468.
- ♦ Community Health Center operating expenses for December 2019 are 5% over budget, a dollar amount of \$(30,824). YTD operating expenses are 4% under budget, a dollar amount of \$(145,309).
- Net Income: December 2019 earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) is 48% over budget, a dollar amount of \$57,720.

Director Evans asked about the billing and if the District is billing more volume than previously. Director Greenhouse asked about the fluctuating expenses for LIFT Transportation; Mr. Ruddon indicated the variable was primarily related to fuel costs.

Director Armstrong asked if outsourcing billing is a cost savings. Ms. Anderson stated she would have to do a comparison of salaries. Ms. Combs stated that the Medi-Cal billings have increased. The discussion was triggered by the \$41,000 deficit related to purchase services.

**Motion 20-11:** Director Evans motioned to accept the financial reports; motion seconded by Director Greenhouse; motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

Ms. Combs referred the Directors to Tab 3 of the agenda packet for her written report and provided additional information as follows:

- The District has received a letter from LAFCO advising that a seat is open on the board; registration to run for office closes March 9.

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

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

- Ms. Combs noted that the previously scheduled shared board meeting and special meeting in February had to be canceled for an ACHD business meeting. Ms. Combs proposed to cancel the shared meeting for this quarter rather than push it to March; the next shared meeting would be April 23 as per the standing schedule.
- Rather than calling a special meeting for the property tour which was also canceled for the ACHD business meeting, the directors are invited to schedule 1:1 tours with Ms. Schmall.
- Foundation meeting will be March 19 at 6pm.
- April regular business meeting will be moved from April 2 to April 9.

#### **DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- Director Greenhouse: Thanked CHC board members for attending and thanked staff for the information and their hard work.
- Director Sullivan: Said he is pleased with the strategic plan update and would really like to emphasize planning for facility use to make sure it isn't something that slips through the cracks. He, too, thanked CHC board members and guests for attending tonight.
- Director Armstrong: The Sunset Rotary members were really excited that Joe Ruddon presented on the Lift program; they are now interested in supporting the District's transportation program. He thanked Joe for representing the District in the community.



- Director Evans: Thanked the CHC board members and guest, Dr. Lewis. She is happy with the strategic plan update and the reporting out on grants and community collaboration, and the work to bring mental health providers into the area.
- Director Doyle: Said she met one of our new nurse practitioners before the meeting; great to have a new young person on our medical staff; she acknowledged Director Armstrong's work on the broadband committee; thanked CHC board members for attending and for the collaborative relationship between the boards; she thanked the media for keeping public servants accountable; and thanked staff who were present who attend on their time off; she also thanked Dr. Lewis for attending this evening.

### MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION

The Directors concluded the open session at 6:55 p.m. and then moved to closed session after a brief break.

- *Pursuant to Government Code section 32106 of the Health and Safety Code: Report involving Trade Secret. Estimated date of public disclosure is projected for March, 2020.*

**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION** at 7:45 p.m. to receive Closed Session report.


Director Doyle reported that staff was directed to bring additional information back to the board as it develops.

### MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Director Doyle adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

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

  
Marge Doyle, President

  
Misty Evans, Secretary