



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

**March 5, 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
- Cindy Schmall, Director Operations
- Karmolette O’Gilvie, Women & Children’s Program, Manager
- Janeen Duff, VDH Manager
- Michelle Zaccaria, Performance Improvement, Manager

Guests:

- Paul Hoffman, CHC board member
- Pat Cooper, CHC board member
- Jenna Hunt, Hi-Desert Star, media
- Hilary Sloan, Z107fm, media

**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 Sullivan read the mission, vision and core value statements.  
Director Armstrong led the assembly in the pledge to the American flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None presented

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion 20-12:** Director Sullivan motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Armstrong; 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, February 6, 2020

**Motion 20-13:** Director Sullivan motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Greenhouse; motion passed.



## REPORTS

### MATERNAL HEALTH NETWORK STRATEGIC PLAN – Jackie Combs, CEO

Ms. Combs gave a PowerPoint presentation as an executive overview of the Maternal Health Network of San Bernardino County's strategic plan. The Network incorporates many County services and organizations. Ms. Combs is seated on the Network's leadership team. The strategic plan was built using on a collective impact framework because the issues are complex and required the joint contribution of multiple service sectors, stakeholders, advocates and consumers. The plan includes an asset and gaps analysis to understand and document the broad landscape of existing maternal health components within the County. A number of consistently identified themes emerged as a result of the asset and gaps analysis and are targeted for attention. Goals and strategies were developed in response to the critical issues identified. The County's Transformation Plan and Community Vital Signs initiative will be used a framework for implementation.

Ms. Combs introduced Karmolette O'Gilvie as the manager of the District's new Women and Children's Program; and announced that the District is developing a Comprehensive Prenatal Program.

### DIRECTORS' REPORT ON THE ACHD CONFERENCE – Director Evans

Ms. Evans reported on the February 19 ACHD meeting in Sacramento. Ms. Evans is seated on the ACHD board which has a strong focus on State legislation as it effects healthcare districts. Morongo Basin Healthcare District is certified by ACHD as being transparent in District governance.

One of the presentations addressed culture change, another spoke to the workforce and the generations represented and how to motivate them. There was an overview of the recent election process and issues.

Director Doyle is seated on the ACHD advocacy and legislative committees; Director Greenhouse is seated on the education committee; Director Evans is seated on the governing board. ACHD is currently recruiting for a CEO.

Director Greenhouse shared that ACHD recommends local boards conduct annual retreats to evaluate performance and for planning purposes. She also spoke to the possibility of bringing a discussion topic to each meeting for board consideration.

### DIRECTORS' REPORT ON THE CHC REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Directors Greenhouse and Evans are seated on the CHC board and provided the following information.

- Director Greenhouse reported that the CHC financial report was delivered; Ms. Combs presented an overview of the CHC strategic plan.
- Director Evans reported that according to the financial report that the clinics are breaking even. She also reviewed who was elected as officers in January; and that the CHC board was in agreement with Jackie Combs' recommendation to have both boards collaborate on a single strategic plan for both boards and for the District.
- Director Hoffman, President of the CHC governing board, added from the audience that the board is looking to collaborate on an effective annual CEO evaluation tool. He also recommended that the CHC minutes be included in the MBHD agenda packet. He also recommended that the CHC board appoint a representative to sit on the MBHD board without voting rights. Director Doyle noted that she could not comment on his recommendation as it was



not listed on tonight's agenda, but said she would like to meet with Mr. Hoffman regarding his recommendations.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Presented by Debbie Anderson, Controller

January 2020 operating income after allocation came in at \$243,916 for the District combined. Operating income after allocation is comprised of \$154,587 for district only operations, and \$ 89,329 for clinic operations. The change in net position (which includes non-operating income, expense and depreciation) for District combined operations is \$249,371.

Overall, both clinics and districts are exceeding budgeted expectations. Combined, operating income after allocation is \$126,483 over budget, 108%. However, the exciting news for this month is that in total both the District and the Clinics are showing positive operating income and a change in net position. Clinics had in January the highest change in net position for this fiscal year.

Overall, both the District and clinics have a positive financial position in January 2020.

Director Sullivan said it's nice to see that the District is off to a good start for the New Year. Good things are happening in the clinics and District. Director Evans noted the increase in patient services. Director Doyle asked the board members if they liked the changes in the way the financial report was organized; members were amenable to the changes.

**Motion 20-14:** Director Armstrong motioned to accept the financial reports; motion seconded by Director Evans; motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ms. Anderson reviewed the financial calendar as it relates to the budget process. There were no questions. Director Doyle invited the CHC board to join the Budget Workshop on May 21.

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:

- Ms. Combs verbally reported on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and presented a handout of materials from CDC, State and County. She reminded the board that she, herself, has five years' experience in infection control at the medical center; and that additional managers on staff also have years of experience in infection control. Additionally, staff has participated in professional webinars on the virus. Ms. Combs spoke to the flu season and that the annual flu has taken 458 lives, fourteen of which were children. She spoke to the importance of the flu vaccination to protect the children. The flu season is almost over this year but we will be launching a vaccination campaign in the pediatric department for next year.

Director Armstrong spoke to the civic response and recommended that we add to the District's website a link to CDC and County sites to assist our constituents who may need assistance about the virus. There was discussion about promoting flu vaccinations via the mobile medical unit. Ms. Combs stated that the clinics have administered over 700 flu vaccinations this year.

Director Sullivan commented that the virus and flu has really gotten the attention of the media; people are frightened. He likes the approach that Ms. Combs has taken to communicate professional information as a resource rather than the District trying to be the expert on the topics.



Director Doyle stated that the healthcare District needs to be a resource for information and promote proper handwashing. She thanked Ms. Combs for bringing the information tonight.

- Split Rock has been issued a Certificate of Occupancy by the City of 29 Palms.
- This is children’s dental health month. Ms. Combs sits on a County advisory committee and is promoting the American Pediatric program, “Brush, Book and Bed.” The pediatric departments are distributing gift bags that include a toothbrush, a book and information on the program. The mobile medical unit was unavailable for student dental appointments so the dental team provided class education at elementary locations.
- Ms. Combs thanked Cindy Schmall and her team for preparing La Contenta space for employee forums and public education.
- Ms. Combs and Joe Ruddon will be updating the Community Health Needs Assessment which is now three years old. They will incorporate data from several County focus groups and surveys.
- The broadband committee met. Director Armstrong reported that there were a dozen stakeholders at the meeting. We expect to soon see a proposal for five stakeholders to form a coalition to hire a professional to provide broadband access to the Basin.
- The clinic association of San Bernardino County hosted a behavioral health clinic at Hi-Desert Medical Center. A SWOT analysis was done through a grant from Kaiser; and reconvened those in attendance to move forward with addressing identified issues related to behavioral health.

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

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

- March 19 Foundation meeting
- March 12 shared board meetings
- April 25 Flying Doctors event at Copper Mountain College Bell Center
- Director Armstrong will not attend the May District meeting.

#### **DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- Director Greenhouse: “Thank you for all the good news tonight.”
- Director Sullivan: “Lots of good news tonight. This District is doing a good job and achieving the goals and objectives we’ve set for ourselves. Regarding the Split Rock project, the mistakes were minimal and we’re glad the building is open.” He said he was embarrassed on behalf of the District about the recent article in the Star and Trail on the Split Rock project; for someone who didn’t have any context, the District looked like the villain and was misrepresented.
- Director Armstrong: One a month he does a real estate market analysis; at a webinar, the community gets no census credit for vacation homes. The change from 10 years ago is significant. The only community in the Basin that has more permanent residents than vacation homes is Yucca Valley with a 60/40 split. He spoke with local government agencies about the disparity and how the census could result in a reduction of resources to the community. If the community loses revenue, the vacation homes impose on the resources. Director Armstrong also spoke to the recent newspaper article about the Split Rock project and that it degenerates the reputation of the District; he, too, questioned the value and purpose of the article. It’s a constant struggle for physicians, the hospital and the healthcare district to be trusted by the community. He didn’t understand why the story was run and its value to the community. Director Evans



commented that there was an unintentional undertone to the article that misrepresented the District.

- Director Evans: “So many wonderful things announced tonight: Split Rock; the CPSP program; the collaboration; the budget expectations, the connection at the County level. I’m excited to be serving on this board.”
- Director Doyle: “We appreciate the media attending these meetings and for communicating important things on our behalf. It’s important that we have that kind of transparency because of the responsibility as elected officials to act on behalf of the community. Ultimately, it’s about service to the community”. She thanked Jackie Combs for her participation at the County level and noted that it has put the Basin on the map at the County level. “For a county the size of San Bernardino County, it is easy to be ignored; but our communities are now represented at the County level.”

**MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Directors concluded the open session at 7:31 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 June, 2020.*

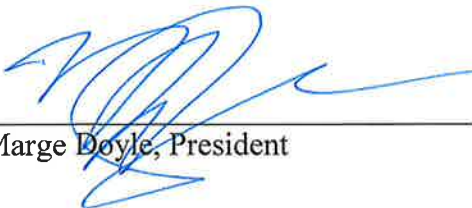
**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION** at 8:15 p.m. to receive Closed Session report.

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 8:17 p.m.

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

  
Marge Doyle, President

  
Misty Evans, Secretary