



Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District dba
Morongo Basin Healthcare District
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Convened on site restricted to board members and staff; public invited to attend 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.

- **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 Brown
- Director Evans
- Director Markle-Greenhouse
- Director Savitt (*remote*)

Guests:

- Linda Evans, Chief Strategy Officer, Desert Market, Tenet
- Bryan Goldfarb, CHC board member (*remote*)
- Denise Cullum, CHC board member (*remote*)

Administrative Staff:

- Karen Graley, Board Clerk (*remote*)
- Cindy Schmall, COO
- Deborah Anderson, CFO
- Joe Ruddon, Director Community Programming

- Pat Cooper, CHC board member
- Janeen Duff, Grants Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

Director Greenhouse called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was convened on the La Contenta campus and by electronic platform using Go-To-Meeting.

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 Brown led the assembly in the pledge to the American flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were initially presented.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion 22-01: Director Evans motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Brown; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion 22-02: Director Evans motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; motion seconded by Director Brown; motion passed by unanimous vote.

- Minutes: Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, December 2, 2021
- Minutes: Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, December 2, 2021
- Re-ratify Governor Newsom's proclamation of state of emergency and authorize remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of MBHDistrict.



DESERT CARE NETWORK UPDATE – *Linda Evans, Chief Strategy Officer, Desert Mkt, Tenet*
Ms. Evans thanked the board for the opportunity to provide an update about Hi-Desert Medical Center (HDMC), the Continuing Care Center (CCC) and Desert Care Network (DCN), on behalf of Karen Faulis, CEO, HDMC.

COVID-19 Update:

- HDMC acute hospital has 12 positive COVID-19 patients and 3 PUIs (6 in ICU – 4 ICU/2 ED Hold; 3 vax; last month was 5 COVID). CCC has 1 COVID-19 positive resident (last report was zero).
- DRMC currently has 47 positive COVID-19 patients and zero PUIs (7 in ICU; 18 vax; last month was 19 COVID).
- JFK currently has 15 positive COVID-19 patients and 9 PUI patients in- (3 in ICU; 3 Vax; (last month was 5 COVID).
- Personal Protective Equipment remains in adequate supply at all facilities.

Capital Project Update:

- The Cerner EMR Long Term Care (LTC) Module for CCC: work continues with an anticipated go-live early 2022. This will allow for CCC to also be completely on Cerner documentation.
- The sterile processing department air handler replacement project is complete. Completion of the hospital roof project is anticipated to start in February. Replacement of the remaining floor at the hospital is continuing and expected to be complete within the next few months.
- The telephone system is targeted for upgrade in early 2022.

Other News:

- HDMCI had a successful TJC Acute Stroke-Ready survey.

Medical Staff Foundation/Primary and Specialty Care Clinic – Yucca:

- GI, Cardiology and Neurology services are available.

Director Brown asked for clarification about the stroke program. Director Savitt asked about the variant Omicron.

PRESENTATION

STRATEGIC PLAN – *Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development*

Cindy Schmall stated that senior staff reviewed the strategic plan and made changes to clarify strategies and tactics. Mr. Ruddon provided a PowerPoint presentation showing the changes that staff made to the plan. He reviewed strategies and tactics.

Director Evans asked about including a tactic to address vaping among students; she was requesting an education campaign. Cindy instructed staff to add: 2.2.2 Develop a campaign to reduce vaping in schools.

There was discussion around homelessness and racism; Director Brown spoke to implicit bias and requested a change to the plan (Tactic 3.1.3 was edited to read “Provide implicit bias ~~racism~~ training to staff.” Director Evans stated she appreciates the changes made as they provide clarification.



ACTION ITEMS

NOMINATION & ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICES

Board Clerk, Karen Graley took the gavel and opened the floor for nominations for the office of President. Director Greenhouse nominated Director Evans for office of President. Nominations were closed; Ms. Graley called for the vote. Brown

- **Motion 22-03:** Director Greenhouse motioned to elect Director Evans as President of the board; motion seconded by Director Brown; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Evans was elected President of the board.

Ms. Graley opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice President. Director Brown nominated Director Greenhouse for office of Vice President. Nominations were closed; Ms. Graley called for the vote.

- **Motion 22-04:** Director Brown motioned to elect Director Greenhouse as Vice President of the board; motion seconded by Director Savitt; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Greenhouse was elected Vice President of the board.

Ms. Graley opened the floor for nominations for the office of Secretary. Director Greenhouse nominated Director Brown for office of Secretary. Nominations were closed; Ms. Graley called for the vote.

- **Motion 22-05:** Director Greenhouse motioned to elect Director Brown as Secretary of the board; motion seconded by Director Evans; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Brown was elected Secretary of the board.

Ms. Graley opened the floor for nominations for the office of Treasurer. Director Greenhouse nominated Director Savitt for office of Treasurer. Nominations were closed; Ms. Graley called for the vote.

- **Motion 22-06:** Director Greenhouse motioned to elect Director Savitt as Treasurer of the board; motion seconded by Director Brown; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Savitt was elected Treasurer of the board.

The officers of the Board of Directors:

- Director Evans, President
- Director Greenhouse, Vice President
- Director Brown, Secretary
- Director Savitt, Treasurer

APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER BOARD

Director Evans introduced the action item. Referencing the co-application agreement, she spoke to the importance of maintaining open communication between the two boards and that District board members serving on the CHC Governing Board facilitated that communication. Directors Greenhouse, Brown and Savitt volunteered. Discussion followed.

- **Motion 22-07:** Director Greenhouse motioned to appoint Directors Brown and Savitt to represent the District board on the CHC governing board; motion seconded by Director Evans; the motion passed by unanimous vote



APPROVE RESOLUTION TO CHANGE BANK SIGNATURES

Director Evans introduced the action item. Cindy Schmall stated that a resolution is required to make these changes to authorized bank signatures.

- **Motion 22-08:** Director Greenhouse motioned to approve Resolution #22-01 to remove Mitch Hall from authorized bank signatures and add Cindy Schmall as CEO; motion seconded by Director Brown. A roll call vote was taken.

Director Brown: Yes No Abstain Absent

Director Evans: Yes No Abstain Absent

Director Markle-Greenhouse: Yes No Abstain Absent

Director Savitt: Yes No Abstain Absent

APPROVE PAYMENT OF TO CMS AS 2012-13 HI-DESERT MEDICAL CENTER RECONCILIATION – *Cindy Schmall, CEO*

Ms. Schmall provided context for the action item and explained that it is common practice for CMS (Medicare) to reconcile estimated payments several years after treatment. There is no way to audit or refute their findings. This payment is from a period when the District was operating the hospital.

- **Motion 22-09:** Director Greenhouse motioned to approve the payment of \$408,484.21 to CMS as the 2012-13 HDMC reconciliation; motion seconded by Director Brown; the motion passed by unanimous vote

REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORTS – *Debbie Anderson, CFO*

Debbie Anderson presented the financial report for November, 2021.

- The consolidated financials for the month of November show a loss of \$(116,783) and year to date shows a loss of \$(647,565). Losses can be contributed to three factors: investment losses, overage of expenses, and lower than expected encounters. Significant negative variances are mainly attributable to expenses incurred for the CEO transition.
- The non-clinic financials for the month of November show income of \$114,138 and year to date shows income of \$193,754. Significant negative variances are mainly attributable to expenses incurred for the CEO transition.
- The clinic financials for the month of November show a loss of \$(230,921) and the loss year to date is \$(841,320).
- **Motion 21-10:** Director Brown motioned to accept the financial report, second by Director Greenhouse; motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISTRICT UPDATE – *Cindy Schmall, CEO*

Ms. Schmall presented statistics on encounters for the month of November and reviewed services by location. In total, CHC was 649 visits short of budget, primarily in behavioral health and adult services. In spite of the holiday closures, November numbers were better than October numbers which was a result of department managers responding timely with staffing and scheduling adjustments.

She shared that greater than 50% of clinic staff were out due to illness and isolation requirements resulting in canceling Saturday clinic hours.



She spoke to the team effort in implementing the HIV/STI grant, recognizing both Joe Ruddy and Kathy Alkire for their work.

She announced the HRSA site visit is scheduled for February 22-24; it will be primarily an electronic survey. Staff is preparing for that survey now.

Our new HR Director, Angela Wilhit begins next week.

CALENDAR REVIEW AND COORDINATION

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

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

DIRECTOR SAVITT: She stated the meeting was very informative; the strategic plan is fantastic; and thanked staff for their work.

DIRECTOR BROWN: He congratulated Director Evans on her election to President of the board and said he's looking forward to the new year.

DIRECTOR EVANS: Thanked Cindy for the graceful transition to CEO and her leadership; thanked staff for their reports, "They were very informative." She congratulated Directors Brown and Savitt in being appointed to the CHC board.

DIRECTOR GREENHOUSE: Thanked staff for their hours and hours of work. She thanked Linda Evans for attending the meeting and Cindy Schmall for her leadership and work.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION at 7:32 p.m.


- Pursuant to Government Code section 32106 of the Health and Safety Code: Report involving *Trade Secret*. Estimated date of public disclosure is projected for April, 2022.

ADJOURN TO OPEN SESSION / ADJOURN MEETING

The board adjourned from closed session at 8:58 p.m. with no reportable action.

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


Dianne Markle-Greenhouse
President


Greg Brown
Secretary