



Hi-Desert Memorial Health Care District dba
Morongo Basin Healthcare District
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 5, 2023 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 Cooper
- Director Evans
- Director Markle-Greenhouse
- Director Savitt
- Director Stiemsma

Guests:

- Linda Evans, Chief Strategy Officer, Desert Market, Tenet (*remote*)
- Jene Estrada, Hi-Desert Star

Administrative Staff:

- Cindy Schmall, CEO (*remote*)
- Karen Graley, Board Clerk (*remote*)
- Deborah Anderson, CFO
- Joe Ruddon, Director Business Development
- Kathy Alkire, Wellness Nurse (*remote*)
- Tele Thornett, Administrative Assistant
- Shareen Staten, HR Generalist

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were presented.

SWEARING IN OF PUBLIC SERVANTS EVANS, SAVITT & COOPER

CEO Cindy Schmall administered the oath of office to Patricia Cooper, Misty Evans and Debra Savitt.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion 23-01: Director Cooper motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Greenhouse the motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion 23-02: Director Stiemsma motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Director Greenhouse; motion passed by unanimous vote.

- Minutes: Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, December 1, 2022.
- Minutes: Special Meeting of the Board of Directors (board vacancy), October 17, 2022.



- Re-ratify the Governor’s proclamation of state of emergency and authorize remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of MBHDistrict.

NOMINATION & ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

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

- **Motion 23-03:** Director Savitt motioned to elect Director Greenhouse as President of the board; motion seconded by Director Evans; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Greenhouse was elected President of the board.

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

- **Motion 23-04:** Director Greenhouse motioned to elect Director Evans as Vice President of the board; motion seconded by Director Stiemsma; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Evans was elected Vice President of the board.

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

- **Motion 23-05:** Director Evans motioned to elect Director Cooper as Secretary of the board; motion seconded by Director Savitt; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Cooper was elected Secretary of the board.

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

- **Motion 23-06:** Director Stiemsma motioned to elect Director Savitt as Treasurer of the board; motion seconded by Director Evans; the motion passed by unanimous vote; Director Savitt was elected Treasurer of the board.

The officers of the Board of Directors:

- President: Director Greenhouse
- Vice President: Director Evans
- Secretary: Director Cooper
- Treasurer: Director Savitt

Director Savitt thanked Director Evans for her leadership this last year. The board and staff affirmed their appreciation with applause.

DESERT CARE NETWORK UPDATE – *Linda Evans, Chief Strategy Officer, Desert Market, 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.

COVID-19 Update:

- HDMC acute hospital has zero positive COVID-19 patients (3 last month) and no persons of interest (PUI). CCC also has no COVID-19 positive residents.
- DRMC currently has 27 positive COVID-19 patients (44 last month) and no PUIs.
- JFK currently has 10 positive COVID-19 patients (4 last month) and one PUI patient in-house.



- Personal Protective Equipment remains in adequate supply at all facilities with proactive efforts to secure items in advance of a potential surge this fall.

RSV – Pediatrics:

- Sept 0; Oct 31 0; Nov 50 – DRMC specific. HDMC and JFK at zero inpatients.

Blood Drive:

- HDMC continues to hold blood drives with LifeStream. The inventory remains critical.

Capital Project Update: Hospital facility

- Roofing project is on-going; completion is anticipated the beginning of February if weather cooperates.
- Emergency generator project in process. Supply chain issues will delay this project for many months. Anticipated completion of project late 2023.
- Nurse call light system is scheduled for replacement for 2023.

Trauma Update:

- Since trauma designation on Nov 16, HDMC has received 15 trauma patients with 14 that qualified under level 4 criteria. These 14 patients would have been directly transported to the closest trauma center (DRMC) if HDMC was not a designated trauma center. This allowed MBA and Fire to remain in the Morongo Basin to answer calls for our community.

Director Evans congratulated Karen Faulis, CEO at HDMC on her promotion to CEO of JFK as well.

Director Stiemsma asked if the HDMC trauma numbers were as expected. Ms. Evans responded that there were more patients than projected probably related to holiday and weather conditions. Ms. Evans will be incorporating trauma data into her monthly reports.

PRESENTATION

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Cindy Schmall, CEO and Joe Ruddon, Director of Business Development, provided a handout delineating the status of strategic plan initiatives. It was reported that all of the initiatives targeting a completion date of 2022 were completed.

Mr. Ruddon called out a few initiatives for update. The Board requested a presentation on the HIV program statistics.

ACTION ITEMS

APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER GOVERNING BOARD

Director Greenhouse 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 Cooper and Stiemsma volunteered. Discussion followed.

- **Motion 23-07:** Director Evans motioned to appoint Directors Cooper and Stiemsma to represent the District board on the CHC governing board; motion seconded by Director Greenhouse; the motion passed by unanimous vote

APPROVE RESOLUTION TO CHANGE BANK SIGNATURES

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



- **Motion 23-08:** Director Evans motioned to approve Resolution #23-01 to remove Greg Brown from authorized bank signatures; motion seconded by Director Stiemsma. A roll call vote was taken.

Director Cooper: ✓Yes No Abstain Absent
Director Evans: ✓Yes No Abstain Absent
Director Markle-Greenhouse: ✓Yes No Abstain Absent
Director Savitt: ✓Yes No Abstain Absent
Director Stiemsma: ✓Yes No Abstain Absent

REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORT – *Debbie Anderson, CFO*

Debbie Anderson presented financial information for November 2022:

The consolidated financials for the month of November show income of \$539,073 and year to date loss of \$431,454. The non-clinic financials for the month of November show a loss of \$411,122 and year to date loss of \$48,652. The clinic financials for the month of November show income of \$127,951 and year to date income of \$382,802.

The two biggest impacts on the November financials were the receipt of property tax revenue and positive investment income. Both contributed to a positive balance in the Change in Net Position for the non-clinic financials. While year to date balances are still below budget, at least the bottom line is no longer negative.

Clinics also showed a positive Change in net position. While expenses are over budget both for the month and year to date, income is also significantly over budget. The biggest impact on revenue is the higher PPS rate, followed by a significant amount of capitation fees being received. At year end reconciliation, the large income may be adjusted, and funds returned.

There was discussion about the complex reimbursement process from IEHP and Medi-Cal, and the reconciliation process.

- **Motion 23-09:** Director Evans motioned to accept the financial reports as presented, second by Director Stiemsma; motion passed by unanimous vote.

STAFF REPORT – *Cindy Schmall, CEO*

Ms. Schmall gave a PowerPoint overview highlighting District accomplishments achieved in 2022. Director Evans expressed great appreciation for what was accomplished in 2022. “The presentation represents extraordinary leadership and team effort. The District has done so much for the community and we need to share this information with them,” she said. Director Cooper asked that the presentation be given to the Soroptimist Club.

Ms. Schmall also noted in her report:

- Effective March 1, 2023, the State of Emergency declared by Gov. Newsom will end. Board members will be required to physical attend board meetings, remote attendance will no longer be available to board members. Exceptions from the Brown Act requirements for remote attendance may be considered for emergency situations such as health or family crisis.



- She explained the CEO performance evaluation process.
- She noted the Public Notice presented on the agenda stating that redistricting public hearings will begin in February 2023. This is part of the redistricting due diligence.

CALENDAR REVIEW AND COORDINATION

- Board clerk, Karen Graley noted that the January calendar calls out dates related to the annual CEO performance evaluation process.
- February 2, the regular monthly business meeting of the board will include a closed session for the delivery of the CEO evaluation.
- March 25 is a scheduled board retreat to discuss outcomes of the board self-assessment survey.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

DIRECTOR COOPER: She stated she was pleased to be on the board, stating, “The District has always been important to me. I’m looking forward to a great year for the District.”

DIRECTOR EVANS: “I’m very excited to serve on the board again. I enjoyed the last four years and appreciate this new opportunity.”

DIRECTOR SAVITT: She thanked Debbie Anderson for the financial report, and Cindy Schmall for the terrific 2022 in Review presentation.

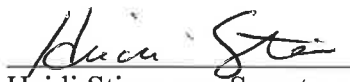
DIRECTOR STIEMSMA: “I feel like I’ve come on the board at the right time!”

DIRECTOR GREENHOUSE: Thanked everyone who joined the meeting by remote; and welcomed Tela Thornett to the team.

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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



Heidi Stiemsma, Secretary