



*Morongo Basin Health Care District*  
**Community Health Center**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES of Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**

*This meeting convened on the District's campus at 6530 La Contenta Road, Suite 400, Yucca Valley, CA 92284. The meeting was also accessible by Microsoft Teams remote platform.*

**Mission Statement:** *To improve the health and wellness of the communities we serve.*

**Vision Statement:** *A healthy Morongo Basin.*

**Core Values:** *Commitment, Collaboration, Accountability, Dignity, Integrity, and Equity*

**PRESENT:**

- Cody Briggs (*present*)
- Dianne Markle-Greenhouse (*absent*)
- Eric Menendez (*absent*)
- Gloria Cabrera (*present*)
- Hermoine Guttierrez Rios (*present*)
- Jackie Todd (*present*)
- Marc Greenhouse (*absent*)
- Lisa Ryan (*present*)
- Pat Cooper (*present*)
- Sean Loomis (*present*)

**STAFF:**

- Beverly Krushat, CHC Board Clerk (*present*)
- Cindy Schmall, CEO (*present*)
- Debbie Anderson, CFO (*present*)
- Fredi Levitt, BH Manager (*absent*)
- JJ Greer, SR Site Supervisor (*remote*)
- Janeen Duff, Director Strategic Initiatives (*present*)
- Jill Goodwin, Clinical Services Manager (*present*)
- Kim Harrison, Business Office Services Director (*present*)
- Mia Fisher, Dental Manager (*present*)
- Sheri Tincher, Patient Financial Manager (*present*)
- Tina Huff, Integrated Health Services Director (*present*)
- Tricia Gehrlein, CPE/CO (*remote*)

**CALL TO ORDER** – Board meeting was called to order by Cody Briggs at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** - Beverly Krushat conducted a roll call and confirmed there is a quorum.

**OBSERVANCES** –

Cody Briggs led the pledge of allegiance.

Jackie Todd read the Mission, Vision, and Core statements.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA -**

*Motion 25-110: MSC (Ryan/Cabrera) 7/0/3 motion carried to approve the September 11, 2025, agenda.*

**APPROVAL OF CHC CONSENT AGENDA –**

*Motion 25-111: MSC (Ryan/Guttierrez Rios) 7/0/3 motion carried to approve August 14, 2025, minutes.*

## ACTION ITEMS

### **ACCEPT AND FILE THE RESIGNATION OF NICOLA KELLER – *Cindy Schmall, CEO***

Nicola Keller has been a committed board member since 2022. During her tenure, she has held the roles of Chair and, most recently, Vice Chair of the CHC Board. Throughout her service, Nicola has actively supported the Morongo Basin Healthcare District by engaging in quarterly events and health fairs.

*Motion 25-112: MSC (Ryan/Todd) 7/0/3 motion carried to accept and file the resignation of Nicola Keller.*

### **JULY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT – *Debbie Anderson, CFO***

#### OVERVIEW

The clinic financials for the month of July show a loss of \$(25,335) and year to date shows income of \$(25,335). (See Table 1)

Welcome to a new fiscal year. We are starting off positive – we did 304 more visits than budgeted (3,467 visits vs budget of 3,163). This has contributed to higher patient services revenue for the month of July. However, it also means our physician fees were over budget, since the independent contractors were then paid for more services than budgeted. Looking to next month, please note that one of our providers that we were expecting to leave has in fact left in August 2025. Additionally, a BH provider along with another medical provider has/is in process of leaving (which we were not expecting), so August visits probably won't continue this trend.

Additionally, we are wrapping up our HRSA HIV grant, which concludes at the end of August. A lot of spending took place in July, so grant revenue is higher, but the associated supplies expense is also higher. The additional income and the additional expense effectively net.

Finally, purchased services for clinics are higher due to higher billing amounts by our 3rd party RCM contract. State Medi-Cal payments go on hiatus the last 2 weeks of June, which are then caught up in July. Since the RCM fees are directly linked to payment postings, July is higher than our usual charges. It will drop back down next month.

#### CLINIC CHANGE IN NET POSITION

**Table 1 Clinics July 2025**

Clinics	Actual Mth	Budget Mth	Over/(Under)	% of Budget
Patient services (net)	769,124	664,687	104,437	15.71%
Grant Revenue	170,189	140,506	29,684	21.13%
340B Revenue	30,319	29,879	440	1.47%
Capitation Fees	186,871	180,832	6,039	3.34%
Records & Interest	3	153	(150)	-98.13%
Cost Report Adjustments	(137,361)	(137,361)	0	0.00%
Quality	27,388	21,042	6,346	30.16%
	<b>1,046,533</b>	<b>899,737</b>	<b>146,796</b>	<b>16.32%</b>
Salaries - Clinic	526,106	535,247	9,141	1.71%
Fringe - Clinic	105,642	102,698	(2,944)	-2.87%
Phys Fees - Clinic	83,455	73,087	(10,368)	-14.19%
Purchases Services - Clinic	73,184	61,707	(11,477)	-18.60%
IT, Network & Phones - Clinic	20,733	24,459	3,726	15.23%

Table 1 (continued)

Clinics	Actual Mth	Budget Mth	Over/(Under)	% of Budget
Supplies - Clinic	60,355	33,020	(27,335)	-82.78%
Supplies - 340B	9,902	24,999	15,097	60.39%
R&M - Clinic	11,619	6,507	(5,112)	-78.56%
Leases/Rentals - Clinic	100	142	42	29.45%
Utilities - Clinic	9,526	9,664	138	1.43%
Ins - Clinic	287	302	14	4.77%
Other - Clinic	4,892	7,885	2,993	37.96%
Depreciation	20,746	18,791	(1,955)	-10.40%
	<b>926,547</b>	<b>898,509</b>	<b>(28,038)</b>	<b>-3.12%</b>
Operating Income/(Loss) before Allocation	119,986	1,228	118,758	9669.52%
Allocation of Overhead for Health Centers	(145,322)	(185,907)	40,585	21.83%
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>(25,335)</b>	<b>(184,679)</b>	<b>159,343</b>	<b>86.28%</b>

Chart A – Visits History Chart

Month	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26
Jul	2,942	3,283	3,091	2,877	2,670	2,758	3,030	3,467
Aug	3,766	3,587	3,015	3,425	3,315	3,195	2,975	-
Sep	3,043	3,501	3,065	3,134	3,256	2,593	3,041	-
Oct	3,551	3,892	3,264	3,282	3,071	3,027	3,697	-
Nov	3,229	3,353	2,627	3,116	2,936	2,928	2,952	-
Dec	2,858	3,304	2,976	2,705	2,881	2,556	3,027	-
Jan	3,698	4,010	2,921	2,925	3,001	3,226	3,316	-
Feb	3,198	3,763	3,190	3,068	2,882	2,980	3,303	-
Mar	3,515	2,927	3,516	3,332	3,331	3,032	3,338	-
Apr	3,660	2,066	3,460	3,094	2,896	3,016	3,648	-
May	3,662	2,200	3,043	3,239	3,247	3,143	3,564	-
Jun	3,344	2,786	3,082	3,218	2,939	2,652	3,326	-
Total	40,466	38,672	37,250	37,415	36,425	35,106	39,217	3,467
Total July only	2,942	3,283	3,091	2,877	2,670	2,758	3,030	3,467

We are in the final stages of our HRSA HIV grant, which concludes at the end of August. As a result, we experienced significant spending in July. The associated supplies expense has increased; however, when we consider both the higher revenue and the increased expenses, the two effectively offset each other.

Additionally, our purchases for the clinics have risen. We have an external billing contract, and due to the specifics of how Medi-Cal processes payments, we typically see higher collections in July and lower collections in June.

When reviewing the budget, please keep in mind that while expenses were elevated, we anticipate a decrease in the coming month.

*Motion 25-113: MSC (Ryan/Loomis) 7/0/3 motion carried to accept and file the July Financial Report.*

**MAT (MEDICATED ASSISTED TREATMENT PROGRAM) PRESENTATION –**  
*Tina Huff, Director, Integrated Services*

Director Huff began the presentation by addressing the pressing issue of the opioid crisis in San Bernardino County, emphasizing a significant rise in Fentanyl-related fatalities. In 2019, the county recorded 74 fatalities, which alarmingly escalated to 436 by 2023. However, preliminary data for 2024 suggests a slight decline in these numbers, offering a glimmer of hope amidst the ongoing crisis.

## **Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT):**

MAT is an evidence-based approach to treating Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD). This treatment combines FDA-approved medication with counseling and individualized support, offering a comprehensive strategy for those struggling with dependency. Currently, we are assisting 15 MAT patients aged 23 to 60. Our recovery approach is holistic and includes therapy and counseling. For those requiring assistance with insurance, we have dedicated staff, like Sharee Fansler, to help them navigate the enrollment process. We also aim to integrate these patients as full medical patients in the future.

**Community Initiatives:** So, how are we contributing? We are currently collaborating with Reach Out and California Bridge, a program connected to the emergency department that refers patients to our services. In addition to our existing MAT patients, we provide harm reduction kits to the community. Our Community Health Workers (CHWs) distribute fentanyl test kits and Narcan, which significantly aid in reducing overdose incidents.

**Benefits of MAT:** The advantages of MAT are substantial. It reduces the risk of overdose and death, alleviates cravings and withdrawal symptoms, lowers relapse rates and hospital visits, enhances the ability of patients to gain and maintain employment, and improves overall health outcomes.

## **REPORTING**

### **CEO REPORT – *Cindy Schmall, CEO***

- We have had many unexpected delays including Southern California Edison (SCE) due to changing their electrical infrastructure. To date, the plumbing has been installed under the building and water lines are being trenched as we speak. Additionally, flooring has been completed, steps have been built and a ramp is coming soon. Wiring for internet has to be completed and we are awaiting parts for the electrical to be run from one building to another.
- We now have 11 board members for CHC which puts us back into compliance. Also, Nicola Keller, Vice Chair has advised that she is resigning effective immediately, so we will be needing to recruit another community member.
- One adult nurse practitioner has relocated out of area. We are currently recruiting for a replacement in Yucca Valley. Other staff have picked up visits to ensure access to care. We still have 2 full-time and 1 part-time in Yucca Valley.
- Regarding the Joshua tree located in the middle of the bike path, we initially considered its removal due to its protected status. To assess the situation, we brought in an arborist—an expert in tree care. The arborist evaluated the tree and determined that it is very healthy and should remain in its current location. Next steps include our application for a permit to trim some of the branches, ensuring they do not interfere with the bike path. Once we receive the permit, we will proceed accordingly.
- We have successfully moved furniture into the building, including all items previously stored that were part of our federal grant. For those who are new, we received a \$600,000 federal grant dedicated to capital equipment. This funding allows us to procure new exam beds and equipment, enhancing the resources available for our staff.

- We have received notification that Southern California Edison has initiated a comprehensive upgrade of their grid in 29 Palms. This unexpected development had previously created a barrier to moving our project forward, as we were required to accommodate delays in establishing new power lines before we could connect electricity to the building. We are optimistic that their plans have now progressed, allowing us to advance this phase of the project.

**CALENDAR REVIEW** – *Cindy Schmall, CEO*

CEO Schmall reviewed the calendars for the upcoming events, talks, etc. with the board members.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** –

Pat Cooper thanked CFO Anderson for her financial report.

Cody Briggs asked Janeen Duff to elaborate on the Wild West Showdown.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cody Briggs', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Cody Briggs, Secretary of the Board