

**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
SPECIAL STUDY SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 16, 2017**

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A Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Desert Healthcare District was held in the Jerry Stergios Building – 2nd Floor, Palm Springs, CA.

**Attendance**

Members

Carole Rogers, RN – President  
Kay Hazen – Vice-President/Secretary  
Mark Matthews – Treasurer  
Jennifer Wortham, Dr.PH  
Les Zendle, MD– Director

Absent

Staff

Herb K. Schultz, CEO  
Chris Christensen, CFO  
Donna Craig, Senior Program Officer  
Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Outreach Director  
Mary Pannoni, Accounting/Admin. Support  
Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk to the Board

Legal Counsel

Jeffrey G. Scott

Guests

Jody Hill-Mischel, Managing Director, Kaufman Hall  
Patrick Smyth, Senior Vice President, Kaufman Hall  
Mitch Blumberg, Vice Chair, Governing Board, Desert Regional Medical Center  
Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Regional Medical Center  
Gary Honts, CEO, JFK Memorial Hospital  
Mike Maloney, Senior Vice President, Corporate Development, Tenet Health

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by President Rogers.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

President Rogers asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

**#18-02 MOTION WAS MADE by Vice-President Hazen and seconded by Director Matthews to approve the agenda.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES**            5    **Director Zendle; Director Matthews; Director Wortham;  
Vice-President Hazen; President Rogers**

**NOES:**            0

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**        0

**Motion Passed 5-0**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **STUDY SESSION**

Herb K. Schultz, CEO, described the context of the Study Session on New Providers, Facilities, Programs, and Services by detailing consultants Kaufman Hall scope of work. Mr. Schultz further detailed the Study Session as it relates to planning for the One Coachella Valley priority of the Strategic Plan.

Jody Hill-Mischel, Managing Director, Kaufman Hall, introduced herself and explained the agenda items of the Study Session. Ms. Hill-Mischel described Kaufman Hall's Engagement Objectives, and the three priorities of the District's Strategic Plan, including Geography and Healthcare Access Points for inpatient outpatient clinics, imaging services, nursing facilities, and urgent care centers. Director Zendle inquired if the Healthcare Access Points solely represent Federally Qualified Health Center's (FQHC). Patrick Smyth, Senior Vice President, Kaufman Hall explained that other community clinics were not included in the map and will be added.

Patrick Smyth, Senior Vice President, Kaufman Hall explained the Market Environment Gaps, Initiatives, and Considerations for the types of care and needs, including its relation to seismic and structural bed space. Director's Zendle and Wortham emphasized seasonality in the Valley population and the general acute care bed numbers. Mr. Smyth explained that seasonality was taken into consideration with a rate of 10%; however, he will revisit the acute care bed space regarding seismic issues.

Vice-President Hazen explained that Kaufman Hall has considered the background, including current trends to factor into the scope work. Ms. Hill-Mischel explained that it is important to think about the needs, and gaps in the emerging trends as the District transforms and expands as patient needs evolve.

Mr. Smyth explained the aspects of subacute/post-acute care, specialty care services, and the importance of continuum of care. Director Zendle requested that Graduate Medical Education (GME) is included in specialty care since it drives access and connects academics.

Ms. Hill-Mischel described the Potential Scenarios including a partial upgrade, partial upgrade plus two to three new small hospitals (micro), reconfiguration plus a new hospital, and full seismic retrofit.

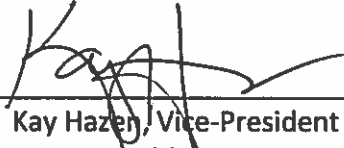
Ezra Kaufman, District Resident, asked about the capital required for the potential scenarios. Mr. Smyth explained that at this point, the capital is ever changing.

Vice-President Hazen facilitated a dialogue with the Board concerning nonstarter and components necessary for advancement. Director Wortham stated that the District should take responsibility and ownership for inpatient and outpatient care, including determining the cause of residency students not remaining in the community or frequenting the Coachella Valley. Director Zendle stated that historically, the District might not have the ability to operate a healthcare facility. It may be necessary to partner with someone who has been successful with behavioral health. Vice-President Hazen explained the similarities and correlation to subsidized services. President Rogers explained that movement is necessary, and the Board has approved \$50,000 for a behavioral health consultant. Vice President Hazen agreed with President Rogers and stated that clarity from the Board is needed to move in the appropriate direction. Director Zendle explained that he would not like to see funding placed into the Desert Regional Medical Center facility when populations from the east are traveling to the west for services, and determining the manpower necessary for programs and services. A buildout is needed for the east especially with JFK Memorial as the only hospital in the east valley. Director Zendle further explained that Eisenhower should be engaged in the conversation.

Mr. Schultz detailed the next Board meeting taking place on November 28, and the Hospital Governance and Oversight Committee meeting on November 27. A separate Study Session on Medical Manpower will be scheduled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

ATTEST:   
Kay Hazen, Vice-President  
Desert Healthcare District Board of Directors

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk to the Board*