



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING MINUTES
April 23, 2024**

Directors Present	District Staff Present	Absent
President Evett PerezGil Vice-President Carmina Zavala, PsyD Secretary Kimberly Barraza Director Les Zendle, MD Director Leticia De Lara, MPA Director Carole Rogers, RN	Chris Christensen, CPA, Interim CEO Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer Alejandro Espinoza, MPH, Chief of Community Engagement Will Dean, Director of Communications and Marketing Andrea S. Hayles, MBA, Board Relations Officer <u>Legal Counsel</u> Jeff Scott	Treasurer Arthur Shorr

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION
A. Call to Order Roll Call	President PerezGil called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Clerk of the Board called the roll with all directors present except Director Shorr and Vice-President Zavala who joined the meeting at 5:32 p.m.	
B. Pledge of Allegiance	President PerezGil led the pledge of allegiance.	
C. Approval of Agenda	President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	#24-21 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Director Zendle to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 5 President PerezGil, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 2 Vice-President Zavala and Director Shorr
D. Public Comment	There were no public comments.	
E. Consent Agenda		



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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BOARD MINUTES <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Special Meeting of the Board – March 05, 2024 b. Special Meeting of the Board – March 11, 2024 c. Special Meeting of the Board – March 19, 2024 d. Special Meeting of the Board – March 20, 2024 e. Special Meeting of the Board – March 21, 2024 f. Board of Directors Meeting – March 26, 2024 2. AGREEMENTS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Success for Nonprofits – Feasibility Study for Director of Development – NTE \$6,000 b. Coachella Valley Accounting & Auditing – \$6,500 per each small non-profit grantee audit 3. PERSONNEL <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Regional Government Services Human Resources Consulting Agreement – NTE \$40,000 4. LAS PALMAS MEDICAL PLAZA (LPMP) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lease Renewal – Desert Regional Medical Center – Suite 2E-107 – 5-year lease b. Security Agreement – Addendum #1 – Extension to May 31, 2025 c. Consulting Services Agreement – Van Surveying, Inc. – Flooding Surveying for Drainage Plan - \$13,200 	<p>President PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.</p>	<p>#24-22 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director De Lara to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
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<p>5. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM</p> <p>a. Environmental Health Summit Project Budget</p> <p>i. \$75,000 Presenting Sponsorship Commitment from the Desert Healthcare District</p> <p>ii. Westin Service Agreement (incorporated in the Project Budget)</p>		
<p>F. Presentations</p> <p>1. Mariela Magana Ceballos, Student, Presentation on East Coachella Valley Senior Farmworker Health Needs Assessment</p>	<p>Mariela Magana Ceballos, a third-year medical resident, provided an overview of the East Coachella Valley Senior Farmwork Health Needs Assessment and introduced Ann Cheney, PhD, UCR School of Medicine, who presented background on the research and project summary. Mrs. Ceballos and Dr. Cheney highlighted the research design, aging farmworkers, available medical services, farmworker retirement plans, medical service gaps in the community, support needs in navigating the health system, medication, medical terminology, and proposed solutions.</p> <p>The Board inquired and discussed the farmworkers using the Coachella Valley Volunteers In Medicine Indio location instead of traveling outside the border to</p>	



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	<p>Mexicali, the barriers with Riverside County, the cultural differences and training for navigating the medical services using promotoras’, the current clinic in the Oasis Thermal area, the possibility of District funding to assist, the numerous Coachella Valley-wide issues, such as evening clinics, contacting the Imperial Valley Healthcare District to assist in the area, and AB 3149 (Garcia) Promotores and Promotoras Advisory and Oversight Workgroup.</p>	
<p>G. Strategic Grant Funding</p> <p>1. Social Isolation and Loneliness “Building Connected Communities” Proposals:</p> <p>a. Grant #1432 Variety – the Children’s Charity of the Desert Tent 66 – Outreach and Future Program Expansion – \$102,949</p>	<p>Chris Christensen, Interim CEO, provided background on the RFP release and process for the social isolation and loneliness “Building Connected Communities” and staff’s recommendations for grant funding.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the Variety the Children’s Charity of the Desert Tent 66 grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	<p>#24-23 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director De Lara to approve Grant #1432 Variety – the Children’s Charity of the Desert Tent 66 – Outreach and Future Program Expansion – \$102,949. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>



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<p>b. Grant #1437 Youth Leadership Institute – Community Advocates for Resilient Emotional Safety (ECV CARES) – \$100,000</p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the Youth Leadership Institute – Community Advocates for Resilient Emotional Safety (ECV CARES) grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	<p>#24-24 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve Grant #1437 Youth Leadership Institute – Community Advocates for Resilient Emotional Safety (ECV CARES) – \$100,000.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
<p>c. Grant #1441 Desert AIDS Project, dba DAP Health – DAP Health Community Health Workers Build Community Connections – \$125,000</p>	<p>Vice-President Zavala recused herself from the matter as a DAP Health employee.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the DAP Health – DAP Health Community Health Workers Build Community Connections grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	<p>#24-25 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director Zendle to approve Grant #1441 Desert AIDS Project, dba DAP Health – DAP Health Community Health Workers Build Community Connections – \$125,000.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 5 President PerezGil, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers</p> <p>NOES – 0</p> <p>ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p> <p>RECUSAL – 1 Vice-President Zavala</p>
<p>d. Grant #1443 Voices for Children – Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program – \$60,000</p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the Voices for Children – Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program grant request.</p> <p>President & CEO, Jessica Muñoz, Voices for Children, provided an overview of the program and the specifics of</p>	<p>#24-26 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Rogers and seconded by Director De Lara to approve Grant #1443 Voices for Children – Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program – \$60,000.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers</p>



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<p>e. Grant #1445 Cove Communities Senior Association dba The Joslyn Center – Increasing Behavioral Health Access and Social Connectedness for Older Coachella Valley Adults – \$200,000</p>	<p>the grant funding’s alignment with the court appointed special advocate program.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the Cove Communities Senior Association dba The Joslyn Center – Increasing Behavioral Health Access and Social Connectedness for Older Coachella Valley Adults grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	<p>NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p> <p>#24-27 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Director Rogers to approve Grant #1445 Cove Communities Senior Association dba The Joslyn Center – Increasing Behavioral Health Access and Social Connectedness for Older Coachella Valley Adults – \$200,000.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
<p>f. Grant #1452 El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center – Coachella Valley Community Assistance, Resources, and Empowerment Services (CV-CARES) – \$200,000</p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center – Coachella Valley Community Assistance, Resources, and Empowerment Services (CV-CARES) grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	<p>#24-28 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Barraza and seconded by Director Rogers to approve Grant #1452 El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center – Coachella Valley Community Assistance, Resources, and Empowerment Services (CV-CARES) – \$200,000.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
<p>g. Grant #1453 Vision y Compromiso – Cultivando Community Connections – \$199,914</p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the Vision y Compromiso – Cultivando Community Connections grant request.</p>	<p>#24-29 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Baraza and seconded by Vice-President Zavala to approve Grant #1453 Vision y Compromiso – Cultivando Community Connections – \$199,914.</p>



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<p>h. Grant #1455 Angel View Inc. – Outreach program to reduce social isolation and loneliness – \$86,250</p>	<p>There were no questions or comments.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board about any questions for the Angel View Inc. – Outreach program to reduce social isolation and loneliness grant request.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	<p>Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p> <p>#24-30 MOTION WAS MADE by Director Zendle and seconded by Director Rogers to approve Grant #1455 Angel View Inc. – Outreach program to reduce social isolation and loneliness – \$86,250. Motion passed unanimously. AYES – 6 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, Director De Lara, and Director Rogers NOES – 0 ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
<p>2. Grant # 1434 Riverside University Health System – Public Health – Coachella Community Blue Zones Project: \$2,095,200 for 45 months – Program Committee Declination – Not in Alignment with the Board-Approved High Priority Strategic Plan Goals</p>	<p>Mr. Christensen provided background details on the Blue Zones project and the presentation to the board at the November 2023 meeting.</p> <p>The Board discussed funding low-priority grants, the staff’s determination of strategic funding alignment, other agencies providing funding, no consideration of low-priority requests in the future and assessing low-priority grant requests.</p> <p>Staff described the board’s decision and process at the strategic planning retreats and expending \$2M of the \$4M total fiscal year grant</p>	<p>#24-31 MOTION WAS MADE by Director De Lara and seconded by Vice-President Zavala to accept the Program Committee’s recommendation to decline Grant #1434 Riverside University Health System – Public Health – Coachella Community Blue Zones Project: \$2,095,200 for 45 months, encouraging RUHS to reapply in the future, an increase in funding from additional funders, and a reduced amount of the grant request that’s more feasible for the District. Motion passed 5-1. AYES – 5 President PerezGil, Vice-President Zavala, Secretary Barraza, Director Zendle, and Director De Lara NOES – 1 Director Rogers</p>



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	<p>budget. The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion about considering funding a low-priority grant request, not depleting resources from the high priorities, and the possibility of revisiting the matter after the November election related to the hospital lease negotiations.</p>	<p>ABSENT – 1 Director Shorr</p>
<p>H. Reports</p> <p>1. Desert Regional Medical Center CEO Report – Michele Finney, CEO</p> <p>2. Desert Regional Medical Center Governing Board Meeting – President Evett PerezGil and Director Les Zendle, MD</p>	<p>Linda Evans, Chief Strategy Officer, DCN, provided an overview of the Desert Regional Medical Center report in Michele Finney’s absence describing events, operations, quality, service/events, capital and construction projects highlighting the Advanced Perinatal Certification as the first hospital in the Inland Region to achieve the certification from The Joint Commission.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p> <p>President PerezGil provided an overview of the April Governing Board meeting, as outlined in the report of the board meeting packet.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	



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<p>3. Desert Healthcare District CEO Report – Chris Christensen, Interim CEO</p> <p>a. Letter of Support - AB 2757 (Garcia, Padilla) – Southeast California Economic Region – Designation and alignment of state and federal programs to benefit communities impacted by lithium and other mineral extraction and clean energy development.</p> <p>b. Remaining Hospital Lease Negotiations Informational Status Meeting – April 30 at the UCR Palm Desert Campus Auditorium</p> <p>c. Tudor Ranch Employee Wellness Event</p>	<p>Mr. Christensen described the District’s letter of support for AB 2757 with an inquiry from the board about the health aspects of the economic region.</p> <p>Mr. Christensen described the remaining community forum on the informational aspects of the hospital lease negotiations on April 30 at the UCR Palm Desert Auditorium.</p> <p>Alejandro Espinoza, Chief of Community Engagement, highlighted the Tudor Ranch Employee Wellness Event, with 80 participants, including several dental screenings, thanking the partners and collaborators.</p> <p>Bill VanHermert, Director of Institutional Giving, DAP Health, described the Borrego website rerouting to the DAP Health website and the organization's investments in the eastern Coachella Valley communities in response to the Board concerning the Borrego on the mobile medical unit.</p>	
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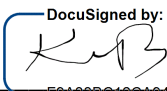
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<p>d. CEO Engagements and District Media Visibility</p> <p>4. Legal – Jeffrey G. Scott, Esq., Law Offices of Jeffrey G. Scott</p>	<p>Mr. Christensen described his CEO Engagements and the District Media Visibility</p> <p>There was no legal report at this time from counsel Jeff Scott.</p>	
<p>I. Committee Meetings –</p> <p>I.1. Program Committee Meeting</p> <p>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – April 09, 2024</p> <p>b. Progress and Final Reports Update</p> <p>c. Grant Applications and RFP Proposals Submitted and Under Review</p> <p>e. Grant Payment Schedule</p> <p>I.1.2. Finance, Legal, Administration, and Real Estate Committee</p> <p>a. Draft Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2024</p> <p>b. Las Palmas Medical Plaza Unit Rental Status</p> <p>c. Las Palmas Medical Plaza 2023 CAM Reconciliation</p> <p>d. Exempt Status from Single Audit Reporting for FY 2022-23</p>	<p>President PerezGil inquired with the Board concerning any questions about items a. – e. of the Program Committee meeting.</p> <p>The Board inquired about the declined social isolation and loneliness “Building Connected Communities” grant applications, with staff describing the lack of alignment and reminding the applicants of the rolling grant process.</p> <p>President PerezGil inquired about any questions concerning items a. – d. of the F&A Committee meeting.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments.</p>	
<p>J. Board Member Comments</p>	<p>As reported by Director Rogers, the Coachella Valley</p>	



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	<p>Association of Governments (CVAG) homeless committee did not meet in April, and the Lift to Rise report will be available at the May meeting. The medical mobile van at the Desert Hot Springs homeless hub has been successful with patient visits and residents while offering free barber services and clothing distribution.</p> <p>Vice-President Zavala described Psychology Week April 21-27 and the possibility of emphasizing the dates on the website.</p>	
K. Adjournment	President PerezGil adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.	Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents

ATTEST: _____

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 Kimberly Barraza, Secretary, Board of Directors
 Desert Healthcare District and Foundation

Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea S. Hayles, MBA, Board Relations Officer