

**THE HEFFERNAN MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE DISTRICT MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 14th OF DECEMBER 2022 AT 608 HEBER AVE. CALEXICO, CA. CITY OF CALEXICO ON THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED OR THE HOLDING OF SAID MEETING.**

**TO CALL ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m. by Norma Apodaca and Mr. Urena led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL-DETERMINATION OF QUARUM:**

Chairperson	Norma M. Apodaca
Vice Chairperson	Rodolfo Valdez
Secretary	Gloria Grijalva
Chief Financial	Sylvia Bernal
Trustee	Raul R. Urena

**GUESTS:**

Tomas Virgen-Executive District Manager  
Eduardo Rivera-Attorney  
Brenda Ryan-Board Clerk  
Tony Pimentel-Public Relations  
Adriana Armendariz-New Board Member  
Paloma Sanchez-New Board

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Board Member Bernal second by Board Member Grijalva to approve the agenda for December 14, 2022. Motion passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Apodaca, Valdez, Grijalva, Bernal, Urena

NOES: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT TIME:**

Blanca Morales the CEO from Calexico Wellness Center congratulated the newly elected board members Adriana Armendariz, Paloma Sanchez and Sylvia Bernal. Mrs. Morales suggested for the board to create a committee with the citizens of Calexico so we can get Heffernan Healthcare District engaged with what is going on with our community. They have a lot of partners that they have partner with in five years and do not really hear from the board but know that you have a different board that is coming on board she thinks these ladies have healthcare experience that is going to brighten up this board and learn from one another. They are going to bridge with Valdez and Urena. She wanted to congratulate the girls and is really looking forward to 2023. Mrs. Morales also informed the board that in last five years the Calexico Wellness Centro opened up a thrift store and they also donate a lot of equipment, furniture or clothing to the Senior Citizens or domestic violent victims. Also soon they are going to open up a Dental office. These are the accomplishments they have done in five years. They were able to get a lot of grant money and she sees on the agenda that we have grant writing so that is good news. Another thing that she sees on

the agenda is Tyson is coming on board here as an Urgent Care. When you are giving out money for equipment and you are going to be a facility you are not going to be able to build for those services. So also make sure that you are making decisions on generating revenues for Heffernan Memorial Healthcare District so that the money stays here in Calexico.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- a. Approve minutes for meetings of November 09, 2022.

Motion was made by Board Member Bernal and seconded by Board Member Valdez to approve the minutes for November 09, 2022. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Apodaca, Valdez, Grijalva, Bernal, Ureña  
NOES: None

- b. Approve Treasurer Report

Motion was made by Board Member Valdez and seconded by Board Member Urena to approve the treasurer report. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Apodaca, Valdez, Grijalva, Bernal, Ureña  
NOES: None

**REPORTS ON MEETING AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY DIRECTORS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE AT UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS/DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

Board Member Urena reported that he spoke with Mr. Esquer and Mr. Urena about the Mental Health Crisis Center and they are very excited to speak with Mr. Virgen and Behavior Health about bringing the Mental Health Crisis to Calexico.

Board Member Bernal thanked the newly elected City Council Members. She was at the swearing in the other night. It was very touching to hear Mr. Urena’s speech and would like to thank those new upcoming members and hopefully we will all be able to work together as a team.

**REPORTS BY ALL HMHD COMMITTEES**

None

**COMMENTS BY TONY PIMENTEL**

Mr. Pimentel reported that the video for the ground breaking is on TV and the website. As everybody knows on Monday everyone went to 400 Mary to do the event of the contractor and we did a video for the next meeting.

Mr. Pimentel presented a plaque of requisition for Sylvia Bernal and Rodolfo Valdez.

Mr. Pimentel presented a plaque for the years of service for Gloria Grijalva and Norma Apodaca.

**COMMENTS BY EXECUTIVE DISTRICT MANAGER:**

Mr. Virgen will reserve his comments for the items on the agenda.

**COMMENTS BY GENERAL COUNSEL:**

Mr. Rivera will reserve his comments for the items on the agenda.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

- a. Swearing in of Newly Elected Board Members by the Honorable William D. Quan, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the County of Imperial.

Honorable William D. Quan, Judge of the Superior Court conducted the swearing in of newly elected board members Adriana Armendariz, Paloma Sanchez and Sylvia Bernal.

The board meeting proceeded with the new elected board members.

- b. Appointment of New Board President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Motion was made by Board Member Urena to appoint Mr. Valdez for Board President and second by Board Member Bernal. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Valdez, Bernal, Urena, Sanchez, Armendariz

NOES: None

Motion was made by Board Member Urena to appoint Mrs. Bernal for Vice President and second by Board Member Valdez. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Valdez, Bernal, Urena, Sanchez, Armendariz

NOES: None

Motion was made by Board Member Urena to appoint Mrs. Sanchez for Treasurer and second by Board Member Armendariz. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Valdez, Bernal, Urena, Sanchez Armendariz

NOES: None

Motion was made by Board Member Valdez to appoint Mr. Urena for Secretary and second by Board Member Armendariz. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Valdez, Bernal, Urea, Sanchez, Armendariz

NOES: None

- c. Discussion and/or Action: Grant Writer/Firm update for HMHD.

Mr. Virgen reported that they reached a grant writer firm out of Sacramento and we will be doing some work over the next few weeks on the need assessment for Calexico.

- d. Discussion and/or Action: Imperial County Supervisor and the Local Health Authority Commission membership for HMHD representative.

Mr. Rivera reported that we have invited Supervisor Mr. Escobar to discuss the structure of the Imperial Valley Health Authority. As you all know the ex-members Mr. Lewis and Mr. Edwards are no longer in that position. Currently there are two vacancies in the category of the Hospital Directors under their ordinances of the county. The county in 2015 adopted ordinances creating a health commission but the ordinance is very strict in the eligibility of who can participate and become members of the health authority. Supervisor Mr. Escobar is well aware of this situation and have been working and trying to resolve and come to an agreement in possibly changing the ordinance to allow maybe the healthcare district like ourselves to be included in the new ordinance. Currently the ordinance that is in existence does not allow member of this board to be appointed to the health authority. There are other categories for public and so forth very detailed. One of the suggestions Mr. Escobar is going to discuss with you right is the implementation of the Ad Hoc meetings between board members, county of Imperial individuals, Mr. Escobar himself and other health officials and see how we can address this situation with the past seven years Heffernan which comprises approximately one third to maybe even forty percent of the healthcare population in Imperial County isn't represented on a valley wide health authority commission.

Mr. Edwards explained that we live in very dynamic times. There many changes happening whether we agree on changes it is a separate matter. What he thinks that Mr. Rivera is looking to is the fact that the district does not have a seat on the table. Mr. Escobar has been seating on that table for two years and he has been trying to get the district a seat but as Mr. Rivera the attorney know that the verbiage within the statutes state that it has to be a hospital entity not a hospital district. Mr. Escobar's suggestion is to send a letter signed by all board members with a copy to the board of supervisors because what we need do is change the actual statute ordinance and bylaws so that you can have a seat on the table. He is more than happy to work with the board to make this happen. The first step is to demand seat on the table and that is what the letter is for.

Motion was made by Board Member Armendariz second by Board Member Bernal to direct Mr. Virgen and Mr. Rivera to prepare a letter directed to the Local Health Authority and Board of Supervisors requesting/demanding a

modification of the structure in order to allow more participation specifically for the Healthcare District here in Calexico. Motion passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Valdez, Bernal, Urena, Sanchez, Armendariz  
NOES: None

- e. Discussion and/or Action: Report on 400 Mary Modernization and review, discussion and approval of change orders.

Mr. Virgen reported that there has been a lot of progress since the ground breaking and the work that has been done so far it is coming together.

- 1. Discussion and selection of 400 Mary color scheme for exterior/interior of Urgent Care Clinic building.

Mr. Virgen reached out to Sanders to put together color scheme to present and for the board to decide on the colors for the next meeting.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:**

Update on grant writer  
Follow up on Local Health Commission  
Ad Hoc Committee  
Audit Report

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no future business to discuss Board Member Bernal made motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10p.m. Second by Board Member Urena. All in favor.