

THE HEFFERNAN MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE DISTRICT MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 23rd OF FEBRUARY 2017 AT THE 601 HEBER AVE, CALEXICO, CA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED OR THE HOLDING OF SAID MEETING.

TO CALL ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:34p.m. by Sylvia Bernal and David Romero led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL-DETERMINATION OF QUARUM:

Chairperson	Sylvia Bernal
Vice Chairperson	Gloria G. Romo
Chief Financial	Hector Martinez
Trustee	Norma M. Apodaca
Trustee	Rodolfo Valdez

GUESTS:

Eduardo Rivera- Attorney
Brenda Ryan-Board Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Board Member Romo and second by Board Member Martinez to approve the agenda for February 23, 2017 Motion passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez, Apodaca, Valdez
NOES: None

PUBLIC COMMENT TIME:

Norma Sakihon, Public Administrator from the Imperial County Aging. She is here on behalf of the seniors in Calexico. Their agency contracts with Catholic Charity to provide delivered meals to the seniors. They have been aware that the state and federal funds they get is not enough to meet the needs of the home delivered meals. She is requesting to be placed on the agenda to discuss this item and seek the help from the Board. This item will be placed on the agenda for our next meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Motion was made by Board Member Martinez and seconded by Board Member Romo to approve minutes for January 11, 2017, January 17, 2017 and January 18, 2017. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez, Apodaca, Valdez
NOES: None

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

Board Member Valdez attended a Valentines dance at the Community Center and attended the Bailando por su Salud. Both events had a very good attendance and well planned. The seniors were enjoying themselves. The Bailando por su Salud had a guest which is Imperial Valley Wellness and Mr. Valdez brought some flyers. They are a new medical business and they were promoting their services and what he noticed is that they had a big banner with their name and he thinks we should have a banner with our name at our events and maybe flyers with our programs too. Mr. Valdez also called Mr. Finley to see what the progress was in placing the exercise equipment of the parks Kennedy and Heber. Mr. Finley reported to Mr. Valdez that they were going to start this week with Kennedy Garden. Mr. Valdez also informed the board that there is a meeting on the 28th at 6pm concerning the affair with the fire department at Willie Moreno and would like to invite all Board Members and the public to attend.

Board Member Romo also attended the Valentine and Bailando por su Salud events. She enjoyed both events and the people. She also attended accompanied Board Member Bernal to a meeting with the City Manager on Tuesday. She also attended another meeting with the Council Carlos Flores for Ventanillas de Salud and is requesting to put this item on the agenda. Mrs. Romo also presented a letter to the board for support and collaboration to start a Heffernan Memorial Foundation or an equivalent form of non-profit organization that is allowed by the law of California that will help our community. This foundation can help our residents in need of many things. El Centro Regional and Pioneers have their own foundations to help in many ways and she feels the Calexico should also have this type of foundation for the community. She is asking for the Board to think about it, try it and look for more options to start something good for Calexico.

Board Member Bernal reported that Peter Mercado asked to be placed on the agenda but he could not be on this agenda because they had a training to attend. He will be here next week. Also she went to the City Manager on Tuesday to inform them that we wanted to help with the fire department service. This is something we have always wanted to do. We went with this idea to speak to Mr. Villa and the first thing he said was that he didn't trust us because we have no experience. Mrs. Bernal informed him that we would not be doing this alone that we would have Mr. Edwards from El Centro Regional help us and guide us with all this because it is to his benefit. She asked him to give us an opportunity to come back and bring Mr. Edwards with one of his council member and will present this to them. His response was he would think about it. The county is doing a survey with a large company ambulance service to see if they can provide services for the whole Imperial County. Mrs. Bernal told him that he still hadn't signed anything and they should at least give us an opportunity and his response was the same thing that he did not trust us. Mrs. Bernal and Mrs. Romo walked away because it was useless to talk to him. The Board will be going to the City Council. Mrs. Bernal called Mr. Edwards and told him what the situation was and he is willing to come and work with us and go over a strategy plan to decide what we want to do as a group. He also said he wanted to have a special meeting because the last time we did not have much time. Need to have dates we can meet. Mrs. Bernal would also like to have a retreat to discuss all board members ideas to all go on the same direction. On March 1st the board will decide what date the retreat will be. Mrs. Bernal also reported that the project we have with C-below we had to first pay and they are coming next week so we will be giving them a check and they will start working on 400 Mary Ave. Maritza Hurtado contacted Mrs. Bernal to schedule an appointment with another board member to discuss the fire department situation. Mrs. Bernal and Mr. Valdez will be meeting with Mrs. Hurtado and another city council member tomorrow at 10am.

Board Member Valdez requested to move the next meeting for Thursday March 2nd. Next regular was agreed to be moved to March 2nd at 5:30.

COMMETNTS BY TONY PIMENTEL

Mr. Pimentel reported that he will be sending an email to Univision to change the commercial because they are still using the old one.

COMMENTS BY GENERAL COUNSEL:

Mr. Rivera reported that we have all the equipment from the prior members and he has 2 of them in his office and one here. He wanted to report that everything has been turned in.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- 1 Discussion and/or possible approval of renewing the Calexico Chamber of Commerce membership.

Danny Romero is here on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce to request renewal of the annual Chamber of Commerce membership for the total amount of \$5000.00.

The Board has paid for this membership for the last 2 years. These funds came from the JPA just like many other things. Board Member Bernal informed the Board that we no longer have the JPA and everything that is being spent is coming out of the general fund and we need to very careful what we are going to be spending because right now 400 Mary is up in the air and we do not know what the cost is going to be for that building.

Board Member Apodaca expressed that these funds that were given the past 2 years was to make the people happy in the community and that is part of the mental wellness and that was something that was hard for her to understand but now she does understand and that is why she supports this.

Board Member Martinez reminded the board that even if the Board wanted to renew this membership aren't we already to our limit of advertisement and that is why we turned Mr. Meza away.

The Board is requesting for the Chamber to present the lower cost with details of what it covers for the next meeting to decide if they will continue with this membership.

Motion was made by Board Member Apodaca to approve renewing the membership for the total amount of \$5,000.00.

There was no second motion therefore the motion dies.

Motion was made by Board Member Valdez to approve renewing the membership for a lower amount.

The Board is requesting for the Chamber to present the lower cost with details of what it covers for the next meeting to decide if they will continue with this membership and this item will be tabled until that is presented.

Motion was made by Board Member Valdez and second by Board Member Martinez to table this item. Motion was passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

- 2 Discussion and/or possible approval of increasing the janitor's maintenance salary.

The Board did not receive the backup information for this item.

Motion was made by Board Member Romo and second by Board Member Valdez to table the item. Motion was passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

- 3 Discussion and/or possible approval of attending the Brown Bag Homeless Event.

Board Member Bernal informed to the Board that this event is being held tonight and it's for \$300.00. This event is for the homeless. This is the first time this event is being held.

Motion was made by Board Member Martinez and second by Board Member Valdez to approve attending and paying the \$300.00 for the Brown Bag Homeless Event. Motion was passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

- 4 Discussion and/or possible approval of the use and purchase of the computers and IPAD's for HMHD.

All computers and IPAD's have been turned in by the prior board members. Tony Pimentel was asked to research the prices for these items. The computers are no longer on the market. These laptops were found on eBay for the total amount of \$95.00. The old board members would like to have the option to purchase the computers.

Board Member suggests to give it to them for \$50.00 and call it. Board Member Romo says no to give it to them for what is worth the total amount of \$90.00. Board Member Valdez is in agreement with Board Member Bernal.

Board Member Romo feels that these depreciations should be demonstrated by an accountant because this is just something that is demonstrated online if you are interested in buying.

Board Member Apodaca would also like to add that her computer was stolen out of her car in Mexicali and she did not do a police report because she was more worried about her vehicle and will be responsible with whatever the board decides with the prior board.

The new board will be getting the IPAD's. Tony will be erasing all the information on the IPAD's and once they are ready the new board will be getting the IPAD's.

Board Member Romo expects for the prior board to purchase the computers for the total amount of \$95.00

Motion was made by Board Member Valdez to sell the computers for \$50.00

Board Member Apodaca will up stain because of the issue she had with her computer.

There was no second motion; therefore this motion dies for lack of motion.

Board Member Martinez believes that since we already have the laptops from the old board members he does not think we should set a price for the old members but instead donate them or set the price for \$95.00

Motion was made by Board Member Romo and second by Board Member Martinez to sell the laptops for \$95.00. Motion was passed by the followed by the following wit:

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez

NOES: None

UPSTAIN: Apodaca, Valdez

Mr. Rivera informed the board that this should not select who should buy these laptops. It really is public property and should be offered to the public and if the prior board members want to patriciate then they can but he does not think it is a good idea to direct that it be bought for them prior board. The motion made was not correct. The laptops can be donated to a non-profit.

Board Member Martinez amended his previous motion.

Motion was made by Board Member Martinez and second by Board Member Valdez to donate all 4 computers. Motion was passed with the following wit:

AYES: Bernal, Martinez, Valdez

NOES: Romo

UPSTAIN: Apodaca

The Board will research and decide at a later time where the laptops will be donated.

5 Discussion and/or possible approval or Treasurer Report.

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

AYES: Bernal, Romo, Martinez, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

6 Discussion and/or possible approval of the attorney's contract.

Board Member Romo noticed that we do not have a contract for the attorney. We only have a letter from 2011. There is nothing in writing of what he can and cannot do. Generally the attorney works directly with the President or Vice President or Treasurer to save on extra charges. She reviewed all the some invoices and noticed that there were many charges for phone conversations and emails for .15. What she sees if there is no contract that specifies what he needs to do and that is why he takes all the calls from anyone. She feels that right now everything with board is calm and she understands that in the past the board had a lot going on. There has been a lot of money spent on the attorney. Mrs. Romo feels that since the HMHD meetings are calm there is no need to have the attorney at every meeting. The attorney should only attend when needed by the board because we are throwing money away. She would like for the Board to review all the invoices to give him instructions that way the board can save money.

Board Member Bernal expressed that Mrs. Apodaca and herself were past board members and the new board members have only been on the board for the past 3 months and they cannot be judging the past because they were not here. We have been fighting for the last 3 years, first with the Grand Jury. We had to give back information for the past 5 years and everybody that is staff and including the Board Members we had to come up with back up information for 5 years and Mr. Rivera was on top of all this. Yes, we spent \$50 thousand dollars but it was worth it because we now have the district back. The Grand Jury came back a year and a half later and for all that time we were not able to do anything because we did not know where the district was going to be at. Nobody wanted to work with us because we were being investigated and the future of this district was being jeopardized for a year and half. We finally got cleared from the Grand Jury and then it wasn't enough because the Grand Jury took it to LAFCO and here we go again. We had to pay a consultant that LAFCO put to come down here and paid a total of \$15 thousand and paid LAFCO another total of \$15 thousand. We paid \$30 thousand dollars to just have this man come down and be biased, a mediator and check all our books again and again we had to go back 5 years. Mr. Rivera is charging us \$200.00 but before we had Mr. Foote and he was charging us \$250.00 an hour and you will see there again that we were fighting for Mega Park. It has been a constant battle and they do not know what we have been through and she is sorry but disagrees with Board Member Romo. Board Member Bernal does agree that we need to take control with Brenda and Rosario and she has already brought this to their attention. What was spent last year was not in vein it was to save this district. When we met last time it was said that everything was going to go through the President first and if the President will determine if anything needs to be directed to the attorney and that is all that was said. The attorney's contract is ongoing and if something needs to be changed like we are doing right now then so be it. Let's change it. We cannot control if Mr. Rivera gets a call from the outside but we can control our calls. To turn around and things about the past board Mrs. Bernal is going to defend the past board because they do not know what the past board has went through. Mrs. Bernal know that you all have good ideas and she thought we were going to be a working board and do things for the future. Don't dwell on the past. Let's move forward and that is what we need to do.

Board Member Romo understands and see what the past board members have done. She is only asking for there to be control of whom and why anyone needs to call the attorney. The public needs to contact the President or Vice President for anything not the attorney because we should not be spending so much money. She is requesting a contract not a written letter. Let's have him work up a contract and have the board review that contract. Mrs. Romo's opinion is to have the attorney refer everyone and to go straight to the President and if he is unavailable to contact the President then for him to go to the Vice President and also if the Vice President is unavailable to go to the Treasurer and it goes from there. The other thing is that when the attorney is given direction he will take control of that situation and he will dictate how many hours he worked on

that specific direction. The last thing is that she does not think that the attorney needs to be in all the meetings.

The rest of the Board is not in agreement with not having the attorney in the meetings.

Board Member Apodaca thinks that if we as a board have a question for the attorney any board member should be able to contact the attorney directly themselves. Board members Martinez and Valdez agree with Apodaca.

The Board is in agreement for them to contact Mr. Rivera for any concerns and Brenda and Rosario will need to go first to the President and if the President feels that the matter needs to be discussed with the attorney then the attorney will be contacted.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

Janitor's proposal
Chamber of Commerce
Ventanilla de Salud
Fire Department
Imperial County Aging

CLOSED SESSION:

No closed session

ADJOURNMENT:

With no future business to discuss Board Member Martinez made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. Second by Board Member Valdez. All in favor.