

**THE HEFFERNAN MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE DISTRICT MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 7th OF NOVEMBER 2018 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 Hector Martinez and Norma Apodaca led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL-DETERMINATION OF QUARUM:**

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

**GUESTS:**

Tomas Virgen-Executive District Manager  
Eduardo Rivera- Attorney  
Brenda Ryan-Board Clerk  
Tony Pimentel-Public Relations

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Board Member Bernal and second by Board Member Romo to approve the agenda for November 7, 2018. Motion passed by the following vote wit:

AYES: Martinez, Romo, Bernal, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT TIME:**

Richard Ortega from the Neighborhood House is requested to be added to the next agenda for the board to consider donating for the toy donation for the low income kids in Calexico and for he is also requesting the use of 400 Mary Ave. to store all the toy donations for this event. Last year there were 701 kids and need somewhere to place the gifts.

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

Board Member Bernal that last week we had a health summit and had the Wellness for Kids and wanted to thank Tony for the fantastic job that he did and also thank Patty for her hard work. It was a success.

**COMMENTS BY TONY PIMENTEL**

Mr. Pimentel presented to the board a video of the health fair event.

**COMMENTS BY EXECUTIVE DISTRICT MANAGER:**

Mr. Virgin thanked everyone that who helped and participated in the health fair and hopefully next year we can make an even bigger event.

**COMMENTS BY GENERAL COUNSEL:**

None

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1. Presentation of awards to winners of HMHD Health Fair Race.

Tony Pimentel presented an award to the winners of the race.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Discussion and/or action on LAFCO Resolution #2018-12 and LAFCO letter dated October 22, 2018.

Mr. Virgin reported that he had a great meeting with LAFCO yesterday. He gave them a verbal report on pretty much all the items reported on here. We are going to have a report ready for their meeting in December. They are going to give us some pointers on subjects that were discussed. Overall it was a good meeting. We are on track on submitted this way in advance. You will get a draft and after it has been approved the draft will go to LAFCO and if that is approved that draft become final.

No action needs to be taken on this item.

2. Discussion and/or action on modification of Comite Civico Del Valle grant agreement.

Mr. Virgin reported that when we approved this agreement there was a typo on the percentage of the budget page. The dollar amounts were right and if you look at the last page of the budget and this is the page that needed corrections and the first one was right the 3% but the 25%, 40% the followed should have been 35%, 50%, 50%, 50%. The dollar amounts were right. It was just a typo when they submitted it, but the dollar amounts and hours are right, the other small change was to change the name form Comite Civico Del Valle on the actual agreement and put Calexico Asthma Education Program.

Board Member Martine clarified that basically there was no changes that the dollar amount stays the same and there was just a typo on the percentage.

Motion was made by Board Member Bernal and second by Board Member Valdez to approve modification of Comite Civico Del Valle agreement and the name change to Calexico Asthma Education Program. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Martinez, Romo, Bernal, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

3. Discussion and/or action on Heffernan Wellness 4 Kids budget modification request by Heffernan Wellness 4 Kids Program.

Mr. Virgen reported that we had also had a budget mutual request. What they want to do is we had budgeted for 25 hundred for legal and professional. They want to move that money to equipment because they want to get more equipment that is suitable to the kids that are going to the program. The other one is that they have 14 thousand dollars for food and water and they want to take 15 hundred dollars out of that and allocate it to utilities and phone, which is all utilities and we can group those all as one and those are the only changes they are requesting.

Board Member Valdez informed that they already have expenditures for utilities. Mr. Virgen replied with yes but they should go under the same one. Board Member Valdez asked if this is going to be added to the 27 hundred the 15 hundred plus the 8 hundred. Mr. Virgen replied with yes and we are going to combine telephone and utilities because it should be the same. It's all under the same one. For some reason it got separated. Board Member Valdez asked that instead of the 27 hundred it's going to be 34 hundred and 80. Mr. Virgen replied with yes.

Motion was made by Board Member Apodaca and second by Board Member Valdez to approve modification for the Kids for Wellness program. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Martinez, Romo, Bernal, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

4. (1) Discussion and/or action on Calexico Wellness Center request to void Board action and vote of the date September 18, 2018 to deny grant request in the amount of \$97,812.71.

Board Member Bernal excluded herself from this item and stepped out

Motion was made by Board Member Martinez and second by Board Member Apodaca to approve and request to void the board action taken on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Motion passed by the following wit:

AYES: Martinez, Romo, Apodaca, Valdez

NOES: None

UPSTAIN: Bernal

- (2) Discussion and/or actin on approving the Calexico Wellness Center proposal for the amount of \$97,812.71.

No discussion by the board.

Motion was made by Board Member Romo to approve the proposal for \$97,812.71.

No second motion, therefore the motion dies due.

Blanca Morales would like to know why the board is not passing this proposal. She has staff and patients here who want to discuss their experience with the clinic. They are a wellness clinic, a medical primary care clinic and need to know from Mrs. Apodaca with all due respect wants to know what it is they want to be able to see and succeed and to be able to collaborate with the board. Board Member Apodaca replied that with one example she would like to see what eve they charged o he immunization for the residents the cost will be \$5.00 for example and not a hundred

and something. Mrs. Morales asked they provide those for \$5.00 and Mrs. Apodaca replied with yes and they have them with the health department. Mrs. Morales responded with okay that they do not have that information and that is why it is important for use to collaborate because they are giving them for free but they are still paying for them because there are people here who cannot afford to have their immunizations paid for so she just needs to have a solution so that everyone here, we have 40 thousand people that live in this community and 40% of that is under poverty and they don't have insurance and can't afford to pay for insurance. They are also now collaborating with Clinicas de Salud because they have some services for free that they cannot provide. That is why they need to know more from the board what it is that they need from them so they are able to collaborate and we are able to provide medical services to everybody.

Mr. Virgin's concern is the services offered are services that are offered in the county elsewhere at a better cost to the tax payers and we are all for it and thinks no one is against that. Second we don't have to approve every program that comes up. We have to look for alignments. We have to look at are we duplicating the services. That is one of the things LAFCO is looking at us for. The other one is does it fit with the direction we are going with? Do the numbers plan out? One of the original documents that you brought out with numbers on it didn't seem right. Mrs. Morales agreed with that and responded that they gave the corrections of number to Mr. Martinez and she went on saying that nothing has been said, like lets negotiate, what can we do what numbers would work for you. Board Member Martinez interrupted and expressed that yes those numbers were fixed but what if some of those board members hadn't reviewed those numbers. In this case if we had approved that proposal which he believes the immunizations was \$25 thousand or \$35 thousand and he found that was \$16 thousand dollars. Mrs. Morales replied yes but it was fixed and we all make mistakes. Board Member Martinez replied a \$16 thousand dollar mistake. A professional entity makes a \$16 thousand dollar mistake. Mrs. Morales replied with ye it was a mistake just like you made a \$500 thousand mistake and you made mistakes to and we fixed it. So if there a question about our creditability everyone makes mistakes and she will take responsibility for that. Board Member Martinez relied that this is a \$16 thousand dollar public mistake and Mrs. Morales replied with right and you would have found it regardless because now you have an administrator who also questioned the numbers when we were here. So just tell us what it is that we can do and if you don't want to flat out work with us then say it right now.

Mr. Rivera recommended to Mrs. Morales that the best way to get her questions answered is for her to discuss this with our district manager and then have the district manager report to the board to try to discuss it with board members and try to reach some type of understanding or negotiations in a situation where there is no pending action on anything before the board. They haven't been able to approve your projects in the past and didn't approve it today so he thinks that one of things she said was very interesting what can we do to work together. He thinks that the first step is to be a little bit more willing to discuss it with the administrator and see if there can be some type of discussion or negotiation however you want to phrase it and then come to the board and maybe modify some of the things that have been proposed. Maybe some of the services that aren't being duplicated can be addressed. Mrs. Morales does not understand what he means when he says duplicated, what does that mean? Mr. Virgin replied that there are different vaccination programs out there. For example you can go to Costco to get them for an X amount of money etc. If somebody is offering a program and is going to cost the district more money which internal cost the tax payer more money why would we go with that program when we can get it a different restaurant. A set example would be if I could get a soda can in this soda machine for 75 cents and I could get it over her for 25 cents and it's the same soda can. Why would I pay for amount? So that is what he is getting at. Mrs. Morales informed the board that they were open at 7am in the morning before those kids went to school. Would you of had those immunizations available for those kids? Were there any notifications out to the community saying we are going

to have free immunizations if you can't afford them of the school district because the school district sent them to us? Mr. Virgen thinks that irrelevant and one of the things he wants to say is that even if we negotiate at the end of the day we are responsible to provide a better service and that is what we are trying to do and if we don't agree with your program. We don't have to negotiate to make it fit. In other words if we were to negotiate with every program to make them fit to get approved is that the best source for tax payers dollars or to allocate the funds to really bring something that brings it home in a complete manner rather than doing piece mail so at the end of the day he understand what you are saying that you are being very flexible and once again it just not something that at this point the board was not compelled to approve. It doesn't mean that it is not a good program. I do not think it fits right now and that is my humble opinion. Mrs. Morales asked so a non-profit community clinic is not a fit for the healthcare district here. Mr. Virgen replied that, that was not what he said, what he is getting at is that you cannot force your program to be approved just because you will it. Mrs. Morales replied that she is not forcing it, that she just wants a good explanation and answers is all I want and we are a non-profit 501c clinic and I believe that you were questioning our status as a 501c. We are 501c. Mr. Virgen informed her that from what he recalls we never questioned that. Mrs. Morales informed that it was actually mentioned to the Calexico School Board District meeting a couple of weeks. Mr. Virgen replied like I said we never questioned it so somebody else did so that their question but we never questioned it and it's never been an issue because we have always known that. Mrs. Morales wants to make it for the record that we are a 501c non-profit clinic. Mr. Rivera informed Mrs. Morales that we verified that a long time ago because you were to do that because your first submittal to the board for approximately \$400 thousand or a little less than \$400 thousand dollars was rejected because you were not a non-profit so you went out and you received a non-profit and you have maintained your non-profit status and you came back to the board. Mrs. Morales reported that her non-profit status was approved in April and they came in June with their first proposal. Mr. Rivera replied that before that you had come to the board and you were still a for-profit clinic. Mrs. Morales informed Mrs. Rivera that they were never a for-profit clinic. Mr. Rivera replied with that you came and it was rejected the first time and the second time it was rejected by LAFCO. Mrs. Morales responded that they met with LAFCO and responded to them and to you. Mr. Rivera responded that it was rejected by LAFCO and Mrs. Morales responded that they never got a rejection from LAFCO. Mr. Rivera responded that we do and Mrs. Morales responded that she never got a copy of it. Mr. Rivera informed her that we would provide her a copy of that letter and that the best way to handle this is that you talk to Mr. Virgen and see if some of these questions or misunderstanding or explanations and documents be answered. Mrs. Morales replied with yes and answers on what would be a good fit for the district and tax payers. Mr. Virgen replied that a good example would be the direction we are going is eventually when we do projects they are going to be RFP's and they are going to be very specific as to what we are looking for and then people will get a chance to bid for those proposals. That is still something that the board has to approve that process but at least some of the discussions that we are having as to what we can do with strategy.

5. Discussion and/or action having the November 21st regular meeting on November 28, 2018.

Board Member Bernal returned to the meeting.

The meeting is the week of the Thanksgiving week. Board Member Bernal was thinking of changing it for the following week.

Board Member Martinez cannot make it on the 28<sup>th</sup> but can make it on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was made by Board Member Bernal and second by Board Member Apodaca to approve changing the regular meeting from November 21<sup>st</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>. Motion passed by the following wit:

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

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

Neighborhood House

**CLOSED SESSION**

Re-potential litigation

1. Based on existing facts and circumstances the agency is deciding whether to initiate litigation (two cases) Gov. Code section 54956.

Direction was given to the attorney and the district manager in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no future business to discuss Board Member Apodaca made motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Second by Board Member Bernal. All in favor.