

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2024**

*The recording of this meeting can be found linked [here](#). These meeting minutes show the time of specific agenda items. Fast forward the recording to the item of interest to hear detailed discussion.*

The Board of Directors of Grossmont Healthcare District held a regular meeting on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. via teleconference and in person. Members of the public were able to participate by telephone, Zoom, or in-person at the Grossmont Healthcare District Conference Center, located at 9001 Wakarusa Street, La Mesa, California 91942. For the purpose of these minutes, the listed items are reflected in the order set forth on the posted Agenda. In some cases, discussion of items may have taken place out of sequence during the meeting. Any mis-labeled items on the agenda have been corrected in these minutes.

Directors Present: Gloria A. Chadwick, RN, Board President  
Robert “Bob” Ayres, Board Vice President  
Virginia Hall, RN, Board Secretary  
Michael Emerson, RDO, Board Treasurer  
Randy Lenac, Board Member

Staff Present: Christian Wallis, Chief Executive Officer  
Tom Scaglione, Chief Administrative Officer  
Amy Abrams, Chief Community Health Officer  
Jeffrey Scott, General Counsel  
Randi Baker, Executive Assistant/Office Manager  
Phyllis Morgan, Library Assistant

Guests: Kaye Turpin, San Diego Rescue Mission  
Betsy Hall, For Their Thoughts  
Jessica Munoz, Voices for Children  
Scott Evans, Sharp HealthCare  
Dr. Julie Hayden, Genesis Recovery, Inc.

**A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Chadwick.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Phyllis Morgan, Library Assistant, led the pledge.

C. Approval of Agenda *(00:00:40)*

**Due to the below item arising subsequent to the posting of this agenda and action needing to be taken by the Board in order to provide direction to District staff, motion was made by Director Lenac, seconded by Director Ayres, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the addition of the below agenda item. (This agenda item will be discussed in section F(1)(a)(ii).)**

- **Kaiser Foundation Grant Opportunity for the Rural Health Discharge Program**

**Motion was made by Director Lenac, seconded by Director Ayres, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the removal of agenda item F(4)(a) regarding the Long Range Financial Plan in order to schedule a Workshop in an upcoming Board meeting.**

**Motion was made by Director Ayres, seconded by Director Lenac, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the agenda, with said modifications (regarding F(1)(a)(ii) and F(4)(a)).**

D. Public Comment *(00:06:16)*

Randi Baker, Executive Assistant/Office Manager, read a written public comment on behalf of Kaye Turpin with San Diego Rescue Mission. The written note expressed her apology for using the District logo prematurely, as well as an explanation of the misunderstandings that took place surrounding the October 12, 2024 Mayor Bill Wells Band and San Diego Rescue Mission event entitled “Shine a Light on Mental Health.”

E. Consent Action Items *(00:09:55)*

1. Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2024
2. Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2024
3. Consideration of Resolutions 05-24 and 06-24 Requesting the Board of Supervisors Appoint Director Hall and Director Ayres to Terms Ending in 2028

**Motion was made by Director Emerson, seconded by Director Hall, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve both meeting minutes of August 6, 2024 and August 15, 2024, as well as both Resolutions (05-24 and 06-24) Requesting the Board of Supervisors Appoint Director Hall and Director Ayres to Terms Ending in 2028.**

F. Reports/Presentations/Discussion/Possible Action Items *(00:10:37)*

1. Reports

a) CEO Report – Christian Wallis

CEO Wallis shared with the Board the following:

- The second year in the Rural Health Discharge Program began with a great start, with overwhelming response from constituents who request to partake in the Program.
- The Song Brown Grant application regarding the Family Practice Residency Program was submitted for a pre-review, with no issues detected. A final answer on the application should be received in January 2025. Director Lenac shared that recently, ACGME has approved initial accreditation for the Program.
- One of the nine most important Workforce Pipeline, LVN to RN Step-Up Program, has progressed over the past 3-4 months. This Program saves students both cost and time as they would be able to take a test, instead of a class, in order to pass certain RN required courses. This would alleviate the student from having to start the RN course from the start. There are currently six Program participants, with twenty more seats having been requested by the state.
- In mid-October, the Nurse Triage program is expected to launch. This program was recently expanded to include La Mesa and Lemon Grove due to the ease of transition as both cities are covered by Heartland Fire.
- On September 28, 2024 is the East County Chamber of Commerce Health Fair Saturday at Parkway Plaza.

i. San Diego City Council Brown Act Case Study

District General Counsel, Jeff Scott, explained the San Diego City Council Brown Act Case Study that recently appeared in the Union Tribune. The article surrounded The Brown Act and how it relates to public comments.

ii. Kaiser Foundation Grant Opportunity for the Rural Health Discharge Program

The County of San Diego contacted the District to discuss the possibility of the District applying for a \$150k Kaiser Foundation grant that would support the Rural Health Program in the East County. Full details are yet-to-be-determined, but the application needs to be submitted by tomorrow.

Brief discussion regarding sustainability, data surrounding the identification of discharged patients, as well as the potential to expand the Program to other hospitals. CEO Wallis thanked Rose Turner and the entire Sharp team for their support with the Program. Mr. Evans, Sharp HealthCare, welcomed the possibility of expanding this Program, but expressed concern over having enough staff to handle.

**Motion was made by Director Ayres, seconded by Director Emerson, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the Kaiser Foundation Grant Opportunity for the Rural Health Discharge Program.**

2. Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee – Director Hall (8/7/24) (8/27/24)

Director Hall reported that the Committee met on August 7, 2024 and August 27, 2024 and that the written minutes will stand as her verbal report. Attendees and discussion are listed in the Committee minutes (which are linked from the Board agenda to the District website). Additionally, there was a special meeting on September 13, 2024 to discuss the San Diego Rescue Mission and Mayor Bill Wells Band event on October 12, 2024, which minutes will be linked from a future Board agenda.

a) Monthly Grants and Sponsorships Tracking Report (as of September 1, 2024)

Director Hall shared that this Tracking Report gives the grant and sponsorship information as of the latest third Thursday Board meeting. The total amount available for grants and sponsorships is currently \$1,247,800, with Sharp Grossmont Hospital having \$70,000.

b) Consideration of Grant Requests

Recommended for funding:

- i. Christie's Place: Mental Health & Wellness for Women Living with HIV - \$25,000 (FY23-24 \$5,000 sponsorship) Committee Recommendation: \$5,000
- ii. Arms Wide Open: Improving the Health of Individuals with Disabilities Through Engagement in the Performing Arts - \$25,000 (no prior funding) Committee Recommendation: \$25,000
- iii. Covenant Living of the West: Transportation Grant - \$38,622 (no prior funding) Committee Recommendation: \$15,000 (for automobile insurance only)

- iv. Voices for Children: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program Case Liaisons - \$25,000 *(FY23-24 \$25,000) Committee Recommendation: \$25,000*

Jessica Munoz, CEO of Voices for Children, attended in person to speak before the Board regarding their grant application. Mr. Munoz gave a background of the organization and thanked the Board for their partnership. Director Hall thanked Voices for Children for their service and expressed the importance of the program.

- v. Grossmont Union High School District: Health Career Pathway Initiative - \$227,500 *(FY23-24 \$227,500) Committee Recommendation: \$227,500*

**Motion was made by Virginia Hall, seconded by Director Emerson, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the below grant awards:**

- **Christie's Place: Mental Health & Wellness for Women Living with HIV - \$5,000**
- **Arms Wide Open: Improving the Health of Individuals with Disabilities Through Engagement in the Performing Arts - \$25,000**
- **Covenant Living of the West: Transportation Grant - \$15,000 (for automobile insurance only)**
- **Voices for Children: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program Case Liaisons - \$25,000**
- **Grossmont Union High School District: Health Career Pathway Initiative - \$227,500**

- vi. Genesis Recovery, Inc.: Genesis Substance Abuse Recovery Program - \$200,000 *(no prior funding) Committee Recommendation: \$200,000*

Dr. Julie Hayden, Genesis Recovery, Inc., attended in person for a presentation to the Board regarding the organization and their Substance Abuse Recovery Program. The Program is located on an East County Transitional Living Center property, is approved and accredited, and has 24 empty beds ready to be used. They have applied for Medi-CAL. Genesis is offering to collaborate with Sharp Grossmont Hospital to have recuperative care beds strictly for the Hospital, with a plan to be a long-term partner, as well as with other East County organizations. The Program model is sustainable and the \$200,000 grant would be a one-time award in order to get it up and running.

Motion was made by Virginia Hall, seconded by Director Emerson, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the below grant award:

- **Genesis Recovery, Inc.: Genesis Substance Abuse Recovery Program - \$200,000**

Not recommended for funding:

- vii. For Their Thoughts Foundation, Inc.: Expanding rethink Dementia Immersive Education into East County - \$62,130 (*no prior funding*)

Betsy Hall from, Founder and Executive Director from For Their Thoughts appeared via Zoom to speak before the Board to clarify their grant application. Per Ms. Hall, the intent of the application is to compliment other local community organizations who work in the dementia space and to not duplicate efforts. She expressed her disappointment in the funding denial, but appreciates the time the Committee took to review and she respects their decision. Director Hall responded to Ms. Betsy Hall that the Committee felt it was a duplication of a previous program from another organization (Alzheimers Response Team) that was supported by the District.

Deferred - the Committee deferred consideration of the following request(s) to a subsequent meeting:

- viii. Movement is Life: Operation Change for Musculo-Skeletal Health for Low-Income Women Aged 45-80 - \$50,000 (*no prior funding*)
- ix. The Salvation Army: Kroc Fit Kids Child Obesity Prevention and Wellness Program - \$11,000 (*FY23-24 \$7,000*)
- c) Consideration of Sponsorship Requests

Recommended for funding:

- i. Sharp Grossmont Hospital/American Heart Association: San Diego Heart and Stroke Walk - \$10,000 (*FY23-24 \$7,500*) *Committee Recommendation: \$7,500*
- ii. Voices for Children: Starry Starry Night at Jacobs Park - \$15,000 (*FY23-24 \$10,000*) *Committee Recommendation: \$10,000*
- iii. Alzheimer's Association San Diego/Imperial Chapter: 2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's San Diego Event - \$15,000 (*no prior sponsorship funding; FY23-24 \$23,000 grant*) *Committee Recommendation: \$15,000*

An Alzheimer's Association San Diego/Imperial Chapter representative appeared via Zoom to thank the Board for their funding.

**Motion was made by Virginia Hall, seconded by Director Emerson, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the below grant awards:**

- **Sharp Grossmont Hospital/American Heart Association: San Diego Heart and Stroke Walk - \$7,500**
- **Voices for Children: Starry Starry Night at Jacobs Park - \$10,000**
- **Alzheimer's Association San Diego/Imperial Chapter: 2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's San Diego Event - \$15,000**

For those nonprofit organizations who attended in person and awarded funds, they were given the opportunity to take photos with the Board.

*Not recommended for funding:*

- iv. Vision y Compromiso/San Diego Regional Network of Promotoras: Binational Health Month Conference - \$5,000 *(No prior funding)*
- v. Crisis House: Hearts of Gold Gala - \$10,000 *(FY23-24 \$8,599)*
- vi. Serving Seniors: Annual Sunshine Gala - \$5,000 *(FY23-24 \$3,500)*

*Deferred - the Committee deferred consideration of the following request(s) to a subsequent meeting:*

- iv. None

### 3. Public Relations & Outreach Committee – Director Lenac (8/28/24) ***(1:00:15)***

Director Lenac reported that the Committee met on August 28, 2024. Attendees and discussion are listed in the Committee minutes, which will be included in a subsequent Board agenda.

Director Lenac informed the Board that starting next month, CCHO Abrams, rather than discussing activities that took place post-event, will be discussing activities pre-event. The list will also include the cost (or direct cost) to the District starting in January. CCHO Abrams explained that her current reports include a list of pre-events, but she is happy to present this to the Board on a regular basis. This will help assist with transparency.

- a) Presentation: Quarterly Update (Amy Abrams, Chief Community Health Officer)

CCHO Abrams presented the Board with a Community Engagement Update for April – June 2024 (FY23-24 Quarter 4). This included the number of community engagement activities, health programming and health programming attendees, monthly health themes April, May, and June, along with their supporting event, community partners using GHD facilities, blog posts and press releases, local media, and upcoming programs, outreach and events.

At the request of the Board, the community partners using District facilities will also include those using the Library facilities (not solely the Auditorium).

4. Finance Committee – Director Emerson (7/30/24) (9/13/24)

- a) Recommendation: Consideration to Accept the Long Range Financial Plan

*(This item was removed from the agenda.)*

***The following items include written documentation. Committee reports may stand as written, unless a verbal report is requested by the Board.***

5. Government, Legal & Legislative Relations Committee – Director Hall (7/18/24) (8/7/24) (9/13/24)
6. Joint Strategic Plan/Risk Management Committee – Director Chadwick (7/31/24)
7. Hospital Lease Ad Hoc (Special) Committee – Director Chadwick (8/6/24)
8. Facilities Committee – Director Ayres (8/9/24) (9/13/24)

#### G. Board Member Comments/Reports

1. Monthly Stipend Reports for Meetings Attended (June and July 2024) – These reports include meetings from the prior two months. Board Members are invited to provide brief reports on any community meetings, conferences, and/or trainings attended for which a stipend was paid, or for any other meetings of significance.
2. Board and CEO Comments

President Chadwick briefly discussed the “Honorary Commodore” award the District received from Sharp HospiceCare during the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Dinner & Regatta.

Aaron Byzak, Galvanized Strategized, made a clarification to the Board that the District did appear in three articles regarding the tax rate cut.

H. Convene to Closed Session

1. Conference with Legal Counsel Pursuant to Government Code 54957 - CEO Evaluation

I. Report After Closed Session

J. Information Items

1. Monthly Grant and Sponsorship Report for August 2024
2. Monthly Investment Transaction Report for August 2024
3. Monthly Financial Report for August 2024
4. 2024 Committee Assignments

K. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting(s):

1. Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
2. Thursday, October 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

L. Adjournment

There being no further business on **motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned at 10:23 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Gloria Chadwick, RN, President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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Virginia Hall, RN, Secretary, Board of Directors