

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
September 28, 2022
Conference Room, 525 Veterans Boulevard
Redwood City, CA 94063**

Directors Present

Director Garb
Director Griffin
Director Martinez
Director Nayfack
Director Shefren

Directors Excused

Also Present

Pamela Kurtzman, CEO
Mr. Hudak, Legal Counsel
Ms. Stamper, Recorder

1. Call to Order

President Shefren called the meeting to order at 4:30PM. Roll call attendance was taken. A quorum was present.

2. Public Comment/Non-Agenda Items

President Shefren asked if there was any public comment on non-agenda items. There was none.

3. Consent Calendar

Motion: To approve consent calendar.

By: Director Garb

Seconded by: Director Nayfack

Vote: Ayes - Garb, Griffin, Martinez, Nayfack, Shefren

Nos --

Abstain --

Absent --

Motion Passed: 5-0

**4.a. Consider Richardson & Company LLC Contract For Audit Services
For 5 Years Beginning With FY 21-22**

President Shefren asked if there was public comment on this agenda item. There was none.

Brian Nash, Partner, and Ingrid Shepline, Managing Partner, of Richardson & Company LLP discussed their background, vast experience with Special District clients, scope of services to be provided, pricing, and timeline for completing the FY 21-22 Audit.

Motion: To approve Richardson & Company LLC as Sequoia Healthcare District Auditors for 5 years beginning with FY 2021-2022.

By: Director Nayfack

Seconded by: Director Garb

Vote: Ayes - Garb, Griffin, Martinez, Nayfack, Shefren

Nos --

Abstain --

Absent --

Motion Passed: 5-0

4.b. Update By San Mateo Medical Center Dental Clinic On Year-End Outcomes

President Shefren asked if there was public comment on this agenda item. There was none.

Dr. Miriam Hashoush gave a brief report on the dental clinic’s office space and services provided, who they serve, current staffing levels, the increase in dental visit data from June 2021 through August 2022, the barriers to client access for services, and their future steps to see more clients and increase staffing. Their staffing challenges have impacted the number of patients they can accommodate, and the waitlist is increasing.

4.c. Update On Dental Access Planning and Discussion Of Pilot Program To Partner With Private Dentists To Increase Access For District Residents

President Shefren asked if there was public comment on this agenda item. There was none.

CEO Kurtzman presented 4 concepts for a private dentist fee-for-service program to increase access to dental services for low-income waitlisted residents at Samaritan House, Ravenswood, San Mateo Medical Center Dental Clinic, and Sonrisas. Due to a shortage of Dental providers accepting DentiCal insurance, the waitlists at these 4 providers has become very large and is expected to grow due to the Medi-Cal expansion for all undocumented residents effective January 2024.

Option 1 - Reimburse dental providers the standard “out of pocket” or uninsured fee for current waitlisted residents. Option 2 - Reimburse dental providers the standard “out of pocket” or uninsured fee for residents with no coverage. Option 3 - Contract with Health Plan of San Mateo to enroll dentists in Denti-Cal and the District pays the difference. Option 4 - Combination of enrolling dentists in Denti-Cal and an initial fee for service until dentist enrollment process is complete.

Directors shared their concerns about SHD handling the billing. The District is not specialized in medical billing, and would take on the burden of being the go between for the private dentists and our 4 partner agencies. Directors would like CEO Kurtzman to do further research and create a concrete business plan. CEO Kurtzman will be meeting with stakeholders the week of October 17th and will refine and submit a formal proposal at a special meeting in late October/early November.

4.d. Consider Grant Request For \$85,000 From Redwood City Together For RCT Youth Initiative

President Shefren asked if there was public comment on this agenda item. There was none.

Director Martinez recused himself from the meeting and left the Zoom.

Rafael Avendano, President of Redwood City Together, gave a presentation regarding the teen bike movement in downtown Redwood City. He stressed the need for ways to channel youth energy into positive outcomes. Redwood City Together along with Redwood City PAL and youth representatives have created a pilot program to support more transition-age youth and their families by linking them to job opportunities, recreation, social services and mentorships. Mr. Avendano requests \$85,000 for the RCT Youth Initiative to support the health and wellbeing of youth in the Redwood City area.

Motion: To approve a grant for up to \$85,000 for the Redwood City Together Youth Initiative.

By: Director Nayfack

Seconded by: Director Garb

Vote: Ayes - Garb, Griffin, Nayfack, Shefren

Nos --
Abstain --
Absent -- Martinez

Motion Passed: 4-0-0-1

Director Martinez was contacted and rejoined the meeting via Zoom.

**4.e. Consider \$50,000 Grant For Joint Proposal
With Dignity Health/Sequoia Hospital To Provide Funds
To Non-Profits That Feed Food Insecure Clients During The Holiday Season**

President Shefren asked if there was public comment on this agenda item. There was none.

Jenny Bratton, Grants and Programs Manager at the District, has been working with Marie Violet of Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital discussing the need for additional food and meal distribution during the holiday season, which typically sees a surge in need. Last year Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital and the District each provided \$50,000 in funding to community nonprofits that feed food insecure clients. Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital would match the District's \$50,000 grant.

Motion: To approve the \$50,000 grant request for the joint proposal with Sequoia Hospital to feed food insecure clients during the holiday season.

By: Director Shefren

Seconded by: Director Nayfack

Vote: Ayes - Garb, Griffin, Martinez, Nayfack, Shefren

Nos --

Abstain --

Absent --

Motion Passed: 5-0

4.f. Director Requests for Future Agenda Items per Board Policy 8.3

Director Nayfack would like to know if district residents are having trouble accessing Planned Parenthood services due to the increased demand caused by anti-abortion legislation in other states.

Directors would like more detailed routine information in the CEO reports.

5. CEO/Staff Reports

57 applicants have applied for the open Director of School Health position. CEO Kurtzman has narrowed it down to 8 applicants that she will interview. A committee consisting of CEO Kurtzman, Ms. Bratton, Mr. Avenano of Redwood City Together, and consultant Joann Sokolov, will conduct second round interviews.

Ms. Bratton is exploring partnerships to provide Sequoia Smart classes. A new District partner, the American Red Cross, will be teaching Disaster Prep and Hands-Only CPR classes at the District offices starting in October.

Ms. Bratton presented a draft annual report and received feedback.

6. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM.

By: Director Nayfack

Seconded by: Director Garb

All in favor

Motion Passed

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Sequoia Healthcare District is scheduled for 4:30 PM, Wednesday, December 7, 2022, District Conference Room, 525 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City, CA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Nayfack, M.D.,
Secretary