



Special Board Meeting August 7th 1:00 PM

Teleconference Via Zoom

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** – Chair **Taverner** called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.
 - A. **Present:** Board Chair Nigel Taverner, Vice Chair Henry Sanchez, Secretary Clyde Hinshelwood, Board Members: Larry Cappel, Dennis Kneepfel, Rick Navarro, Paramita Roy, Steve Stielstra
 - B. **Also Present:** CEO Tracey Fecher, Community Resources Director Spandan Chakrabarti, Senior Accountant Tina Wang, Administrative Assistant Veronica Le
 - C. **Absent:** Larissa Cutler
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - No public in attendance.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Pescadero Clinic – ACTION REQUESTED** – CEO **Fecher** presented the case for a dental clinic RV in Pescadero, including the patient data for those communities, and the capital, startup and operating budget.
 - a. There is a long history working in the South Coast, consisting of La Honda, Loma Mar, San Gregorio and Pescadero, serving farmworkers since the mid 2000's.
 - b. In partnership with Puente, a clinic is currently being operated with mobile dental equipment, which was purchased back in 2015 and can no longer be serviced since parts are discontinued. Without replacements, Sonrisas will not be able to provide dental care for farmworkers.
 - c. Number of unique challenges serving this community:
 1. No buildings available to rent.
 2. Unable to build a building due to sewer and water limitations.
 3. Lack of potable water.
 4. Power outages.
 5. Various road closures when the weather is bad.
 - d. Given these challenges, the proposal is for a mobile clinic in the form of a dental RV; this would provide two chairs, a lift, a generator, storage for water and the ability to dispose of water without a sewer connection. The RV would be parked at either the Pescadero School District or at Puente.
 - e. CEO **Fecher** has been discussing this clinic with Rita Mancera, Executive Director of Puente, for several years and both believe now is the right time.
 - f. The Capital and Startup costs would be \$725,000. Puente and Sonrisas are committed to fundraising this amount. The clinic will become its own cost center once the capital is raised and it will require raising approximately \$200,000 for operating costs annually, which Puente will assist with.
 1. The Operating budget does not include admin staff.
 2. CEO **Fecher** plans to meet with various stakeholders to gain their support for this project.
 - g. Vice-Chair **Sanchez** noted that some Pescadero patients have attended eight times: that means over eight years. Director **Stielstra** asked if the patient mix would be similar to the Coastside clinic's (yes) while Director **Hinshelwood** asked about no shows. CEO **Fecher** pointed out that there is a provision for no shows in the Farmworkers Contract with SMC, while Puente works very hard to keep them to a minimum. Director **Cappel** also asked about the demographic growth in the area; CEO **Fecher** said she didn't know but they expect to serve 400 patients of which

200 are existing patients. **Director Cappel** believes there are a lot more potential patients out there – who currently travel some distance to get treatment. He also likes the project from the district's POV – providing healthcare where it's needed.

There were concerns expressed about recruiting staff to commute to the RV clinic, four days a week (48 minutes from Santa Cruz) and how long it will take to fully credential the dental provider.

1. **CEO Fecher** suggested that the length of the commute would range depending on where they are driving from. She will follow up with the recruiter for a realistic expectation on recruiting challenges. The dental provider would be credentialed with SMMC by their first day.

Vice Chair Henry Sanchez motioned to approve the Business Plan for the Dental Clinic RV for Pescadero. **Secretary Clyde Hinshelwood** seconded the motion and was approved by roll call. Ayes: **Nigel Taverner, Henry Sanchez, Clyde Hinshelwood, Larry Cappel, Dennis Kneappel, Rick Navarro, Paramita Roy, Steve Stielstra**

4. **ADJOURN**—The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 pm.

Written by
Veronica Le

Approved by

Nigel Taverner, Board Chair