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**JO DAVIESS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
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**Home Health Care**  
**Advisory Committee Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: February 16, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Matthew Gullone, President of the Home Health Care Advisory Committee, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Jo Daviess County Health Department Conference Room

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Gullone, Mary Hesselbacher, Linda Nobis, Nancy Grebner, Kathleen Knauer, Ron Lubcke

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Joann Robinson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Elizabeth Kane, Marcia Christ, Gretchen Carroll, Chris Ludescher

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rose Marie Steuart, Susan Schultz, William Bingham

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Kathleen Knauer made a motion to approve the January 19, 2016 Advisory Committee meeting minutes. Seconded by Linda Nobis. Motion passed.
2. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** None
3. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None
4. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - a. **Discussion and possible action concerning the future of the Jo Daviess County Health Department Home Health Care program:**  
Elizabeth Kane informed the committee members that she had called this meeting, in order to update the committee on the current status of Home Health Care. She informed members that Ryan Vondra, RN has accepted

another position and has submitted his resignation. That Gretchen Carrol, Home Health Coordinator will be off one week on medical leave, and Ryan has agreed to stay on until after her expected return. Elizabeth explained that would leave one nurse to provide home health care services. An Ad has been posted since early December in order to fill a registered nurse position, and since the beginning of January for the HHC Coordinator position. There have been two applicants, one was not qualified and the other did not accept the position secondary to the wage, and the distance. Elizabeth stated that due to the nursing shortage, the home health care program is not thriving as a business.

Ron Lubcke stated that he has been on the board for three years and since then, there has been a nursing shortage and three different administrators. That he has to wonder if Home Care can provide quality care to patients with only one nurse, and he is concerned of the liability issues this could present. Ron wanted to assure everyone present that this was his personal concern, and was not speaking for the county Board of Health. Ron asked about the Home Health Care Mission Statement, and in the given situation, if the mission statement could be followed.

Elizabeth stated that there is a liability risk, and home health care is now in emergency mode.

Matt Gullone stated that our mission statement would be high quality care for the residents of Jo Daviess County. He understands that we are being pushed out of the market but asked what would happen to the employees. Elizabeth stated that she would have a position in Public Health for one employee, the other employees could possibly be hired back at a future date.

Kathleen Knauer made a motion to the Board of Health to dissolve Home Health Care, Matt Gullone seconded, and all were in favor.

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Rose Marie Steuart stated that she retired from Jo Daviess County Home Health Care, that she understands all of the changes with home care, and is sad to see the program close.
6. **CLOSED SESSION:** None
7. **SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next Home Health Care Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.  
Bill Bingham recommended asking the county Board of Health to dissolve the Home Health Care Advisory Committee.
8. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M. following a motion made by Mary Hesselbacher and seconded by Kathleen Knauer, motion carried.