



Department of Health

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**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 16 December 2014

**TIME:** 2:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Conference Room B  
Rhode Island Department of Administration

**ATTENDANCE:**

Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Victoria Almeida, Esq. (Chair)	X		
John J. Barry III	X		
Raymond C. Coia, Esq.	X		
Steven R. DeToy			X
John X. Donahue	X		
Joseph L. Dowling, MD	X		
Roberta Feather, CNS, PhD, JD	X		
Wallace Gernt			X
Catherine E. Graziano, RN, PhD	X		
Robert Hamel, RN	X		
Theresa Jeremiah	X		
Jeanette S. Matrone, RN, PhD	X		
Daniel Orgel, MPA	X		
Denise Panichas			X
Robert Ricci	X		
Larry Ross			X
Tom Sgouros	X		
Reverend Shire (Vice-Chair)			X
Robert Whiteside		X	

**Staff:** Michael K. Dexter, MPA, Krista Sevigny (Intern), Jane Morgan, Esq., Paula Pullano

**Public:** (Attached)

**1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Extension for the Minutes Availability**

The meeting was called to order at 2:34 PM. The Chair noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. Minutes of the Health Services Council meeting of 18 November 2014 were adopted as submitted. A motion was made and passed by a vote of thirteen in favor and none opposed (13-0) that the availability of minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame as provided for under the Open Meetings Act due to the increase in administrative burdens on staff. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Barry, Coia, Donahue, Dowling, Feather, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Matrone, Orgel, Ricci, Sgouros.

## 2. General Order of Business

The next item on the agenda was the **Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of Kindred Healthcare, Inc. for Change in Effective Control of Odyssey HealthCare Operating B, LP (a licensed hospice agency provider in Warwick, Rhode Island)** which is presently a wholly-owned subsidiary of Gentiva Health Services, Inc. Sen. Graziano, Secretary, chaired the meeting on this matter as Ms. Almeida, Chair, recused. Dr. Dowling recused.

A motion was made by Mr. Hamel seconded by Mr. Coia and Mr. Barry, and passed by a vote of eleven in favor, none opposed, and two recusals (11-0-2) to recommend that the Report of the Committee and the application be approved. Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Barry, Coia, Donahue, Feather, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Matrone, Orgel, Ricci, Sgouros. Chair Almeida and Dr. Dowling recused.

The next item on the agenda was the **Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of Senior Helpers of Rhode Island, LLC for Change in Effective Control of Senior Helpers of Rhode Island, LLC, a home care provider in Warwick.**

A motion was made by Mr. Coia seconded by Dr. Dowling, and passed by a vote of thirteen in favor and none opposed (13-0) to recommend that the Report of the Committee and the application be approved. Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Almeida, Barry, Coia, Donahue, Dowling, Feather, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Matrone, Orgel, Ricci, Sgouros.

The next item on the agenda was the **Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of Covenant Health Systems, Inc. for Change in Effective Control of Mount St. Rita Health Centre, a skilled nursing facility in Cumberland.**

Dr. Dowling requested that a condition be included that in conjunction with the annual license renewal, the applicant shall provide a written report on the type and amount of dollars spent on capital improvements until the \$2.5 million has been expended.

Chair Almeida stated that “the Sisters of Mercy provide wonderful care to the sick and poor” and would like to “publicly thank them for establishing this wonderful ministry.”

A motion was made by Sen. Graziano seconded by Mr. Donahue and Ms. Jeremiah, and passed by a vote of thirteen in favor and none opposed (13-0) to recommend that the Report of the Committee, as amended, and the application be approved. Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Almeida, Barry, Coia, Donahue, Dowling, Feather, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Matrone, Orgel, Ricci, Sgouros.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael K. Dexter". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael K. Dexter  
Chief  
Office of Health Systems Development