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MEDIA RELEASE

Information **Advisory** **Warning** **Update**

DATE: February 18, 2022

TIME: 2:30 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Medical Health Officer Position: Board of Commissioners Vote 4-2

During the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners (BOC) meeting Thursday, February 17, the decision was made to change the leadership structure of the St. Clair County Health Department by splitting Dr. Annette Mercatante's current Medical Health Officer role into two separate positions; a Health Officer and a part time Medical Director. Mercatante has determined she will not apply for either position when posted.

"While I'm disappointed in the BOC's decision, I want the residents of this county to know that no matter what happens, the staff at the Health Department remains committed to prioritizing the health and safety of our community. We will do everything possible to ensure that the essential services we offer stay intact throughout any transition".

She continued "One of the more difficult parts of this situation has been explaining these decisions to my dedicated staff, all of whom have worked tirelessly during incredibly difficult circumstances. I'm proud of the work we have done together to serve this community. It has been the honor of my life to serve as St. Clair County Medical Health Officer for the past 13 years."

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