



MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC) Minutes of February 5, 2018

◆ ATTENDANCE

- Present

David Centner – Commissioners’ Rep.

Evelyn Czyz - Township Rep.

Louis DeLoss - Township Alt. Rep.

Matt Hiscock – Wadsworth Alt. Rep.

Susan Kinney Dillon – Brunswick Alt. Rep.

Amy Lyon-Galvin – Commissioners’ Alt. Rep.

Will Koran - School District Rep.

Cliff Nowak - Brunswick Rep.

Holly Phillips – Commissioners’ Alt. Rep.

Wally Schaedel - Villages Rep.

Kent Patterson - Police Chiefs Assoc. Rep.

Peggy Reeves – School Districts Alt. Rep. (excused)

Robert Starcher – Medina City Rep.

Jeff Vogel - Commissioners Rep.

- Absent

Pat Nahrstedt - Wadsworth Rep. (excused)

- Others Present

Adam Friedrich – Commissioners’ Liaison

Scott Miller – County Administrator

Brian Nowak - MCDAC Executive Director

Phillip Titterington, ADAMH Board Director

◆ CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held in the lower conference room of the Professional Services Building located at 124 West Washington Street, Medina. Chairman Will Koran called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. After roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

◆ CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 4, 2017, were emailed in advance. Cliff Nowak moved to accept the minutes as submitted; the motion was seconded by Wally Schaedel. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes will be placed on file as submitted.

◆ ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Wally Schaedel nominated Will Koran to serve as chairman; the motion was seconded by Bob Starcher. There were no further nominations. Cliff Nowak moved to close the nominations and the motion was seconded by Dave Centner; the motion to close nominations passed unanimously. There was no discussion and the motion to elect Will Koran as chairman passed unanimously.

Evelyn Czyz nominated Kent Patterson to serve as vice chairman; the motion was seconded by Wally Schaedel. There were no further nominations. Cliff Nowak moved to close nominations and the motion was seconded by Matt Hiscock; the motion to close nominations passed unanimously. There was no discussion and the motion to elect Kent Patterson as vice chairman passed unanimously.

◆ PRESENTATION

County Sales Tax

County Administrator Scott Miller stated that there will be a 0.20% criminal and administrative justice services sales tax increase placed on the May 8 ballot; a fact sheet was distributed and made part of the permanent record. He noted that the last time a tax was levied by the Board of Commissioners for the general fund was in 1971; this is when the tax was initially implemented. Since then, levies were passed for the County Home and MCDAC, and the school sales tax was added, however, nothing has been done since 1971 for county general fund operations. With the opioid epidemic and the increase in law enforcement, those expenses have risen. The sales tax would only be used for criminal and administrative justice services such as sheriff’s vehicles.

The proposed sales tax is 0.2% which is a minimal amount. A nice thing about this it allows people traveling through the county to help pay for services, as they receive the same protections residents receive from the Sheriff's Department and the courts.

Mr. Miller explained that this tax will provide a specific revenue source to criminal justice services and also frees up some money in the general fund that is currently being used for those services. The monies that are freed up can be used for senior citizens, children services, to fix up the buildings that are in disrepair, etc. In answer to a question, Mr. Miller stated that currently, law enforcement is about 63% of general fund operations. He also explained that as the population increases, the sales tax will also increase.

Adam Friedrich added that the commissioners had to think very hard about moving forward with this. One of the things that impacted his decision as to why it was acceptable to ask for a sales tax increase is that the county commissioners are allowed up to 1.5 percent total. Right now, we have .5 percent that goes to the schools and .5 percent that currently goes to the general fund. He thinks we are the only county in the state that has .5 percent going into the general fund; virtually every other county in the state has .75 percent going into their general fund. We have absorbed the cuts from the local government fund and have absorbed the cost of being reclassified as an urban district as opposed to a rural district; this cut our public transportation dollars in half. We're one of six counties that does not have a social services levy, so all of that is being absorbed in the general fund. Additionally, the state is looking at the formulas for future funding and is dependent upon the capacity the county has to issue its own tax. Per the Ohio Revised Code, there are things the commissioners must provide, and we are getting very close to not being able to provide them; it's a big problem. Mr. Miller noted that although some counties have a lower sales tax, those counties also have social service levies which frees up money from their general funds. There was brief discussion regarding what the funds would be used for.

Kent Patterson requested a copy of the ballot language be distributed to MCDAC members. *Rhonda Beck will distribute to members.*

ADAMH Board

ADAMH Board Director Phillip Titterington offered his support for the sales tax; it is needed and would be put to good use. He stated that a lot of things have been happening since he took over this role at the ADAMH Board such as the opioid epidemic, the replacement of a large agency, and a state psychiatric crisis. He is on his feet and understanding the breadth and the scope of his position and he hopes that it is evident that his agency is more open and transparent. Mr. Titterington provided information regarding Medina County ADAMH Board initiatives (made part of the permanent record) noting that Alternative Paths now provides a full continuum of services including mental health and nearly a full array of alcohol and drug services. When they have someone enter the public system, he wants to be able to provide them with a choice. He also noted that the ADAMH Board receives federal, state and local funding, and many of these funds have restrictions; his budget is about \$3.9M and they do their best to maximize all dollars. He briefly reviewed the agencies they currently have contracts with.

Mr. Titterington explained that some of the things they need to look out for are how the government is trying to combine behavioral health services with medical services; put it all under one umbrella. Behavioral health redesign basically switches all of the reimbursement rates, certification levels, etc. Agencies all need to look at how this is going to affect their budgets. For example, they will be switching over to managed care, and will be looking at entitlements such as Medicaid. If their Medicaid goes away, who pay for those services? Because Medina County does not have a social services levy, there are no discretionary dollars.

Continuing, Mr. Titterington said they will continue collaborating as much as they can to maximize the dollars and advised agencies they are currently partnering with. He encouraged everyone to reach out to him for any information they may need; he will also be reporting to the commissioners more often as to keep everyone updated.

Holly Phillips complimented Mr. Titterington on their new website. Jeff Vogel thanked Mr. Titterington for facilitating the service in Wadsworth; there will finally be some residential beds in the county. This has been needed for many years.

Mr. Friedrich asked about the ADAMH Board's current relationship with LCADA. Mr. Titterington answered that they have the authority to make sure certain services are completed, but there is no funding relationship.

◆ **OLD BUSINESS**

Brian Nowak stated that there is no news regarding the five-year funding analysis. Grants are due Friday, April 6; he has not heard of any new grant requests yet, but there is still some time. Gary Hubbard will be presenting at the March meeting. He will submit and present his budget to the operating board at the end of February, and he will then bring it to the March MCDAC meeting to review. During the April meeting, we will be reviewing the current budget and will have a pretty good idea where we're going in May unless a new grant comes in that will need consideration.

◆ **NEW BUSINESS**

The Home & Garden Show will be held at the Community Center on the following dates/times:

Saturday, March 3	10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Sunday, March 4	10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

The current grantees will be covering Saturday and Brian will be there Sunday. Anyone who would like to join Brian is more than welcome.

◆ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

The Executive Director’s Report was previously discussed under Old Business and New Business.

◆ **GO AROUND**

Wally Schaedel provided an update on Makeala Kuhar and Kristiana Davis. They have been invited by the national board to attend their board meeting in Las Vegas; they have really made an impression. They are coming up with some very creative ideas to make the presentation.

Holly Phillips reported that it was reported at an opioid informational meeting in Columbus that the expected age of survival is on the decrease by a couple of years, particularly for the millennial generation. It is definitely a public health concern.

◆ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Evelyn Cxyz moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Wally Schaedel. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

◆ **NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at 5:00 p.m. in the lower level conference room of the Professional Building on the first Monday of each month except where noted. There are no meetings scheduled in January, July, or August. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2018.

Future 2018 Meetings

March 5	September 10
April 2	October 1
May 7	November 5
June 4	December 3

*Minutes provided by Rhonda J. Beck
Administrative Assistant to the Medina County Administrator*