



MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC) Minutes of May 2, 2016

◆ ATTENDANCE

- Present

Evelyn Czyz - Township Rep.

Kim Grieco – School Districts Alt. Rep.

Susan Kinney Dillon – Brunswick Alt. Rep. (6:12)

Will Koran - School District Rep.

Pat Nahrstedt - Wadsworth Rep.

Cliff Nowak - Brunswick Rep. (6:41)

Kent Patterson - Police Chiefs Assoc. Rep.

Wally Schaedel - Villages Rep.

Robert Starcher – Medina City Rep.

Jeff Vogel - Commissioners Rep.

- Absent

James Bigam - Commissioners Rep. (excused)

Louis DeLoss - Township Alt. Rep. (excused)

Mary Schultz – Commissioners Alt. Rep. (excused)

- Others Present

Chief Carl DeForest – City of Brunswick Police

Adam Friedrich – Commissioners' Liaison

Gary Hubbard – Medina Co. Drug Task Force Director

Brian Nowak - MCDAC Executive 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 5:58 p.m. After roll, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

◆ CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of April 4, 2016, were emailed in advance. Wally Schaedel moved to accept the minutes as submitted; the motion was seconded by Robert Starcher. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes will be placed on file as submitted.

◆ PRESENTATION

City of Brunswick Police Chief Carl DeForest stated that he has been with Brunswick for 25 years and has worked with Gary Hubbard for years. Brunswick has been with MEDWAY since it was developed. Chief DeForest explained that Don Hall, Director of MEDWAY, had approached him approximately two months ago regarding his concerns. Director Hall explained that due to the distance from Wooster to Brunswick and MEDWAY staff being inundated with investigations and calls in the Wayne County/Wooster area, Mr. Hall was concerned that the City of Brunswick was not getting its value per dollar. After discussions with Mr. Hall, the decision was made for the City of Brunswick to leave MEDWAY and join the Medina County Drug Task Force; this should be completed by June 30. MEDWAY funds will begin going to the Medina County Drug Task Force on July 1. Chief DeForest emphasized that this should be a seamless transition and that there are no hard feelings. He anticipates a positive relationship with MEDWAY going forward.

Medina County Drug Task Force Director Gary Hubbard stated that although he has been given authority to hire another agent, he is uncertain if that will be enough; he hopes to have the new agent hired by July 1. Mr. Hubbard noted that his main concern is making sure that Medina, Wadsworth and the rest of the county don't suffer because of the new area. The prosecutor has expressed some concern regarding the potential for increased court traffic. Mr. Hubbard stated that the decline in activity with MEDWAY has mainly been over the last 12-18 months because of the increase in activity in Wooster. Mr. Hubbard explained that the City of Brunswick does not experience the amount of heroin overdoses that Medina and Wadsworth do. He attributes this to Wadsworth's close proximity to Barberton/Akron area and Medina to Elyria/Lorain, both of which are infested with heroin. Those in Brunswick have to drive to Cleveland which isn't as easy.

Kent Patterson stated that this transition is the right thing to do and he believes things are moving in a good direction. Adam Friedrich noted that that was handled so well it will encourage a partnership moving forward. Will Koran added that every time this was brought up in the past, there was controversy; this transition has been smooth. Gary Hubbard said that Don Hall deserves a lot of credit for his professionalism and realizing there was an issue. Without Don's input, this

probably would not be happening. Wally Schaedel and Cliff Nowak also noted their appreciation.

◆ **NEW BUSINESS**

Review and recommendations of FY 2016-17 grants

Brian Nowak distributed and reviewed the grant funding recommendations (made part of the permanent record). The only goals and objectives that have changed are with the Medina County Drug Task Force and LCADA Way. With regard to the LCADA Way’s grant request, Mr. Nowak noted that 15 letters of support for a Wadsworth location were submitted. After discussion, the following motions were voted on:

Evelyn Czyz moved to approve the grant recommendations for all agencies listed with the exception of Black River, FACT Spencer, Solutions and Cathy’s House. The motion was seconded by Cliff Nowak. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Kim Grieco moved to approve the grant recommendation for Black River Schools; Wally Schaedel seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Everyone voted affirmatively except Kent Patterson and Will Koran who abstained. The motion passed.

Evelyn Czyz moved to approve the grant recommendation for FACT Spencer; Robert Starcher seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Everyone voted affirmatively except Jeff Vogel who abstained. The motion passed.

Cliff Nowak moved to approve the grant recommendation for Solutions; Pat Nahrstedt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Everyone voted affirmatively except Kent Patterson who abstained. The motion passed.

Will Koran moved to approve the grant recommendation for Cathy’s House; Robert Starcher seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Everyone voted affirmatively except Wally Schaedel who abstained. The motion passed.

June MCDAC Meeting

Will Koran reported that there will be no meeting in June.

◆ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Brian Nowak reported that TITLE Boxing Club, Buehlers, Medina Dairy Queen and Share Cluster are sponsors for the 2016 Kite Fest. Mr. Nowak is working on finding a food truck for the event.

◆ **GO AROUND**

Wally Schaedel compliments Brian Nowak, Will Koran and Kent Patterson for the work they did to present the grant recommendations.

Kent Patterson suggested a letter be written to Don Hall in appreciation for their efforts.

◆ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Pat Nahrstedt moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Jeff Vogel. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

◆ **NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at 6:00 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 September 12, 2016.

Future 2016 Meetings

September 12	November 7
October 3	December 5

*Minutes provided by Rhonda J. Beck
Assistant Clerk to the Medina County Board of Commissioners*