



**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC)
Minutes of April 3, 2017**

◆ ATTENDANCE

• Present

David Centner – Commissioners’ Rep.
Evelyn Czyz - Township Rep.
Louis DeLoss - Township Alt. Rep.
Susan Kinney Dillon – Brunswick Alt. Rep.
Will Koran - School District Rep.
Cliff Nowak - Brunswick Rep.

Kent Patterson - Police Chiefs Assoc. Rep.
Peggy Reeves – School Districts Alt. Rep.
Wally Schaedel - Villages Rep.
Robert Starcher – Medina City Rep.
Jeff Vogel - Commissioners Rep.

• Absent

Pat Nahrstedt - Wadsworth Rep. (excused)
Matt Hiscock – Wadsworth Alt. Rep.

• Others Present

Brian Nowak - MCDAC Executive Director
Adam Friedrich – Commissioners’ Liaison
Traci Sustersic

◆ CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held in the lower level conference room of the Professional Services Building located at 124 West Washington Street, Medina. Chairman Will Koran called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. After roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Guest Traci Sustersic, a Registered Nurse from Fairview Hospital, introduced herself. She is enrolled in a graduate program studying Public Policy; she is currently learning about the opioid epidemic and what is being done at the local level to fight it. Everyone welcomed Ms. Sustersic.

◆ CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 6, 2017, were emailed in advance. Cliff Nowak moved to accept the minutes; the motion was seconded by Wally Schaedel. Wally noted that the word “worked” in the first paragraph under “Presentation” should be deleted. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes will be placed on file as corrected.

◆ NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Current Grant Programming and Budget

Brian Nowak distributed and reviewed handouts reflecting MCDAC FY 16-17 grants. Brian briefly reviewed the programming offered by current grant recipients. Grant requests are due April 7. Brian expects all of the programs that are currently being funded will be asking for additional funds for the next fiscal year.

Will Koran stated that he and Brian recently met to go over a four-year projection. Unless there is a huge influx of new construction in the county, our funds will not increase and there will probably be more requirements from the Drug Task Force. During this year, they will begin sharing a phasing and a leveling of the playing field regarding grant funding; this will ensure there will be adequate funds in

the 5th year of the levy. From projections going across the board, if we don't pass a levy during that last year, funding would cease December 31, and we would be about \$450,000 in the hole. With the levy bringing in about \$1.6M, we need to have a buffer which needs to be built over the next three years. Brian added that by the end of June, we will know exactly how much money came in during that fiscal period which will give us a better idea moving forward. Brian stated that right now, no one is asking for any less money, but some are asking for more. He noted that the Drug Task Force is asking for a \$1,365 increase. That money will need to be taken from somewhere in order to give them that increase. Cliff Nowak stated that MCDAC was formed for enforcement, treatment and education. Will stated that we monitor all of the grants and try to make sure that there is a necessary balance. MCDAC's vote is only a recommendation to the commissioners; the commissioners have the final vote on distribution of funds. Adam Friedrich noted that the commissioners generally go with the recommendation of this board.

◆ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Brian Nowak reported that he attended a presentation by Dr. Omar Manejwala on March 22 at Weymouth Country Club; over 100 people were in attendance. It was a very good presentation.

Brian recently met with the new CEO of Solutions (Megan Bush) and the new Clinical Director (Christine Rollings). He is looking forward to working with them in the future.

He then reviewed a list of the following upcoming events:

- 4/21 Share Cluster Annual Breakfast at Williams on the Lake from 8:30 AM-10:00 AM
- 4/29 Family-A-Fair at Community Center from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
- 5/16 Senior Day 2017 at Community Center from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
- 7/31-8/6 Medina County Fair
- 9/9 Kite Fest at Buckeye Woods Park from 11:00 PM-3:00 PM

◆ GO AROUND

Cliff Nowak thanked our guest for attending the meeting; guests are always welcomed. He noted that the Health Department could provide statistics.

Jeff Vogel stated that he works for Project Learn; they run services in Wadsworth and Lodi. He has heard very positive feedback regarding The LCADA Way in Wadsworth.

Lou DeLoss asked for everyone to stay after the meeting for a quick update on the levy account.

Susan Kinney Dillon stated that she recently found out that insurance carriers are no longer covering the cost of Suboxone. It's a great concern that if they cannot get their medications, as they are very expensive, what the repercussions will be.

Adam Friedrich reported that the Adult Probation Department, Judge Kimbler and Judge Collier have been looking into leasing the former Medina Steakhouse to establish a program modeled after Edwin's in Shaker Square. It will not be a treatment center, but rather a center that will be available for training and helping people find employment. The plans are still preliminary. There is a grant that is available that would provide funding for two years. After two years, they would need to figure out how to transition into a nonprofit through donations. The plan right now is to lease with the option to buy; this is all still in the discussion phase. There was discussion regarding options for partnering with other agencies such as United Way and Ohio Means Jobs. Peggy Reeves recommended everyone visit Edwin's; it's fine dining and everyone working there is a felon, including the founder. Adam added that initially, he believes the goal is not necessarily to have people work there, but rather to train there

so that they may be hired somewhere else and to assist with life skills. Peggy stated that this is going to be a gift for those that need this training, and training will be very rigorous.

◆ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Wally Schaedel moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Evelyn Czyz. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 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 May 1, 2017.

Future 2017 Meetings

May 1	October 2
June 5	November 6
September 11	December 4

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