



MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC) Minutes of September 11, 2017

◆ ATTENDANCE

- Present

David Centner – Commissioners’ Rep.
Evelyn Czyz - Township Rep.
Louis DeLoss - Township Alt. Rep.
Susan Kinney Dillon – Brunswick Alt. Rep.
Amy Lyon-Galvin – Commissioners Alt. Rep.
Cliff Nowak - Brunswick Rep.

Kent Patterson - Police Chiefs Assoc. Rep.
Holly Phillips (6:04) – Commissioners Alt. Rep.
Wally Schaedel - Villages Rep.
Jeff Vogel - Commissioners Rep.

- Absent

Matt Hiscock – Wadsworth Alt. Rep. (excused)
Will Koran - School District Rep. (excused)
Pat Nahrstedt - Wadsworth Rep.
Peggy Reeves – School Districts Alt. Rep.
(excused)

Robert Starcher – Medina City Rep.

- Others Present

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

◆ CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held in the lower conference room of the Professional Services Building located at 124 West Washington Street, Medina. Vice Chair Kent Patterson called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. After roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. New members, Amy Lyon-Galvin and Holly Phillips, were introduced and welcomed.

◆ CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of May 1, 2017, were emailed in advance. There were no corrections and minutes will be placed on file as submitted.

◆ MCDAC: FIVE-YEAR FUNDING ANALYSIS

Brian Nowak stated that the presentation at this meeting, as well as next month’s meeting, will be reviewing the Five-Year Funding Analysis, Anti-Drug Levy Property Taxes and FY18-FY21 Future Funding (made part of the permanent record); copies were distributed to everyone. He began by reviewing the Anti-Drug Levy Property Taxes for the past 10 years. The taxes are collected on a current year basis, but we operate on a fiscal year. The most money that was collected was in 07/09-06/10 and 07/10-06/11. Since every collection year over the past ten years varies between 1.5 and 1.6 million dollars, we must be careful with budgeting over next the five year levy. In the May 2006 Replacement and Decrease, we had a balanced budget not only due to collecting more property taxes, but the grantees (primarily the Drug Task Force) returned almost \$250,000 in unspent funds. When the November 2010 Renewal was passed, there was no question that we could go to the voters confidently and ask for a renewal; there was no need for a renewal and an increase. However, in the past five years, we have collected less revenue than in the previous five years and grantees have utilized their funding and returned very little funds. Regarding the most current renewal in 2015, we are seeing an increase in revenue over the previous five years as nearly \$1.6M was collected. The real question is whether this amount of revenue will stay the same; increase slightly or decrease over the next four years.

Mr. Nowak then reviewed the Five-Year Funding Analysis explaining that he added 1% to the tax revenue reflecting new building construction. What we are spending in grants now is high and we cannot sustain that level of funding and we need to look at getting closer to \$1.5M because we're not going to collect much more than \$1.6M over the next four years. One issue we need to consider is the funding for the school districts; it's not equitable and cannot be overlooked any longer. Will Koran will discuss school funding for drug prevention in detail at the October meeting. Mr. Nowak stated that Marybeth Guenther explained to him that the auditor's office strongly encourages any county entity needing additional funding to request a renewal and increase rather than a replacement, because if you ask for a replacement, the state will no longer reimburse the county for the Homestead Rollback Tax. We receive approximately \$200,000 a year from Homestead Rollback which would mean that \$200,000 would automatically be taxed to the voters in addition to whatever increase we may ask in a levy renewal. The Ohio Attorney General is asking the school districts to take more of a leadership role in drug prevention, so hopefully the schools may contribute a little more funding for school-based drug prevention. Mr. Nowak stated that once we more equitably adjust the school-based drug prevention funding among school district not only will we balance the budget, but possibly free up some additional dollars for drug treatment programming in the County. Mr. Nowak then briefly reviewed some of the new treatment agencies in Medina County.

There was discussion regarding some of the newer services being offered throughout the county.

In answer to a question, Mr. Nowak explained that Solutions had been given \$25,000 which is about half of what it would be for a fulltime employee (they are matching the other half) for a Recidivism Prevention Specialist; we've had that position for the last 10 years. This position follows the indigent clients who are in detox and need follow-up treatment. Adam Friedrich suggested having discussions with the ADAMH Board to see if they would fund the whole amount so those monies would be made available to another group.

◆ **NEW BUSINESS**

Recidivism Prevention Specialist Implementing Agency change from Solutions to OhioGuidestone

Mr. Nowak explained that the ADAMH Board is the fiscal agent for the Recidivism Prevention Specialist; Solutions was the implanting agency, but the ADAMH Board has now contracted with OhioGuidestone. OhioGuidestone submitted a grant comparable to what was received from Solutions to take over the implementation of the Recidivism Prevention Specialist and are asking for the funds that we had recommended and the Commissioners approved to give to Solutions for this fiscal year.

Wally Schaedel moved to approve OhioGuidestone as the implementing agency of the Medina County ADAMH Board's Recidivism Prevention Specialist Grant for FY 2018; Cliff Nowak seconded the motion. Jeff Vogel asked how the ADAMH Board's funding compares to ours. Adam Friedrich answered their carryover is about 2-3 times what our annual budget is. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously with Kent Patterson abstaining.

◆ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Brian Nowak thanked those who helped with the Medina County Fair. There were more people coming up to the booth than in the previous 8 years, and there were more people open in terms of talking about their own recovery, as well as many more questions and need for information. The new drug display board is much more accurate; however, there was a gentleman upset that the needle on the drug display was too big. He proceeded to take out of his pocket a kit and showed an actual needle for shooting heroin. There was brief discussion of members sharing stories they heard at the booth.

Mr. Nowak noted that KiteFest was a great success. It was the best weather and crowd yet. Fighting for Alyssa partnered for the 5k walk/run; it was very nice to have them there.

◆ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Evelyn Czyz 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 7:02 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 October 2, 2017.

Future 2017 Meetings

October 2
November 6
December 4

Future 2018 Meetings

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

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