



MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC) Minutes of June 1, 2009

▪ **ATTENDANCE**

Members Present

James Bigam – Commissioners' Representative
Evelyn Czyz – Townships' Representative
Kim Grieco – School Districts' Alternative Representative
Roger Ingraham – Commissioners' Representative
Will Koran – School Districts' Representative

Dave Linderman – Brunswick Alternative Representative
Cliff Nowak – Brunswick Representative
Kent Patterson – Police Chiefs' Representative
Chuck Potter – Wadsworth Alternative Representative
Ellen Stark – Wadsworth Representative
Laura Dean Todia – Medina Representative

Absent

Tom Acklin – Police Chiefs' Alternate Representative
Michael Jervis – Villages' Alternate Representative
Jerry Klue – Commissioners' Alternate Representative

Wally Schaedel – Medina Alternate Representative
Jeff Vogel – Townships' Alternate Representative

Others Present

Michael Barnhardt – Medina County Drug Task Force Director

Steve Hambley – Medina County Commissioner
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. Chair Will Koran called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. There was roll call and a quorum was declared.

▪ **PRESENTATION**

Brian Nowak introduced Mike Barnhardt, Medina County Drug Task Force Director. Mr. Barnhardt distributed copies of and showed a PowerPoint presentation (attached as part of the permanent record). He noted that Medina County has a population of approximately 170,000 and is in the center of approximately 3.5 million people living in the Cleveland and Akron metropolitan areas. The county has three airports and numerous private landing strips. Fifteen miles to the north is Cleveland Hopkins International Airport and 15 miles to the east is Akron/Canton Airport. Both of these airports provide multiple commercial, cargo and parcel services. At all of the airports, the Medina County Drug Task Force has participated in numerous drug trafficking investigations. They have also participated in numerous investigations involving interstate transportations of drugs via highways, parcels, and bus and rail services. They've also investigated activity from the port of Cleveland and Lake Erie; the border crossings into Canada have been used as means to import drugs into Ohio via watercraft. Since 1990, the annual average number of drug traffickers identified as operating in Medina County has been in excess of 150.

Mr. Barnhardt reviewed some of the more recent drug activity and staffing issues, noting that being an agent is not an easy job. It's difficult to find new staff and some leave to work for the state or federally. Mr. Barnhardt will be returning to an agent position and will assist when a new director is hired so that there will be a smooth transition. Funding was reviewed, as well as the distribution of seized assets. Saturday's auction showed 207 people registered with \$24,400 in proceeds that will be distributed among a few agencies.

▪ **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Minutes of May 4, 2009 were e-mailed in advance. Cliff Nowak moved to approve the minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Jim Bigam. There was no discussion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

• **OLD BUSINESS**

It was noted that there are still vacancies for a Village Representative and a Township Alternative Representative. Evelyn Czyz volunteered to try to find a MCDAC Township Alternate. Brian Nowak will continue to work on this.

▪ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Brian Nowak reported that the award letters were mailed on Thursday, May 30; none have been signed and

returned. All volunteers are welcomed to man the booth at the Medina County Fair August 3-9. Many grantees have already signed up for weekdays after 4:00 and for Saturday.

Mr. Nowak will be glad to order name badges for new MCDAC members; he asked that anyone wanting a name badge to let him know.

• **NEW BUSINESS**

Mike Barnhardt reported that there is a surplus of money in liability, vehicle insurance, and wages and benefits. He requested that the Commission approve the transfer of \$11,217 to several line items:

Supplies	\$3,500	Vehicle maintenance repairs	\$1,000
Contract repairs	900	Telephone/cell phones	400
Contract services	3,800	Vehicle lease (4)	1,617

Evelyn Czyz moved to approve the allocation of money; the motion was seconded by Jerry Klue. It was noted that this is for the fiscal year 2009 funding. Mr. Barnhardt noted that they are investigating purchasing used vehicles instead of utilizing two-year leased vehicles. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

• **GO AROUND**

Ellen Stark noted that she was glad that Chuck Potter was serving as Wadsworth Alternate because she is often has to stay at work at the last minute.

After a question, it was noted that COG continues to discuss Medway and the Medina County Drug Force options. They are looking at how each option affects operations while being aware of the ballot language. It was noted that the Task Force is providing an excellent service to Medina County and that MCDAC members should feel comfortable that the funding has been used wisely.

▪ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Jim Bigam moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Jerry Klue. There was no discussion and by unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

▪ **NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next MCDAC meeting will be Monday, September 14, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the lower level conference room of the Professional Services Building. Meetings are not scheduled in January, July or August.

September 14 (exception due to September 7 holiday)	November 2
October 5	December 7

*Minutes prepared by Peggy Folk CAP
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