



## MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC) Minutes of May 4, 2009

### ▪ ATTENDANCE

#### Members Present

James Bigam – Commissioners' Representative  
Evelyn Czyz – Townships' Representative  
Kim Grieco – School Districts' Alternative Representative  
Jerry Klue – Commissioners' Alternate Representative  
Will Koran – School Districts' Representative

Cliff Nowak – Brunswick Representative  
Kent Patterson – Police Chiefs' Representative  
Chuck Potter – Wadsworth Alternative Representative  
Wally Schaedel – Medina Alternate Representative  
Laura Dean Todia – Medina Representative  
Jeff Vogel – Townships' Alternate Representative

#### Absent

Tom Acklin – Police Chiefs' Alternate Representative  
Roger Ingraham – Commissioners' Representative (excused)

Michael Jarvis – Villages' Alternate Representative (excused)  
Ellen Stark – Wadsworth Representative

#### Others Present

Chris Jarrell – Cathy's House  
Randy Jarrell – Cathy's House  
Steve Hambley – Medina County Commissioner

Dave Linderman  
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. New member Kim Grieco was welcomed.

### ▪ PRESENTATION

Brian Nowak introduced Chris and Randy Jarrell of Cathy's House, a new grantee. Mr. Jarrell reported that Cathy's House opened in 1998 and was started by them as a labor of love since both sides of the family had been ravaged by alcoholism. They are familiar with the impact that's made when residents live in a sober environment and meet new sober friends. The Jarrells had been familiar with similar programs in Cuyahoga and Summit Counties and knew that Medina County lacked such a facility. The facility is run by volunteers; Chris, the part-time administrator, is the only paid person. There is a meeting room that is rented by Alcoholics Anonymous who host 14-15 meetings a week. Some of the residents come from jail; they are serious about changing their life and their counselor calls and they're accepted after an acceptable interview. They must stay at Cathy's House for the remainder of their sentence or granted early release. If they don't adhere to the rules of Cathy's House, they go back to jail. Mr. Hambley noted that when he was on the United Way's Board, he liked the logic model and the house rules.

Chris noted that the ADAMH Board had previously funded approximately \$20,000 of the \$65,000-75,000 budget; however, that funding will be taken away due to the ADAMH Board's funding being cut by the State. Currently, residents are required to obtain a job and when they do, they must pay rent of \$300 a month; this is part of their recovery. Today, jobs are more difficult to find so they obtain less rent from their clients. Medina County is beautiful but still has the same percentages of alcohol and drug addiction problems of surrounding counties. The average length of stay is about three months, but there is no limit because everyone's recovery is different. Those that stay longer have the best chance of recovery. Lives are completely changed because they've been shown a different way of life and a seed has been planted.

Fundraising consists of a golf outing where about \$10,000 is raised. This has proven to be a better fundraiser than having several smaller ones. United Way is decreasing their funding, as well as the ADAMH Board, and funding is desperately needed. Because it's not a treatment center, health insurance doesn't cover any of the residents' costs. Maintenance of the house is done by residents and is part of their lifestyle change. They were pleased to report that the house looks as good, if not better, as it did the day it was purchased ten years ago. It's a sober house and everyone is responsible for what goes on. The attitude of residents is fantastic. The house father is a recovered addict and he knows all the "tricks". If residents don't follow the rules, they must leave the house.

▪ **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Minutes of April 6 2, 2009 were e-mailed in advance. Wally Schaedel moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Cliff Nowak. There was no discussion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

• **OLD BUSINESS**

It was noted that Dave Linderman (Brunswick Alternative Representative) still needed to submit an application in order to be appointed by the Medina County Commissioners. There are still vacancies for a Village Representative and a Township Alternative Representative.

• **NEW BUSINESS**

Brian Nowak reviewed the 2009 fiscal year grant proposals.

An estimated five-year analysis (made part of the permanent record) that was prepared by County Administrator Chris Jakab in November 2006 was distributed. Brian Nowak noted that the Board voted on an increase of approximately \$50,000 for 2007 through 2011. There will always be an estimated beginning balance (approximately half of the tax levy revenue) because MCDAC operates on a fiscal year and the tax levy starts being collected in the current year. The property taxes are estimated and are collected in the fiscal year (between July and June). The five-year funding levy is distributed approximately 80% the first year, 90% the next year, 100% the third year, deficit spending (to approximately 110%) in the fourth year, and exceeding revenues in the fifth year. It was asked how reliable the numbers were due to the high number of foreclosures. Mr. Hambley stated that the projections have been fairly close because banks still pay the taxes; delinquencies have been negligible. "Refunds and Miscellaneous" are monies that would be returned to MCDAC grant monies that are unspent from the awards that were given the previous fiscal year. The "ADMAH Board Subsidy" is the cooperative funding agreement established in 2000 between Mike Jenks and the MCDAC Director. The ADAMH Board gave \$20,000 to MCDAC for prevention services and then MCDAC returned the \$20,000 to the ADAMH Board for treatment services (shown in "ADAMH Board Subsidy"). "Administrative" costs is the ADAMH Board money that was returned from MCDAC. "Medway" (Brunswick) is a percentage of the estimated grant for the current year; for 2007 through 2011, it's 6.21% of the estimated tax.

The next page shows the actual numbers. Mike Jenks of the ADAMH Board had asked for an increase for prevention services and it cancelled itself out (in receipts and expenditures). The \$30,000 difference was because MCDAC paid them before the end of fiscal year 2007 and the ADAHM Board didn't pay MCDAC until fiscal year 2008. This procedure is no longer being done because the State has some very strict regulations regarding who can provide prevention services, what types of prevention services, how the prevention services need to be tracked, what the outcomes need to be – it got to be too tedious and Mike Jenks and Brian Nowak decided to no longer have the cooperative funding agreement. Mr. Koran noted that one thing that the ADAMH Board was able to do by putting in that amount for treatment was to leverage other funds. Mr. Nowak stated that there were actually a couple of years that the ADAMH Board had actually given MCDAC increased funding as well. He noted the "Refunds and Miscellaneous" amount in fiscal year 2007 of \$63,020 and explained that almost \$55,000 of that came from the Medina County Drug Task Force and was returned because it was unspent funds, mainly due to being short one agent during a significant part of that fiscal year. Looking into fiscal year 2008, even though the figure is \$25,000, there will likely be approximately \$63,000 returned to MCDAC. Under fiscal year 2009, the "Sub-Total" figure of \$1,552,881 is the figure to be distributed; this is almost a \$100,000 increase because of the money returned to MCDAC. Mr. Koran also noted that the estimated property taxes for fiscal year 2011 are only \$805,525 because it's the year that the levy expires and we can only count on 50% collection.

Brian Nowak distributed the grant proposals for fiscal year 2009. He noted that the total available funding for fiscal year 2009 of \$1,552,881 was carried over from the budget. The chart showed the agencies who submitted grant proposals, the amount of increase or decrease from the previous fiscal year, and the total amount that they would receive in fiscal year 2009. The charts showed:

Agency	FY08	FY 09	Recommended Increase/ Decrease
Medina City Police	\$ 19,510.00	\$ 12,776.00	\$ -6,734.00
Medina County Drug Task Force	477,500.00	554,593.00	77,093.00
Wadsworth/Medway	50,485.00	50,485.00	0.00
Brunswick Medway	96,132.00	97,381.00	1,249.00
Black River Schools	29,500.00	29,500.00	0.00
Brunswick Schools	73,436.00	75,639.00	2,203.00
Buckeye Schools	42,256.00	43,524.00	1,268.00
Cloverleaf Schools	69,619.00	71,708.00	2,089.00

MC Career Center	37,500.00	38,000.00	500.00
Highland Schools	60,588.00	62,406.00	1,818.00
Medina City Schools	80,075.00	82,477.00	2,402.00
Wadsworth City Schools	78,891.00	78,031.54	-859.46
MC Sheriff's Office	150,500.00	150,814.04	314.04
MC Share Cluster	16,935.00	18,600.00	1,665.00
FACT Brunswick	20,600.00	20,600.00	0.00
FACT Spencer	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00
HANDS Foundation	19,630.00	23,750.00	4,120.00
Solutions Behavioral Healthcare	54,747.00	45,726.21	-9,020.79
MC Juvenile Drug Court	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00
Cathy's House	0.00	21,000.00	21,000.00
Under Budget	5,643.00	5,870.21	
TOTAL	\$1,453,547.00	\$1,552,881.00	

- Medina City Police – The \$12,776 request is for a vehicle lease, the cost to operate the vehicle, a GPS, and a contract for a “buy” phone.
- Medina County Drug Task Force – Almost \$55,000 was returned from the Drug Task Force. That money would be returned to them. The \$554,593 would meet their total except for \$78,300 that they anticipate will be received from OCJS. A copy of their budget was distributed for review; Mr. Nowak noted that their total budget is \$632,893. Asset forfeiture funds can be used for training and equipment, but they are discouraged by law from using that money for operating costs because of the potential for abuse. The \$17,017 under “Other” is for equipment and “Training” is \$1,000; therefore, it’s possible that their request could be reduced by those amounts since that money could come from asset forfeiture funds or they could be funded completely.

There was concern expressed that the Drug Task Force doesn’t use all of the money budgeted for them because they seem to always be down one agent. Mr. Hambley stated that there are some personnel issues that are currently being addressed; their intent is to be fully manned this year. They may also be returning to some shifts to more easily operate with Medway. Mr. Hambley noted that there are public records on various activities of people who are publicly funded; this can’t be done for law enforcement. The Council of Governments oversees them and ensures accountability, in addition to an Operating Board which involves all of the police chiefs and the Sheriff.

- The total for law enforcement is \$715,235.00, 46% of the available funds.
- Black River Schools did not request an increase. All of the other schools (except Wadsworth City Schools), including the Medina County Career Center, asked for more money; however, the increase for each was made to be 3% from the amount received last year. None of the schools are doing anything different; they are just asking MCDAC to pay more of the costs and away from their own budget. Wadsworth City Schools was able to receive two grants that cut their costs.
- The Medina County Sheriff's Office requested exactly \$150,814.04. This is for their SRO (for Cloverleaf, Buckeye, and Highland School Districts).
- The Medina County Share Cluster has money being taken away from the ADAMH Board; that is why they’re requesting an increase. Their total request is \$18,600.
- The HANDS Foundation is requesting an increase of \$4,120 because (1) in fiscal year 2008, they had anticipated Buehlers being the site of Prevention Bingo; however, management changed and they’re not able to accommodate them, making it more work to set up at other community sites; (2) the director is working with Drug-Free Alliance to conduct a conference in Columbus regarding elderly substance abuse; and (3) they will work with Medina General Hospital on a presentation regarding substance abuse and alcohol use and their effect on breast cancer in post-menopausal women.
- Solution Behavioral Healthcare requested a decrease because there was savings on the health insurance costs for the new recidivism prevention specialist (family to individual coverage).
- Cathy's House is a new grantee.
- The total for Prevention/Education is \$715,049.58, 46% of the budget.
- The total for Treatment is \$116,726.21, 8% of the budget.

It was noted that the ADAMH Board had huge State funding decreases.

Cliff Nowak moved to approve the grant funding (except Cathy's House, a new grantee); the motion was seconded by Chuck Potter. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Jim Bigam moved to approve the new grant funding request from Cathy's House; the motion was seconded by Evelyn Czyz. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Will Koran noted that the grant funding requests and MCDAC's recommendations will be forwarded to the Medina County Commissioners for their approval.

▪ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Brian Nowak reported that the April 25 Family-A-Fair was successful. This year, youth colored pages and decorated them with anti-drug, tobacco and alcohol slogans. Students Mike Schneider and Christine Gailey volunteered their time. The space was nice and everyone had a good time.

Mr. Nowak also noted that he has applied to have a booth at the Medina County Fair. If approved, volunteers will be needed.

• **GO AROUND**

Jim Bigam thanked everyone for their cards and calls during his recent illness.

Kim Grieco thanked everyone for their warm welcome.

Steve Hambley congratulated Jim Bigam for being inducted into Brunswick's Hall of Fame.

Laura Todia announced the April 24 birth of her second grandchild.

Will Koran reported that everyone will be receiving an invitation to attend the June 12 bus drivers' education. It will begin at 9:00 AM and will be held at the Medina County Fairgrounds. There will be four different scenarios – all man-made disasters. Schools from 15 different counties are expected to send personnel for training. The Medina Youth Football League and 4-H will be selling refreshments. He thanked the Fair Board members who were very receptive and who approved the donation of the site.

▪ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Jim Bigam moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Cliff Nowak. There was no discussion and by unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

▪ **NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next MCDAC meeting will be Monday, June 1, 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.

June 1	October 5
September 14 (exception due to September 7 holiday)	November 2
	December 7

*Minutes prepared by Peggy Folk CAP  
Assistant Clerk to the Medina County Board of Commissioners*