

**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

**Roll Call**

Chair Will Koran called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Joe Destro (Brunswick Representative), Jeff Vogel (Townships' Representative), James Bigam (Commissioners' Representative), William Koran (School Districts' Representative), Laura Dean (Medina Representative), Wally Schaedel (Medina Alternate Representative), Joe Lewandowski (Townships' Alternate Representative), Susan Likovich (Commissioners' Representative), Michael Maracz (Commissioners' Alternate Representative), Ralph Copley (Wadsworth Representative), Michael Jervis (Villages' Representative), and Kent Patterson (Police Chiefs' Representative).

Absent: Ronald Likley (Wadsworth Alternate Representative), Tom Acklin (Police Chiefs' Alternate Representative), Antony Kibogo (Commissioners' Alternate Representative), Cliff Nowak (Brunswick Alternate Representative), and Jack Higgins (School Districts' Alternate Representative).

Also present: Karl Cetina - MCDAC Executive Director and Commissioner Steve Hambley.

**Review & Approval of Minutes – March 7, 2005**

The minutes were emailed out in advance. *James Bigam made a motion to approve the minutes and Joe Destro seconded. There was no discussion. All voted AYE and the minutes were approved as presented.*

**Old Business**

**Drug Task Force & Wadsworth MedWay Five-Year Waiver**

Karl Cetina suggested they formalize the funding for the Drug Task Force and Wadsworth MedWay this evening. He said he talked to all of the parties involved. He passed around a letter from the City of Wadsworth (who contracts with MedWay) stating that the current funding of \$50,485 per year for the next five years is sufficient with no increase being necessary if the funding continues to be available. They will not have to apply for the grant money each year, but it still has to be approved by the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission to make their recommendation to the Medina County Commissioners. They are going to do something similar with the Drug Task Force. The amount will not remain static, but starting this year they will merely submit a budget request to the MCDAC Board asking for the dollar allotment. Five years from now, both would need to apply again. That will help them sort out their missions and see any subtle changes or any drastic turns that their programs have taken. He asked for input from the group.

Steve Hambley said he was uncertain that they could go beyond the term of the levy with any kind of commitment.

**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

Karl said it could have a clause that said it is contingent upon ongoing funding and everyone felt that was very important that it is added. He said the Drug Task Force will be asking for an increase this year, but it is much more modest than in previous years. Upon questioning, Karl said the merger with Brunswick Medway has the same status and there appears to be no jeopardy with the DTF's state funding this year.

Wally Schaedel said that the Wadsworth letter said they do not see needing an increase in the foreseeable future. He asked what happens if they need an increase in the future as they should also have that right.

Will said this should not preclude them from asking for an increase in the future. Susan Likovich arrived during this discussion. All agreed to taking this action that had been voted on at the December 6, 2004 meeting.

**Executive Directors Report**

**Grantee Technical Training Recap**

Karl Cetina said the MCDAC grant was released on March 15<sup>th</sup> and the ad ran in the Gazette on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. He met with all the grantees on March 17<sup>th</sup> and the training meeting was well attended with over 20 organizations represented. He emphasized to them and highlighted outcome measures, public relations, and thinking outside the box regarding other funding resources. They also went over the guidelines and the application very thoroughly.

**MCDAC Grants Review Process for FY 05-06**

Karl said he is planning on a similar review process as to last year. The deadline to apply is April 22, 2005. He will do executive summaries and disburse them by email to all of the board members for review before the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The other meeting scheduled for grant review will be Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. if that works out for all of the board members. *James Bigam made a motion to hold a MCDAC meeting on May 16, 2005 and Jeff Vogel seconded the motion. Joe Destro said he would be out of town so he would contact his alternate, Cliff Novak, to make sure he comes. There was no further discussion. All voted AYE and the motion carried.*

**Wadsworth City Schools' Budget Revision Request**

Karl said Wadsworth City Schools is requesting that \$6,000 be moved from the purchase services account and be put towards materials. He said this request is understandable in light of the second year of the Life Skills Project that they underestimated some of the materials needed to expand that project. It is all copyrighted material so they cannot Xerox these materials and manuals. They still anticipate returning about \$3,600 to MCDAC that will not be used in the purchase services area. They overestimated the amount of personnel they would need. *Joe Destro made a motion to transfer \$6,000 from the purchase services to the supplies for the Life Skills Program. Jeff Vogel seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted AYE and the motion carried.*

**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

Karl passed out “MCDAC Request Project Budget Revision” sheets for the Board to review. He said they get several budget requests throughout the year that have a multitude of formats. He came up with a new form for the grantees to fill out in addition to their narrative that will make the requests easier to understand. He asked the Board for approval to use the form and all agreed.

**Family A Fair 4/23/05**

Karl said MCDAC is going to have a table set up at the Family A Fair along with FACT. They will have literature set out and display the MCDAC logo. Several of the Tobacco grantees will be there also.

**Levy Discussion**

Commissioner Steve Hambley passed out and reviewed MCDAC levy renewal/replacement information and general rules. The Commissioners need a recommendation from the MCDAC Board as to the amount to seek for the levy. The options are a .40 mill renewal levy based on calendar year 06/07. An estimate of a renewal for collection commencing January 27, 2007 (to immediately follow the existing levy) would be about \$1.4 million (as compared to \$1.3 million in 2005). If they go for a .35 mill replacement levy and a partial replacement with a reduction of .05 mills they would receive about \$1.5 million. This would be about 8% over a renewal basis. There is also an option to start the collection year to start earlier by one year that would produce a 9% jump in revenues. It would void out the last year of the previous levy. The last levy’s wording was, “A replacement of a part of an existing levy being a reduction of .1 mills which constitutes a tax of .4 mills”. If they go for a .35 mill replacement it would be close to the same thing as before with a replacement of an existing levy being a reduction of 0.05 mills to constitute a tax of 0.35 mills.

Will explained replacement and renewal levies. When they pass a levy at a certain number of mills, as the valuation of the county goes up, the millage they are collecting drops. Consequently, they started collecting the last renewal levy at .40, but now it is being collected at about .33. If they do a replacement levy it takes it back up to the .40, which is reduced slightly and they gain back the inflation that they lost from the initial passage five years ago.

The group discussed the different options. Michael Maracz pointed out that the #7 tax levy resolution wording option with the reduction would be an easier sell to the voters.

Steve said fortunately the county has experienced an incredible amount of growth so even going with a partial replacement they are still ahead of inflation. They still have the issue of OCJS and the Drug Task Force that might have to be dealt with. If the Drug Task Force never merges with MedWay, OCJS could remove the \$60,000 Burne Grant funding. Then the DTF would come to the Commissioners for funding so it might be good to have additional funds available from the

**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

MCDAC levy to keep the Drug Task Force solvent. He said Chris Jakab, Finance Director, recommends they do not change the year of the levy and all agreed.

Will reviewed how they did the funding in the past, which is similar to a school district's levy. They do not give 100% of the funds in the first or second year. They give about 80% of the funds out the first year, 90% the second year, 100% the third year, and 100%+ the fourth and fifth years. This builds inflation in without getting inflation in their collection.

*Joe Destro made a motion to recommend to the Commissioners a MCDAC levy with the wording: A replacement of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of .05 mills, to constitute a tax of .35 mills" for CY06. Michael Maracz seconded the motion. All voted AYE and the motion carried.*

Steve said he would relay this action to the Board of Commissioners and at the appropriate time they will discuss it. They have until August to place it on the ballot.

**New Business**

**Coordinated School Health Presentation by Medina County Health Department**

Karl introduced Deb Marshall - Brunswick City Schools Elementary Prevention Specialist, Robin Bodnar – Health Educator with the Medina County Health Department, and Kristin Hilbrith – Health & Prevention Coordinator with the Health Department.

Robin said the Action for Healthy Kids Program began in 2002 by the Surgeon General and now there is a program in each state to tackle the problem of obesity in children. Ten goals were established and each state had to pick three. Ohio's goals are: healthy vending machines, offer co-curricular activities, and provide breakfast for all students. They have been working on these goals for a year and Ohio would like to establish all these goals by 2007. They have a lot of work to do and there is no budget so they have gotten in-kind help from the Health Department, American Cancer Society, and others. They had their first Medina County coordinated school health conference where they brought in speakers plus schools from other counties discussed programs they had already implemented such as have recess before lunch, mandatory breakfast, and 15 minutes of mandatory exercise every morning. Their staff had been offered wellness education first in order to lead the students. Medina County is trying to send teams to Salt Fork for the state conference and they need funding. Robin explained that coordinated school health is like an umbrella and everything under that is like raindrops – tobacco prevention, drug prevention, mental health, breast exams, pap tests, wellness clinics, and physical activity. Kent Patterson arrived during this discussion.

Deb added that coordinated school health has everything to do with alcohol and drug abuse prevention. The six key health risk factors that cause health and social problems for youth include tobacco, alcohol and other drug use. Students that eat healthy food, have plenty of exercise, and are involved in extra-curricular activities are much less likely to get involved in

**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

alcohol and drug abuse. They are trying to help all staff members to understand the concept of not just teaching kids to say no to tobacco, but also teaching them a healthy lifestyle.

Robin said each county came up with their own goals, and in Medina County they have been working with the Tobacco Coalition. They helped them put on their health conference and hopefully will help again next year. They all collaborate and outsource to each other. Their goal is for each school to have a team and a leader. Each school will be required by the state to have their own wellness policy in writing and ready to go by 2006. The Health Department will supply all of the proper materials that they will need to write these policies, technical support, and sample policies. Deb reviewed the "Huntington Elementary School Health Team" handout.

Karl said he invited these ladies to the meeting this evening because he wanted the Board to have knowledge of this program and be aware that some of the schools will be putting it in their MCDAC grants for funding to attend the Salt Fork retreat next June. Last year they approved a budget transfer for Share Cluster to accommodate three people to go to Salt Fork. This year the Tobacco Coalition is going to send 6 to 10 people there.

Kristin said they are requesting funds for not only Salt Fork, but also a post-Salt Fork workshop at the Health Department. Teams that want to go, but cannot afford to go or take the time can get the information to get their schools onboard the program because healthy kids learn better. Laura Dean arrived during this discussion. She did filming for the MCDAC video throughout the rest of the meeting.

**Catholic Charities Update on Women's Project**

Karl introduced Sandra McCallister from Catholic Charities. Sandra said they originally wrote their proposal in conjunction with Colene Rice with the Families First Program at the Lodi Family Resource Center. They wanted to assist the needs of women with chemical dependency. Battered women who are chemically dependent have often been sexually abused and/or physically abused, and national statistics show they come from chemically dependent families or marry people who are substance abusing. Children coming out of these families are very high risk for substance abuse and mental health issues. In terms of helping women who are substance abusing to stay sober the high-risk factor is relationships. For women that are not substance abusing themselves, but are involved with someone who is physically abusive, oftentimes they become enablers. The grant was to tackle these issues in Lodi and make hands on linkage. Shortly after the grant was approved, the Center was defunded, and it no longer exists. They began servicing people in Medina and would like to continue to do so, but they can no longer fund the program with MCDAC dollars. They are not trying to replace ADDS. They want to provide "pieces" that ADDS cannot provide and work collaboratively with them and the Battered Women's Shelter. They want to address addictions of all kinds and help people stop doing what they are doing to numb their feelings.

**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2005**

Karl said he encouraged Tim Putka, ADDS Director, to have Sandra speak to the group this evening. They are looking forward to next year's grant proposal that would have a different "flavor" to it, but still with the women's focus. There may be a great need out there, but it is not always easy getting people to their doorstep.

Will commented that he does not see where there would be the restriction on specifying Lodi and they are serving Medina that that would jeopardize their MCDAC funding, especially since their base of operation closed.

Karl said they accommodated them with a letter in that regard saying where their new site was. He said he would like to see another provider maintain ODATA status in this county and try to "dovetail" some of ADDS existing services.

**TUPCF Tobacco Update**

**Oaks Family Care Center Update on Pregnant Women's Project**

Sherry Whistler, Brunswick office, said they are trying to make a difference with the Tobacco Prevention Program. Their grant is for working with pregnant women. They have come in contact with a lot of young families that have new babies and several other children at home. They offer services to them also with the Fresh Start classes. They contact pregnant women through Brunswick High School, day care centers, newspaper ads, etc. Each session is one hour long and gives information about the affects of tobacco smoke on the mother and her unborn child plus the affects of second-hand smoke on her other children. They do a craft and can get vouchers for the boutique at the Oaks. They track their progress and give them ways that they can quit smoking. Sherry discussed some of the ways they educate these women such as seeing a video an actual unborn baby's heartbeat drop when the pregnant mother puffs on a cigarette.

Heather Joachin, Lodi office, said basically what they are doing is smoking cessation. Every woman she talked to does not want to be smoking, but she does not know how to stop. She passed out a sheet with smoking statistics. 375,000 Ohioans quit smoking last year and the cost benefits to individual Ohioan, employers, and retailers was \$1.5 Billion!

Karl said they originally split the grant between the Oaks and Medina General Hospital. They worked hand in hand and learned from each other.

**Commission Members – Go Around**

Jeff Vogel discussed the MCDAC video and said it would have many uses.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Vereb, Secretary