

# **MID-SOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMISSION**

**February 27, 2006 - 6:00 p.m.**  
**Michigan High School Athletic Association**  
**1661 Ramblewood Drive**  
**East Lansing, Michigan**

## **MINUTES**

### **PRESENT**

Joe Brehler  
Dale Copedge  
Brad Densmore  
Debbie De Leon  
Ross Fulton  
Jim Gallant  
Jean Golden  
Larry Gould  
Gail Mahoney  
Lisa McCafferty  
Bob Showers

### **ABSENT**

Dan Alonzi  
Allen Garbrecht  
Bob Johnson  
Ben Miller  
Ken Ponds  
Ralph Tillotson  
Shirley Carter

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Mahoney called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. She stated as immediate past chair she was chairing the meeting in the absence of current chairman Ken Lautzenheiser and current vice chair Dan Alonzi. She also stated incoming secretary Showers would call roll and incoming treasurer De Leon would do the Treasurer's Report.

Ms. Mahoney introduced Commissioner Brad Densmore, who is the new representative from Hillsdale County. He stated he was formerly a township supervisor for 12 years, has been a commissioner for one year, is a musician and has served on numerous non-profit boards in the past.

### **GUESTS**

Bruce Hindenach, CDRS  
Brad Casemore, Venture Behavioral Health  
Sara Lurie, EISD/PPS  
Donald Wolosuk, Jackson County

### **STAFF**

Robin Reynolds, Executive Director  
Mary Kronquist, Assistant Director  
Gerrie Roeser, Finance Manager  
Lori Griffin, Executive Secretary  
Jeanne Diver, Quality Assurance Manager

## ***ROLL CALL***

Mr. Showers called roll; 11 present and 7 absent.

## ***APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2006***

**Mr. Showers moved approval of the Minutes of January 23, 2006 as presented. Mr. Fulton supported the motion. The motion carried.**

## ***ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA***

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

## ***PUBLIC COMMENT***

There was no public comment.

## ***NEW BUSINESS***

### ***A. Director's Report***

Ms. Reynolds commented on the materials included in the meeting packets. She referenced the article on the Gratiot County Coalition, stating it is a good, strong group who are doing good things in the county. She also noted the PA2 amounts for 2006 were included and these are the actual amounts Mid-South will be receiving. She added the official letters requesting the funds be sent have been sent to the counties.

## ***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

### ***A. Treasurer's Report for January 2006 Community Grant and PA2***

Ms. De Leon began with the Bills to be Approved for the month, stating they totaled \$1,131,558.22. On the Income Statement, she reported Total Revenues for the month of \$564,815.15 and \$2,311,661.51 year-to-date; Total Expenses for the month of \$1,106,508.95 and \$2,510,981.82 year-to-date, which resulted in Net Income for December of \$(541,693.80) and \$(199,320.31) year-to-date. On the Balance Sheet, Ms. De Leon reported Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$3,504,290.11; and on the Statement of Cash Flow she noted the Beginning Balance of \$(3,943,964.94), the Ending Balance of \$3,386,815.19, resulting in a Net Decrease in Cash of \$(557,149.75) for the month and \$(1,120,730.55) year-to-date.

### ***Medicaid***

Ms. De Leon reported the Medicaid Bills to be Approved for January totaled \$176,058.07. On the Income Statement, she stated Total Revenues for the month were \$196,699.81 and \$749,384.18 year-to-date; Total Expenses of \$176,058.07 for January and \$529,678.51 year-to-date, resulting in Net Income of \$20,641.74 for the month and \$219,705.67 year-to-date. On the Balance Sheet, she reported Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$441,773.84. Turning to the Statement of Cash Flow, Ms. De Leon reported the Beginning Balance of (\$421,132.10), the Ending Balance of \$441,773.84, which resulted in a Net

Decrease in Cash of \$(20,641.74) for the month and \$54,380.44 year-to-date.

On the Medicaid PIHP Report, Ms. De Leon reported monthly balances as follows: CEI \$124,649.55; LifeWays \$(45,709.73); Venture \$7,714.69; and Washtenaw \$(7,487.70); PEPM received \$747,367.41; interest earned of \$2,666.08; Services paid out \$543,136.43; CDR services \$54,762.74; Administration \$72,967.51, leaving a balance of \$79,166.81.

**Ms. Golden moved approval of the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Showers supported the motion. The motion carried.**

## **B. *Program Development Committee Report***

Mr. Brehler reported three programs were presented for program review: ESAP, Human Aid and NCA/LRA. He stated all were performing well and there were no programmatic or financial concerns noted by staff.

Mr. Brehler reported the Committee discussed the Resolution presented in January for the statewide substance abuse system, noting no action was taken as there was no quorum, and it was unclear whether or not any Commissioners were willing to take such a Resolution back to their Counties for support. He added that until someone in the legislature is willing to help the substance abuse field, there will be little or no action at that level. He also stated that any Resolution coming from this Board would have more behind it if the county boards are supportive of it.

Mr. Brehler also stated discussion took place regarding the ODCP/RFI. He reminded that last month there was discussion at the Commission Meeting to not write proposals for receipt of any of the dollars, and that a Resolution be written to the effect that if any available dollars were not used for existing programs, Mid-South was not interested in them. Mr. Brehler reported that since then, the State has said they may now use those dollars to plug other budget holes they have, so it was the feeling if the Resolution was written as requested, the State may pull the funding off the table. Thus it was not written until further details were available.

Lastly, Mr. Brehler reported the last agenda item was discussion on appointment of a new chairperson for the committee. He added that since Ms. Golden, the current chair, was not at the meeting, and there was no quorum, there was no action taken.

Ms. Reynolds stated that with respect to the RFI, Mid-South did receive a communication saying the funding may not be available; instead it may be used to plug holes in the state budget. She added the letter indicated the CAS should go ahead and write proposals as if there were going to be dollars available, and submit them by the original due date. Ms. Reynolds also reported she, as MASACA president, wrote letters to state representatives and Janet Olszewski voicing displeasure on the process, stating any dollars should come back to the CAS for treatment services. Ms. Reynolds reported Rep. Caswell responded immediately, also sending a letter to Janet Olszewski. Ms. Reynolds continued by stating she did write proposals, which are due February 28<sup>th</sup>, for a grant writer, for continuation of the Ingham Health Department grant which is losing funding, and for a joint initiative with LifeWays and CEI to hire a business consultant to research a joint integration arrangement.

**Ms. Golden moved that Ms. Reynolds submit the grant proposals which are due February 28, 2006. Ms. De Leon supported the motion.**

Ms. Reynolds stated she could also send a letter stating frustration with the process if that was the Board's pleasure. Ms. Golden responded frustration needs to be communicated, although not necessarily in

conjunction with the submission of funding proposals.

**Vote called on the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Brehler voting no.**

Ms. Mahoney stated it was an excellent idea to start a rotation for chairmanship of the Program Development Committee, and that Eaton County was a good place to start, therefore, she appointed Joe Brehler as chair of that Committee.

**Ms. Golden moved the appointment of Mr. Brehler as Chair of the Program Development Committee for 2006. Mr. Copedge supported the motion. The motion carried.**

**C. *Executive-Personnel-Finance Committee Report***

Ms. Mahoney reported the Committee discussed the Executive Director's annual evaluation, and have asked that an evaluation more suited to an executive level position be found before the next evaluation. She added that this year, the previously used format will be used, with lines being added between each question for comments to be added. She noted the form will be sent to all members for their input, with submissions back to Dan Alonzi who will tabulate and report back at the March Executive Committee Meeting.

Ms. Mahoney reported on the special Executive Committee Meeting held via teleconference on February 14, 2006, which was held to terminate the prevention contract with Prevention Partners in Jackson County. She further reported the special meeting was held in order to give the program 45 days notice of termination. Ms. Mahoney stated Ms. Reynolds has talked with the Coalitions in Jackson and Hillsdale counties regarding transition, and it is expected Prevention Partners will help in the transition period.

Ms. Reynolds reported there have been initial discussions with the United Way in Jackson for them to employ the FTE for coalition support and for the data piece. She indicated the Coalition is supportive of Mid-South, and other services in Jackson County can be picked up by other agencies. Ms. Reynolds reported the Jackson FTOP program will be finished by Prevention Partners and sessions scheduled for April will go before the Coalition for a short RFI or they can identify another agency to provide those services. She stated that in Hillsdale, there have been initial conversations with some agencies to employ the FTE. Ms. Reynolds reported staff would attend the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting in Hillsdale to see how they want to handle this process. She also stated Mid-South wants to move ahead with as little disruption as possible. She added that all dollars allocated will stay in those counties.

**Ms. Mahoney moved the full Commission concur with and ratify the decision made by the Executive Committee during the February 14, 2006 teleconference meeting to terminate the prevention contract with Prevention Partners, effective March 31, 2006. Mr. Fulton supported the motion.**

Ms. Golden asked if the Executive Committee dealt with allegations stated in Prevention Partner's letters and if so, were they satisfied. Ms. Mahoney responded the allegations and misinformation contained in the letters is one of the problems experienced with the provider in question. Ms. Reynolds also commented to statements made in the letter that there is no indication the state is at risk of losing SPIF/SIG dollars.

**Vote called on the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Densmore abstaining.**

Ms. Mahoney reported there was extensive discussion at the Committee meeting regarding drug court

funding proposal, which seeks approval to use PA2 dollars from counties with Drug Courts to reimburse providers for their attendance at Drug Court sessions. She stated the practice always has been that this Board makes decisions on how PA2 dollars are spent, with input from the county representatives. She added Ionia County follows a different practice, first getting a recommendation from the County Collaborative, who forward that recommendations to the Board of Commissioners, then the county representative brings the recommendation to Mid-South. Ms. Reynolds stated she will be initiating discussions with Ionia commissioners on the PA2 dollars and their use. Ms. Mahoney stated that generally, it is her belief that there is not enough knowledge on what Mid-South does and what happens to the funds that sent here; noting that commissioners need to be better educated. She stated a way needs to be found to champion our cause and get the word out and on the radar screens of commissioners. Ms. Mahoney reported the Executive Committee passed the proposal in the amounts indicated, with Ionia removed. She added members agreed to respect Ionia's process, and to allow Ms. Reynolds to discuss what was decided with Ionia commissioners.

**Ms. Golden moved approval of the Drug Court Funding proposal for the following amounts paid from PA2 funds: Calhoun \$5,000; Jackson \$5,000; Hillsdale \$2,000; and Ingham \$5,000; Ionia was removed from the proposal. Ms. De Leon supported the motion.**

Ms. Golden agreed with Ms. Mahoney's comments, stating the judges have been strong advocates on substance abuse issues. She added that anything that can be done to partner Mid-South with the courts will only strengthen us. Mr. Gallant said the goal should be to present regularly to full Board of Commissions as a way to get the word out. Ms. De Leon suggested presentations be scheduled yearly.

**Vote called on the motion. The motion carried.**

## ***OLD BUSINESS***

### ***A. Election of Officers***

Mr. Gould moved approval of the Slate of Officers for 2006 as follows: Dan Alonzi, Chair; Ken Ponds, Vice Chair; Debbie De Leon, Treasurer; and Bob Showers, Secretary be approved. Mr. Fulton supported the motion. The motion carried.

## ***PUBLIC COMMENT***

Ms. Reynolds stated she forgot to report the letter from the Calhoun TCC that was included in the board packet, which communicated their decision to not contract with Mid-South to access funding, was for information.

## ***ADJOURNMENT***

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.