

MID-SOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMISSION

**November 22, 2004 - 6:00 p.m.
Ingham County Courthouse
Board of Commissioners Room
Mason, Michigan**

M I N U T E S

PRESENT

Gail Mahoney, Chair
Mary Anderson
Shirley Carter-Johnson
Ron Clark
Debbie De Leon
Dave Elwell
Jean Golden
Larry Gould
Bob Johnson
Lisa McCafferty
Ben Miller
Tom Minter
Ken Ponds
Bill Swint
Bob Showers
Ralph Tillotson
Maxine Vanlerberg

GUESTS

Bruce Hindenach, CDRS
Bob Sweet, CDRS
Judith Cates, CEI/CSATP
Sara Lurie, EISD/PPS
Deputy Phillip Jones
Major Allen Spyke

STAFF

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

ABSENT

Dan Alonzi
Hattie Oliver

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mahoney called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Griffin called roll; 17 present and two absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

Mr. Swint moved approval of the Minutes of September 27, 2004 as presented. Mr. Clark supported the motion. The motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the Agenda.

Mr. Tillotson moved the Agenda as printed. Ms. Vanlerberg supported the motion. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Major Allen Spyke from the Ingham County Sheriff's Office addressed the Commission, thanking members for their past support of the DARE program, and asked for support for the new year in the full amount of \$73,245. He also thanked all members for the work they do.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Program Director's Association Report

Ms. Judi Cates presented the Association's report. She stated their meeting earlier in the day surrounded prevention programming and concerns voiced with prevention issues. Of particular concern was the fact that this being halfway through the first quarter, and the prevention providers have neither an approved plan nor approved budgets. She also noted the providers had concerns with efforts they have made to maintain relationships with various partners and there is no programming started. Ms. Cates also reported the providers voiced concerns with plans not being approved at initiated rates and cuts in staff at some programs. She noted these were the only issues discussed at the meeting.

B. Director's Report

In response to Ms. Cates' comments, Ms. Reynolds stated that prevention is still in the planning process; implementation plans have been received and read, and staff will make funding recommendations at the January meeting. She added that all prevention providers have been given the go ahead on goals one and two, and 1/12th of their budgeted amounts have been sent to them each month. Ms. Reynolds added their concerns are certainly legitimate, but noted there are a lot of changes in how funding will be allocated.

Ms. Reynolds commented on items mailed in the packets: the election update from Capital Services and copies of some bills currently on the table that could pass before the end of the year. She specifically noted the one that would allow retailers to sell liquor for a price above what is approved. She added if passed, this could impact the PA2 dollars, and added it appears the Governor is supportive of it. Ms. Reynolds also noted Kevin's Law, which is a dual mental health and substance abuse. She noted it would potentially provide court orders for treatment, and if it is enacted, it could be one more group we don't have money to serve. Ms. Reynolds stated the Funding Strategy drafted by MASACA has a three-pronged approach; solidify the current funding base, increase funding, and increase the beer tax. Ms. Reynolds stated she would provide updates on this initiative next month. Ms. Reynolds also stated there were two articles for information: one from the MAC Newspaper profiling Gail Mahoney, and from the Jackson Citizen Patriot on their new drug court. Lastly, Ms. Reynolds stated a sheet asking for input from Board members regarding the prevention planning process was included this evening, which she would like filled out and returned.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report **Community Grant & PA2-September**

Ms. Vanlerberg reported the Bills to be Approved for September, reflected on checks 12200 through 12462, payroll checks 4108 through 4127, and ACH 001 through 006, totaled \$670,354.44. She noted those of significance were #12200 through 12203 which were voided; 12423 to Safe Records for document disposal at the office, and #12430 to State Farm Insurance was auto insurance renewal. She continued by reporting on the Income Statement, Total Revenues for the month of \$1,986,613.52 and year-to-date of \$8,868,063.36; Total Expenses of \$1,635,758.13, resulting in Net Income for September of \$350,855.39, and year-to-date of \$(101,532.4). On the Balance Sheet, Ms. Vanlerberg reported Total Assets & Liabilities & Capital of \$5,377,070.02. She continued by reporting on the Statement of Cash Flow, the Beginning Balance of \$(3,889,808.28), the Ending Balance of \$4,445,260.11, resulting in a Net Increase in Cash of \$555,451.83.

Medicaid-September

For Medicaid, Ms. Vanlerberg reported the Bills to be Approved, which were reflected on checks 2566 through 2600, totaled \$329,032.99. On the Income Statement, she reported Total Revenues of \$131,170.90 for the month and \$2,405,901.27 year-to-date; Total Expenses of \$534,339.52 year-to-date, and Net Income for September of \$(403,168.62) and \$27,094.97 year-to-date. On the Balance Sheet, Ms. Vanlerberg reported Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$240,251.57. She continued with the Statement of Cash Flow, noting the Beginning Balance of \$(544,153.35), the Ending Balance of \$303,303.56, resulting in a Net Decrease in Cash of \$(240,849.79).

Community Grant & PA2-October

Ms. Vanlerberg reported the October Bills to be Approved, reflected on checks 12463 through 12548, ACH 007-030, totaled \$1,312,414.16. She stated this is high due to the inclusion of September payouts and October pre-payments to the providers. Total Revenues for the month \$1,057,831.47, Total Expenses were \$667,698.09, with Net Income totaling \$390,133.38. Ms. Vanlerberg reported Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$4,206,444.83, and on the Statement of Cash Flow, the Beginning Balance of \$(4,445,260.11), the Ending Balance of \$3,304,494.22, resulting in a Net Decrease in Cash of \$(1,140,765.89).

Medicaid-October

Ms. Vanlerberg reported the Bills to be Approved, reflected in checks 2601 through 2630, and totaled \$119,722.70. She continued by stating Total Revenues were \$147,554.31, Expenses totaled zero as Medicaid is one month behind, and Net Income of \$147,554.31. She further reported on the Balance Sheet, Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$252,370.26, and on the Statement of Cash Flow, the Beginning Balance of \$(303,303.56), the Ending Balance of \$316,589.25, resulting in a Net Increase in Cash of \$13,285.69.

Ms. Vanlerberg reported on the Medicaid PIHP Report, stating CEI's balance of \$(31,523.72), LifeWays balance of \$3,502.12, Venture at \$(13,480.42) and Washtenaw \$3,678.52, for an overall balance of \$(37,823.50). Ms. Vanlerberg reported that CEI will be refiguring the PEPM which will potentially provide an increase of approximately \$35,000 in the next week or so.

Ms. Vanlerberg moved approval of the September and October Treasurer's Reports as presented. Mr. Ponds supported the motion. The motion carried.

B. Program Development Committee Report

Ms. Golden reported the Committee received a program review of the Lenawee County providers. She stated both are performing up to expectations.

Ms. Golden also reported there was extensive discussion of the DARE funding request, which had been tabled from the previous month. She stated a thorough review of the proposal, data on effectiveness of the program, and review of Mid-South's prevention goals for the years 2005 through 2009 was conducted by members of the Committee. Ms. Golden cited the American Journal of Public Health which reported on 11 validated studies of DARE, and concluded it is ineffective in prevention of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among school age youth, but is highly effective in other areas in the schools, i.e., kid's relationships with police, and trust. Ms. Golden also reported a review of the availability of PA2 dollars was conducted, which concluded there are funds available under any three of the funding scenarios provided from the Ingham County Caucus. She also noted a review of potential demands not currently funded was done, adding there will be increased demand for services from the Drug Courts in Ingham County in future years. In conclusion, Ms. Golden stated the Committee recommends that DARE funding start to be weaned from the substance abuse dollars and that Ingham County be asked to fund it fully through their budget. For this year, she reported the recommendation from the Committee is to fund the Ingham County DARE Program for nine months for a total of \$54,963. Ms. Golden noted there had been considerable pressure from the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to fund at the full funding level, which the Committee recognized. She added, however, that the Committee was not concerned with politics, instead choosing to stick to the principles of the best use of substance abuse dollars in Ingham County. She added that if the Board as a whole chooses to fund it fully, she would like that funding provided with the understanding that the program will come under more scrutiny in future years. She urged the Board to consider all of what the Committee recommended when making a decision.

Ms. Golden moved to fund the Ingham County DARE Program \$54,963 for the current year, paid out of Ingham County PA2 funds. Ms. De Leon supported the motion.

Ms. Mahoney noted the Executive Committee recommended funding at the full amount of \$73,245, and opened for floor for discussion.

Mr. Minter stated in response to Mr. Miller's question that the remainder of the DARE funding comes from the county's general fund. He added that the county is going through budget difficulties, and since it is the belief this program is one that they want to preserve, it was felt to be appropriate to ask Mid-South to fund it with the PA2 dollars Ingham County provides. He added that if the partial funding passes this evening, the county would have to find \$25,000 to make up the difference. Mr. Minter also noted that it is important to remember that the \$73,245 requested is only 20-25% of the total commitment of Ingham County to the DARE program. He added that it would be difficult to carry out the program as it currently is with just 2 3/4 officers.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Board has always taken the position to do what is recommended by the representatives of the counties with regards to expenditure of the PA2 dollars, which he added is difficult this time as the county reps are divided on what to do. He asked that the county be sent a complete breakdown of the PA2 dollars that are currently spent, noting the need to cut back at some point in time to avoid spending dollars that may not be there in future years. He also stated the County Resolution asking for \$73,245 should be honored by this Board.

Mr. Clark stated that the last time DARE was funded, they were asked to look for alternative sources of funding. He stated his belief this did not happen as Mid-South is being asked to fund more than last year. He also noted the Resolution from Ingham County said to him that if the county representatives didn't honor the request for full funding, appointments to the Mid-South Board could be in jeopardy. He said he felt threatened by that statement, and didn't like that feeling.

Mr. Elwell stated he was supportive of the nine month funding level, adding the original request is a 7% increase from last year. He noted it would be defeatist for this Board to honor every request for funding that comes before it. He added it is this Board's job to decide what is effective and what is not. He also stated if the Board does what the County wants, what would

be the point of having this Board. He added his belief that funding for nine months is the right thing to do.

Ms. Carter-Johnson stated she also received a letter, and like Mr. Clark, feels threatened by its contents. She noted her job is to make decisions on substance abuse programs. She stated DARE is good for building relationships with kids, but sees nothing in the proposal to support it for substance abuse. Ms. Carter-Johnson stated she was opposed to this funding last year and still is.

Ms. De Leon stated her support for the 75% funding level, noting the issue of using substance abuse dollars on a program that cannot prove its effectiveness. She noted the demand for treatment and prevention dollars exceeds what is available, and the fact that no one knows for sure how much the Drug Courts will bill next year. If DARE is fully funded, she stated there will be less dollars to meet the demand for treatment services.

Mr. Minter noted that three years ago that it was pointed out to the Ingham County Sheriff's Office that the Clinton County DARE program was mostly funded through a state grant, and they were told to see if they could secure similar funding. He stated this funding is no longer available, and through reports from the Law Enforcement Committee and discussions with the Undersheriff, they have tried unsuccessfully to secure other funding. Mr. Minter also asked how many of currently funded programs have the ability to get measurable outcomes or have effectiveness measures in place. He added his concern that this Board would want a more precise outcome measure for DARE while not holding the same standard for other programs funded with PA2 dollars.

Mr. Clark stated this issue was discussed at the Program Development Committee, and DARE shows no evidence of moving towards risk and protective factors, which is the direction prevention programming is going.

Ms. Golden stated in conclusion that the Committee has done their work, that outcomes are needed for every program funded by Mid-South. She added that as long as she is on the Program Development Committee, this standard will be applied to all programs that come for funding. She lastly stated that this Board will be enablers if it allows programming that is ineffective to continue.

Mr. Elwell requested a roll call vote on the motion.

Vote was called on the motion to approve nine month funding for the Ingham county DARE Program, totaling \$54,963, paid from Ingham County PA2 funds. The motion carried by a vote of 9 to 8 with Carter-Johnson, Clark, Golden, De Leon, Elwell, Gould, Miller, and Tillotson and Mahoney voting yes, and Anderson, Johnson, McCafferty, Minter, Ponds, Swint, Vanlerberg and Showers voting no.

Ms. Golden reported the Committee also reviewed the funding proposal from the Lansing Teen Court, who is seeking continuation funding for the upcoming year in the amount of \$25,000, plus asking for an additional \$56,000 for two staff positions. She stated discussion on this request was similar to that for the DARE proposal; was this a substance abuse program or one that serves larger issues or needs. After lengthy discussion, Ms. Golden stated the Committee's recommendation is to deny the new funding request, approve the continuation funding for \$25,000, and for the program to return with a proposal showing a proportional funding base relative to actual substance abuse clients served for consideration.

Ms. Golden moved to deny the additional funding request from the Lansing Teen Court for \$56,000, and to approve the continuation funding level of \$25,000, paid from Ingham County PA2 funds. Mr. Clark supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Golden reported the Committee also reviewed the proposed RFP for treatment services in Ionia County, which will be issued to find a provider to replace Life Guidance.

Ms. Golden moved acceptance of the RFP for treatment services in Ionia County and that it be let out. Mr. Miller supported the motion. The motion carried.

Lastly, noting the difficult issues before the Commission and new goals for prevention services, there was discussion at the Program Development Committee to hold a Board Retreat to discuss planning for the future and strategic planning. She noted the Committee encouraged this to occur early in 2005.

Ms. Golden moved to authorize the Executive Director to move forward to plan a Board Retreat for early in 2005. Ms. De Leon supported the motion. The motion carried.

C. Executive-Personnel-Finance Committee Report

Ms. Mahoney reported the first item of discussion was a funding request from the ODCP for the 2005 Rally to be held at Ford Field. She stated the Committee's recommendation is to deny the request as MASACA is contributing \$5,000, and it was felt the Commission's MASACA dues are sufficient.

Mr. Johnson moved to deny the funding request from the ODCP for the 2005 Substance Abuse Rally. Mr. Miller supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney next reported three funding requests came before the Committee; from the Hillsdale MPCB, \$220; Calhoun MPCB, \$1,000; and Eaton MPCB, \$1,000. She stated all were recommended for funding.

Mr. Johnson moved the funding requests from the Hillsdale MPCB for \$220, Calhoun MPCB for \$1,000, and Eaton MPCB for \$1,000, all paid from the local fund balance. Mr. Showers supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney stated the Committee reviewed the funding proposal from CEI to increase the Co-Occurring Case Manager position to 75%, or \$64,188. She noted this position was cut 2 months ago and this funding would restore some of that funding. The Committee's recommendation is to approve the request. She also noted that CEI was being encouraged to find the additional 25% to bring the position to full funding.

Mr. Showers moved approval of the funding request from CEI for the Co-Occurring Case Manager position, increasing it to 75% of the original request, for a total of \$64,188, paid from Ingham County PA2 funds. Mr. Miller supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney reported the Executive Committee did not have time for discussion on the AAR services, which was requested by Mr. Johnson. She stated staff collected data on what other coordinating agencies are charging, and Mid-South's total is 7.76% of our funding goes towards the CDR services. She also noted the handout lists all functions of the CDR. There was no discussion.

Ms. Mahoney commented on the Newaygo PA2 questions. She noted there has been correspondence back and forth between the county administrator and Mid-South's Executive Director to try and clarify what the PA2 dollars are used for, and what was agreed to at the time Newaygo County joined the region. She lastly added this is another reason there should be a Board Retreat.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Mahoney reported the Commission needs to ratify the decision of the Executive Committee to hire the audit firm of Foote and Lloyd to conduct the Commission's annual audit for a three year period. She indicated Committee members were polled in October.

Mr. Minter moved ratification of the Executive Committee decision to hire the audit firm of Foote and Lloyd to conduct the Commission's annual audit for a three year period. Mr. Tillotson supported the motion.

Mr. Johnson stated his belief that it's good policy to change auditors occasionally, and that seven years is too long a time for one auditor.

Vote called on the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Swint voting no.

Ms. Mahoney asked members about meeting in December; traditionally meetings are cancelled. All agreed to not meet again until January.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. McCafferty asked for an update on the school surveys. Ms. Reynolds responded that approximately 45% of the schools in our region are on board, which is good for the first year. She added there are some gaps, especially in Ionia and Jackson counties, and we have yet to hear from one large district. Ms. Mahoney encouraged members to sit on the coalitions that will be established in each county.

Major Allen Spyke thanked the Board for their consideration and for the thoughtful deliberation that went into the decision-making process.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.