

MID-SOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMISSION

March 22, 2004 - 6:00 p.m.
Michigan High School Athletic Association
1661 Ramblewood Drive
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Gail Mahoney, Chair
Dan Alonzi
Mary Balberde
Debbie De Leon
Dave Elwell
Jean Golden
Larry Gould
Lisa McCafferty
Ben Miller
Tom Minter
Hattie Oliver
Ken Ponds
Bill Swint
Bob Showers
Ralph Tillotson
Maxine Vanlerberg

ABSENT:

Shirley Carter-Johnson
Ron Clark
Bob Johnson

GUESTS:

Sara Lurie, EISD/PPS
John Roy Castillo, Cristo Rey
Salomon Frausto, Cristo Rey
Judith Cates, CEI/CMH
Kathy Davis, Child & Family Services
Robert Bonds, Jr., SPGB Services
Bruce Hindenach, CDRS
Barbara O'Connor, Bridgeway-Jackson
Richard Ney, Life Guidance Services
Rod Macdonald, NCA/LRA
Larry Salstrom, NCA/LRA Board

STAFF:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mahoney called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Alonzi called roll; 16 present and three absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2004

Mr. Showers moved approval of the Minutes of February 23, 2004 as presented. Mr. Swint supported the motion. The motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Added under Executive Committee Report Item 4A, Audit Letter Repayment.

Mr. Tillotson moved approval of the Agenda as amended. Mr. Swint supported the motion. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Program Director's Association Report

Ms. Kathy Davis reported on behalf of the Association, reporting that their last meeting included discussion of the new 55th District Court Drug Court. She stated this discussion surrounded possible implications for providers, and those in attendance were encouraged to participate if they could. Ms. Davis also reported an update of activities taking place, which include those surrounding Alcohol Awareness Month. She added that NCA/LRA in Ingham County and Bridgeway in Jackson have activities planned. In addition to Alcohol Awareness Month activities, Ms. Davis noted NCA/LRA has established an IOP program for methadone clients. Ms. Davis also reported on the prevention providers update on the Pathways training they recently attended. News from other providers included Bridgeway's new jail diversion program in conjunction with Mid-South and LifeWays; Child & Family Services's submission of their grant renewal application (Ms. Davis noted the program achieved 40% of its goals in the grant); and Cristo Rey's new coordinator, who attended his first meeting.

B. Director's Report

Ms. Reynolds briefly reviewed the following correspondence, which was provided for information: a thank-you letter from Jackson County 211 for funding provided; a newspaper article concerning a 12 year old in Jackson who was expelled from school for selling drugs; Prevention Partners grant announcement; a mother facing charges for providing alcohol to minors at a party in her home, and an article regarding former Board Member and current Hillsdale County Board Chairman Ken Lautzenheiser.

Ms. Reynolds stated the request from the Clinton County MPCB will be referred to the Executive Committee.

Ms. Reynolds stated the letter from Prevention Partners regarding repayment of their cash advance will be referred to the Executive Committee for discussion and the possible establishment of a sub-committee to review the request in-depth.

Ms. Reynolds reported that although no official letter has been received, she has been notified the State received a Methamphetamine grant, and Mid-South will be one of the coordinating agencies receiving funding from it. She added that Jackson has one of the highest methamphetamine rates in the state, and as much as \$70,000 may be received to develop model prevention programming. Ms. Reynolds continued by stating it needs to be decided how to use these dollars to pay attention to high risk areas. Formal recommendations will be developed by staff and brought back to the Commission at a future meeting. She added that a community-wide advisory group will need to be developed to make programming recommendations.

Ms. Reynolds expressed her thanks to members who have been serving on sub-committees which have met to discuss issues at NCA and CEI.

Ms. Reynolds reported a new contract will be forthcoming with LifeWays for their jail diversion program for co-occurring clients; Bridgeway-Jackson will be assisting with this program.

Ms. Reynolds also reported staff have been working in Gratiot County with their new co-

occurring grant received with Human Aid. She added the State is pushing for the development of additional co-occurring services statewide.

Ms. Golden commented on the article about the 12 year old expelled from school for selling drugs, stating this should not be glossed over, and it could be useful to obtain further information on the entire issue. She noted this is happening to more and more younger children. She also stated her belief it doesn't do a lot of good to expel children from school. Ms. Golden specifically requested information on numbers of youth expelled for drug or alcohol problems as opposed to offering alternatives to expulsion. Ms. Reynolds acknowledged staff could provide that information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report for February 2004

Ms. Vanlerberg began by presenting the Bills to be Approved for community grant, reflected in checks 11839 through 11923, which totaled \$708,248.04. She reported from the Income Statement Total Revenues for the month of \$20,003.61 and \$2,025,051.36 year-to-date. Ms. Vanlerberg also reported five counties have sent PA2 revenues in. For the CA budget, Ms. Vanlerberg reported Total Expenses of \$16,964.80 for February and \$73,253.45 year-to-date, which is a 39.17% spend down. She reported Total Other PA 2 Expenses of \$500 for the month, State and PA2 Funded Sub-contracts expenses of \$2,204,353.44 year-to-date, Other Sub-Contracts Expenses of \$4,149.87 for the month and \$163,638.08 year-to-date, and Total Expenses of \$89,313.69 for the month, which resulted in Net Income for February of (\$69,310.08) and year-to-date of (\$731,915.25). Ms. Vanlerberg reported Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$3,906,401.97, and from the Statement of Cash Flow a Net Decrease in Cash of (\$668,758.43) for the month.

For Medicaid, Ms. Vanlerberg reported from the Bills to be Approved a total of \$184,173.32 was paid out, reflected in checks 2335 through 2367. She further reported Total Revenues of \$216,185.14, Total Expenses of 182,798.32, resulting in Net Income for the month of \$33,386.82. Ms. Vanlerberg reported Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$552,900.71, and a Net Increase in Cash of \$47,540.59.

Ms. Vanlerberg moved approval of the treasurer's Reports for February 2004 as presented. Mr. Showers supported the motion. The motion carried.

B. Program Development Committee Report

Ms. Golden reported the Committee received a program review of NCA/Lansing Regional Area in Ingham County. She stated they received very high scores in service delivery and financial reporting efficiency. She noted there were some small issues with treatment plans, which have since been rectified. Overall, she stated this is a quality program.

Ms. Golden also noted the Committee reviewed a proposal to overhaul the current Health Care Study Project. She briefly reported the study produced results from 265 clients from October 28, 2000 through March 5, 2004, which found the clients generally gave high marks to their treatment and the programs providing it. Ms. Golden stated what is proposed is to implement changes, scheduled to begin on May 1, 2004, which will improve the amount and validity of data collected. She further explained clients will be initiated at the time of their assessment once a release is signed, then contacted again within 30-45 days, with intervals after that time of 60 days, 6 months, 9-10 months, 12 months and 12-24 months. Ms. Golden lastly added the new study will use new tools and will produce longer term outcome data.

Ms. Golden also reported the Committee had an interesting presentation from CDRS on the Mid-South authorization process. She added it would be good for all Commission members to

see this presentation at some point.

Ms. Golden stated the Committee reviewed and recommend the Prevention School Survey for approval to explore participation by all schools in the region. This survey would produce much needed data for risk and protective factors and would be shared with the schools when finished.

Ms. Golden stated the Committee also reviewed a request from NCA/LRA for funding consideration to assist with activities surrounding Alcohol Awareness Month, which is in April. She added NCA is organizing activities in Ingham County and the funding will assist in those endeavors.

Lastly, Ms. Golden reported she had been elected as Chair of the Program Development Committee, with Mr. Clark being Vice-Chair.

C. Executive Committee Report

Ms. Mahoney reported the Committee received a request from staff regarding employee benefits, noting Health Insurance costs are set to increase significantly at renewal. She stated that after review, the recommendation is for staff to pay an additional 2% of the premium cost (up to 6% from the current 4%) and increase the prescription co-pay, with the result being a net increase in cost to the Commission of \$5,240 per year.

Mr. Showers moved approval of the staff recommendation to increase of the employee contribution for health insurance to 6%, for the increase in the prescription co-pay, and approval of the funding allocation for health benefits. Mr. Miller supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney reported the Executive Committee also reviewed the Prevention School Survey funding request, and recommend its approval. She added the data will be useful when applying for grants, and will be shared with others as needed.

Mr. Elwell moved approval of the Prevention School Survey funding request of \$91,000 in MDCH funding. Mr. Swint supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney also reported the Committee recommends the NCA Alcohol Awareness Funding request for approval.

Ms. Golden moved approval of the NCA Alcohol Awareness Funding Request for \$730 paid from Ingham County PA2 dollars. Ms. Vanlerberg supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney reported the request from the Ionia County MPCB for \$1,000 was the same amount as is given to other MPCB's and the committee recommends its approval.

Mr. Swint moved approval of the Ionia County MPCB request for \$1,000, paid from the local fund balance. Mr. Alonzi supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney reported the Committee reviewed a letter received from MDCH regarding audit findings. She stated some issues in the letter are moot points since the cash advance needs to be repaid by October 1, 2004. The letter also indicates Mid-South was overpaid \$1,519, which is correct, and the funds will be repaid. Ms. Mahoney further stated another issue requiring a response is the state's questioning of the PA2 dollars received by the Commission. Ms. Reynolds added these are county dollars not within the purview of the State, so their use should not be addressed. She also stated the State does not appear to understand that these dollars are given in one year to be spent in the following year, plus when the State looked at them, one of our counties had paid two years together, so the balance in that particular account was

inflated.

Mr. Tillotson moved approval for Mid-South to send back \$1,519 in overpayment to the State, and to address the other issues in the letter. Mr. Miller supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mahoney noted that five counties have remitted their PA2 dollars and urged the others to encourage their counties to get theirs in soon.

Ms. Mahoney stated the Committee received an update from members of the sub-committee looking at the CEI supplemental funding request. She reported that data provided to the sub-committee at their meeting was insufficient to determine what the actual amount of unreimbursed care was, so staff are gathering additional data to try and determine the amount in question. Ms. Mahoney also reported another issue coming from that meeting was a request to look at the authorization process and how it works. She stated a work group consisting of Commission staff, CDRS, some providers, Lisa McCafferty and herself will convene in the near future to look at this and bring a recommendation back to the full Commission.

Ms. Mahoney also reported there was an update from the sub-committee established to look at NCA/LRA's cash advance situation, and their inability to repay it by October 1, 2004. Mr. Minter reported as a member of that sub-committee that another meeting will be scheduled to determine the feasibility of granting the program a loan for the repayment. He indicated the program has taken several steps to improve their revenue flow and reduce expenses, and are considering reorganization efforts also. He added that they do need immediate approval for a lower pay back amount for March, which is scheduled to be approximately \$13,000; they are asking for a payback amount of \$2,500 in April.

Mr. Minter moved approval to reduce the amount NCA/LRA has to repay towards their cash advance for the month of April 2004 from \$13,000 to \$2,500. Ms. De Leon supported the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Tillotson voting no.

Mr. Showers motioned to move to a closed session for purpose of conducting the Executive Director's annual evaluation. Mr. Gould supported the motion.

Ms. Mahoney suggested the Commission take public comment at this time so guests could leave if they wished.

Ms. Davis spoke in response to Ms. Golden's comments on school expulsion for alcohol related incidents. She indicated most schools suspend the offenders and refer them for a substance abuse evaluation.

A roll call vote was taken for moving to closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

Members retreated to closed session at 7:15 p.m.

Members returned from closed session at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Minter moved the Boards recommendation for the Executive Director's compensation and contract extension beginning in March of 2004 through March 2006. Mr. Showers supported the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

