



MINUTES: Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition General Meeting
 Meridian Police Department, Media Room or *Zoom
 1401 E Watertower St, Meridian, ID 83642
 January 15, 2026 | 4-5PM

24 ATTENDEES: (15 In-person) Kendall Nagy, Hailey Blogg, Earl Scharff, Katherine Holderness, David Phillips, Jacob Cluff, Anne Little-Roberts, Christy Boyes, Neven Lusambe, Syler Maben, Caylee May, Terry Austin, Kati Chauvin, Monte Stiles, Tiffany Meyers **(9 Via Zoom)** Vanessa Vejar, Lily Huntington, Brenda Willson, Tia Matlock, Caleb Matlock, Cheryl Mulvihill, Stephanie Hamilton-Rubio, Brenda Jones, Robert Rodriguez

TIME	SPEAKER AGENDA ITEMS	NOTES
4:00	Kendall Nagy, Director: Additions to Agenda? Welcome & Introductions	(all) sign-in, introductions
4:10	Guest Speaker: Monte Stiles	<p>Legislative update for 2026 session. (Kendall) Today we have Monte Stiles here to discuss the upcoming legislative session. He is a retired federal drug prosecutor and a huge prevention advocate. (Monte) Good news – we live in Idaho and MADC is one of the longest standing coalitions in Idaho. I left the PA’s office 14 years ago. Because of my federal job I knew the consequences of drugs. I wasn’t allowed to talk to anyone about the consequences of drugs, and I had more of a desire to talk about prevention, so I left. I do a lot of volunteer work but also spend a lot of time with legislators. I am not a lobbyist; I just want to help. I tell people we need to prepare for things and prepare for bad legislation. As a result, I have got to know a lot of the legislators. We have great leaders that advance ideas for drug policies and protect us from bad legislation. Over the last 15 years, Idaho has beaten every (marijuana related) voter initiative that has been presented. They are beaten even before they get on the ballot. For anyone who wants to start an initiative, the purposed law has to circulate throughout Idaho and 70k signatures are needed to get it on the ballot, for the public to then vote on. The initiative can be whatever the people want, it’ll get on there – doesn’t need to be well thought out. Most of the (marijuana legalization) bills in other states have become law through a voter initiative. Idaho has won primarily, because we have successfully kept them from getting enough signatures to get it on the ballot. (Kendall) This is in the context of marijuana legalization. (Monte) Yes. That’s the reason why others have won, in regards to marijuana. America has been brainwashed when it comes to this drug. There is a lot of funding backing marijuana. We have lost the battle of educating that marijuana is bad. If you ask most Idahoans if they think Idaho should allow sick people to get Marijuana medicine through their doctor, most people say yes. Think of this regarding a school doing a Red Ribbon Week (RRW) rally for example, one RRW rally speaker is not going to undo 365 days of popular culture (misinformation) in the schools. It does not take one time talking about it to change student’s perspective. We don’t have enough money to do it very well. Pro-marijuana will spend millions; in Idaho there has been \$0 to help with anti-marijuana legislation. It’s mainly drug prevention groups that are grant-funded, and they are not allowed to say vote for this or don’t vote for this. Pro-marijuana groups have lobbyists, attorneys, and lots of money. Idaho has protected ourselves by not passing bad bills and passing helpful bills. We have been saved by never getting on the ballot. Every western state from New Mexico to the west, can document through records \$100M pushed to legalize marijuana. Florida just passed a recreational marijuana initiative and \$150M was spent, TruLeave Pot Co spent most of that. (Robert) Once the</p>



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		<p>ballot initiative has reached the 70k signatures, does it need to pass by a certain percentage? (Monte) Yes, 51%. (David) Simple majority. (Monte) A big group that pushes a (marijuana) ballot initiative is Kind Idaho. They are very passionate about legalization, but they haven't been very organized. Last September something very new happened. A new group, Natural Medicine Alliance of Idaho (NMAI), filed a new ballot initiative, unlike Kind Idaho, this one was more of a bill. It is better written, this group already has a lobbyist, communication firm, attorneys, and 375K in the bank. Idaho has never seen this before. Instead of relying on volunteers to get signatures, they are paying people up to \$5 a signature. A person can go to downtown Boise to signature gather and they would make \$5 for every person who signed the petition. In front of BSU, I saw a signature gatherer with a sign that said gummies for grandma. They get people to sign and they get money. Instead of volunteers, there is a crew with great financial incentive. Idaho does not have money to pay people, not even to put out ads. (Kati) Do you know what type of population demographic they are hiring? (Monte) Anyone who needs a job. They must be adults and an Idaho resident. Think of people who like weed, they could make more money during the signature gathering than they would all year. It's big money. This group out of the blue has money. If we don't stop at the signature gathering stage, millions more will come in. Why is this important? Do not take part in political battles, if you care about education you don't want to be deceived about what helps them and hurts them in their lives. This is a controversial opinion I have – we have lost this battle in most states because we follow the same bad advice. There are very few national leaders that fight this battle and the ones that do use bad tactics. Their strategies have caused us to lose in most states. Strategies put out at each national conference, say the same things repeatedly and they've lost. Idaho's approach is warriors and strategies, we understand how the battle works. How to fight against people who lie and cheat and steal. Do you think anyone in the country asks Idaho to teach about this? Never! It challenged their position in the kingdom because someone says that is not how we do it. Here's how I can help – because we are so far behind in education about marijuana, it is very difficult to get people to change people to hear and change their mind is extremely hard. The evidence is piling up showing the harm of legalization. We must approach this a different way. One of the things you must inform them about is what's included in the initiative. Their only plan is to get on the ballot and people only sign because it's gummies for grandma. We have to educate what it really entails to legalize marijuana. Health and Welfare is going to be in charge of growing and selling weed if this passes. What about the taxes for this program? Medical marijuana, means products like "Jack the Ripper, AK47, etc. A gram of pure THC is as valuable as gold. People don't know this. They don't know the money behind it. Don't you think Idahoans will be upset to know where the money comes from? "NMAI donates all this money" – do people really know what that means? (Kendall) The acronym looks similar to NAMI, which stands for the National Alliance on Mental Illness. (Monte) A fact Idaho needs to know, the attorney that filed this is a lobbyist for hemp farmers. Guess what is written in the bill? If medical marijuana passes, hemp farmers are the first in line to be the medical pot growers. Do you think people know that? Don't you think people would be interested to</p>
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		<p>know? Wouldn't people want to know one of these people is the primary source of this bill? \$.12 a pound for hemp will generate \$800 a pound for pot. You know what medical malpractice is? This bill says pot doctors cannot be sued, people who grow pot can't be sued. The entire industry is protected. Why would a pot doc have protections that normal docs don't have? When you normalize drug use, crime goes up. Places that have legalized pot are filled with cartels. President Trump recently announced moving marijuana from Schedule 1, to Schedule 3. That means marijuana would be in the same classification as Tylenol, steroids, etc. When a president campaigned on law and order, for him to say we are rescheduling marijuana, I was shocked and sad. When he was on the news, he said a lot of things kids could hear. He said things that can hurt Idaho. I don't think it could happen, because it is ridiculous. It won't pass the test to get rescheduled. I believe he will hit major roadblocks. (Kendall) Idaho congressional delegates sent a signed letter against it. (Monte) Hopefully it will be stopped, and I'm confident we'll beat this ballot for another year. Every year we can delay, we can protect Idaho. If you want to get involved, let elected officials know where you stand on this topic. Years ago, Association of Idaho Cities (AIC) and Counties were mammoth leaders. (Kendall) AIC had a drug prevention subcommittee that former Mayor Tammy led. (Monte) We need to restructure. (Earl) With the requirement for 70k signatures, does there need to be a certain amount from each county? (Monte) Yes 6% in 18 of the 35 legislative districts. One of the strategies that the counties that are less likely to stop. (David) I just want to sit with a sign of everything we talked about, where people are trying to get signatures. (Kati) How awesome would it be to get youth to do this? (Monte) They (signature gatherers) are allowed to lie to get the signatures. (David) The people I've run into, they are nice. (Monte) If anyone is interested in working, please let us know. (Jake) One party consent state, you can film. (Monte) If you want advice on what you can do, come talk to me. Email me. (Kendall) We let people know what the education needs to be and we can share that.</p>
<p>4:40</p>	<p>Executive Committee, Sector Representatives (SRs) Kati, Government SR: multiple updates</p> <p>Caylee, Youth SR: no updates</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SR Action Items</p> <p>(Kendall) For time purposes we will just hear updates from people that provided updates via email. (Kati) Central District Health (CDH) is partnering with the Bridge on February 5th. The Bridge has received a few calls needing resources. Parents/guardians in one room and youth in another room. I am also doing a virtual Parent/Guardian presentation on 2/23. I was also disappointed to hear about the marijuana rescheduling. Hailey and I will be presenting at the Idaho Support and Prevention Conference on nicotine and caffeine pouches, CDH is offering scholarships for people to attend that conference. Email me if you are interested. Courtney Boyce shared a Millennium Health article with the group. Most notable marijuana use increases were in young people and females. The article also supports an opportunity for upstream prevention in a lot of ways, with parents and guardians. Maybe Courtney could be the MADC speaker for February? (Caylee) Dawn Tolan, created an Idaho Drug Free Youth (IDFY) chapter for Mountain View HS. We have a planning meeting to get people at school involved. IDFY will be at an event at school, March 10th. I did Natural High pics with Monte.</p>

	Earl, Parent SR: hemp retailer on Fairview no longer there	(Earl) sent out Dec. newsletter info to other schools so that information is getting out. I drove past the Golden Nugget CBD shop on Fairview, and it appears to be out of business.
4:50	Hailey Blogg, Secretary: 11/20/2025 General Meeting Minutes vote (sent out via email) MS Lunches NH Booths Children’s Winterland Festival CATCH My Breath Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Training Battle of the Bolt volunteer needed	(Secretary) record attendees, take minutes; special attention to action items & votes (all) vote to amend or approve minutes- motion, second, all in favor, anyone opposed? (Hailey) Motion for minutes, 1 st - Kati , 2 nd - Anne, all in favor. Been attending most of the middle schools within West Ada doing a Natural High photo booth. Those will pick back up in the spring. Been a great opportunity to get in front of the student body. Children’s Winterland Festival, tagged along with Meridian Police Department and provided drug prevention resources to parents while their children did a craft. CATCH My Breath, renewed my certifications and will be a Trainer for 2026. I am currently going through the CADCA National Coalition Academy Training. It is for 3 weeks with webinars each week and there is a large project I must complete by August. I will be looking forward to hearing your feedback soon because your perspective is important. (Caylee) What is CADCA? (Kendall) CADCA stands for Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, and the National Academy training is an intensive training that helps find resources and tools to keep our coalition sustainable. (Hailey) Battle of the Bolt this Saturday with Tiffany and Kati, would like one volunteer if possible, to run the Natural High Booth with me.
4:55	Kendall: interim position, kratom, CEC meeting in Feb. (bylaw review and sector rep. renewals)	(all) Thank you to Katie R., Christy B., Jake C., for helping in the schools, and to all those who helped at Meridian Food Bank! (Kendall) Does anyone else have any updates? (Tia) I’ve been super busy emailing legislative representatives. Two are interested in introducing a bill relating to Kratom. There is one lobbyist who is strong from the AKA (American Kratom Association). One rep. in District 12, if he writes up the bill, we will let you know. (Kendall) Thank you Tia, this shows that having the conversations is working. (Jake) Mark Sauter District 1 will introduce some type of age restriction for Kratom. D12 rep., Jaron Crane is pushing a ban on Kratom sales at gas stations. Mark, wants to do an age restriction (21 or older), he thinks an outright ban would not be heard at this time and would not have the votes to pass. (Kendall) There have been changes in leadership at Mayor’s office and I am serving as interim Chief of Staff. This will be no longer than 6 months. We will have a decision sooner rather than later and share any updates as soon as we can.
	Open Discussion: Unaltered State: Video Contest for Youth 12-18, Classroom Tools	Learn More: CDH Parent/Guardian Virtual Presentation Feb 23rd
5:04pm Adjourn Meeting		Next MADC Meetings February 19, 2026: CEC Meeting at 3PM and General Meeting at 4PM