

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 22, 2016**

**\*\*\* Approved \*\*\***

**Members Present:**

Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair  
Yvonne Brantley  
Jeffrie Cape  
James Fink  
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines  
Jacqueline Schafer

**Members Absent:**

Hon. Jeffrey Sauter

**Staff Present:**

Debi Cain, Executive Director  
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary  
Donna Cornwell  
Debbie Felder-Smith  
Carol Hackett Garagiola  
Sarah Heuser  
Gail Krieger  
Mary Lovik  
Sandra Pilgrim-Lewis  
Karen Porter

**Guests:**

John Lazet – Attorney General  
Bruce Noll – Department of Health and Human Services

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair C. Sullivan convened the January 22, 2016 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Library of Michigan – Lake Superior Room in Lansing, Michigan at 2:10 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

**BOARD CONSENT**

Review of agenda and approval of November 19, 2015 meeting minutes.

**MOTION: Moved by J. Schafer to approve the January 22, 2016 agenda and to approve the November 19, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Y. Brantley. Motion carried.**

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

C. Sullivan said Hon. Jeffrey Sauter could not attend this month's Board meeting due to his chemotherapy schedule.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE**

D. Cain called attention to an article by Wayne Carlson at MCOLES on how adults learn. This same

learning model is used by MCOLES in their domestic and sexual violence training for law enforcement. This is but one example of good work being done by our state partners.

D. Cain thanked S. Heuser, M. Lovik, M. Bobbitt and J. Giddings for helping assemble the latest manual which shows the work the Board has done from January 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015. S. Heuser provided an overview of the manual to the Board members. S. Heuser said that this is the best manual that has been assembled to date because the layout is much better than previous editions. She explained each of the individual sections and noted that PowerPoint presentations given to people other than the Board are collected in a separate binder as well as in electronic format. She said that all the manual resources are available to Board members upon request. D. Cain said it is important to keep an archive of the work that has been accomplished and emphasized the manual is a valuable resource for compiling grants.

D. Cain noted two articles provided to Board members. The first article was from the Washington Post entitled “Sexual Violence Isn’t Just a College Problem. It Happens in K12 Schools, Too” The article cited a high school case in Sterling Heights, Michigan. The second entitled “Notifying Sexual Assault Victims After Testing Evidence” published by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). It includes information on the Detroit and Houston Projects, and includes some of the work the Board, in collaboration with Becki Campbell and Kym Worthy, over the past five years.

D. Cain said T. Martinez is working on a renewal of the Family Justice Grant, formerly known as the Safe Havens Supervised Visitation Grant. Only 25 of these grants will be awarded nationwide. The grant involves three projects in Washtenaw, Kent and Saginaw counties which each have supervised visitation programs for domestic and sexual violence. Under the new grant terms, there must also be a court related systems change element. The Board took the element of the Safe & Together Model and asked David Mandel to write a new curriculum for Friend of the Court workers, custody evaluators and court personnel. The grant would begin in 2017 and span three years. The Family Court judges in the three counties all signed on, along with the Michigan Judicial Institute, BISCMI and MCEDSV.

M. Bynum is also currently writing an application for the Rural Grant which has reduced funding by 50%. The Rural Grant is being written only for the eight upper-peninsula programs, which would each receive approximately \$20,000 per year for three years. The Rural Grant application includes the Houghton program providing a 1-800 number for both domestic and sexual violence which will cover the entire upper-peninsula.

D. Cain called attention to the memorandum from the Office of Internal Audit Services regarding the Child Advocacy Centers. The Board is legislated to be responsible for the Child Advocacy Center fund that is collected from criminal fees. Typically about \$900,000 per year is collected into the fund which is disbursed, per state legislation, to nationally accredited Child Advocacy Centers. The legislation requires that the Board submit an audit of those funds to the state legislature by February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**MOTION: Moved by J. Cape to approve the audit so that it can be submitted to state legislature on behalf of the Board. Motion seconded by Y Brantley. Motion carried.**

## **LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

M. Lovik reported on SB 629, which would provide for termination of parental rights of a child conceived by actions for which a parent has been convicted of, or found to have committed, criminal sexual conduct.

**MOTION: Moved by J. Schafer to support in concept, but suggest that a separate, stand-alone process be developed (perhaps under the Revocation of Paternity Act) for sexual assault victims to request termination of parental rights of assailants whose actions result in conception of a child. Motion seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried.**

G. Krieger reported about continuing work on proposed Board amendments to MCL 768.27a, approved by the Board in the October Board meeting. G. Krieger said staff had a meeting with the House Majority staff regarding these changes and were asked if the Board wanted to amend MCL 768.27b to remove the provision that excludes evidence of other acts that are more than 10 years old. After a short discussion, the Board recommended against this change to MCL 768.27b.

D. Cain corresponded with Mike Rizzo of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and learned about the forming of a round table group on body cameras as it relates to domestic violence through the Department of Justice's, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). M. Lovik will attend the round table in February. D. Cain said M. Lovik and C. Hackett Garagiola have collected a lot of information from state and national sources on the use of body cameras. After attending the round table group in February, M. Lovik proposed convening a one-time stakeholder meeting to discuss body camera issues. For the next Board meeting in February, M. Lovik asked the Board to think about which stakeholders might attend the one-time stakeholder meeting. She said that up to three Board members may also attend without violating the Open Meetings Act.

C. Hackett Garagiola is looking at research on what the impact is on survivors at the scene of the crime if victims know they are being recorded with a body camera. C. Hackett Garagiola said she is concerned about the dissemination of the body camera recordings. J. Lazet said Article 1, Section 4 of the Michigan Constitution states that crime victims, as defined by law, shall have the right to be treated with fairness and respect for their dignity and privacy throughout the criminal justice process. He said crime victims have a vested constitutional civil right to privacy and that a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) officer may not be the proper entity to handle body camera evidence in cases of domestic and sexual violence.

## **BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

J. Fink recently learned that a convicted rapist was up for parole. To protect the victim, J. Fink contacted D. Cain, J. Lazet, and Capt. Michaud about the situation, and the assailant's parole was reversed. J. Fink said this is a terrific example of people working at the state level reaching out to help real people.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No comments

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:41 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Bobbitt