

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 18, 2016**

***** Approved *****

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Debi Cain, Executive Director
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary
Gail Krieger
Mary Lovik
Karen Porter
Lore Rogers

Guests:

John Lazet – Attorney General's Office
Dawn Mack – Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Court

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair C. Sullivan convened the March 18, 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 January 22, 2016 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Moved by L. Hines to approve the March 18, 2016 agenda and to approve the January 22, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

C. Sullivan said that J. Sauter has resigned from the Board. C. Sullivan shared with Board members the wonderful article PAAM printed about J. Sauter. Board and staff agreed that J. Sauter will be greatly missed.

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

D. Cain said that M. Lovik and C. Hackett-Garagiola attended a forum on body-worn cameras in February convened by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. M. Lovik said that the forum was attended by a nationwide group of about 60 police, prosecutors, and advocacy professionals. The purpose of the roundtable was to identify issues affecting survivors of domestic and sexual violence that arise from the use of body-worn cameras. M. Lovik said there was a consensus that body-worn camera policies need to address these issues primarily on a local level. A report will be compiled that identifies all the different thoughts and perspectives that were shared at the forum. D. Cain said that although body-worn camera

policies have a significant impact on survivors, there has been little actual discussion of victims' perspectives on their use. D. Cain further noted C. Hackett Garagiola, who attended as a representative for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, was the only representative from the judiciary.

L. Rogers reported on the status of the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission ("the Commission"). The Commission met for the first time on July 20, 2015 and agreed to meet again on October 2, 2015, January 15, 2016, April 15, 2016 and June 15, 2016. At the second commission meeting on October 2, 2015, the Commission formed three working committees, one to develop a plan for a statewide tracking system with electronic access for victims, one to develop a plan for auditing ongoing submissions of sexual assault evidence kits, and one to develop a plan for auditing the stockpiled kits throughout the state. All committees have met several times and it is anticipated that a draft report and recommendations from each committee will be submitted to the full Commission for review and discussion at its April 15th meeting. Feedback from the Commission will be taken back to the committees and a combined final report and recommendations will be presented to the commission at the June meeting for approval before distribution to the legislature and the Governor by July 20, 2016.

G. Krieger reported on her work facilitating the pilot kit tracking project being conducted by the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division in Washtenaw County and Grand Rapids. G. Krieger demonstrated how this web based tracking program is being used in the pilot to track a sexual assault evidence kit by healthcare, law enforcement, and the MSP lab. The pilot is not testing the electronic access for victims at this point, it is focusing on these other parts first, but the plan is to test the victim access portal in the future. L. Rogers previously assisted the Wayne County Prosecutors Office with their UPS pilot.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

M. Lovik reported on SB 858, which would amend Michigan's Revocation of Paternity Act to allow mothers who had conceived a child as a result of criminal sexual conduct to petition the court for a declaration that the assault perpetrator is not the father of the child.

MOTION: Moved by J. Fink that the Board support SB 858 as introduced. Moved further to direct that staff suggest the following amendments:

- 1. Specify that a mother may request a court to declare that a person who has been convicted of criminal sexual conduct against her is not the father of a child conceived as a result of that conduct.**
- 2. Prohibit courts from imposing attorney fees and costs on mothers who have produced a preponderance of evidence that their children were conceived as a result of sexual assault.**
- 3. Eliminate the 3-year limitation on petitioning under the Act in situations where a mother requests the court to declare that a man is not a child's father because the child was conceived as a result of his criminal sexual conduct against her.**
- 4. Amend sec. 13(7) (page 3, lines 24-27) to state that "a court shall not issue an order under this act that is inconsistent with the federal Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act, 28 USC 1738A."**
- 5. Any amendments required by the federal Office on Violence Against Women to bring the bill into compliance with the qualifications for increased STOP and SASP funding under the federal Rape Survivors Child Custody Act.**

Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

M. Lovik reported on a draft for a “Shared Parenting Act” that would amend the Child Custody Act of 1970.

MOTION: Moved by L. Hines to oppose the draft Shared Parenting Act and express alarm at the concept. Motion seconded by Y. Brantley. Motion carried.

Board members acknowledged that they had an opportunity to review other bills of interest to the Board’s constituency that have been introduced since the Board’s January 22, 2016 meeting.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

L. Hines inquired about the status of the dedicated domestic violence court project in Detroit. L. Rogers said the project is just getting started and that Judge Jefferson is working to have the docket schedules fully transitioned by the end of May. L. Rogers said that currently there are two batterer intervention programs to which the court can refer offenders that are approved according to the BISCMI process.

J. Fink mentioned an act that amends the Township Act to authorize townships to spend money specifically on contracts with domestic violence service providers and shelters. On March 23, 2016 the Pittsfield Township will consider a resolution on whether to enter into a contract with SAFE House for \$10,000 to provide services for domestic and sexual violence survivors. J. Fink said that he expects that it will pass.

J. Cape said a work group is being convened to look at updating state batterer intervention standards from a legislative perspective.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

J. Lazet said National Crime Victims' Rights Week begins April 10, 2016 and an annual vigil will be held at the state capitol on Wednesday, April 13, 2016. Two speakers will be speaking on domestic violence.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Moved by J. Fink to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by J. Schafer. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Bobbitt