

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 2019**

***** APPROVED *****

Members Present:

F/Lt. Yvonne Brantley
Jeffrie Cape
James Fink
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines
Sue Snyder
Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair

Members Absent with Notice:

Hon. Thomas Cameron

Staff Present:

Ewurama Appiagyei-Dankah
Shalonna Banks
Diane Bartlett
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary
Debi Cain, Executive Director
Jordan Kennedy
Gail Krieger
James McCurtis Jr.
Leslie O'Reilly
Karen Porter
Angela Povilaitis
Janine Washburn

Guests:

Stephanie Beyersdorf - State Court Administrative Office
Vanessa Owaski-Patzwald - Uniting Three Fires Against Violence
Kathy Hagenian - Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence
Brenne Wade - SANE Forensic Nurse

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

C. Sullivan convened the September 13, 2019 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Michigan Historical Library - Lake Superior room in Lansing, Michigan at 2:10 p.m.

BOARD CONSENT

Review of September 13, 2019 agenda and approval of June 14, 2019 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to approve the September 13, 2019 agenda and to approve the

corrected June 14, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

C. Sullivan did not have any updates.

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

D. Cain said she attended the Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation held in New Buffalo, Michigan. She said it was a profound and impactful event to attend. She is thankful the twelve recognized tribes in Michigan worked hard to persuade the Federal Department of Justice to hold the conference in Michigan. Michigan citizens should be proud of the tribal leadership.

Vanessa Owaski-Patzwald from Uniting Three Fires Against Violence said Rachel Carr sent a heartfelt thank you to the staff for attending the Office of Victims of Crime and Office of Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation in New Buffalo, Michigan. She appreciated that Division of Victim Services staff were able to hear testimony from tribal leaders from Michigan and from all over the county.

Ewurama Appiagyei-Dankah will be working together with Jordan Kennedy to prepare for the next Campus Sexual Assault Summit that will take place in April 2020. It is hoped that Governor Whitmer will be able to participate.

J. McCurtis spoke about a two-year navigator pilot program that was implemented recently. The pilot program will begin in four Michigan communities. Navigators will be available to victims specifically to help prepare and file claims for victim's compensation. This will compliment the work of victim's rights advocates in prosecutor's offices whose first duty is to provide crime victims with the notices required by the crime victim's rights act and often have little time to help with compensation claims.

A navigator compliments the work that victim advocates do in prosecuting attorney offices. Victim advocates may not have time to provide one on one attention, however navigators can work directly with a victim of crime to complete compensation forms. Transportation will not be an issue because navigators are able to travel to meet with elderly or infirmed victims of crime.

K. Porter said quality assurance and monitoring standards have been updated and are now an interactive tool that is available electronically for agencies. She has received a lot of positive feedback on the updated standards that will increase efficiency and effectiveness. There has been a major shift in the way standards are thought about and discussed with agencies, however, the fundamental element of the standards has remained the same.

D. Cain reported that G. Krieger and Maggie Devlin are working with MI-CAC and the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence to develop a confidentiality toolkit to help programs comply with federal funding mandates related to confidentiality.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

A. Povilaitis provided an update on legislation and legislative activity since the June 14, 2019 Board meeting.

State stakeholders, including the House and Senate policy members, the AG's office, PAAM and the ACLU convened a workgroup in an attempt to come to a consensus on rewriting the Michigan Sex Offender

Registry Act (SORA). Numerous reform drafts have been introduced and edited throughout the summer workgroup. The stay order expired on August 21, 2019 with no legislative consensus, therefore legislative negotiations are continuing.

Another state workgroup was convened that includes several state partners, national groups and legislative staff to discuss an expungement package of bills expanding the number of prior convictions that can be set aside.

Board staff were invited to attend a legislative workgroup created by the Department of Attorney General over the summer to discuss legislation regarding combatting human trafficking. The workgroup plans to present their results to the Human Trafficking Commission in mid-September.

The Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail Pretrial Incarceration is funded and staffed by the PEW Charitable Trust Foundation. The task force is co-chaired by Chief Justice Bridget McCormack and Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II. It was created to increase justice-system efficiency and effectiveness. The Board is working collaboratively with Dr. Sheryl Kubiak who was appointed by Governor Whitmer to fill the seat of crime survivor or advocate in the task force. A. Povilaitis will be working as the staff point person to assist in providing input and bringing together victim round tables on some of these criminal justice reforms.

Board staff have been working together with the new Michigan Children's Ombudsman, Lisa McCormick, to assist in addressing a statewide need for law enforcement training on child physical abuses cases. A roundtable meeting is scheduled for late September, to be led by staff, to discuss the best path forward to consider curriculum and training needs.

Board staff participated in a conference call presentation to the Progressive Women's Caucus on September 3, 2019. Staff provided an overview of the Division of Victim Services and answered specific questions about domestic violence and sexual assault issues.

A. Povilaitis presented a letter for Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, thanking her on behalf of the Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board for her swift and outstanding leadership in response to the Me-Too Kit.

MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to approve a thank you letter with corrections to be signed and sent to Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel for her leadership in response to the Me-Too Kit. Motion seconded by S. Snyder. Motion carried.

Staff recommended awarding Dr. Rebecca Campbell with the 2019 Champion of Justice Award at the October 18, 2019 Board meeting. Dr. Campbell has been a partner and colleague in the Board's ongoing work to end sexual violence, improve victim access to justice and promote victim healing.

MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to select Dr. Rebecca Campbell as the 2019 Champion of Justice Award recipient. Motion seconded by E. Hines. Motion carried.

A. Povilaitis discussed SB 463 related to eavesdropping. SB 463 allows parents to eavesdrop on their children's private conversations, phone calls and text messages. There would be an exception which prevents eavesdropping on a minor's attorney, a child custody investigator, a police officer or the other custodial parent unless there is a good faith objective basis that eavesdropping is necessary to protect a minor's safety and welfare. A. Povilaitis asked the Board if they would like staff to provide an analysis of SB 463. E. Hines advised that an in-depth analysis is not necessary.

A. Povilaitis reported on Section 30 of HB 4498 which states the following:

A personal protection order entered under this section after a hearing of which the respondent received actual notice, and at which the respondent had the opportunity to participate, must restrain and enjoin the respondent from possessing, using, transporting, selling, purchasing, carrying, shipping, receiving, or distributing a firearm or ammunition. This subsection applies regardless of whether the petitioner requests relief under subsection (1) (e).

The Board decided to discuss HB 4498 further at the October 18, 2019 Board meeting when a more in-depth analysis can be provided.

Board members acknowledged that they had an opportunity to review other bills of interest to the Board's constituency that had been introduced since the Board's June 14, 2019 meeting.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Y. Brantley said that she is no longer a Commander at the Tri-City post and is now the Commander at the Flint post. The Board congratulated her on her new position.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vanessa Owaski-Patzwald reminded the Board on behalf of Rachel Carr that September 13, 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). With each passage of VAWA it is hoped that there will be meaningful enhancements to the tribal provisions.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Bobbitt
Board Secretary