

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
April 4, 2018**

***** Approved *****

Members Present:

Lt. Yvonne Brantley
Jeffrie Cape
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines
Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair

Members Absent:

Hon. Thomas Cameron
James Fink
Jacqueline Schafer

Staff Present:

Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary
Debi Cain, Executive Director
Gail Krieger

Guests:

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

C. Sullivan convened the April 4, 2018 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Michigan Historical Library - Lake Superior room in Lansing, Michigan at 2:11 p.m.

BOARD CONSENT

Review of agenda and approval of March 2, 2018 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to approve the April 4, 2018 agenda and to approve the March 2, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Y. Brantley. Motion Carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

C. Sullivan had nothing to report.

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

D. Cain provided an update on Governor Snyder's upcoming initiatives related to sexual assault.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

G. Krieger reviewed a memo from L. Rogers which recommended Board adoption of the Sexual Assault Kit Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission's recommendation regarding legislation to mandate the use of a statewide electronic sexual assault evidence kit tracking system.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to support in concept legislation that incorporates the recommendations of the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission with respect to mandating use of the statewide electronic tracking system. Motion seconded by Y. Brantley. Motion carried.

G. Krieger reviewed a proposed principle regarding mandatory reporting of child abuse. The staff recommendation is to update the general principle as follows:

Adults who witness child abuse should be required to report it to appropriate authorities if they have a reasonable expectation that reporting will not endanger their own safety and that of others.

The Board has concerns about expanding mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect to volunteers or other professionals not currently listed by the child protection law unless those professionals or volunteers by the nature of their position or profession have had training on the recognition of child abuse. Other professionals or volunteers must be provided with ongoing training on the recognition of child abuse by a designated training entity that is funded to provide such training.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to support the staff recommendation to update the general principle by adding a paragraph which says “The Board has concerns about expanding mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect to volunteers or other professionals not currently listed by the child protection law unless those professionals or volunteers by the nature of their position or profession have had training on the recognition of child abuse. Other professionals or volunteers must be provided with ongoing training on the recognition of child abuse by a designated training entity that is funded to provide such training. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

G. Krieger reported on SB 878 regarding aggravated possession of child sexually abusive material. SB 878 creates aggravating circumstances that would result in imprisonment of not more than 10 years and/or a maximum fine of \$50,000. Aggravated possession of child sexually abusive material must include both of the following:

- The child sexually abusive material depicts a prepubescent child or a child less than 12 years of age, depicts sadomasochistic abuse or bestiality, or includes more than 100 images of child sexually abusive material.
- The person knows, has reason to know, or should reasonably be expected to know that the depicted child is a child or that the sexually abusive material includes a child or that the depiction constituting the child sexually abusive material appears to include a child, or the person has not taken reasonable precautions to determine the age of the depicted child.

In addition, SB 878 provides a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years for a person convicted of a second or subsequent offense of possession of child sexually abusive material or a substantially similar statute of another state.

MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to support SB 878. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

G. Krieger reported on SB 875, 876 and 877 which are a package of bills introduced in response to the criminal prosecution of Larry Nassar. These bills compliment an extension of the civil statute of limitations for cases of childhood sexual assault by removing additional barriers for victims seeking tort recovery from the State of Michigan or state actors.

Staff recommends that the Board affirm its support of the elimination of statute of limitations in civil cases for victims of sexual assault where the victim was less than 18 years of age at the time of the assault and that the Board supports the concept of removing barriers that would prohibit childhood sexual assault victims from recovering from a governmental agencies or actors.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to affirm its support of the elimination of statute of limitations in civil case and support the concept of removing barriers that prohibit child sexual assault victims from recovering from a governmental agency or actors and to support removing the statute of limitations for victims of sexual assault less than 18 years of age at the time of the assault. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

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 March 2, 2018 meeting.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No announcements.

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 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Bobbitt
Board Secretary