

**Center for Crime Victim Services  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2019**

**Board Members Present:** Bob Paolini, Susan Ide, Jerry O’Neill, Richard Katzman. Attending by phone: Margaret Joyal. **Staff Members Present:** Chris Fenno, Elaine Boyce, Carol Morgan, Christine Morrison, Jodie Bacon, Abby Gladstone-Strobel, Michelle Pelletier, Gina Yalicki, Shannon Murphy, Mary Kay Hewlett, Melinda Meyer. **Absent:** Carol Brochu.

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 PM.

**REVIEW MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of October 21, 2019 and approved them unanimously, as presented.

**REVIEW OF SPECIFIC COMPENSATION CLAIMS**

**Claim A** – This claim had been emailed to the Board on November 4, 2019, for consideration of payment for travel expenses for the homicide survivor’s three minor children (who are not eligible survivor’s in their own right per statute) to accompany the eligible survivor to a sentencing hearing. The estimated cost of the additional travel expenses for the minor children, to include airfare, luggage fee, and meals, was \$1,800 - \$2,000. After discussion in today’s meeting, Margaret Joyal motioned and Jerry O’Neill seconded to ratify the Board’s decision that was made via email on 11/04/19. The Board voted unanimously to approve payment of meals for three minor children and airfare for two minor children; and to approve any future travel expenses, up to the claim cap of \$10,000.

**Claim B** – This claim was brought to the Board to determine the victim’s eligibility. Law enforcement found probable cause for the charge of 23 VSA 1128 (A), Accident—Duty to Stop. Per medical documentation, the victim incurred injury. The victim was seeking compensation for lost wages, mileage/gas, and travel expenses. After discussion, Richard Katzman motioned to find the victim’s claim eligible, and Margaret Joyal seconded. With Susan Ide also voting in favor, the Board voted 3-2 to find the victim eligible.

**Claim C** – This claim was brought to the Board to determine if the domestic partner to the deceased victim was eligible for temporary living expenses. Per statute, a dependent is defined “as a victim’s spouse or a person who is legally dependent for support upon a victim”. After discussion, Susan Ide motioned to find the claimant eligible, and Margaret Joyal seconded. With Richard Katzman also voting in favor, the Board voted 3-2 to find the domestic partner eligible for temporary living expenses, up to the policy cap.

**REVIEW OF SPECIFIC RESTITUTION CASES**

**Restitution Case #1** – The defendant in this case was charged with DUI after hitting the victim’s vehicle. Restitution was ordered in the amount of \$6,719 to be collected from the offender by the RU and repaid to the victim. The Restitution Unit determined that the auto insurance deductible of \$150.00 and the estimated value of kayak rails for the vehicle could be advanced to the victim upfront from the Restitution Special Fund. The victim was appealing the amount of the advance

payment. After discussion, Richard Katzman motioned, Bob Paolini seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to uphold the decision of the Restitution Unit.

**Restitution Case #2** – The defendant in this case was charged with negligent operation after hitting the victim’s vehicle. The vehicle sustained \$5,555.81 worth of reparable damage and restitution was ordered for that amount. The victim’s auto insurance carrier had denied coverage. Due to questions with the case, the Restitution Unit asked the Board if the full amount of the ordered restitution should be paid. After discussion, Jerry O’Neill motioned to pay the full amount of the ordered restitution, and Margaret Joyal seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the payment.

**COMPENSATION CLAIMS REPORT**

There was no Compensation Claims Report this month.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

There was no Financial Report this month.

**RESTITUTION UNIT REPORT**

There was no Restitution Unit Report this month.

**CENTER UPDATE**

There was no Center Updated this month.

**SCHEDULE 2020 MEETING DATES**

The Board agreed on the following meeting dates for 2020, all on Mondays at 1:30 pm.

- January 13
- February 10
- March 9
- April 13
- May 11
- June 8
- July 13
- August 10
- September 14
- October 19
- December 7

CCVS staff left the meeting at 2:30 pm.

Board member Susan Ide left the meeting shortly after 2:30 pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made and seconded at 2:42 pm to go into Executive Session, to consider the dismissal of an employee, and the employee’s grievance regarding her dismissal. Public knowledge of the grievance will place the former employee, CCVS, and potential other employees at a substantial disadvantage given the sensitive nature of personnel information. Passed unanimously. The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:44 pm. Motion was made and seconded to deny the grievance, and passed via roll-call 3-0 with Margaret Joyal abstaining.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Adjourned at 3:45 PM

**Next VCCVS Board Meeting Date:**  
**Monday, January 13, 2020**  
**1:30 PM**

**Conference room at**  
**60 South Main St.**  
**Waterbury, VT**