

**Center for Crime Victim Services
Board Meeting Minutes
Sept. 14, 2020**

Board Members Present: Bob Paolini, Margaret Joyal, Susan Ide, Jerry O’Neill.

Absent: Richard Katzman.

Staff Members Present: Chris Fenno, Elaine Boyce, Carol Morgan, Christine Morrison, Jodie Bacon, Abby Gladstone-Strobel, Michelle Pelletier, Carol Brochu, Melinda Meyer.

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 PM.

REVIEW MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of August 10, 2020 and approved them unanimously, as presented.

COMPENSATION CLAIMS REPORT

Christine Morrison presented the Compensation report for August 2020. A total of 29 regular claims were received this August, which was a decrease compared to the 54 regular claims received in August 2019. By contrast, SA claims were higher this August, with a total of 22 sexual assault (SA) claims in August 2020 compared to 13 SA claims in August 2019. Comparing year-to-date figures, the current year (FY21) showed a year-to-date decrease of 41.75% in regular claims, while SA claims showed a year-to-date increase of 4.87%. Year-to-date expenses for regular claims were about \$11K higher in the current fiscal year, compared to the same period of the prior fiscal year, with the bulk of the increase due to higher medical and dental payments. Expenses for SA claims were only about \$300 higher than in the same period of the previous fiscal year. The Compensation Report was accepted as presented.

REVIEW OF SPECIFIC COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Claim 67366 – This claim was brought to the Board for consideration of denial, because the applicant was charged with violating a criminal law of the state which caused or contributed to the applicant’s injury. The applicant was charged with Domestic Assault. The applicant was seeking compensation for counseling, lost wages, medical, and safety/security. After discussion, the Board had a split vote of 2 to 2, resulting in denial of the claim. The Board advised that Compensation Program staff should inform the applicant of their right to appeal the denial.

RESTITUTION UNIT REPORT

Michelle Pelletier reported on the Restitution Unit (RU) for August 2020. Collections and Restitution Judgement Orders (RJOs) continued to be down. A total of 29 new RJOs were received from around the state, with the most coming from Franklin and Washington counties. The Case Managers had collected \$39K, which fell short of the month’s goal by close to \$11K. Another \$5K was received via tax offsets. The Restitution Report was accepted as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Carol Brochu presented the Financial Report through August 2020. As previously requested by the Board, she had changed the report's format to provide an easier-to-read summary, and a breakdown of compensation expenses showing amounts paid with state funds and with federal funds. She advised that the state has asked her to provide a "loss of revenue" report on CCVS's special funds by Dec. 11th. According to a quick analysis that she ran, all three special funds were running 28% below their anticipated revenues. CCVS was currently using mostly federal funds to pay compensation claims. Chris Fenno advised that CCVS was watching income and expenses very closely, and due to the state's budget cuts, had to pass on some funding cuts to programs. Chris Fenno and Elaine Boyce advised the Board on COVID-related protocols for CCVS staff and on technology updates being made that will allow all staff to work remotely if there is another stay-at-home order by the state. The Financial Report was accepted as presented.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Adjourned at 2:41 PM

Next VCCVS Board Meeting Date:

**Monday,
October 19, 2020
1:30 PM
Via Zoom Meeting**