

**Center for Crime Victim Services  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 10, 2021**

**Board Members Present:** Bob Paolini, Richard Katzman, Susan Ide. **Absent:** Margaret Joyal.  
**Staff Members Present:** Christine Morrison, Abby Gladstone-Strobel, Michelle Pelletier, Melinda Meyer, Carol Brochu, Jennifer Poehlmann (JP joined at 2:50). **Absent:** Carol Morgan, Jodie Bacon.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM with Richard Katzman and Susan Ide attending via Zoom.

**REVIEW MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of October 11, 2021, and unanimously approved them as presented. (There was no meeting in November.)

**COMPENSATION CLAIMS REPORT**

Christine Morrison presented the Compensation reports for October and November 2021. In October, the Compensation Program received a total of 48 regular claims, compared to 23 claims the previous October. The number of sexual assault (SA) claims was also higher, with 21 SA claims received, compared to 15 in October 2020. For November 2021, regular claims were down a bit at 35 claims, compared to 39 in November 2020. SA claims continued to be higher in November 2021 at 22, compared to 9 in November 2020.

Compensation expenses for November 2021 were highest for Domestic Assault claims and Funeral expenses. Looking at Year-to-Date figures, total expenses for the current fiscal year (FY22) were significantly lower than at the same point in the previous fiscal year (FY21), however expenses related to SA claims had almost doubled in FY22. The Compensation Report was accepted as presented.

**RESTITUTION UNIT REPORT**

Michelle Pelletier reported on the Restitution Unit (RU) for October and November 2021. Statewide, a total of 26 restitution judgement orders (RJOs) were received in October, and 20 in November. Michelle advised that the Odyssey database now used by many courts has some issues, causing frustration for both the courts and the RU.

In October the case managers collected approx. \$37K, and tax offsets generated about \$15K. November 2021 was a very good month, with case managers bringing in more than \$73K, exceeding the month's goal by \$25K. Michelle explained that one large payment came from a lien on an offender's house sale, and another involved a lump-sum settlement to a victim. Tax offsets for November brought in close to \$10K. Michelle noted that the RU was seeing an increase in case close-outs due to deaths of offenders. The Restitution Report was accepted as presented.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Carol Brochu presented the Financial Report through November 2021. She noted that revenues into all CCVS's special funds continued to be a concern. Despite the courts reopening, revenues from the courts were the lowest Carol had seen in her time here. She and Jennifer Poehlmann had attended

budget meetings with Senator Sears and Representative Squirrel, and results were expected soon from the Joint Fiscal Office's study on potential new revenue opportunities for CCVS. The Financial Report was accepted as presented.

## **CENTER UPDATE**

Jennifer Poehlmann updated the Board on a variety of issues and legislative efforts. She noted that CCVS had requested a budget adjustment which would include funds for the legal clinic run by the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. In the legislature, CCVS was focused on issues regarding juvenile/youthful offender rights and victim rights. Representatives Karen Dolan and Maxine Grad were helping build inter-relationships and an advisory council of stakeholders such as the Parallel Justice Programs. Jenn had arranged for CCVS to sign on with Invest EAP, an employee assistance program that offers a wide range of helpful services at no cost to CCVS staff.

## **SCHEDULE 2022 MEETING DATES**

The Board agreed that the CCVS office manager would send an electronic poll to the board, with options to vote on Monday dates for meetings in 2022. The year's schedule will be set based on the results of the poll.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn. Adjourned at 3:19 PM.

### **Next VCCVS Board Meeting Date:**

**Monday,  
January 24, 2022  
1:30 PM**

**In the conference room  
At 60 South Main Street, Waterbury.**