

**Center for Crime Victim Services  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Feb. 8, 2021**

**Board Members Present:** Bob Paolini, Margaret Joyal, Susan Ide, Richard Katzman.

**Absent:** Jerry O'Neill. **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 1:35 PM.

**REVIEW MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of January 11, 2021 and unanimously approved them as presented.

**COMPENSATION CLAIMS REPORT**

Christine Morrison presented the Compensation reports for January 2021. A total of 20 regular claims were received in January 2021, for a decrease of 51.22% compared to the 41 regular claims received in January 2020. The number of sexual assault (SA) claims received was up for January 2021, with 26 SA claims received this January compared to 21 SA claims in January 2020. Compared to the same point in the previous fiscal year, the current fiscal year (FY21) showed a year-to-date decrease of 50.27% in regular claims, and a year-to-date decrease of 12.23% in SA claims, through January 2021. Reviewing year-to-date expenses, Christine noted that expenses related to Aggravated Assault were significantly higher so far in FY21 than at the same point in the previous fiscal year. Medical expenses to-date were also higher in FY21 than at the same point in FY20. Despite this, FY21 continued to show an overall decrease in year-to-date expenses for both regular and SA claims, compared to the same period in the previous fiscal year. The Compensation Report was accepted as presented.

**RESTITUTION UNIT REPORT**

Michelle Pelletier reported on the Restitution Unit (RU) for January 2021. A total of 24 new Restitution Judgement Orders (RJOs) were received from around the state, with the most coming from Chittenden County (9 RJOs), followed by Windham and Windsor Counties with 5 RJOs each. The RU Case Managers collected \$42K in January, and another \$157.00 was received via tax offsets. Although revenues were still on the low side, Michelle noted that January 2021 had the second-best revenues of the current fiscal year (FY21). Michelle advised that courts in at least 6 counties around the state had transitioned to a new records database called "Odyssey" which RU staff could also access. With the Odyssey system, RU staff can view a greater range of court documents than they can with the "VCAS" system. This is helpful and reduces the need for RU staff to phone the courts for needed information. The Restitution Report was accepted as presented.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Carol Brochu presented the Financial Report through January 2021. She noted that all of C CVS's special funds continued to be lower than projected, due to the pandemic's effect on revenues. The Financial Report was accepted as presented.

## **CENTER UPDATE**

Chris Fenno updated the Board on legislative issues including Expungement and the Department of Corrections' "Good Time" rule for offenders. She also gave a status update on technology upgrades for C CVS remote work. All C CVS staff were being set up with a virtual private network (VPN) that allows off-site access to documents on the C CVS server. Remote staff who were already using the VPN found it very helpful. Having staff VPN access for remote-working raises questions as to whether C CVS should continue leasing as much building space as it currently does. Chris advised that C CVS will be considering this as its building leases approach renewal.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Margaret Joyal and seconded by Richard Katzman at 2:15 PM to go into Executive Session to discuss a topic and make a specific finding that premature general public knowledge of which would clearly place the Center or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. The Board came out of Executive Session at 2:40 PM with no action taken.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Adjourned at 2:42 PM

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

**Monday,  
March 8, 2021  
1:30 PM**

**Via Zoom Meeting**