



## CVSD Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

CVSD Conference Room, Suite 150A (Lower Level)  
Thursday, May 21, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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***Committee Members in Attendance:*** Kris Billhardt, Allison Cleveland, Shirley Didier, Becky Orf, Kelsey LeBrun Keswani, Tim Moore, Justin Nelson, Robin Selig, Lauri Stewart, and Letetia Wilson

***Committee Members via Teleconference:*** Amy Holmes Hehn, Kat Kelley, Barb Palicki, Chanpone Sinlapasai, Vanessa Timmons, and Merle Weiner

***CVSD DOJ Staff Present:*** Caitlin Brown, Jeanette Ewald, Diana Fleming, Mackenzie Gray, Mike Maryanov, Cathy Relang, Sarina Singson, and Shannon Sivell

***Committee Members Recused for Conflict of Interest:*** Steve Bellshaw, Erin Ellis, Jenna Harper, Kim Larson, and Michele Roland-Schwartz

***Committee Members Absent:*** Desiree Coyote, Yelena Hansen, Sybil Hebb, Terri Neimann, Cheryl O'Neill, Bob Robison, Tawna Sanchez, and Lynne Whiteman

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### **Welcome and Introductions**

Robin welcomed the committee members and CVSD staff in attendance. Everyone introduced themselves to the group.

### **Minutes**

The last CVSD Advisory Committee (AC) meeting was January 22, 2015. One revision request was made by Becky Orf prior to the AC meeting, to add the last name initial to her name and to Becky Smith to differentiate between the two. This edit was made prior to the AC meeting. No other revisions requested.

- Becky Orf moves to approve the minutes
- Tim Moore seconds the motion

*The motion to approve the January CVSD AC Meeting minutes passed unanimously with suggested edits made and no other edits or changes necessary.*

### **VAWA Competitive Application Review:**

CVSD recruited application review team members from within and from outside the AC who brought field expertise to the review process. Each review team also included representation from nonprofit agencies.



The Law Enforcement Review Team included AC members Tim Moore and Letetia Wilson, along with Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Special Victims Criminal Investigator Tony Barnett and Newport Police Chief Mark Miranda. The Prosecution Review Team included AC members Justin Nelson, Lauri Stewart, and Merle Weiner, along with DVSA Director and Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (OCADSV) board member Lea Sevey. Procedurally, CVSD is required to abide by the Office of Violence Against Women's (OVW's) funding categories to support and enhance the core functions of Law Enforcement and Prosecution. Within these categories, applications must address interventions against domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence; provide services to ensure the safety of victims; and hold offenders accountable for their crimes. Applicants must demonstrate community collaborations in their Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) and through the project description in their proposals. Additionally, applicants were required to identify at least one federal statutory purpose area and align applications with Oregon's VAWA Implementation Plan (IP) funding priorities. Finally, applicants were required to demonstrate that they were addressing at least one underserved, marginalized, or oppressed community, or Tribal Nation, and that they demonstrated a coordinated community response among their partners to serve the proposed project target population. Two separate review teams followed a specific process that was outlined on the criteria and rationale score sheet and review documentation. Each section was scored separately by excellent, good, fair, or poor. CVSD has facilitated grant review discussions centered on those points while considering each reviewer's point of view.

Review team members from the AC agreed that the process went well. They appreciated having the criteria explained on the score sheet and supporting documentation. This was helpful in guiding the teams to preserve the integrity of the competitive review process.

After the AC discussed the proposed rankings and recommendations by the review teams, Robin asked the AC to vote on the recommendations of the VAWA Competitive Review Teams as reflected in our charts shown and discussed at the meeting.

*The motion to approve the recommendations of the VAWA Competitive Review Teams to the Attorney General passed unanimously.*

Shannon thanked the review teams for all the work they did during this review process.

*The minutes on the discussion and recommendations for the VAWA Competitive Application Review process are confidential.*

**VOCA Update:**

Cathy reported that CVSD has received some good news but still is awaiting more information from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to clarify changes that they have said were coming. Among many changes that OVC is making, their new Performance Measures Tool (PMT) has not been finalized. OVC has changed expectations such that implementation of the PMT will not be retroactive to October 2014. States will begin using the new tool on October 1, 2015. The



PMT will require quarterly statistics, which differs from what CVSD currently requires. CVSD hopes to receive more information at the National VOCA Conference in the end of August. The new proposed VOCA guidelines that were released in October 2013 are still not finalized; OVC indicated that states should expect a finalized version this summer.

OVC has allocated \$24 million for a non-competitive discretionary training grant solicitation to the states. Oregon's allocation is \$324,000 for training during the next three years. This training grant will supplement OVC's increase in VOCA allocations for 2015. CVSD received that allocation announcement this week: \$24 million. CVSD anticipates an increase in FTE with the increase in VOCA Assistance funds and thus expects that significant portions of the training grant will go to support new advocate training. CVSD is working on allocation plans but planning is difficult because OVC has yet to supply significant clarifying information.

Of primary concern among significant uncertainty: for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 we still do not know if this increase will continue. A congressional subcommittee released a bill that included a cap at \$2.7 billion dollars; FY 2015 was \$2.3 billion dollars. Having that cap set so high is a strong indication that we may get an increase in 2016; however, the president's FY 16 budget had a \$1 billion cap, reverting us back closer to 2014 numbers. This all means that there is much work to be done at the federal level before we know for sure.

Statutory changes were also proposed, but have not reached congress yet. These proposals include: making this increase in funding for VOCA victim assistance be retroactive to 2015; that there be no more than 7% limit on match, instead of the current 25%, and that there be no match for infrastructure and technology grants.

We will learn more as we move forward. Despite the uncertainty, CVSD is working to make plans and put them in motion.

Becky O. asked what Cathy meant by infrastructure grants.

Cathy: Maintenance of shelter or structure and whatever else is allowable by VOCA, which is limited by being a direct service award that helps the infrastructure of the grantee. As a reminder, we are still following the old guidelines until the new ones are out and final.

Kris: Is the \$24 million to be spent over the next 3 years?

Cathy: Yes, it is a 4-year grant but we are behind by a year, so we have 3 years to spend it.

Shirley: Before this, were we not able to fund technology grants?

Cathy: It has been allowable by OVC but we just have not had any grants for technology. Our survey results had a lot of technology and training needs. In the survey results, we saw VAPs



looking at Carpel or their JustWare and DV/SAs were looking at maintenance needs and technology upgrades.

Jeanette: Many emergency services, directed training around professional development, and special population groups doing outreach were also in the survey results. With VOCA, it has to be direct client service related.

**Announcements and Adjourn:**

The next AC meeting is on June 25, 2015 and will be held here at CVSD. This AC meeting will focus on the review and discussion of the Joint Allocations for 2015-2017.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.