

**STATE OF ALASKA
COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**MINUTES OF SECOND QUARTER FY2010 MEETING
Teleconference
December 14, 2009**

**Location
Commissioner's Conference Room, 2nd Floor
Department of Public Safety Building
450 Whittier Street
Juneau, Alaska**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Ann House called the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault meeting to order at 1:30 on Monday, December 14, 2009. Six Council members were present at roll call to form a quorum. Melissa Stone joined the meeting at 1:40 p.m., Kristine Norbert called in at 1:55 p.m., and Stephanie McFadden joined at 2:15 p.m.

Council members present: Ann House (public member/chair); Colonel Audie Holloway (Department of Public Safety, AST); Richard Svobodny (Department of Law); Stephanie McFadden (public member/vice chair); Sam Edwards (Department of Corrections); Cynthia Curran (Department of Education & Early Development); Kristine Norbert (public member); Melissa Stone (Department of Health & Social Services); Susan Cushing (public member)

Council members absent: None

Council staff present: Sandy Samaniego, (Executive Director); Joanne Griggs (Administrative Officer); Ella Nierra (Administrative Assistant); Lauree Morton (Program Coordinator); Ann Rausch (Program Coordinator); Linda Hoven (Program Coordinator); Forest Kvasnikoff (Research Analyst)

Others present (in person or by telephone): Peggy Brown (ANDVSA); Jeff Jessee (Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority)

COUNCIL CONFLICT INQUIRY

Chair House inquired if Council members had a potential conflict of interest with any items on this meeting's agenda.

There were no conflict-of-interest disclosures.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 17, 2009

RICK SVOBODNY MOVED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2009 MEETING. COLONEL AUDIE HOLLOWAY SECONDED. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair House noted that she was not at the September meeting but she thought the discussions that were held were very rich.

AGENDA ADDITIONS OR CHANGES

Chair House placed discussing a plan for the legislative session later on the agenda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CDVSA Executive Director Sandy Samaniego referred to her written report that was sent to Council members earlier (*on file at the CDVSA offices*), and reviewed a list of items.

Strategic Plan Update:

Regarding the public awareness and social norms media campaign, she said the "Real Alaska Men Choose Respect!" informational ad campaign is directed toward men to help them see their role in stopping and preventing violence. The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Network) has produced four television ads for this campaign that are being aired on GCI cable stations and local news.

At the last meeting the Council had asked Ms. Samaniego to connect items in her report to the CDVSA strategic plan, so her written report outlined which strategic plan objectives had been advanced for each project she reported on.

The Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) project is the Fourth R curriculum project (the Fourth R stands for healthy relationships). This quarter training was held in Anchorage in November for several teachers from various schools around the state. This is one of the few curricula that incorporates a broad range of health topics and has been proven to reduce violence and improve decision-making among students.

With Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization (RDVCV) grant funding, the CDVSA sponsored a conference in Anchorage called "Together We Can End Violence in the Lives of Alaska's Children." The conference offered training and skill-building opportunities on prevention efforts and strategies for approximately 125 participants from across Alaska. Ms. Samaniego said she attended and felt it was one of the best conferences that she had ever attended. She thanked CDVSA program coordinator Ann Rausch for making it such a success.

CDVSA staff participates in statewide prevention planning as members on the Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership through Alliances (DELTA) and Rape

Prevention Education (RPE) Steering Committees. The media awareness campaign and social norms campaign currently underway are examples of programming derived from these two committees' strategic plans.

Ms. Samaniego reported that the CDVSA received both the 2009 formula STOP grant and the STOP Recovery Act grant. The formula grant funds are being distributed to the Alaska State Troopers, the Department of Law, Court System, and the Network to complete the third year of the current STOP grant plan. The Recovery Act award required submission of a plan to the STOP unit of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). That plan was submitted, and CDVSA is awaiting approval from OVW. Once approved, funds will go to the Troopers to conduct training to promote job retention, purchase evidence-gathering equipment, and to develop a pilot telemedicine forensic exam project for victims of sexual assault in rural areas of the state. Both the Department of Law and victim services funds will preserve jobs: two prosecutors will be retained in the Palmer area, and the CDVSA will grant the victim service funds to community based victim service programs. The Court System will use funds to prepare 70 language interpreters to take the state court interpreter certification examination. These interpreters will help victims in court whose first language is not English.

The STOP Violence Against Women Act grant funded the "Weaving the Safety Net" conference held in Fairbanks last month for law enforcement and advocates. The grant also supported a week-long sexual assault nurse examiner (SART) training in Bethel for health care professionals, law enforcement, and advocates. The funding supported training for clerks of court in October in Fairbanks, trial advocacy training for prosecutors in September in Sitka, and the statewide prosecutor training in October. This project helped advance the strategic plan objective to increase the knowledge and skills of Alaska's first responders.

Ms. Samaniego stated that the 2009 earmark Grants to Encourage Arrest (GEA) application was submitted. The GEA program will provide legal advocacy services to victims throughout the state for one year.

Ms. Samaniego reported the status of collaboration to improve the Office of Children's Services and statewide domestic violence and sexual assault programs capacity to work together in order to better serve Alaskan families directly impacted by domestic violence, sexual violence, and child sexual abuse. A statewide meeting was held in Anchorage in February 2009. The objectives of the meeting were to build interdisciplinary relationships; to identify specific areas where interdisciplinary training and collaboration could enhance the safety of Alaskans impacted by domestic violence; and to construct a timeline for achieving identified collaborative actions over short, mid, and long terms. Another statewide interdisciplinary meeting is in the planning stages.

The CDVSA staff participates on the Victims For Justice, Alaska Victims Assistance Academy Steering Committee. The committee was formed to work with Victims For Justice to develop a statewide academy that will provide first responders with basic and advanced courses in the victim service arenas. The first statewide training is scheduled for May 2010.

Ms. Samaniego stated that the supervised visitation/supervised exchange program in Fairbanks is working with a technical assistance advisor, and the planning committee made changes to some policies and procedures in preparation for sending them to the Office on Violence Against Women. The Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC) in Fairbanks is remodeling their building to meet requirements for the supervised center. This project meets the strategic plan objective to enhance the ability of the justice system to keep perpetrators away from victims.

Regarding coordination of civil justice system response, CDVSA staff participated in the protective order petition and order revision process for both ex parte and long-term orders. The Court System hopes the revised forms can be completed and available for use at the beginning of 2010. This project increases access to resources for victims of dv/sa who are moving through the civil and criminal justice systems.

Ms. Samaniego reported that CDVSA staff met with the IAC (Fairbanks) executive director and the Network's executive director to discuss the framework of the Batterers Intervention Task Force and who the representatives should be. Letters and phone calls were made inviting people to participate. This project helps meet the strategic plan goal to hold perpetrators accountable for their actions and the goal to determine the effectiveness of batterer intervention programs.

Ms. Samaniego informed the Council that the CDVSA office hired a research analyst, Forest Kvasnikoff. He is working to implement a workable and reliable database program and reporting process through the Network database and the CDVSA reporter tool. This project advances the strategic plan goal to obtain complete data on dv/sa incidents in Alaska and to define the scope and impact of dv/sa.

Staff has reviewed the special conditions for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) 2009 formula grant, the 2009 STOP grant, and the 2009 STOP Recovery Act grant to ensure compliance with grant requirements. This helps ensure effective Council administration and maintains compliance with grant requirements, both goals of the strategic plan.

Ms. Stone stated that it was very positive that each of the funding sources was being tied into the strategic plan goals. What she could not tell from the executive director's report and from looking at the strategic plan was how many of the objectives had a strategic action attached to them. For example, were most of the projects or activities meeting goal 3, but the CDVSA was entirely missing some other goal. Her second question was about the indicators for success, or benchmarks, for the different objectives.

Ms. Samaniego replied that she understood about the idea of a matrix to help Council members see which CDVSA strategic plan goals and objectives are being addressed, and she would try to develop some kind of a matrix for next quarter. She felt comfortable that each goal was being addressed, however, it would not be possible even in a year to address all the objectives. The strategic plan is a 10-year plan, and the CDVSA's goal is to address every objective possible as

resources become available.

Ms. Stone remarked that she thought the City of Anchorage Council on Homelessness used a matrix to track their plan, and she would try to obtain that information for the executive director.

HB63 Update:

As requested by the Council at the last meeting, Ms. Samaniego said a memorandum was written to the Department of Administration, Division of Personnel asking them to confirm that all administrative avenues had been exhausted and that there were no exceptions that have been overlooked or regulations that might be reinterpreted that could remedy the situation with CDVSA staff members who were converted to classified service under House Bill 63. The Division of Personnel wrote back on December 1 stating that all options had been explored. A copy of the correspondence was sent to Representative Fairclough, a sponsor of HB63.

Ms. Cushing said she spoke with Representative Paul Seaton and filled him in on the unintended effect of staff members' salaries being frozen until their new salary rates catch up with their old salaries, and about the possibility that the bill might be coming back for reconsideration.

Mr. Svobodny asked if Representative Fairclough had done anything more since her aide, Crystal Koeneman, spoke to the Council at the last meeting. Ms. Samaniego said not to her knowledge.

Chair House requested that Ms. Samaniego call Representative Fairclough's office and find out the status of HB63.

Peggy Brown of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault offered assistance to Ms. Samaniego if there was anything the Network could do. She said she was on the legislative CDVSA Task Force, and the spirit of the task force's intention was for the CDVSA to be able to recruit the best staff and to maintain them. Making the positions classified, instead of exempt, was a way to do that.

Mr. Svobodny said the Council has a duty to protect the employees and to achieve the result that the legislature intended. If the Council is going to do anything, it cannot wait until the next meeting in March, which will be two-thirds of the way into a 90-day legislative session. He asked for a discussion during this meeting about the Council formally asking the Network to write a letter to Representative Fairclough and/or the other legislators on the CDVSA Task Force.

Chair House indicated the Council would take that matter up later in the agenda.

Governor's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Plan:

Ms. Samaniego reported that Governor Parnell unveiled a dv/sa plan on December 3. Her written report outlined the points addressed in the governor's plan. She said everyone is excited that addressing the dv/sa issue is a priority for the governor.

Chair House suggested sending a letter to the governor thanking him for his initiative in taking on dv/sa issues in the state. Other Council members voiced support for writing a letter. Chair House added this discussion to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

At the scheduled time on the agenda Chair House inquired if there was anyone present in Juneau or listening by telephone who wished to address the Council.

Jeff Jessee, chief executive officer of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (AMHTA), spoke by teleconference. He said the people at AMHTA are heartened by the governor's support of actually taking steps to arrest some of the damage that is being caused by domestic violence and sexual assault. The AMHTA takes a hard look at how they can incorporate not only the family intervention but also addressing the behavioral health needs... *[tape change]*. The AMHTA is ready to assist the governor in any way they can to make the initiative successful. They look forward to working with the CDVSA, as well.

There was no one else who wished to speak to the Council, and the chair closed public comment.

ANDVSA REPORT

Executive Director Peggy Brown of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault stated that they are starting to work on the social norms media campaign, the second part of the informational ad campaign that Ms. Samaniego spoke of in her report earlier. The Network will be working with youth and several communities to do some other types of media events. The collaboration on this has been a huge success, and a lot of momentum has been generated.

Ms. Brown said the Network is poring over the state's fiscal year 2011 budget that was released today. They are also trying to determine what legislation might be forthcoming that would affect domestic violence and sexual assault.

Ms. Brown explained that the Network has a training project, a prevention project, the pro bono and legal advocacy programs, and a policy project. Since July 2008, the pro bono program has experienced a 77% increase in referrals from the shelter programs. The pro bono program has provided over 20,000 legal case consultations since its inception, which averages about 30 requests per month. Civil legal services are an unmet need in the state. The Network's concern is that there will be even more requests for legal services as the governor's initiative focuses law enforcement more on dv/sa and that could result in more reporting. The annual continuing legal education (CLE) conference will be held in Anchorage on February 15-16, 2010 at the Captain Cook Hotel.

Ms. Brown reported that 15 other communities have expressed interest in the Fourth R Project.

A second Fourth R training for 8th and 9th grade teachers is being planned for the summer 2010.

The Network has a lot of upcoming training, conferences and events, which can be looked at on the Network web site. They are getting many requests from smaller communities, like the Tribal Government of St. Paul Island, which will get some training in February.

Mr. Svobodny said he recently became aware that although the Fourth R Program training was not mandated by the legislature, there is legislation that says something to the effect that school boards are to give it priority. He asked if the Network was doing anything to get the school boards to require the training in the curriculum.

Ms. Brown replied that the applicants for the first Fourth R training were funded and accepted by a group - CDVSA, the Network, Department of Health & Social Services, Women's, Children's and Family Health, and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. So it is a group of people who see the need and have started bringing trainers in for teachers. It has been sort of a pilot effort, rather than a mandate or making it be a priority.

Mr. Svobodny said he guessed that school boards do not even know that they are supposed to be weighing this as part of their curriculum. He asked if there was a brief training that the Network or somebody else could provide to the State Association of School Boards when they are in Juneau to point out that the Fourth R training is not mandated but is strongly recommended.

Ms. Brown stated that the Network did a presentation last month with the Alaska Association of School Boards but it was more along the lines of what can the community do. She added that the Network would be happy to do a different presentation to the state association, perhaps in conjunction with CDVSA staff.

Mr. Svobodny asked Ms. Brown to call him about it so he could help organize it.

Chair House mentioned that she saw on the BBC that Great Britain has adopted teaching on sexual assault as part of the school curriculum. She thought it would be good to bring that up with the governor, who has more authority to see that that is done in Alaska. Regarding the media blitz that Ms. Brown described, she asked if the Council was able to view those ads before they started airing (she had been away for a bit). Ms. Brown said yes and that the CDVSA was tagged as a sponsor.

Mr. Svobodny inquired how long the funding dedicated to broadcasting the ads was going to last. Ms. Brown replied that the hope is to run the current ads until March. Other funding sources could possibly extend the ads until April.

Mr. Svobodny said that the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority earlier indicated that they might be willing to help on issues. He asked if anyone had contacted AMHTA about keeping the information ad campaign going. Ms. Brown said some outside agencies have contributed funding voluntarily but the Network had not solicited anyone. Mr. Svobodny said it was worth pursuing

with the AMHTA. Ms. Brown indicated she would do that. Mr. Svobodny asked Ms. Samaniego if the CDVSA had any discretionary funds that could keep these great ads on the air beyond April. He thought the messages were very powerful, and it was a project that had been done for tobacco use but not in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault before. Ms. Samaniego's response was no, that she had recently looked for that type of funding unsuccessfully. Ms. Brown stated that there are two other ads coming up later that will have some longevity to them, one having to do with kids and another for which the Network had not received the story boards for yet. A successful informational campaign relies on saturation and keeping the message in front of people. The most expensive part of the campaign is buying the air time, so any funding help would be appreciated.

Ms. Cushing expressed support for Mr. Svobodny's point because summer time is when younger people are home from school and might catch some of those ads as well.

Ms. Brown concluded her report by thanking CDVSA staff for working so closely with the Network in the ad campaign and said it was great at the press conference to see such energy generated. At the governor's reception afterward he talked about a high schooler who approached him and said that what he was talking about gave her hope in her current situation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

CDVSA Administrative Officer Jo Griggs reported that CDVSA has experienced no unexpected budget items, and the budget provided in the meeting packet showed slightly less than half of the expenses because it was prepared before the end of the year. About 70% of the funded programs are right on time with their requests, and a couple lag a little bit. The CDVSA associate coordinators have not identified anything that the Council should be monitoring at this time. The Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization grant should be able to cover all the costs of the conference that was held in Anchorage with no problem.

Ms. Griggs mentioned about the new Council members spending a day and a half with CDVSA staff in Juneau in March for orientation and to meet people before the next meeting. She said staff would work out the details and contact the members.

Chair House said there were several items added to the agenda earlier that would be taken up at this point.

HB63 - STAFF SALARY ISSUES

Mr. Svobodny indicated that he had made his comments earlier about the intention that staff was not to be injured by the bill. The earliest any corrective legislative action could be implemented would be July 1, 2010, so the Council needed to act now rather than wait until the March meeting.

MOTION BY MR. SVOBODNY THAT THE COUNCIL FORMALLY WRITE A LETTER TO

EVERY LEGISLATOR WHO WAS ON THE CDVSA TASK FORCE IN 2007 FROM WHICH HB63 AROSE, AND EXPLAIN THE PROBLEM AND ASK THAT THERE BE A LEGISLATIVE FIX, AND THAT THE LETTER BE SIGNED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE CHAIR. COL. HOLLOWAY SECONDED.

The motion passed unanimously, with all nine members present.

SUPPORT FOR GOVERNOR'S INITIATIVE

Chair House indicated that the discussion was about writing a letter thanking Governor Parnell for leading an effort to put fighting domestic violence and sexual assault at the forefront.

Ms. Stone asked if the Council and staff had an opportunity for input to the governor's 10-year plan to address domestic violence and sexual assault. Ms. Samaniego responded that the Council did not contribute to the initiative.

Ms. Stone posed the question of whether there was anything the Council would want to enhance in the plan that they could convey by the letter as well.

Chair House suggested adding a recommendation about education, to include required instruction in the schools via the curriculum.

Regarding input, Col. Holloway related that the Council did have a say through the Department of Public Safety Commissioner and through the Attorney General in the Department of Law talking to the governor. So the Council may not have had an official meeting with the governor, but the messages were certainly carried forward.

Mr. Svobodny added that not only were those two commissioners major movers in getting this done — both of which departments he and Col. Holloway represent on the Council, but Commissioner Hogan of the Department of Health & Social Services (a former Council member) and Commissioner Schmidt of the Department of Corrections were instrumental as well.

Ms. Stone agreed, mentioning that the Behavioral Health Division contributed to the DHSS effort. Her question was about the implication of the governor's initiative to: (1) treatment, relative to substance abuse by abusers and victims; (2) healing; and (3) trauma history, relative to behavioral health disorders. So she was wanting to make the connection between the governor's effort and the behavioral health field, just as Peggy Brown of the Network had mentioned earlier about the expected impact of more arrests for domestic violence and sexual assault causing an increased demand for pro bono legal services. She thought she could expect more people to be needing behavioral health treatment. She wondered what perspective other people might have about the impact of the governor's focus to really do something substantial in this field.

Ms. Brown stated that she was meeting with the governor later in the week to talk about how the

Network could support his initiative, to hear about the specifics, and to let him know what is available. She said she took to heart Ms. Stone's point about substance abuse treatment, especially in Alaska. Not only media campaigns, prevention and education, but actually starting at some point to have serious conversations about the co-occurrence of alcohol and domestic and sexual violence. She said she would connect with Ms. Samaniego after her meeting with Governor Parnell to share what the conversation was about.

Commissioner Edwards stated that the governor put a proposed price tag on the initiative as far as the state budget goes. He wondered about the cost of other ideas the Council might put forth to the governor in its letter, regardless of how necessary they might be. He would at least like to have an idea if anything the Council proposed would significantly increase the budget for the state initiative.

Ms. Stone agreed, saying that Behavioral Health sees this as both an opportunity to make a connection between treatment and recovery and healing and also recognizes that the impact of the new attention by itself is going to increase the demand for services. The question is how to address that. She thought that was what Mr. Jessee of AMHTA was alluding to earlier as well.

Ms. Brown noted that the governor rolled this out as a 10-year plan, so there is time to work on the details.

Commissioner Edwards agreed but added that he hoped the effects of addressing sexual assault and domestic violence would be seen early on in the 10 years. So the needs and the expense should come in early.

Ms. Stone said she expected that DHSS Commissioner Hogan, as part of the cabinet who gave input to the governor, would *[tape change]*how the Council will move forward with that.

Chair House summarized the discussion by saying that the Council would write a letter to Governor Parnell in support of the initiative to end domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska but not add any other comments in the letter at this point. The letter was to be signed by the chair and the executive director, after review by all the Council members. She canvassed the other Council members and no one objected. She also thanked the state departments that responded to the governor's efforts to address domestic violence and sexual assault, adding that she wanted the Council and the CDVSA office to be a little more active. She did not want the Council to get bypassed by the activities of department representatives.

PLANS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Chair House asked who the CDVSA executive director should be talking to in the Governor's Office about dv/sa issues in preparation for the next legislative session. She did not want the CDVSA to get lost in the channels and not be recognized for all the work that it does.

Ms. Svobodny said Jerry Gallagher is the governor's legislative liaison.

At Ms. Griggs's prompting, Ms. Brown said the Network would be holding its weekly legislative meetings, starting next week when they would establish a regular meeting time.

Ms. Svobodny recalled that in the past the executive director reviewed all the legislation that was filed, made a determination as to whether it affected the CDVSA, formulated a CDVSA position, and then contacted all the Council members to see if they agreed.

The executive director then appeared before legislative committees to give the Council's position on particular pieces of legislation. Further, the Department of Public Safety has a legislative liaison who could be a source for Ms. Samaniego to contact to find out what bills have been filed that relate to public safety issues.

Col. Holloway added that the DPS commissioner would have some input for Ms. Samaniego as well. He suggested that Ms. Samaniego get around and introduce herself as the new CDVSA executive director.

Ms. Brown said that when Ms. Ashenbrenner first became executive director and had been around and introduced herself, it was very effective for the two of them to visit particularly key legislative positions together so these people could see who was the CDVSA and who was the Network.

OTHER BUSINESS

Follow-up to Andre Rosay's Presentation on Sexual Assault in AK:

Ms. Svobodny referred to page 23 of the September 17, 2009 minutes where the Council had passed a motion to take the results of the UAA Justice Center studies that Andre Rosay had presented at that meeting and to compose a report for the commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. He inquired if that had taken place.

Ms. Samaniego replied that she had missed that directive but would make sure it happens.

Ms. Svobodny said he wanted a copy of that report as well. Ms. Griggs stated that staff sent a copy of Dr. Rosay's report, along with the other material he had brought to the September meeting, to all the Council members. Ms. Svobodny said his interpretation of the motion was that there would be a summary of Dr. Rosay's studies.

Col. Holloway agreed that the motion was requesting a condensed report of the UAA Justice Center study results so people would not have to look through all the information that Dr. Rosay has presented in the course of several publications. Dr. Rosay was able to reduce that information into a PowerPoint presentation of very significant points that would be quite helpful to readers. As Dr. Rosay has spent more time thinking about the research, he has been able to refine his original documentation into better and more descriptive statements in follow-up reports. Col. Holloway's motion at the September meeting [that included the directive about the report to the DPS commissioner as "...describing what the Council thinks should be done based

on some solid evidence"] would basically put a CDVSA stamp on Dr. Rosay's work and try to make some clear statements that could be verified by the UAA Justice Center's statistics.

Ms. Stone said she also understood that the idea was to do an analysis of Dr. Rosay's data relative to any actions that might be suggested from it.

CDVSA research analyst Forest Kvasnikoff informed the Council that he had been in contact with Dr. Rosay and could locate the documents and work with CDVSA staff to extract the information for any recommendations that could come out of the statistics.

New Tundra Women's Coalition Shelter Opening In Bethel:

Mr. Svobodny asked for a reminder about how the Tundra Women's Coalition built a new shelter. He recalled that the Council had denied TWC's request for a new sewer line [\$45,000 for 300 feet of sewer pipe], when it was deciding on VOCA Recovery Act grant applications at its August 31, 2009 meeting.

Ms. Cushing said she was quite sure that the Council did not reduce TWC's request but left the money in for the sewer pipe construction.

Ms. Griggs stated that TWC started gathering grants and funding for a new shelter long ago and were able to get money from several sources. She thought that TWC might have been able to get other funding for the sewer pipe project as well. She added that TWC had asked the CDVSA to support its capital project request before the legislature last year. Although the Council agreed to be a reference if TWC wanted to go to a legislator, they did not want the CDVSA to be in the position of taking up the banner specifically for one program that was making a capital request.

Bylaws Revision at September 17, 2009 Meeting:

Mr. Svobodny asked for confirmation about what constitutes a quorum of the Council. Ms. Griggs explained that at its last meeting the Council voted to increase the quorum requirement to five members. She added that all nine members of the Council were present at this teleconference meeting.

Governor's Initiative:

Col. Holloway informed the Council that he was working on a compass piece that talks about the governor's initiative but he was unsure when it would be coming out.

Mr. Svobodny commented that the CDVSA could expect that the Governor's Office would periodically be issuing things on this initiative.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES - COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Samaniego reminded Council members that a request at the last meeting was to hear from each representative of state departments on the Council about what each department is doing relative to domestic violence and sexual assault issues, how that impacts the CDVSA's goals and

missions, and how the Council could help them do better within the community. Ms. Griggs said the item was added to this meeting's agenda in case a department representative was prepared to give an overview from their department.

Chair House indicated that would include Col. Holloway, Mr. Svobodny, Ms. Stone, Ms. Curran, and Commissioner Edwards.

As the person who made the request, Ms. McFadden said she meant that someone else in the departments who was doing work related to domestic violence or sexual assault could also make a presentation, in order to change up the routine of the meetings and to hear some interesting perspectives. An example could be to hear from a representative from the Governor's Office about the recently announced initiative when the Council meets in Juneau in March.

Chair House indicated that this item would be discussed at the next meeting and voted on. Ms. McFadden questioned that course of action, saying that it had been discussed at the September meeting. [Chair House was not at the September meeting.]

Ms. Stone stated that she did not have a written report but could give a quick overview of what was going on at the Division of Behavioral Health. She thought the idea was to make connections between members' roles outside of CDVSA and the business of the Council to see how they could strengthen that work.

Ms. Stone reported that the Division of Behavioral Health has new federal money for two projects in the prevention area. One project has a couple of million dollars that is going out to regional providers to strengthen regional prevention efforts. Another recent grant award is called a strategic prevention framework grant, which brings about \$11 million to the state over five years. That will also enable the regions to do prevention planning. That is relevant to CDVSA in that the framework that prevention within Behavioral Health uses is a strategic planning framework, which basically supports communities to bring various providers together to evaluate that specific community's needs and to develop a plan specific to that community. So when funds become available a community knows what their problems are and how they want to address those, as opposed to things coming top down from the state to a community. She hoped that the CDVSA-funded agencies would be part of the community planning efforts.

Chair House noted that the Council did not vote on whether to hear reports [from representatives of state departments], and it was supposed to be taken up again at the December meeting. She recommended bringing it up again at the March meeting.

Ms. Cushing recalled that Katie TePas from Public Safety was mentioned as a possible speaker at one of the meetings.

Ms. McFadden said she remembered that Col. Holloway had suggested talking about some of her ideas for future meetings right then rather than postponing until the December meeting [so they could decide whether to direct the executive director to follow up on any of them].

Chair House said it was a bit confusing and should be taken up at the March meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 2010, starting at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Note: An outside contractor prepared the summary minutes from staff's tape recording of the meeting. For further details, please refer to tapes of the meeting and staff reports on file at the CDVSA office.

Confidential Office Services
Karen Pearce Brown
Juneau, Alaska