

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

**MINUTES OF THIRD QUARTER FY2011 MEETING
MARCH 3-4, 2011**

**Location
Goldbelt Building - State Board Room
801 West 10th Street
Juneau, Alaska**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Stephanie McFadden-Evans called the meeting of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) to order at 10:50 a.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2011. All nine Council members were present at roll call to form a quorum.

Council members present: **Ann House** (public member); **Commissioner Joseph Masters** (Department of Public Safety); **Richard Svobodny** (Department of Law); **Melissa Stone** (Department of Health & Social Services); **Cyndy Curran** (Department of Education & Early Development); **Susan Cushing** (public member/vice chair); **Kristine Tinker** (public member); **Stephanie McFadden-Evans** (public member/chair); **Dr. De Anna Hellwich** (Department of Corrections)

Council members absent: None

Council staff present: **Lauree Morton**, (interim executive director); **Jo Griggs** (administrative officer); **Ella Nierra** (administrative assistant); **Judy Reckelhoff** (research analyst); **Angie Wells** (office assistant); and **Linda Hoven** (program coordinator) by telephone

Others present (in person or by telephone): **Peggy Brown** (ANDVSA); **Ginger Baim** (SAFE - Dillingham); **Chris Bauman** (SAFV - Sitka); **Dan Spencer** (DPS Administrative Services); **Jim Baldwin** (Department of Law); **Katie TePas** (Office of the Governor); **Lori Grassgreen** (ANDVSA); **Jayne Andreen** (DHSS Public Health); **Ati Nasiah** (AWARE - Juneau); **Lou Dodson** (Seaview Community Services - Seward); **Patty Owen** (Department of Education & Early Development)

COUNCIL CONFLICT INQUIRY

Chair McFadden-Evans asked if anyone wished to declare a potential conflict of interest with items on the meeting agenda.

There were no conflict-of-interest disclosures.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Chair McFadden-Evans turned chairship of the elections over to Ann House because of the Council's long-standing policy of electing the public members to be officers, and because Ms. House's term as a public member expires this year, making her ineligible to stand for nomination.

Commissioner Masters said he appreciated the value of having a non-State employee as chair and vice chair, however, he did not want to restrict nominations to just the public members if there was no statutory or legal barrier to other Council members being nominated.

MS. STONE NOMINATED SUSAN CUSHING AS CHAIR. MS. HOUSE SECONDED.

There were no other nominations, and Ms. House closed nominations for chair. Ms. Cushing was elected chair by unanimous consent.

MS. HOUSE NOMINATED MELISSA STONE AS VICE CHAIR. Ms. Stone declined, saying she would prefer to be active in committees to having the responsibility as an officer.

MS. HOUSE NOMINATED STEPHANIE MCFADDEN-EVANS AS VICE CHAIR. COMMISSIONER MASTERS SECONDED.

MS. STONE NOMINATED KRISTINE TINKER FOR VICE CHAIR. MS. MCFADDEN-EVANS SECONDED.

There were no other nominations, and Ms. House closed nominations for vice chair.

Ms. Tinker declined the nomination as vice chair.

Ms. House asked for an outcry vote on Ms. McFadden-Evans as vice chair (the number of votes was unrecorded). Ms. McFadden-Evans indicated she wished to decline the position.

When queried, Ms. Tinker indicated she would rescind her declination and accept nomination as vice chair.

The motion to elect Ms. Tinker as vice chair passed unanimously.

Ms. House declared Susan Cushing as chair and Ms. Tinker as vice chair for 2011.

APPROVE MINUTES - DECEMBER 7, 2010 & JANUARY 11, 2011

MS. MCFADDEN-EVANS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2010 AND JANUARY 11, 2011 MEETINGS AS PRESENTED. RICK SVOBODNY SECONDED.

Ms. Morton offered the following corrections to the December 7 minutes:

- Page 6, under Correspondence, add "Alaska" in front of "...Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault..."
- Page 7, under Network Report, first bullet, change Katie Russ to Katie Ruff.

The minutes were approved as amended.

AGENDA ADDITIONS OR CHANGES

Mr. Svobodny asked to add the SART Training issue for which there were emails back and forth. Chair McFadden-Evans inserted it at 2:00 p.m. on March 3.

Ms. House asked for an update from CDVSA staff on the projects they have been doing for prevention. Chair McFadden-Evans scheduled that for 8:45 a.m. on March 4, just before the Governor's DV/SA Initiative Review. Mr. Svobodny said the SART training item was related and could be addressed at the same time.

Ms. Morton stated that many of the [prevention] tasks would be covered under the Legislative Task Force Review on March 4.

Ms. Stone said she wanted to discuss the plan if the FY12 budget increments are approved. Ms. Morton suggested adding that to the 11:15 a.m. Financial Report on March 3.

Ms. Stone asked to be able to report briefly on the Change Agent Conference follow-up items. Chair McFadden-Evans suggested 2:00 p.m. on March 3.

Ms. Stone praised the December minutes as being more to the point and very helpful. She added that she still had some questions about the quarterly reports and that the Council does not have time to talk about the report content or how staff uses the information. Chair McFadden-Evans inserted that discussion at 11:00 a.m. on March 4.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Morton, CDVSA interim executive director, reported on the following items:

- Staffing - the office assistant and research analyst positions have been filled. The administrative assistant is leaving March 31, and the administrative officer's last day will be April 30. *[Dan Spencer, director of DPS Administrative Services, answered several questions from Council members on position classifications, duties, staff turnover rates, and recruitment responsibility for the administrative officer position.]*
- The application for the services training officers and prosecution grant was submitted by the February deadline. The three-year plan on expending S*T*O*P funds has moved forward to the Office of Violence Against Women, and the application is to carry out the first year of that plan.
- The SASP (Sexual Assault Services Program) grant application is due April 5. The grant is less than \$200,000 and for two years. The Council decided to incorporate the grant into the regular core victim services grants and prorate it to each program. The State is required to pull together a work group to talk about how the money should be expended, and that group is expected to meet in the next few weeks.
- Staff is implementing the grant that was awarded to the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Network) for the work between domestic violence program staff and the Office of Children's Services (OCS) staff. Ann Rausch is the CDVSA staff person working with that grant.
- Staff is implementing the Rural Domestic Violence grant that went to nine grantees.
- The Grants to Encourage Arrest funding is paying the salaries for nine legal advocates.
- The Governor has designated March 31 at noon for community marches to end violence against women and to choose respect.
- The CDVSA web site has been updated.
- Several webinars are available, one being on batterers intervention in April.

Ms. Morton requested any comments on the meeting packet and what Council members want to hear in the executive director's report.

Commissioner Masters urged Council member involvement in the Marches in March effort in their respective communities.

Chair McFadden-Evans recessed the meeting for lunch at 11:55 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

ANDVSA REPORT

The Network director, Peggy Brown, spoke about the following items:

- A Network work group has been trying to determine if the Violent Crimes Victims Compensation Board would be a payer for forensic examinations. Proposed legislation looks like it has been placed on hold. The work group is continuing to meet.
- The Network meeting was held the last three days, and most of the victim services programs were in Juneau. They worked on getting some of the budget items that the Department of Public Safety put forward in the governor's budget back into the budget being considered by the legislative finance committees.
- The Network applied for and received an Engaging Boys and Men grant for \$300,000 over two or three years to support local partnerships in Dillingham, Bethel, Juneau, and Anchorage.
- She provided a list of upcoming trainings in March, April and May.
- Campaigns underway are the new "Stand Up, Speak Up," the "Men Choose Respect," and the "Alaskans Choose Respect." The viewer numbers on the web sites are skyrocketing.
- A behavioral health services survey was done among the Network programs, and she provided the aggregated results to CDVSA staff. The survey showed that generally there is a working relationship between programs and behavioral health services, which is not to say that it could not be fostered and improved.
- The Network has been busy with legislation and is directly supporting the governor's bills, a bill related to sexual assault and stalking protective orders, and the youth risk behavior survey.
- The Network programs are amazingly busy, and a lot of prevention efforts have started to happen in communities in the last two years.

Ms. Brown also mentioned the governor's forum in Anchorage a couple of weeks ago. She said people are definitely accessing the web sites to either get more education or to get help. Measuring that response is another thing.

Ms. Stone suggested that Ms. Brown, Ms. Morton and herself or some other Council member get together to delve deeper into the behavioral health services survey results, as well as the results of the Change Agent conference. Ms. Morton agreed to schedule that meeting.

CDVSA PROGRAM SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

Ms. Morton had previously forwarded the results of the three-question survey to Council members. She said all victim services programs responded to the survey. She reviewed the common themes gleaned from the written comments, as well as the responses to

the three questions (*included in the meeting packet, pages 14-18*). Programs appreciated the Council's commitment and passion, and there was strong interest in having Council members do more visiting of programs. She encouraged members to visit victim services programs when they are traveling in an area, and to let the CDVSA office know if they go to a program so staff can keep track of who has been where to see if each program can get at least one visit by a Council member. Programs also wanted to see an increase in Council member training and education on the issues.

Programs generally thought CDVSA staff was helpful, knowledgeable and supportive. They wanted staff to be more organized when collecting reports, and staff agreed they could do better on that than they did last year. Programs wanted to change the format of quarterly reports to provide the Council with consistent information. Staff made a first attempt to do that at this meeting. The Grants Committee will be an avenue for easier and streamlined reporting that will feed into the responses to requests for proposal (RFPs). The database is a perennial challenge, and staff did not disagree with those comments at all. The new research analyst continues to work on the database problems, and Dr. Rosay has reviewed the database and how to get information out of the database in a consistent manner.

Ms. Stone said the quarterly reports summary was excellent this time, and CDVSA should let the programs know how staff summarized the information and what the Council wants to see. Further, she wanted to address what the CDVSA does with the quarterly report information because it would help the Council direct its funds and its energies.

Ms. Morton noted that as the Grants Committee does its work the format of the summary report may change.

Council members and staff discussed federal grant reporting requirements, and the weaknesses of the current database system and how to make it more productive or if a new system is needed. They also discussed the data being filtered because of federal confidentiality requirements, the State's domestic violence initiative and evidence-based reporting, and the Grants Committee taking another look at what kind of information the Council wants.

Referring to program comments about developing training tools to meet the CDVSA's minimum standards, Ms. Morton said the Network introduced yesterday a new training curriculum for domestic violence advocates and the intersection with disabilities and trauma-informed services that will make it easy for Alaska service providers to learn and develop their skills. Ms. Morton also reviewed the other requests and recommendations from the programs related to: (1) training; (2) a CDVSA staff position specifically for sexual assault issues; (3) allowing programs to speak at Council meetings; and (4)

investment in research of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska *[page 15 of the meeting packet]*.

Ms. House reiterated her long-standing campaign of having the CDVSA logo visible on any CDVSA-funded literature, activities and events.

Ms. Cushing expressed support for providing more funding for adequate salaries for the program staff doing the work in the trenches.

Chair McFadden-Evans recommended posting the survey results summary on the CDVSA web site, along with the Council's plan and timeline for addressing the program requests and recommendations.

Other Council members and the Network's Ms. Brown also gave their impressions of the survey results.

FINANCE REPORT

CDVSA administrative officer Jo Griggs reported that the VAWA 2008 grant was extended to 4/30/2012, which affects primarily the Court System. The VAWA earmark was extended one more year to 4/30/2012. Staff will be requesting an extension for the VAWA 2009 grant next week. The VAWA 2007 grant was fully expended and closed out on February 28, 2011. The VAWA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds will be closed out April 30.

Ms. Griggs referred to the financial report information in the meeting packet *[pages 76-83]* to explain the source of funds for CDVSA and how expenses and grants are dealt with. She used the FY11 budget to explain the process. She pointed out that the State is very supportive in funding Alaska's victim services programs, unlike some states that receive federal funds but allocate no state monies. She reviewed the various federal formula and competitive grants and the limitations on the use of federal funds, as well as the sources of inter-agency funds the CDVSA receives and what those monies are used for.

At the scheduled 3:00 p.m. break, Chair McFadden-Evans said she would have the committee reports handed out during the break so people could read them and have any questions ready when Committee Reports were taken up on the agenda. The reports were from the BIPS Committee, the MOU Committee, the Administrative Committee, the Grants Committee, and the Governor's Initiative Committee.

FY12 FUNDING PLAN FOR VICTIM SERVICES AND BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Ms. Morton stated that at its December meeting the Council voted to extend the current grant cycle for one year if there were no restrictions to such an action. She said she reviewed the regulations and checked with the department's grants manager, and there are no restrictions prohibiting the Council's action. That would be to extend the current victim services and batterers intervention grants for FY12 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012). At the December meeting the Council had asked staff to bring that information back at the next meeting.

Several Council members and Mr. Spencer voiced their views of what an extension of the current grant cycle for one year means. They also discussed how to distribute any increment in FY12 funding, whether to consider funding new service providers in FY12, what to do if the assessment of batterers intervention programs determines that a currently funded program is not a cost-effective use of dollars, and whether to designate any increment that is received for emergency travel and program outreach travel.

Chair McFadden-Evans said she recalled the Council having asked to hear from Seaview Community Services in Seward about why they were no longer a member of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The Council directed staff to contact the executive director and a board member of Seaview for their comments on this matter.

FUNDED PROGRAM PRESENTATION - SAFV (SITKA)

Chris Bauman, executive director of Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV), spoke to the Council about the program's 25-bed shelter that offers a full range of advocacy services. They serve victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and pretty much victims of any crime, and they also deal with suicide calls and lots of drug and alcohol issues. They also do outreach in the school system and community trainings. SAFV has 18 staff, and 11 of those are full time. They also serve Kake and Angoon, and Port Alexander to a very limited extent.

Council members briefly discussed Port Alexander's stance against outreach in the tiny community, and CDVSA program coordinator Linda Hoven gave them her perspective.

Ms. Bauman reported that their client numbers have varied over the last five years but have gone up overall; the biggest increase has been in nonresident clients accessing SAFV services. Over the last 10 years SAFV has observed that the majority of people who seek shelter have multiple issues and are not just seeking safety. This means it is a lot more time consuming and requires more effort to provide these people services, and they stay in shelter longer. The average stay is about 45 days, and it is not uncommon for somebody to stay three to six months.

Besides the shelter in Sitka, the Sitka Tribe of Alaska has many projects that are working on domestic violence and sexual assault issues, including a dedicated attorney for family violence, a supervised visitation center that is about to open, and funding to put back together a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). SAFV was just awarded \$200,000 for a pilot project in prevention that the community developed. Sitka has been one of the DELTA project sites doing primary prevention in the past few years and had a community plan ready when the grant funding became available.

Ms. Bauman stated that the second program is the Sitka Native Education Project, a long-term plan to get a team of elders, parents and youth together to develop a curriculum to introduce more Native culture into the schools and the communities. The third program is supporting a community "respect" mural that was one of the goals of Sitka's health summit this year. The Sitka school district is doing a bullying project, and SAFV is helping educate on how bullying is related to violence later in life.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT TRAINING

Attorney Jim Baldwin, formerly with the Alaska Department of Law, joined the meeting to provide about 45 minutes of training on the State's Open Meetings Act, and specifically about the proper process for executive sessions. The key points of his presentation were as follows:

- Matters in executive session are confidential. That does not necessarily make documents consulted in executive session confidential, if they are otherwise public in nature.
- Groups can only go into executive session to discuss certain subjects that are set out in the statute. Only subjects related to the accepted subject matter, or matters ancillary to that subject, may be discussed in executive session.
- The parliamentary process to go into executive session is set out in statute: it has to be stated in the form of a motion, the motion has to state clearly and specifically the reasons for going into executive session without disclosing confidences, and the motion needs a majority vote.
- The grounds for going into executive session are: (1) matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government unit; (2) subjects which tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person (the person who is being discussed can ask that the discussion be held in public); (3) something required to be kept confidential by law or charter; (4) something involving the consideration of governmental records that by law are not subject to public disclosure; and (5) meeting with legal counsel about litigation strategy or a labor negotiator about ongoing labor negotiations. Just because a subject matter is difficult or uncomfortable does not mean it is grounds for an executive session.

- It is recommended to let the public know before leaving open session at what time the group is expected to come back from executive session.
- No requirement that minutes be kept of an executive session, but minutes are allowed.
- Bylaws should probably state that members absent from an executive session can be informed of the discussion later by other participants (not in law or statute).
- Out of executive session, put on the record that the group only discussed the subject matter that was in the motion and that no action was taken (because the group cannot take action in executive session). If the outcome of the executive session requires any action, that action has to happen in open session.
- When the meeting is on teleconference, any motion has to have a roll call vote.
- If there is any violation of the Open Meetings Act, the action taken is void. To correct it could require a substantial reconsideration of the matter.

Council members and staff asked numerous questions about specific situations that Mr. Baldwin answered throughout his presentation.

Mr. Baldwin said the Council has to give public notice of meetings, and a meeting is something that is attended by more than three members or a majority of the board, whichever is less. Five members of the Council is a quorum. Reasonable public notice of a meeting is at least three days, and the statute talks about what constitutes public notice. There is no subset of notice requirements for a smaller group that holds a meeting.

Chair McFadden-Evans thanked Mr. Baldwin for the education.

Regarding Committee Reports, Ms. Stone provided a written summary on the Change Agent conference held last Fall.

Chair McFadden-Evans recessed the meeting for the day at about 4:45 p.m.

Friday, March 4, 2011

Chair McFadden-Evans reconvened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. Council members Cushing, Curran, Masters, House, Tinker, Svobodny, and McFadden-Evans were present to form a quorum. Members Hellwich and Stone joined the meeting shortly thereafter.

2011 COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council and staff discussed the 2011 meeting calendar and possible locations, as well as the advisability of holding all four quarterly meetings in person rather than having the December meeting by teleconference.

Mr. Svobodny said Council members who can make it to the meeting site should do so, but it is preferable for those who cannot attend in person to participate by telephone than not at all.

There was agreement to hold the quarterly meetings in person, and that November was preferred over December for that quarter's meeting. Fairbanks was tentatively selected as the location for the November/December 2011 meeting.

The May meeting is scheduled for May 12-13, 2011 in Anchorage.

The Council decided to ask the programs if any of them wanted to host the September meeting in their community. The idea was floated to possibly hold the November meeting in conjunction with program trainings to offer support and allow more people to attend.

STRATEGIC PLAN/LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE REVIEW/ PREVENTION PROJECTS AND SART TRAINING

[The documents for this item are found on page 19 through 35 in the meeting packet, on file at the CDVSA offices.]

Ms. Morton stated that at the last two meetings Council members expressed interest in comparing the CDVSA's Strategic Plan developed in 2009 and the CDVSA Legislative Task Force report recommendations that had come out the prior year. Staff did that comparison and provided a report of the current status of the goals and objectives laid out in the CDVSA Strategic Plan and the recommendations in the Legislative Task Force report *[see meeting packet]*.

Mr. Svobodny mentioned that the Council had long pushed for legislative appropriation to fill the position in the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) for developing a curriculum on sexual assault and domestic violence. He understood the funding had happened, and he wondered about the position status.

Ms. Morton explained that DEED hired Patty Owen, who will also be the new Council member to replace Ms. Curran. She said Katie TePas would be reviewing the plans for that position as part of the Governor's DV/SA Initiative Report later.

Sparked by input from Commissioner Masters on Strategic Plan Goal 2 - Objective 2A, the Council supported having a future discussion about how funds would be allocated

towards prevention programs (whether to encourage a specific direction or focus, if there are not enough prevention funds to pay for all the projects put forth).

Ms. Brown said that she and Ms. Morton could work together to come up with an idea of the operational costs of DV/SA programs.

Ms. Stone stressed the need to partner with and support other agencies that are providing prevention services, in order to maximize resources, and so the CDVSA does not wind up funding a new silo for prevention. Ms. Brown said the Network tried and did not have the expertise to calculate a dollar amount for collaborating with others and sharing services.

Ms. Morton said it would be helpful for CDVSA to have a statewide funding plan, similar to what the Council did with the strategic plan.

There was an in-depth exchange about SART training, who has responsibility for services, the frequency of — and payment for — forensic examinations, the funding sources, SART sustainability, and outcome measures.

Referring to Strategic Plan Goal 3 - Objective 3F, Ms. Stone asked how the Council would know if CDVSA-funded programs were not in compliance with CDVSA regulations and grant conditions. Ms. House stated that the Council has a right to know, and staff has the responsibility to inform the Council of such matters. Commissioner Masters agreed, adding that he expected the executive director to bring it up in his or her report, including such things as advance notice that an audit is coming.

Regarding Strategic Plan Goal 5, the Council wanted to hear from Seaview Community Services (as a shelterless program) and the Seward Police Department about how they are ensuring the safety of the victims in their homes and removing the perpetrators.

Chair McFadden-Evans asked if the CDVSA would be providing staff's report on the current status of the goals and objectives laid out in the CDVSA Strategic Plan to Representative Anna Fairclough, as promised to her at the September 2010 meeting. Ms. Morton said she had not, that she was giving the updated status report to the Council at its request. Commissioner Masters suggested providing the summary in the meeting packet to Rep. Fairclough with an explanation of what it is. Ms. Morton said she would take that as Council direction.

Ms. Morton stated that the MOU/MOA Committee still had not held a meeting, and staff would send out another doodle to help the committee find a suitable date to meet. [The MOU/MOA Committee appointed at the September 2010 meeting consisted of Melissa Stone, Sam Edwards and Susan Cushing.]

Ms. Morton finished reviewing the Strategic Plan goals. She indicated that the Council had wanted to know if any of the Legislative Task Force report recommendations tied into the CDVSA Strategic Plan, and, if they did, how they did. Staff's report in the meeting packet listed all the recommendations and noted where to find if they were being addressed in the Strategic Plan. She briefly reviewed the other recommendations that were being addressed by committees or dealt with through other Council or staff action.

Regarding the Task Force recommendation to increase CDVSA staff retention and the subsequent change of positions to classified service, Commissioner Masters suggested interviewing people who terminate to determine if the frozen salaries situation is the reason or if it is something else, so the Council will know where to direct its efforts towards staff retention. Ms. Morton indicated that she could implement something to get that information.

Ms. Stone asked if there was a timeline for completing the Legislative Task Force report recommendations. Others thought it was 2014. She said the Council's goal should be to complete all the work on the recommendations and to wrap it up with a definite conclusion that all the items were addressed.

Dr. Hellwich asked about the Council setting a timeline to implement a strategy to follow up on the program satisfaction survey results. Ms. Stone said the plan to address areas where programs thought there should be improvement could be a simple grid indicating what action was needed and who would do it. Commissioner Masters suggested that staff distribute a list of the programs' concerns to the Council members to get their feedback on what could be done to improve CDVSA services. Dr. Hellwich said the other part is communicating back to the programs that participated in the survey to let them know what is being done about their concerns — otherwise the project will be incomplete.

Mr. Svobodny stated that by chance he had learned that all the SART training had been moved from a program at the Department of Public Safety to the CDVSA. Also, it sounded like four or five other projects from the Governor's Office, Public Safety, or other department agencies had moved to the CDVSA. He said if the CDVSA is taking on tasks or projects and not getting paid for them in order to hire new employees, then he was concerned that it was overburdening the CDVSA, where he assumed the staff was already working at 100% capacity. He did not think the CDVSA office should have taken on additional projects and tasks because of decisions being made by somebody else and for other purposes, without a decision being made by the Council. He asked how many tasks CDVSA had taken on in the last six months that the Council had not been told about, and what the impacts of those were. He thought somebody was putting pressure on the CDVSA office to take on tasks that staff had not done before.

Commissioner Masters said the CDVSA executive director has to manage the resources of their unit to meet the mission of CDVSA. Part of how to best meet the mission will require input from the Council, but the Council should not be in the day-to-day business. He thought part of Ms. TePas's job when she assumed the coordinator position in the Governor's office was to pressure state agencies and organizations into stepping forward and doing more and better in regards to domestic violence and sexual assault prevention.

Mr. Svobodny said he agreed that there has to be change and challenges and pressuring people into doing things. But he thought there also needed to be push back and a discussion when the CDVSA has been given new tasks with the same pool of people who have also been directed by their board that they have to do other things. It is about the Council being uninformed about the additional tasks that were assigned and not having the ability to say that something will have to be given up in order to take on some other great idea.

Ms. Stone commented that the Council had not had a discussion since the Governor's initiative began about the CDVSA's role in new things happening and whether the coordinator should go directly to the CDVSA executive director or to the Council so the Council has a better sense of what is going on and can consider how to support its staff in doing their work.

Ms. House stated that any new tasks should have been worked out with the Council and not taken directly to the executive director, because the CDVSA staff is already overworked.

Ms. Morton explained that CDVSA staff increased its involvement in the SART training issue starting last summer, and it progressed from there. In the Governor's initiative, CDVSA is facilitating some of the subgroup meetings — the core victim services, the law/legal/public safety, and prevention, and Ms. Samaniego had been doing the data group. Staff is helping to plan the Marches in March. These tasks have increased what staff is required to do and have had an impact on other duties. Four additional competitive grants have also taken extra staff time, which is why she mentioned earlier that a statewide funding plan would be helpful.

Regarding the additional grant applications, Chair McFadden-Evans stated that if staff has to work a little harder in order to bring in more money for state programs, then they should work a little harder. But she did not see stretching the staff to help other people with tasks, because maybe the Governor's Office could look at other state entities to collaborate.

Commissioner Masters remarked that CDVSA are the experts in the domestic violence and sexual assault field. Also, the Governor's Initiative is bringing in money to the CDVSA to do its work. He also understood that the Council wanted to get behind the initiative and make sure that it is successful.

Ms. Stone said the Governor's Office trumps a lot of things, and the legitimate question is, what is the relationship now of the Governor's Office relative to the CDVSA? The Council needs to be transparent and talk with Ms. TePas to figure that out.

Mr. Svobodny said everyone wants a reduction in domestic violence and sexual assault in the state, and it does not so much matter which group is doing what part.

GOVERNOR'S DV/SA INITIATIVE REPORT

Katie TePas, special assistant for the Office of the Governor, stated that the CDVSA is the Governor's Council, and the DV/SA Initiative is the Governor's Initiative. To be part of that initiative, the Council has to be at the table and be visible, and she has done key things to benefit the Council and its staff in that regard. The general perception has been that the CDVSA is a granting agency and is not influencing policy. Having the CDVSA be co-chair of the big work group and sub-work group meetings is one opportunity to publicly highlight the CDVSA taking the lead, showing expertise, and helping influence policy. The tasks she has talked to the CDVSA executive director about taking on were discussed in the context of enhancing the CDVSA within the initiative.

Ms. TePas referred to the statutes on the purpose and duties of the CDVSA, as well as the goals in the CDVSA Strategic Plan, and said the tasks assigned to staff fit directly under both of those. She said the Council meets quarterly, and the infrequency makes it very difficult for her to come to the Council to ask for staff to do tasks. She agreed that more effective communication could be happening, such as took place when she attended the Council retreat and the September quarterly meeting in Kodiak.

Ms. Stone said the Council has to figure out the impact of the initiative on the CDVSA's ability to do this and how to structure the CDVSA to plan what it is capable of doing. For example, the Council had no ability to discuss whether a prevention coordinator position (in the governor's FY12 budget) was its highest priority relative to all the aspects of the initiative.

Ms. TePas stated that the CDVSA has significant representation on the Governor's Initiative big work group and the sub-work groups, and information from those meetings has to come back to the Council. She added that the Council has a Governor's Initiative Committee, but she did not know anything about what it was doing. Finally, there are a lot of DV/SA initiative tasks happening at the state agency level that the state

representatives on the Council have to be communicating with their people about to be fully informed.

Chair McFadden-Evans said the Governor's Initiative Committee — she, Ms. Tinker and Ms. Morton (1 vacant position formerly held by Col. Holloway) — met once and handed out the written work product to everyone.

Ms. Stone suggested that perhaps the Governor's Initiative Committee was where more integrated strategizing between the CDVSA and the Governor's Initiative can happen.

Ms. TePas stated that a priority in her position is to work with the Council and to bolster and enhance the effectiveness of the CDVSA. The effectiveness of the CDVSA staff and board is directly linked to the effectiveness of the DV/SA initiative in ending an epidemic of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska. When CDVSA staff facilitates the sub-group meetings, they are visible and taking a leadership role.

Ms. Brown, as the Network's director, related that since the Governor's Initiative was launched the Network staff have been maxed out at facilitating things, working on projects, and creating deliverables within a day and sometimes hours. Those unfamiliar with governor's work groups and sub-work groups would be surprised at the tremendous amount of work on deliverables and product there is to move the initiative forward. She was particularly attentive to Mr. Svobodny's comments, because that is compounded with CDVSA staff, some of whose salaries are frozen for years, and she did not think all their job descriptions required them to facilitate governor's initiative work groups. She was glad to see the staff taking on some of those tasks, and particularly with bringing sexual assault back into being victim-centered, because she thought it had gotten away from being very victim-centered and had become very prosecution, law enforcement, and nurse examiner oriented. She suggested doing a time study of the CDVSA staff's workload and how much of it is Governor's Initiative work and how much is the administrative tasks that they always do.

Ms. TePas talked to the Council about the amount of work required from members on the Governor's Initiative and said she was willing to attend committee meetings if invited and was available to answer questions from committees and individual members at any time. She mentioned the two-hour quarterly meeting of the Council in December and questioned why it was so short when the CDVSA has a lot of work to do. Also that some of the Council subcommittees have not been able to meet, and do Council members have the time to dedicate to their positions. There may be ideas or projects that people decide they are not ready to move forward on yet because some other part has to be done first or they lack the expertise. In everything, people can and should be looking specifically at whether they should be taking on something or not.

Ms. TePas reported that rural pilot projects are up and moving. Regarding the Council's earlier discussion on sites for quarterly meetings in 2011, she suggested going to one of the rural pilot sites (Kodiak, Sitka, Bethel, and Dillingham).

Commissioner Masters remarked that there is so much momentum going on with the Governor's Initiative that the reality is that this Council is in a position where it either has to lead, follow, or get out of the way — because things are going to happen around it, and the CDVSA can have a part in shaping what happens - or not. The initiative and the CDVSA are very intertwined.

Mr. Svobodny recommended continuing this important discussion, saying that he disagreed with Ms. TePas that this is the governor's council: it is everybody's council and the legislature created it for all the people. The important issue is to end domestic violence and sexual assault, and it is to do it in a way that does not bog down one entity so that it cannot do its job. The interim solution is that the appropriate place for Ms. TePas to go (when she needs a decision that cannot wait for the next quarterly meeting) is the Administrative Committee, which is the executive committee for the Council, currently chaired by Ms. House. That committee will talk to the executive director about taking on a new responsibility and how to rearrange other priorities to make room. The Administrative Committee is where people who are asking the CDVSA executive director to take on additional responsibilities should go.

Ms. TePas said the Governor's Initiative is directly connected to the CDVSA, and she wanted it to be a partnership. She did not think it was necessarily the simplest thing to go ask the Administrative Committee if she needed something. She closed by saying there has been a lot of progress made with the Council and staff.

Ms. Stone agreed with Mr. Svobodny that more discussion was needed to resolve all the questions, because the Council needs to figure out what decisions need to come to the Council. It is disempowering the Council when someone goes directly to the CDVSA executive director to get a task done, and that is not the same as working together relative to the bigger picture.

Chair McFadden-Evans gave Council members information on the current terms for the four public members, as amended by Boards and Commissions. Ms. Morton said she would add the renewal process instructions to the orientation for new Council members.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HIRING PROCESS

Chair McFadden-Evans said she worked with Dan Spencer to develop some additional qualifications for the CDVSA executive director position. She reviewed that list, along with the process and schedule for a three-person Hiring Subcommittee. Mr. Spencer also provided details on the recruitment process.

There was a brief discussion about whether to invite one or more people from outside the Council to participate in the hiring process, and to look at it as an opportunity to further develop partnerships with other state departments and outside agencies.

The Hiring Subcommittee established was Susan Cushing (as the new chair), Commissioner Masters, and Melissa Stone.

Chair McFadden-Evans recessed the meeting for a lunch break at 12:00 p.m., and everyone reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: ALASKAN PREVENTION STRATEGIES

Jayne Andreen, DHSS Division of Public Health

Ms. Andreen mentioned her background in primary prevention and the Rape Prevention Education (RPE) grant. She explained the three different levels of prevention from the public health model — primary, secondary, and tertiary — using a summary chart in a handout [*handouts on file at the CDVSA offices*].

She said Public Health is paying a lot more attention to interpersonal, intimate partner, and sexual violence, and applying the public health models that are based on the medical model of looking at what is successful and doing outcome-based evaluation. She had another handout of information from the World Health Organization that identified the risk factors associated with intimate partner violence and sexual violence individually, and then what risk factors applied to both forms of abuse. It gives an idea, from a primary prevention level, what to focus on to try and make some changes.

Ms. Andreen also shared information about the Alaska Primary Prevention and Sexual Violence Strategic Plan compiled in April 2009. She said the statewide steering committee that has overseen the Pathways development will now also be advising on the implementation of the RPE. To build capacity at the local, regional, and state levels, they are planning to make information more readily available and accessible for people who are interested in doing primary prevention work around sexual violence. They are reactivating and expanding an existing resource, the Alaska Health Education Library Project, an online searchable database that features Alaska-specific projects and initiatives specifically around health promotion and primary prevention. She also talked about plans to develop case studies of Alaska-based strategies related to sexual violence, about different communication links to share information, about training on prevention programming, and about holding a prevention summit training conference in 2012 or 2013. She spoke about developing model policies to use at the school level and work sites that help prevent sexual violence and harassment, marketing in partnership with others, and evaluation and research.

Ms. Andreen said she had started pulling some partners together into a work group, including the domestic violence and sexual assault people, and in consultation with Dr. Rosay of the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center, to conduct a primary prevention capacity needs assessment that will help determine where training has to be focused.

Ms. Stone said she thought the Council should be looking to see whether it accepted the Alaska Primary Prevention and Sexual Violence Strategic Plan as the plan. If it did, then the Council should be supporting the plan and looking at how to collaborate in it — particularly since there is a prevention coordinator position the CDVSA might get in the FY12 budget.

Ms. Andreen stated that the CDVSA was actively involved and Linda Hoven was the lead in organizing this in conjunction with herself. Chair McFadden-Evans participated in the event, as well as CDVSA staff. A teleconference was held to review the plan with the programs, but she did not know if it was ever brought before the Council for a vote.

Ms. Stone asked about strategies to implement the plan. Ms. Andreen explained that every spring she has to submit an annual action plan to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She pulls together a working group with the Network, CDVSA and other partners, and they identify the priorities and who they need to be working with in the coming year.

Commissioner Masters observed that right now the CDVSA does not have the capacity to take on prevention as a huge piece of the CDVSA's activities. But if the prevention coordinator position is funded, the CDVSA will have capacity, and the plan that Public Health spearheaded will be a great starting point. He did not see a need to rush into rejecting or accepting the plan.

Ms. Andreen stated that the CDC encourages getting letters of support for the plan, and an endorsement letter from the Council would be beneficial to attach to the document.

Ms. Stone supported Dr. Hellwich's suggestion that Council members have an assignment to read the plan and respond to CDVSA staff within 10 days; no response would mean a member supported the plan. Then staff could be asked to write a letter of support for the Alaska Primary Prevention and Sexual Violence Strategic Plan to forward to Public Health. The plan would be kept on file at CDVSA in case the prevention coordinator position is funded.

Ati Nasiah, Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE)

Ms. Nasiah said she took on the DELTA Pathways Project in Juneau about a year ago; there are four sites in Alaska funded by the Centers for Disease Control. She had a slide presentation [*copy on file at the CDVSA offices*] about the Pathways Project, which

is now in the implementation and evaluation phase. She described how the coordinated community response team developed the strategic plan and identified four major goals, the community wide summer celebration to celebrate positive attributes that many men are already bringing to the table and to do training, and the early success of the "Coaching Boys Into Men" 10-week program. She also talked about the national white ribbon campaign to promote respect which partnered with the local realtors association, the statewide youth Lead On Conference and youth leaders in the state promoting healthy relationships, and the "Girls on the Run" program in Southeast Alaska communities. Another goal is around policies and systems, adopting practices conducive to promoting healthy relationships and interpersonal violence prevention. Examples are the Fourth R, a comprehensive health education curriculum, and Partnerships in Parenting, which works closely with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization to provide mentoring mothers to teen mothers.

Ms. Nasiah said the Pathways Project is huge, and if it is going to be effective it needs to be multi-layered. The only way to do that is through having really strong capacity, both within AWARE and within the community. So one of her main goals over the next year is to get staff to help with the programs, and to nurture her relationships with the coordinated community response team to deepen community ownership of prevention.

Dr. Hellwich talked to Ms. Nasiah about the mixed success in recruiting sports coaches for the "Coaching Boys Into Men" program, and the ongoing recruitment efforts and training for coaches.

Chair McFadden-Evans asked Ms. Nasiah to provide her with some information on the parks project for youth so she could forward it to her contacts in the Department of Interior.

Lori Grassgreen, ANDVSA

Ms. Grassgreen, director of prevention projects at the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, presented information about statewide prevention strategies. She said the Pathways Plan was convened by the Network, and funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but has been a huge partnership of more than 20 groups in Alaska, including a very active role by CDVSA. *[Slide presentation on file at CDVSA offices.]* The Pathways Plan focused on intimate partner violence and teen dating violence.

Ms. Grassgreen stated that more is known about what is happening within the adult population regarding violence than about what is happening in the youth population. Within Alaska almost 60% of women have experienced lifetime victimization of sexual assault or domestic violence. Based on the Youth Risk Behavioral Survey, that trend is not seen so much in the youth statistics compared to the national statistics, but it is not

known if the data is skewed because the survey response is opt-in and requires parental permission for youth to participate.

Ms. Grassgreen talked about prevention and the risk factors for perpetration, the risk factors for victimization, and the protective factors. She also discussed a couple of strategy areas within the Pathways Plan: (1) the Fourth R healthy relationship curriculum in the schools, the challenges faced in very small community schools, and working with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and others on a research design for Alaska; and (2) Lead On - youth-driven leadership and positive peer role models, which is regarded as a protective factor. It is important that all the strategy efforts in different settings make sense together so the message is being reinforced. ANDVSA has seen a lot of positive impacts around Lead On and Stand Up, Speak Up.

Ms. Grassgreen spoke on the Alaska Men Choose Respect media campaign, the continuing work on additional messaging, and work on putting together tool kits. She said there needed to be a statewide infrastructure to coordinate prevention efforts, and bodies like the CDVSA, the statewide steering committee, and some of the governor's initiative group are doing that. She said statewide support for approaches that address the root causes of violence is really important, but it is one of the hardest areas. DELTA sites are good example of how to comprehensively support local communities to think about prevention, plan for prevention, and to work through roadblocks that arise. It is an exciting opportunity for those communities with the Division of Behavioral Health grants to also work on prevention.

TESTIMONY FROM LOCAL COMMUNITIES

At the appointed time on the agenda, Chair McFadden-Evans opened the floor to public comment.

Lou Dodson, the new dv/sa coordinator for Seaview Community Services in Seward, spoke by telephone. She said they are doing a lot of outreach in women's support groups, after being hired December 13-14, 2010 (following almost a whole quarter without dv/sa staff). They held a chocolate tasting fundraiser, and the community was more than supportive. The community is ready to make some major changes, and people are volunteering to sit on the advisory board. A new women's self-support group, called WAR (Women who are Recovering), has started up. Young people (11-13 year olds) have been calling inquiring about whether what they are experiencing is domestic violence, and youth with nothing to do are being enticed by alcohol and cigarettes and sometimes encounter violence. The program is collaborating with the Boys and Girls Club and the animal shelter to use animals with children in elementary school to talk about humane treatment and dv/sa issues in a non-threatening way.

There was no one else who wished to speak, and public testimony was closed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The written reports from the BIPS Committee, the MOU Committee, the Administrative Committee, the Grants Committee, and the Governor's Initiative Committee had been distributed to Council members in the afternoon of March 3. The Council took action to accept the minutes of the committee meetings.

The Council reviewed and updated the committee memberships, as follows:

BIPS Committee: Carmen/Dr. Hellwich, Melissa Stone, Stephanie McFadden-Evans

Grants Committee: Susan Cushing, Melissa Stone, De Anna Hellwich

Governor's Initiative Committee: Kristine Tinker, Susan Cushing, Commissioner Masters

MOU/MOA Committee: Patty Owens, Rick Svobodny, Melissa Stone

Administration Committee: Ann House, Rick Svobodny, Commissioner Masters

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Dr. Hellwich mentioned that her work involves 18 to 21-year-old youths in the court system with charges of assault, domestic violence assault, and disorderly conduct (which sometimes involves aggressive behaviors). These youth are often still in school or homeless, or both. She requested some time at the next meeting to talk about developing a plan for allocating funds to this gray-area group that is in transition from adolescence to adulthood.

There was discussion about holding half-day committee meetings in conjunction with the May 12-13, 2011 Council meeting in Anchorage. Ms. Curran suggested that the first part of the meeting be a work session to hear reports/presentations and hold discussions, and the second part would be taking up CDVSA business matters.

Commissioner Masters said the Council owed its interim executive director clear direction on what the Council's expectation is moving forward from here. He thought there was too much overlap of responsibilities and focus of effort between the CDVSA, the Governor's Initiative, and the Network, etc. He suggested that any request of the CDVSA staff or Council should always go to the Council first before going to the executive director. If there is a conflict, the executive director would bring that up so the Council could help deal with it. The Council would expect regular communication between the executive director and the chair, or something along those lines that might include the Administrative Committee.

Ms. House recommended that the executive director and the chair be more proactive in the halls of the legislature regarding bills. Ms. Stone cautioned about an executive director speaking and saying things the Council did not agree with. Commissioner Masters explained the difference between testifying to take a position on a bill and testifying simply to present facts for legislators to learn about an issue.

Commissioner Masters proposed that the executive director runs the day-to-day operations of the CDVSA and is responsible for administering the CDVSA mission and what the Council wants to have happen. It will always be a normal part of business to receive requests, and those requests can be directed to the executive director. But the ED has to communicate to the Council chair if there is any concern about adequate resources to be able to take on any task, to determine if a request should be dealt with by the Council. Second, barring any issues at all, that there be regular contact between the ED and the chair regarding day-to-day operations and what the CDVSA activities are so there is an understanding and information connection between the Council and the CDVSA staff about what is going on, so people are not taken by surprise about things being done or not done.

Ms. House agreed and added that if something became an issue then it should go to the Administrative Committee.

Commissioner Masters stated that the process reaffirms for the executive director that the ED works for the Council, under the umbrella of the Department of Public Safety administratively. The position does not answer to any other outside organization that can dictate what they do. Like any other organization, CDVSA has to respond and balance the requests and the politics, but there is no direct chain of authority or line of command that goes beyond the executive director to the Council.

Council members and staff spent time identifying topics to take up at the May meeting, as follows:

- Fiscal year 2013 budget
- Survey monkey action plan
- SART activities
- Seaview Community Center presentation on shelterless model/ Network membership
- Exploration of crossover/transitional youth
- Committee reports
- Quarterly reports, review content
- Continue grant funding without RFP - staff report
- On-site reports
- Standing report from a program coordinator (job duties)

- Department member updates on work relevant to CDVSA
- Governor's Initiative update
- Finance report
- Committee meetings (schedule before Council meeting)

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Chair McFadden-Evans thanked Ella Nierra for her consistent service and said the Council would miss her. She also forwarded appreciation to Jo Griggs and wished her an enjoyable retirement coming up.

Ms. House mentioned that she had advocated for prevention from her first Council meeting, and she was happy to see things move from prevention not being an objective six years ago to it being the focus now.

Ms. Curran said this was her last meeting, and although the Council is really important work, she did not have enough time to devote to it. She was confident that her replacement, Patty Owen, would do a great job.

Ms. Stone thanked outgoing chair Stephanie McFadden-Evans for doing a fabulous job of keeping everything in order, for being a support to the executive director, and for being responsive to make public appearances when called upon during the year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.

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

Confidential Office Services
Karen Pearce Brown
Juneau, Alaska