

Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance

Minutes, January 7, 2021

12:45 pm

WebEx Meeting

Meeting number (access code): 177 747 2709

Meeting password: nY7ZKxMk9J4

<https://idahogov.webex.com/meet/ICDVVA>

Council Members present: Sarah Swanson, Len Humphries, Alan Boehme, Wes Somerton, Doug Graves

ICDVVA Employees: Heather Cunningham, Angie Lindsey, Amy Duque, Dana Wiemiller

Others present: Ken Taylor, Amber Moe, Jeff Matsushita, Lori Ann Nichols, Trevor Castleton (CODVOIPS Committee)

Doug Graves, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:51 pm

1. Review and approval of RFP for FY22 Grants: Director Cunningham

The Executive Director reviewed that per adopted policy, the Council needs to approve the RFP for the FY22 grant applications. The RFP was provided to the Council for review with redline changes from the previous year. The RFP's will go out later this month (January). The policy was adopted in response to the federal audit, to ensure that the Council is reviewing the latest, final guidance from VOCA and FVPSA and making sure the request is compliant with both of those programs as well as the State requirements. The rules have not changed since last year's RFP. The Council members were assigned grant policies to review via email with the RFP. This requires a Council vote.

Councilman Somerton moved to approve the RFP's. Councilman Humphries seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

2. Establish Council meeting dates for 2021: Director Cunningham

The Executive Director reviewed that the Council needs to determine whether the proposed meeting dates of March 5, 2021; April 23, 2021; August 13, 2021; and December 3, 2021 will officially be the quarterly meetings of the Council for 2021 so that they can be publicly posted on the website. A minor note is an adopted policy says that the Council needs to meet in May to review the grant application; the intent was for grant review to occur no later than May, so the April 23, 2021 date will meet the intent of the policy if it is the will of the Council to meet earlier. The Council needs to be aware of this and plans to review the applications in April. Setting 2021 dates will require a Council vote.

Councilman Humphries moved to approve the meeting dates. Councilman Boehme seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

3. Offender Intervention Complaint regarding appeal by Cognitive Restructuring of the decision to remove Cognitive Restructuring as an approved domestic violence offender intervention program: Dana Wiemiller and Ken Taylor

Councilman Boehme recused himself from the discussion regarding Cognitive Restructuring as he was personally familiar with the provide since he works in Region 6. The Council heard a summary of the Complaint made against Cognitive Restructuring regarding four violations of the General Ethical Standards for Domestic Violence Intervention Programs: 1) Respect the dignity of all offenders; 2) Discourage and confront sexism and victim blaming in the program; 3) Not engage in intimate relationships with an offender or offender's immediate family, or the victim or the victim's immediate family; and 4) Not engage in any activity, personal, business or other with an offender or an offender's immediate family, or a victim or the victim's immediate family that is a conflict of interest. Ms. Wiemiller provided a summary of the complaint investigation, including the Committee for Oversight of Domestic Violence Offender Intervention Programs

and Standards December decision to remove Cognitive Restructuring as an approved provider and Mr. Taylor's subsequent appeal of that decision. The Council then heard from Ken Taylor of Cognitive Restructuring regarding his explanation of the events that gave rise to the Complaint. Discussion was had with members of the Committee in attendance and with Mr. Taylor on some of the allegations made in the Complaint. Mr. Taylor requested that the removal of Cognitive Restructuring as an approved provider be reversed or made temporary and indicated that his personal views reflected in social media posts did not impact his treatment because he separated his personal beliefs from his role as an offender intervention service provider.

Councilman Humphries made a motion to uphold the Committee's removal of Cognitive Restructuring as an approved domestic violence offender intervention program. Councilman Somerton seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn/Doug Graves