

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
CRIME VICTIMS REPARATION COMMISSION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR



FRANK ZUBIA
DIRECTOR

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
CRIME VICTIMS REPARATION COMMISSION
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Albuquerque, NM 87110

Meeting Called to Order

On April 25, 2024, Commission Chair Summa called the April meeting of the New Mexico Crime Victims Reparation Commission to order at 10:03 a.m.

Commission Chair Summa announced the names of the Commission members of the public body and acknowledged those who are participating in person and remotely.

The following Commission Members were present:

Allyn Summa, Commission Chair
Randal Brown, M.D., Commission Member
Kim Stewart, Sheriff, Commission Member (Virtual)
David Karst, Commission Vice Chair (Virtual)

The following NMCVRC staff members were present via a video conferencing platform:

Frank Zubia, Director
Cindy Mok, Chief Financial Officer
Donna Richmond, Grants Bureau Chief (Virtual)
Debra Yepa, State Investigator
Jacqueline Hernandez, Administrative Secretary
Kristin Wood-Hegner, VAWA Grant Administrator
Leslie Valenzuela, State Investigator (Virtual)

The following guests were present via a video conferencing platform:

Diego Jimenez, Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) Analyst
Scott Sanchez, Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) Analyst

Review Agenda

Commission Members reviewed the agenda and Director Frank Zubia asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commission Member Brown made the motion to approve. Commission Chair Summa seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda was passed unanimously.

The roll-call vote of the Commission was as follows: Commission Chair Summa, aye, Commission Member Brown, aye, Commission Member Stewart, aye.

Review and Approval of March 28, 2024, Commission Meeting Minutes

Commission Chair Summa and Commission members reviewed the Commission meeting minutes for March 28, 2024. Commission Member Brown made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Commission Member Stewart seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

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The roll-call vote of the Commission was as follows: Commission Chair Summa, aye, Commission Member Brown, aye, Commission Member Stewart, aye.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Agency Financial Report

Ms. Mok updated the Commission regarding the fiscal year FY2024 budget position report regarding victim payments for the period of July 1, 2023, through April 22, 2024.

The victim payment allocation is \$2,579,000. The compensation victim batch payouts as of April 22, 2024, are \$2,615,137, with an available budget of \$3,193,554 for the remaining state fiscal year. With 11 weeks remaining in FY2024, efforts are underway in collaboration with DFA to augment the available budget by utilizing Federal Award resources to ensure the completion of the fiscal year for victim payments. Furthermore, Ms. Mok highlighted to the Commission a significant 28% increase in victim payouts compared to the previous year.

Ms. Mok presented the FY2024 Crime Victim Fund Budget Status report to the Commission.

Below are the payments received for the period of July 01, 2023, to April 22, 2024, by type:

Restitution: \$46,783

Corrections: \$358,366

Civil Settlement: \$15,702

Penalty Assessment: \$136,272

Total received: \$557,123

Ms. Mok reviewed the Crime Victims Funds Status report with the Commission, totaling **\$557,123**.

Ms. Mok informed the Commission that CVRC is in the process of finalizing the figures for the month of April and will present a more accurate update at the next Commission meeting. Ms. Mok highlighted that CVRC is slightly below the target for the FY2024 revenue budget.

Ms. Mok informed the Commission that CVRC is actively working on finalizing the FY2025 operating budget, which is due to DFA and LFC on May 1st, next week and will meet with Commission Chair Summa to obtain the necessary signatures for the paperwork required for the submission to DFA. Additionally, there have been no changes to the FY2025 budget, everything remains consistent with what has been previously presented to the Commission. However, DFA will be transferring approximately \$50,000 to the agency to support the statewide 3% compensation increase for state employees. Furthermore, the agency will receive a slightly lower appropriation of around \$10,000 due to a 9.2% increase in health benefits for CVRC staff.

New Business

New Hire – State Investigator

Mr. Zubia updated the Commission on a new hire for the State Investigator position, Jesus Holguin. Mr. Holguin holds a degree in criminal justice and is scheduled to begin on April 29, 2024. Mr. Zubia expressed optimism that Mr. Holguin will be a good fit for the role.

Note: Mr. Zubia informed the Commission about a discussion with SPO regarding the reclassification of the State Investigator position. It was noted that the current title may be misleading, as many applicants come from Law Enforcement backgrounds. This has led to an extension of the hiring process from 3 months to 6 months.

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards Conference 2024

Mr. Zubia updated the Commission on his and State Investigator Debra Yepa's attendance at the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards conference. The discussion revolved around fifteen (15) proposed changes, with CVRC dissenting on three (3) of them. One such change involves considering

contributory conduct/causal behavior, which may pose challenges as CVRC adheres to federally vetted standard operating procedures. To address this, a small group of individuals will convene to analyze and strategize improvements.

Furthermore, Mr. Zubia addressed two additional issues with the Commission. The second issue pertains to the current statute that prohibits compensation for confined individuals in jail or prison. This poses a challenge for CVRC's compensation program, rendering it ineligible for providing services. However, federal regulations have recently changed, mandating that such individuals be eligible for compensation.

The third issue involves property damage, with a proposed expansion of coverage to include more types of property. Historically, CVRC has managed certain property needs, such as cameras, car windows, or door locks, through emergency funding. However, Mr. Zubia foresees potential future challenges in this area.

Finally, Mr. Zubia addressed to the Commission the last issue raised of the federal proposal to remove timelines for when an incident occurred. Currently, CVRC considers services to applicants who apply within a 2-year timeframe of the crime, with exceptions granted through a good-cause letter if the victim misses the two-year deadline. The new federal mandate necessitates waiving the timeline requirement for all compensation assistance.

Note: Mr. Zubia extended an invitation to the Commission for the National Conference scheduled for August 6-8, 2024, in New Orleans. Representatives from the association and federal agencies will be present to continue discussions on pertinent matters. Commission members who wish to attend will have their expenses covered by CVRC. The CVRC staff members attending include Jacqueline Sanchez, Compensation Bureau Chief; Lourdes McKenna, VOCA Grant Administrator; Leslie Valenzuela, State Investigator; and Director Frank Zubia. CVRC will also be presenting at this conference.

Business

Grants Status Report (VOCA, VAWA, SASP, and State Funds)

Ms. Wood-Hegner provided an update to the Commission regarding the Peer Review Meeting. On January 22, 2024, CVRC released three RFPs for FY25 STOP VAWA funding. The proposal submission period for the RFPs closed on March 1, 2024. Under the solicitation, twenty-six (26) current subrecipients were eligible to apply for continuation funding as part of their four (4)-year funding cycle. Twenty-three (23) agencies submitted continuation applications, totaling \$960,212. Additionally, CVRC received nine (9) competitive proposals, which the Peer Review Committee reviewed and scored in accordance with the RFP guidelines.

Furthermore, the Committee recommended seven (7) of these proposals to be presented at today's Commission meeting for preliminary approval of \$215,275. A list of the recommended and continuation awards has been provided in today's agenda.

Lastly, Ms. Wood-Hegner extended a special thanks to Commission Chair Summa for her contributions as a reviewer.

STOP VAWA FY2025 Preliminary Award Recommendation (Voting Item)

Mr. Zubia requested a motion to approve the STOP VAWA FY2025 Preliminary Award Recommendation of \$215,275. Commission Member Brown made a motion to approve. Commission Chair Summa seconded the motion. The motion to approve the preliminary award was unanimous.

The roll-call vote of the Commission was as follows: Commission Chair Summa, aye, Commission Member Brown, aye, Commission Member Stewart, aye, Commission Vice Chair Karst, aye.

VAWA SASP FY2025 Preliminary Award Recommendation (Voting Item)

Ms. Wood-Hegner informed the Commission that the proposal submission for the VAWA Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) RFP closed on March 1, 2024. CVRC received a single application from the

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continuation agency: NM Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs. Pending the Commission's approval today, CVRC will pass through an award of \$817,118 to the coalition for distribution to agencies throughout the state. This marks the coalition's fourth year within the four-year funding cycle.

Commission Chair Summa asked for a motion to approve VAWA SASP FY2025 Preliminary Award Recommendation. Commission Member Brown made a motion to approve. Commission Vice Chair Karst seconded the motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

The roll-call vote of the Commission was as follows: Commission Chair Summa, aye, Commission Member Brown, aye, Commission Member Stewart, aye, Commission Vice Chair Karst, aye.

Three (3) Request for Proposals (RFP) on State Fundings

- **Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) State Gap Funding FY2025**
- **Sexual Assault Services FY2025**
- **Victims of Violent Crime State Funding FY2025**

Ms. Richmond informed the Commission about the presence of three active Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for FY2025, currently accessible on the CVRC website. These RFPs encompass Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) State Gap Funding, with a total allocation of \$5,000,000, Sexual Assault Services amounting to \$1,915,000, and Victims of Violent Crime State Funding, totaling \$2,475,000. Agencies interested in accessing these funds must submit applications through the WebGrants process. Furthermore, a peer review committee will be convened in the future to evaluate these three RFPs.

Executive Session

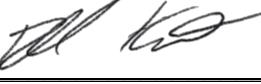
No Items.

The next Commission meeting has been scheduled tentatively for Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at 6200 Uptown Blvd. N.E., Suite #210, Albuquerque, NM in the conference room. This could change to a virtual meeting depending on direction from the Attorney General.

Adjourned

Commission Chair Summa adjourned the April meeting.

The Commission meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

APPROVED: 
Commission Chair Summa

DATE: 5/30/2024