

# COLORADO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

February 10, 2023

### Attendance:

#### Domestic Violence Board Members Present:

Honorable Bradley Burbach, Erin Gazelka, Jackie List, Jeanette Barich, Jennifer Parker, Jessica Fann, Karen Morgenthaler, Lori Griffith, Michelle Hunter, Nicole Collins, Nil Buckley, Sandra Campanella, Tally Zuckerman, Tracey Martinez, Yolanda Arredondo

#### Domestic Violence Board Members Absent:

Andrea Bradbury, Glory McDaniel, Raechel Alderete, and Stephanie Fritts

#### Staff Present:

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky, Jess McBrayer, Jesse Hansen, Jill Trowbridge, Taylor Redding, Yuanting Zhang, Reggin Palmitesso-Martinez

#### Guests:

Carrie Smart, Deb Witzel, Courtney Juelfs, Gail Prim, Maria Arroyo, Nada Yorke, Patricia Murphy, Philippe Marquis, Richard Anglund, Russa Knauer

### Introductions:

The meeting convened at 9:10AM.

Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair) introduced herself as the Vice-Chair and welcomed the Board and guests. Jesse Hansen (ODVSOM Staff) noted that Taylor Redding will control the WebEx portion of the meeting. He asked all attendees to sign-in if they haven't already done so, and noted that this meeting was being recorded.

The in-person DVOMB members introduced themselves.

The online DVOMB members introduced themselves.

The DVOMB staff, and in-person guests introduced themselves.

Jesse Hansen (ODVSOM Staff) indicated to Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair) that a quorum was present.

There was a test vote using the updated voting program app. The session ID was 667364.

Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair) asked if there was consensus to approve the February agenda. There was consensus from the DVOMB members to approve the February agenda.

### REVIEW AND VOTE ON JANUARY 2023 MEETING MINUTES: (Attachment #1)

Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair) noted her name misspelling on page 6. It was noted that the correction will be made.

Tally Zuckerman (DVOMB Member) noted her name misspelling on page 9. It was noted that the corrections will be made.

*Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) moved to approve the January 2023 meeting minutes as amended.*

*Jessica Fann (DVOMB Member) 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.*

There was no additional discussion on the motion. Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair) asked Jesse Hansen (ODVSOM Staff) to prepare the vote. The Session ID: 398523

The motion passed with 14 votes to approve the January 2023 meeting minutes, 0 votes to object, and 0 votes to abstain.

Responses	
	Count
Yes	14
No	0
Abstain	0
Totals	14

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Staff Announcements:**

Jesse Hansen (ODVSOM Staff) Announced:

- Jesse Hansen indicated that on January 25<sup>th</sup>, he and Dr. Rachael Collie (ODVSOM Staff) presented the new DVOMB Annual Legislative Report to the Joint Judiciary Committee, along with testimony given by Jessica Fann (DVOMB Member). He noted that the staff of the DVOMB have not heard back from the legislature regarding any interest in the policy recommendations made.
- Jesse Hansen announced that the DVRNA Validation and Needs Risk Assessment with recidivism data included by Dr. Rachael Collie was showcased at the February Lunch and Learn training. He noted that this training was recorded and is available upon request.
- Jesse Hansen indicated that February is Black History Month, and noted that the staff are hoping to bring Dr. Chinae Williams to do an advanced series training on Racial and Generational Trauma for Domestic Violence (DV) and Sex Offender providers. He noted that he will inform all when the training has been scheduled.
- Jesse Hansen announced that February is also Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, and asked all to raise awareness of teen dating violence in their stakeholders.
- Jesse Hansen indicated that the annual Conflict of Interest Form will be emailed to all DVOMB members as a JotForm link. He asked all to complete this form, and noted that this is an annual required disclosure.
- Jesse Hansen asked all in attendance to please state your name before you speak for accurate minutes.

Taylor Redding (ODVSOM Staff) Announced:

- Training Events:
  - 2023 Training Calendar:
    - DVI01 – Starting in April 2023
    - DVI02 – Scheduled for February 21, 2023
    - DVI03 – Scheduled for March 20, 2023
  - <https://dcj.colorado.gov/dcj-offices/domestic-violence-and-sex-offender-management/dvomb-training-technical-assistance/dvomb>
  - Taylor Redding announced that the Provider Hub has been created, and indicated that the DV100 training and all past lunch and learn training will be available on this hub. She mentioned this will be available next week.
  - 2023 ODVSOM Conference Updates:

- Call for Papers are due on February 17, 2023
  - Conference Theme – Activating Intersectionality While Building Healthy Lives and Trusting Partnerships
  - Tuesday, July 11th will be the Pre-Conference day which will include more in-depth training
- Jesse Hansen (ODVSOM Staff) announced in place of Carolina Frane (ODVSOM Staff):
    - The Application Review Committee (ARC) will be exploring changes to Section 9.0 in that they will be getting away from the training application process and looking at a process that will enable applicants to be approved without a provisional status. This process will be similar to the SOMB's application process.
  - Karren Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) responded that this will help applicants get into the field quicker, and increase the number of those who wish to apply to be a DV approved provider.
  - Reggin Palmitesso-Martinez (ODVSOM Staff) announced that the ARC applications for the Non-Board member positions will be going out shortly.

**Board Announcements**

None

**Public Announcements**

None

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) asked that the Executive Committee give guidance to the Standards Revision Committee for the presentation and release of the large amount of revisions coming. She asked if these should be presented to the Board in smaller sections.

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Public Discussion:**

None

*Jennifer Parker joined at 9:38 am*

**REVISED DEFINITION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE STANDARDS – (Decision Item):**  
**(Attachment #2) – Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member), and Jeanette Barich (DVOMB Member)**

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) indicated that the statutory references for strangulation and sexual offenses were included in the new domestic violence definition, and noted that more footnotes are to be included. He indicated that this new language is being brought before the DVOMB for a vote.

**Board Discussion:**

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) noted that the January discussion was thorough, and indicated that all recommendations were taken to the Standards Revisions Committee.

Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) indicated that this document will be a valuable tool for treatment providers.

Tally Zuckerman (DVOMB Member) noted that this definition language was taken to her stakeholders, and noted she clarified with them the reason for this change. She indicated there was some concern with this new language being outside of the legal definition, and if this should be changed legislatively. Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) responded that she sees no reason to have this definition more legal in nature.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) noted that even some treatment providers and clients have seen this definition and have felt it will help them clinically.

**Public Discussion:**

None

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) clarified that this vote is to release this document for solicitation for public comment. He noted it will then go back to the Standards Revisions Committee for review of the feedback before coming back to the DVOMB for approval and ratification in the Standards.

*Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) moved to send the Clinical Working Definition of Domestic Violence out for public comment.*

*Sandie Campanella (DVOMB Member) 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.*

**Further Discussion:**

None

The motion passed with 14 votes to send the clinical definition for Domestic Violence out for public comment, 0 votes to object, and 0 votes to abstain. The Session ID: 398523

Responses	
Percent	Count
Yes	100.0%
No	00.0%
Abstain	00.0%
Totals	100%

Jennifer Parker: Voted Yes verbally

Nil Buckley: Not present for vote

**PUBLIC COMMENT REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SECTION 5.03 (Decision Item):**  
**(Attachment #3) – Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair), and Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff)**

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) noted that due to a long-standing variance to allow treatment groups to expand to 16 clients (with a co-facilitator), that the DVOMB approved in October 2022 to make this permanent in the Standards Section 5.03 and sent out for public comment.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) noted that the Standards Revisions Committee reviewed the 12 public comments received. She noted the Committee had lengthy discussion regarding expanding treatment group size from 12 to 16 clients, and if the facilitators and co-facilitators have the skills to conduct larger treatment groups. Erin Gazelka clarified that the 1 facilitator per 8 client ratio is based on research. Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) indicated that encouraging co-facilitators may incentivize facilitator training. He noted that this may establish

the flexibility of groups to function based on the group dynamics. Erin Gazelka also noted that the documentation of individuals who co-facilitated is an important change to this Standard.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) also mentioned that language was included that states “when possible, groups should be co-facilitated by individuals of diverse sexual orientation, gender expression, and culture to the best of their abilities” as indicated by research.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) noted that due to the language including various facilitator types, this might be an incentive to draw more individuals to these groups.

**Board Discussion:**

Jeanette Barich (DVOMB Member) noted that much quality and diverse feedback was received for this Standard change, and indicated the Standards Revisions Committee had great in-depth discussion. Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Member) expressed agreement with Jeanette Borich regarding the spirited discussion comment.

**Public Discussion**

None

*Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) moved to approve the Section 5.03 revisions as presented. Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.*

**Further Discussion:**

None

*Judge Bradbury left the meeting at 10:00 am*

The motion passed with 13 votes to approve the revisions to Section 5.03 as presented, 0 votes to object, and 1 vote to abstain. The Session ID: 398523

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	93.0%	13
No	00.0%	0
Abstain	07.0%	1
Totals	100%	14

**POST-SENTENCE OFFENDER EVALUATION AND SECTION 4.00 REQUIREMENTS: (Attachment #4)**  
Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair), and Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff)

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) indicated that the ARC discussed the Post-Sentence Offender evaluations in July of 2022 and the time and logistics needed perform the evaluation. Jesse Hansen indicated that a sub-committee was created to make possible changes to this evaluation process in Section 4.0 in the Standards. Jesse Hansen reviewed a memorandum that was created which indicates the change that would eliminate the written component of the current evaluation with the emphasis being on enhancing treatment plans.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) reviewed the historical background of Standard Section 4.0 and the requirements of evaluations, and the requirement to report only summary information and their treatment plan to the client’s supervising agency.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Member) indicated that these recommendations only encompass the post-sentence evaluations and not the pre-sentence evaluations, which will do away with the lengthy written part of the evaluation. He indicated that to become an approved provider, that an applicant moving to full operating level will still have to submit a full written post-sentence evaluation. Jesse Hansen noted the need for consensus in making this change.

**Board Discussion:**

Nicole Collins (DVOMB Member) asked what the process is when a court orders a DV evaluation on treatment. Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) responded that an evaluation will still have to be submitted, but it would not have to include the lengthy written part of the current Post-Sentence evaluation. He noted that a shorter written evaluation that still includes all the assessments can still be submitted to the supervising agency.

Jeanette Barich (DVOMB Member) asked for the rationale of requiring the submission of the full evaluation when applying for full operating treatment provider level. Nil Buckley (DVOMB) responded that the applicant will have to show proof of this skill set when applying for full operating level.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) noted that the longer evaluations are required for the pre-sentence evaluations. She noted that the post-sentence evaluations can be a longer or more formal evaluation, but are not “required.” She indicated the post-sentence evaluations focus more on the treatment plan.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) noted that the ARC requires work product, and noted that those applying for full operating status still need to submit these more in-depth evaluations for future audits.

Lori Griffith (DVOMB Member) noted that she sees the benefits of the shorter evaluation, and asked if this will provide all the necessary information for supervision officers. She then asked if these will save time and money, and asked if the treatment providers will still receive the same compensation for the shorter version. Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) responded that he cannot answer the financial impact, but noted that all the minimum requirements in the Standards Section 4.8 will be captured in the Evaluation Summary and treatment plan. He indicated that this change does not remove the required screening instruments, clinical interview, or the risk assessments required by Section 4.0.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) noted the proposed template includes all the information that Probation is already requiring while still meeting the minimum requirements of Section 4.08. She clarified that the proposed summary can include more information if requested, and noted that it will still be a several page document along with the treatment plan. Erin Gazelka indicated this shortened version will save time in evaluation writing that will be of benefit to the treatment provider.

Nil Buckley (DVOMB Member) agreed with Erin Gazelka, and indicated that she has felt underpaid in doing this type of work. She noted that shorter evaluations can now be submitted to Probation in timely manner.

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky (ODVSOM Program Manager) noted that fees and contracts discussion should happen between referral agencies and providers. He indicated that this change will remove the 10-page evaluation summary when it is not required. Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky mentioned that this version will help reduce a lot of unnecessary paperwork that no-one requests or sees., and noted this will help with providing quality treatment plans. He reiterated that this summary version does not preclude the pre-sentence evaluation when that may be required.

Jeanette Barich (DVOMB Member) expressed support of this needed change, and noted the struggles treatment providers have with the current requirement to complete a full evaluation writing process summary when it is not being asked for. She questioned how new providers would learn the evaluation writing process if it is not required in the Standards. Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) responded that currently Section 9.0 requires the full evaluation work product for full-operating level applicants, and emphasized the importance of the skill set to become a full-operating level provider.

Karen Morgenthaler indicated that this new suggested language is being brought up for discussion and a consensus, but not a vote yet.

Erin Gazelka (DVOMB Member) she reviewed the template and indicated that this document is an optional tool. She noted that when becoming a supervisor, you will need to have the skills necessary to complete a full written evaluation.

Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) also noted that many providers are now leaving the field due to the hard and huge amount of paperwork that is required, and indicated that this may be a way to entice people to enter or stay in this field.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) shared that a treatment plan will be included in the proposed templates which include the following information:

- Competency
- DVRNA risk factors
- Treatment plan level
- Teletherapy
- Treatment plan review
- Protection order status, criminogenic needs, responsivity
- Stabilizing factors
- Smart goals and objectives
- Table for the treatment plan
- Requirements and absences

Jesse Hansen (ODVSOM Staff) noted that this is just a proposed template option, and indicated this may or may not conform to the individual treatment plan. He mentioned that the treatment providers can individualize this as needed.

**Public Discussion:**

Philippe Marquis (Audience Member) expressed appreciation for this much needed change due to the heavy lift of the treatment providers. He noted the desire for clinical supervisors to have more input in the application process versus the ARC in terms of the work product, while not diminishing the statutory obligations mandated. Philippe Marquis noted that there are times that the ARC undermines the expertise of the clinical supervisors.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) noted that a copy of the proposed templates will be sent to the DVOMB members.

Jeanette Barich (DVOMB Member) indicated that these templates will also be made available in ReliaTrax and as a Word document. She also suggested a lunch and learn training to help with the implementation of this new process. She indicated her enthusiasm that this will truly help keep and encourage individuals to stay in this field and move to full-operating level providers.

Michelle Hunter (DVOMB Vice-Chair) asked if there was consensus regarding the proposed streamlined evaluation process.

There was consensus from the DVOMB to move forward with the suggested evaluation templates and work product.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) noted that this change is a short-term solution. He indicated that a lunch and learn and technical training will be made available for the field.

Carolina Frane (DVOMB Staff) encouraged all to remember that when subpoenaed into court that a treatment provider may have to include more information than is what required by Probation.

There was consensus to make this change.

**Further Discussion:**

None

**BREAK: 11:00 am – 11:20 am**

**Restorative Justice Circles Pilot Project (Presentation/Action Item): (Attachment #5) Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff), and Deb Witzel (Presenter)**

Jesse Hansen introduced Deb Witzel and gave some background information regarding this presentation. He noted that there is a lack of formal research on restorative justice circles, and indicated that the DVOMB prepared a white paper in 2020 regarding the use of restorative justice in treating domestic violence cases. Jesse Hansen discussed that new research has shown that restorative justice used as an adjunct in treatment in domestic violence cases may have some merit.

Deb Witzel (Presenter) introduced herself and gave a brief background of her career and past experience regarding restorative justice. She asked that all in attendance introduce themselves. The DVOMB members introduced themselves along with the staff of the ODVSOM.

Deb Witzel presented the following information: ([Click Here](#))

**Board Discussion:**

Jackie List (DVOMB Member) asked Deb Witzel (Presenter) for a time to meet with her off-line.

Sandie Campanella (DVOMB Member) noted that victims and survivors are normally surrounded by advocates and resources until the conviction or sentencing occurs. She noted that this project can help the victims and survivors connect with their community after the criminal justice process has ended.

Jackie List (DVOMB Member) indicated that services are also offered post-conviction for victims.

Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) asked if a victim(s) and the offender can work together. Deb Witzel responded that this is not a focus of this group, and indicated that this project creates circles of support for both the victim(s) and the offender to enhance healing.

Jessica Fann (DVOMB Member) asked to connect with Deb Witzel, and asked if professionals involved with the family of circles, and if so, who would that be. Deb Witzel (Presenter) responded that the RAIV project does not use professionals, but indicated they outsource the clients to the professionals when needed.

Karen Morgenthaler (DVOMB Member) asked when and how it would be determined when the use of professional resources would be involved. Deb Witzel (Presenter) responded that the RAIV project is not focused on that part, but indicated that their focus is on the Adult Harm Party Community circles and the Adult Responsibility community circles.

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) asked what the nexus is between the provider and the restorative justice facilitator. He then asked if that are any confidentiality factors or disclosures, and what is done with offender disclosures that occur in the offender circles. Deb Witzel (Presenter) responded that these would be the areas that the DVOMB could work with her and the RAIV personnel so the program can be tweaked to discuss these situations.

**Public Discussion:**

None



Further Discussion:

None

Jesse Hansen (DVOMB Staff) noted the need for further discussion before making a consensus regarding considering the use of this program.

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky (ODVSOM Staff) noted that these discussions could be done in the ARC and Victim Advocacy meetings to tease out any questions.

It was noted that Deb Witzel (Presenter) join the ARC meeting on 3/9 at about 12:30 pm for a discussion.

It was also noted that Deb Witzel (Presenter) could join the Victim Advocacy meeting on 3/24 at 9:30 am for further discussion of this program.

Carolina Frane (DVOMB Staff) noted that the discussion at the ARC meeting could take longer than the one hour booked, and asked if the ARC can extend their meeting if necessary.

There was consensus to move forward with continued discussion of this project.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm

Respectfully submitted by,

APPROVED

