



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Michael J. Allen, District Attorney
Colorado's 4th Judicial District - Serving El Paso & Teller Counties

VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT BOARD

VALE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2026

The VALE Board met on February 9, 2026 at 12:00pm at the Office of the District Attorney, 105 E. Vermijo, 4th Floor Conference Room, Colorado Springs, CO. Present were Board Chair Maricella Dennis, Board Members Jan Isaacs Henry, Daniel Thompson, Jacob Abendschan, and Ariel Baty, VALE Administrator Amber Holland, Court Executive Scott Sosebee, and Assistant District Attorney Brent Nelson.

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Maricella Dennis.

I. Review the minutes from November 3, 2025 and all 2025 minutes.

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from November 3, 2025 and all 2025 meeting minutes. Daniel Thompson motioned to approve the minutes. Jacob Abendschan seconded. All Board members voted in favor.

II. VALE Financial Summary

a. Main VALE Fund Balance	\$2,778,907.13	(January 2026)
b. Deposits	\$ 102,356.21	(January 2026)
c. Total Encumbered Funds	\$1,439,483.05	(2026 Full Year)
d. VALE Grant Awards	\$ 359,870.77	(Q1 Requested -not withdrawn yet)
e. DA Admin Fund Expenditures	\$ 7,035.63	(January 2026)
f. DA Admin Fund Balance	\$ 1,871.40	(January 2026)
g. DCJ Admin Expenditures	\$ 8,231.69	(January 2026)
h. DCJ Admin Fund Balance	\$ 3,079.58	(January 2026)

III. Review Board Members and Appointment Dates

Board Members reviewed their contact information and appointment dates. Jan Isaacs Henry reaches her term limit on June 2, 2026. The Board discussed possible nominations for this seat on the Board.

V. Review Funding Calendar for 2026 Funding Year

The Board reviewed the final version of the proposed 2026 funding calendar.

VI. Review quarterly Obligations

The VALE Board reviewed the Financial and Quarterly Report forms. The Board also reviewed the quarterly report due dates and quarterly payout dates.

The Board will create a sub-committee to further review the quarterly report form and discuss possible changes for next year.

VII. Review and Sign VALE program forms

- **Ethics & Conflict of Interest Statement: Each Board Member reviewed the Ethics & Conflict of Interest Statement. The Board voted unanimously to approve. All Board members signed in-person.**
- **VALE Board Disbursal Order: Each Board Member reviewed the Disbursal Order. Ariel Baty motioned to approve the order, Jan Isaacs Henry seconded. The order was unanimously approved. The Board voted unanimously to approve. All Board members signed in-person.**
- **Disbursal Order for Quarterly Checks: Each Board Member reviewed the Disbursal Order for Quarterly Checks. Ariel Baty motioned to approve the order, Maricella Dennis seconded. The order was unanimously approved. The Board voted unanimously to approve. All Board members signed in-person.**
- **Memorandum of Agreement: Maricella Dennis motioned to approve the order, Jan Isaacs Henry seconded. The Board voted in favor of approving the MOA. The District Attorney will signed prior to the meeting and Board Chair signed the MOA at the meeting.**
- **Expenditure agreement for the DA Admin Funds: Jan Isaacs Henry motioned to approve the order, Ariel Baty seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve the expenditure agreement. The District Attorney will signed prior to the meeting and Board Chair signed the MOA at the meeting.**
- **Unclaimed Restitution Agreement: The VALE Board and Victim Compensation Board agreed for all unclaimed restitution to go to the VALE Fund in 2026. Jacob Abendschan motioned to approve the agreement, Daniel Thompson seconded. The Board voted unanimously. The VALE Board Chair signed the Unclaimed Restitution Agreement. The Victim Compensation Board Chair signed prior to the meeting**
- **Review and Sign ByLaws and Standard Changes: The Board reviewed and approved the Bylaws without any changes. Jan Isaacs Henry motioned to approve the agreement, Jacob Abendschan seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve. All Board members signed in-person.**
- **Review and Sign Policies and Procedures and Standard Changes: The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the Policies and Procedures without any changes. Jacob Abendschan motioned to approve the agreement, Daniel Thompson seconded. All Board members signed in-person.**

VIII. VALE Financial Summary

The Board reviewed the percentage of money awarded to each category and compared the 2025 and 2026 awards. They reviewed how the 4th Judicial District compares to the statewide category percentages based on information from 2024.

The Board reviewed the 2026 RFP and determined that the anticipated funds available for 2026 may be similar to the current funding cycle. The Board anticipates having between \$1.2 - \$1.3 million to award for 2027.

The JDA presented a financial analysis representing that collections are showing a stable trend with a slight decrease to collections.

The Board reviewed the Annual Financial Revenue and Awards.

The Board reviewed anticipated refunds from unused grant money in the 2025 calendar year. Colorado Springs Police Department, Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center, and TESSA. Of the remaining unspent funding, the Board expects \$65,134.16 to be returned.

VII. Review DA 2026 Admin Funds Budget/ Review 2025 Admin Funds Expenditures

The Board reviewed the Admin Funds Budget and Admin Funds Expenditures. The Board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 Projected Administrative Funds.

IX. 2026 Grant Funding

The Board reviewed the breakdown of agencies that were awarded funds in 2026 and what categories monies were approved. The Board reviewed the quarterly payouts for 2026 to each agency.

X. Review 2025 Quarter 4 Reports

The Board reviewed the 4th quarter reports for each agency.

The Board noted that the Courthouse reported that they expended more VALE funding than the awarded amount. The Board determined they do not need a corrected report.

The Board did not have questions or concerns regarding reports from other agencies.

XI. New Information / Agency Updates

a. Change in Signing Authorities:

- i. Centro de la Familia – Authorized Official from Jason DeaBueno to Kat Lilley – **The Board reviewed and acknowledged the change.**
- ii. CSPD – Financial Official from Nancy McCauley to Charles Hickey for 2025 and from Basia Martin to Charles Hickey for 2026 - **The Board reviewed and acknowledged the change.**
- iii. Safe Passage: Authorized Official from Ana deWit to Jenny Johnson - **The Board reviewed and acknowledged the change.**

b. Modified Budget and Goals for Contracting

- i. Catholic Charities
- ii. Centro de la Familia
- iii. Colorado Legal Services
- iv. Colorado Springs Police Department
- v. Court Care
- vi. DOVE
- vii. Fourth Judicial District Combined Court
- viii. Kidpower
- ix. Kingdom Builder's
- x. Lutheran Family Services
- xi. Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center
- xii. Safe Passage
- xiii. TESSA – Victim Services
- xiv. TESSA – Youth Services

The VALE Board reviewed all budget modifications and goals for contracting as listed above. Jan Isaacs Henry motioned to approve. Ariel Baty seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve all proposed budgets.

- c. Grant Funded Employee Changes:
 - i. Safe Passage: Position 3 changed from Morgan Harrison to MacKenzie Gerth, MSW, LSW - **The Board reviewed and acknowledged the change.**
 - ii. TESSA – Victim Services:
 - iii. Position 2 changed from Julissa Gomez to Elena Renteria Shubert - **The Board reviewed and acknowledged the change.**
 - iv. TESSA – Youth Services: - **The Board reviewed and acknowledged the changes outlined below**
 - 1. Position 2 changed from Caitlyn Copeland to Azhar Isa
 - 2. Position 2 changed from Azhar Isa to Ella Ocampo
 - 3. Position 3 changed from Matthew Harp to Mackenzie Reece

XII. Other Business:

- a. Centro de la Familia – contracting delays – **The VALE Board reviewed the delays in executing a grant contract with Centro de la Familia. A contract was not fully and correctly executed until February 2026. Jacob Abendschan motioned to reduce the total award by 1/12. Jan Isaacs Henry seconded. The Board unanimously agreed to reduce the award. The VALE Chairperson and Administrator will meet with the agencies signing authorities to ensure they have the tools and information necessary to succeed during the grant cycle.**
- b. COVA: Moved from October to August. Discuss scholarship capacity. **The Board will consider scholarships for the 2026 conference. The VALE Administrator will prepare the application and send a copy to the Board to review prior to the next meeting.**

XIII. Set Next Meeting Date: **April 6, 2026 at 12:00p.m. (virtual)**

Meeting Adjourned at 2:20p.m.