# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

Regular Meeting	July 15, 2009
Location	6900 Atmore Drive
	Richmond, Virginia
Presiding	Sterling C. Proffitt, Chairman
Present	Jonathan T. Blank
	James H. Burrell
	Peter G. Decker, III
	Gregory M. Kallen
	Raymond W. Mitchell
	Rev. Anthony C. Paige
	B. A. Washington, Sr.
One Vacancy	

#### 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 15, 2009

6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225

The meeting was called to order.

# I. <u>Board Chairman</u> (Mr. Proffitt)

#### 1) Welcome to Newest Board Members

The Chairman welcomed Reverend Anthony C. Paige and Mr. Jonathan T. Blank and congratulated them on their appointment to the Board. Reverend Paige is from Norfolk and replaces Mr. W. Randy Wright. Mr. Blank is from Charlottesville and replaces Ms. Jacqueline Fraser. The Board appreciates their willingness to participate and looks forward to working with them.

#### 2) Motion to Approve May Board Minutes

The Chairman called for a Motion to approve the May Board Minutes.

By *MOTION* duly made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Decker, the minutes were *APPROVED* as presented by verbally responding in the affirmative (Burrell, Decker, Mitchell, Washington).

There were no questions and there was no discussion. There were no opposing votes. The Chairman then voted his approval of the Motion. Mr. Kallen abstained from the vote as he was not present at the May meeting. The vote of Reverend Paige and Mr. Blank was not considered as they were not present at the May Board meeting. There is one vacancy. The Motion carried.

At this time, the roll was called by Mrs. Woodhouse. There is one vacancy as indicated during the verbal roll call and as noted above.

At the Chairman's request, all meeting attendees in the room identified themselves for the record.

## **II.** Public/Other Comment (Mr. Proffitt)

There was one member of the public present at the meeting; however, when offered the opportunity, she did not indicate a desire to address the Board.

## III. Presentation to the Board

There was no presentation scheduled for the Board this month. However, as there were two new members present and as it had been a while since the Board had seen any photos of construction progress at the Grayson County facility, the Chairman asked Mrs. Kim Lipp to provide the Board with an update. As she had already provided an update to the Liaison Committee, she agreed and gave the full Board a brief virtual tour of the facility, noting several items of interest.

She indicated that steel cells are being constructed at this facility, the installation of which makes it easier to access plumbing and electrical chases during construction as the chases are all located within the outside wall of the building at the back wall of the cell. With this method of construction, once a cell is occupied and plumbing or electrical repairs are required, access can be gained without having to go in through the wall of a cell, thus maintaining the structural security of the cell wall.

She noted that segregation cells in this facility have a shower located inside each cell, thus eliminating the need to physically restrain and remove a segregation inmate in order to take them to the shower.

She noted the Grayson County facility was written up in the International Dark Sky Association's most recent publication and has received a "Sky Friendly Lighting" award for its exterior lighting, which was designed to reduce light pollution and preserve the dark night sky. This is a first in Virginia and Grayson is among the first prisons in the nation to respond to the issue of light pollution. The Grayson facility is the topic of a very positive, two-page article in a publication of the International Dark Sky Association called "Nightscape." The Association is headquartered in Tucson, Arizona. And, she noted, the facility's roof color helps make it light absorbent.

In closing, Mrs. Lipp indicated this project will have 1,038 beds as a result of utilizing steel cell construction versus precast concrete cell construction as precast concrete cells take up more floor space. Precast concrete cell construction was used at Green Rock and Pocahontas State Correctional Centers, each of which has 1,024 beds.

The Grayson County project is on schedule and completion is expected this time next year.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Lipp for her report. No action by the Board was required.

## IV. <u>Liaison Committee</u> (Mr. Burrell)

Mr. Burrell gave a brief overview of the Committee meeting. Mrs. DeSocio was present from the Comp Board and reported the inmate forecast will be completed in late September. She also talked about the State budget and indicated there will be a \$50 million reduction in State aid to localities as a result of the \$300 million budget shortfall statewide for FY10. She also reported that all state agencies are to have submitted their 5/10/15% budget reduction scenarios by July 15, 2009.

Mr. Jef Sevenker reported the Department's out-of-compliance figure at 2,606, 107 of which are female. He also reported on various jail construction projects across the state.

Mr. Bass noted one of the main reasons for the high out-of-compliance numbers is the lack of available bed space. He stated that St. Brides has 800 brand-new beds which are not available, and will not be available any time in the near future, because of a lack of funding. Mr. Bass also mentioned the out-of-state inmates and the fact that if the Department continues to house these inmates, additional revenue will be provided which has its benefits. If the Department does not continue to house these inmates, that revenue will be lost and will have to be made up someplace else. He reported that the Wyoming inmates will be returning to their home state in January, which departure will have a direct negative impact on revenue for the Department. Mr. Burrell's report was then concluded.

There was no discussion or comment. No Board action is required. Mr. Proffitt thanked Mr. Burrell for his report.

#### V. Administration Committee (Mr. Kallen)

In his last report to the Board, Mr. Kallen indicated the Committee had only one item to review; that being, the Correctional Officer Vacancy Rate as of May 31, 2009. As this item was included for informational purposes only, no report to the Board was provided.

There was no discussion. No Board action is required. Mr. Proffitt thanked Mr. Kallen for his report.

# VI. <u>Correctional Services Committee Report/Policy & Regulations</u> (Mr. Washington)

With the departure of Ms. Fraser from the Board, the Chairman asked Mr. B. A. Washington, Sr., to take over as Chairman of the Correctional Services Committee. The Chairman indicated Mr. Washington had kindly agreed to his request.

Therefore, with Board members Burrell, Mitchell, Washington and Proffitt and several guests present, the Committee met to discuss several items:

# 1) <u>Board Motion to Rescind Previous Approval of One-Time Variance to Richmond</u> City Jail for Standard 6VAC15-40-1080

The Chairman reported that during the May meeting, a one-time variance to Standard 6VAC15-40-1080 was approved by the Board for Richmond City Jail. Later in the same meeting, approval was also granted for a one-time variance to Standard 6VAC15-40-1100. After the meeting, the discrepancy was discovered and it was determined that the Board action on Standard 6VAC15-40-1080 was in error and would need to be corrected.

Therefore, by *MOTION* duly made by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Burrell, the one-time variance to Standard <u>6VAC15-40-1080</u> for the Richmond City Jail as approved during the May meeting was *RESCINDED* by verbally responding in the affirmative (Burrell, Decker, Mitchell, Washington).

General clarification was provided. There was no other discussion. There were no opposing votes. The Chairman then voted his approval of the Motion. Mr. Kallen abstained from the vote as he was not present at the May meeting. The vote of Reverend Paige and Mr. Blank was not considered as they were not present at the May Board meeting. There is one vacancy. The Motion carried.

## 2) Model Plan for Jail Prisoner and Medical Treatment Programs

During its May meeting, the Board reviewed and approved changes to the Suggested Fees as outlined in the *Model Plan for Jail Prisoner and Medical Treatment Programs*. The comprehensive document supplied to the Board for the July meeting was for informational purposes only. No Board action was required.

# 3) Appeal by Rockbridge Regional Jail to Finding of Non-Compliance with Standard 6VAC15-40-400

Mr. Washington indicated that Rockbridge Regional Jail had been found out of compliance with Life, Health, Safety *Standard 6VAC15-40-400*, *Management of Pharmaceuticals*, as the required medical authority review of documentation was not on file when the records were inspected. Subsequent to the inspection, the document was found by the facility and submitted. The date on the document indicates it was signed by the doctor in March of this year, which was within the 12-month prescribed timeframe for review of procedures by the medical authority as outlined in the Standard.

Therefore, by *MOTION* duly made by Mr. Washington, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and verbally approved by responding in the affirmative (Blank, Burrell, Decker, Kallen, Mitchell, Paige, Washington), the Board *GRANTS THE APPEAL* of Rockbridge Regional Jail to its finding of non-compliance with Standard 6VAC15-40-400.

Board of Corrections July 15, 2009 Page 5

There were no questions, comments or discussion. There were no opposing votes. The Chairman then voted his approval of the Motion. There is one vacancy. The Motion carried.

# 4) <u>Compliance and Accreditation</u> Certifications Section

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Washington presented the following certification recommendations for consideration by the Board:

Unconditional Certification as a result of 100% compliance for Southwest Virginia Regional Jail (Haysi); Central Virginia Regional Jail; Newport News Department of Adult Corrections; Prince William County Lockup (Garfield District); Wythe County Lockup; and Carroll County Lockup to include the hold of male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia;

Unconditional Certification for Southwest Virginia Regional Jail (Abingdon); New River Valley Regional Jail; Shenandoah County Jail; and Brunswick County Jail to include the hold of male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the <u>Code of Virginia</u>;

Unconditional Certification as a result of 100% compliance for Probation & Parole District #36 (Alexandria) and Probation & Parole District #35 (Manassas);

And Unconditional Certification for Gemeinschaft Home.

By *MOTION* duly made by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Burrell, the Board *APPROVED* the above recommendations by verbally responding in the affirmative (Blank, Burrell, Decker, Kallen, Mitchell, Paige, Washington).

There were no questions, comments or discussion. There were no opposing votes. The Chairman then voted his approval of the Motion. There is one vacancy. The Motion carried.

# 5) **Policy & Regulations**

Mr. Washington reported that the amendment to the <u>Standards for Planning, Design</u>, <u>Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities</u> (6VAC15-80) to include a provision relative to the Value Management Assessment Study has been approved by the Governor, and the Chairman has signed off on the paperwork on July 15, 2009. The Board began this process in July of 2008.

This action results in a new Section [6VAC15-80-211, Value Management Analysis] being added to the <u>Standards</u> and which action amends the Definitions section (6VAC15-80-10) to change the definition of Reviewing Authority and to add definitions for Standards, Value Management Analysis (VMA) and Value Management Team.

Board of Corrections July 15, 2009 Page 6

This amendment will allow local and regional correctional facilities to receive cost reimbursement and to define limits for required Value Management Assessment Studies that serve to keep construction costs lower while promoting quality and efficient designs. The Value Management Assessment will analyze a project design, including systems, products/materials used, quality, efficiency, functionality, long-term design, cost and operational needs beyond 10 years.

This update was provided for informational purposes only. No action by the Board is required. The Chairman thanked Mr. Washington for his report.

## VII. Closed Session

No Closed Session was held.

## VIII. Other Business (Mr. Johnson)

The Director advised that an inmate had walked away from the James River Work Center earlier in the day. He reported investigators were on his trail and hoped to have the inmate back in custody soon. The inmate was captured without incident in the Richmond area at approximately 3:00 p.m.

The Director spoke briefly about the budget and the additional 5/10/15% reduction strategies that are being submitted. One of the Board members enquired if this newest reduction strategy could result in more facility closures, and the Director responded that at this point, the only way to come up with the millions of dollars needed is to close facilities.

In the past, the Department had held vacancies open in order to place staff in lieu of layoffs. As a result of the last reduction exercise last fall, the Department no longer has that option. In addition, he noted there is no money to open the Grayson facility, and there is no money to open the 800 beds at St. Brides. He does not see where that is going to change anytime soon. And, the Department still has to come up with \$6 million as a result of last year's cut on top of the new, additional 5/10/15% reduction. The Director stated the Commonwealth is in the middle of very trying times but it will manage.

There were no questions of the Director. No action by the Board was required.

# IX. Board Member/Other Comment

The members were polled. Mr. Decker welcomed the new members and noted Reverend Paige is well respected in Norfolk. Reverend Paige and Mr. Blank both stated how nice it is to be on the Board, and they both look forward to learning. Mr. Washington welcomed the new members. Mr. Burrell and Mr. Mitchell had nothing to offer.

Mr. Kallen indicated this would be his last meeting as he has been selected by the Circuit Court to represent a Capital Murder defendant from Wallens Ridge State Prison. He stated he had conflicting loyalties; he wanted to serve out the last year of his term but that when the Judge asked, he could not say no. He thanked the staff and said how grateful he was for

Board of Corrections July 15, 2009 Page 7

all that has been done for him, and he stated he would miss everyone. Mr. Proffitt responded that he understood completely and speaking on behalf of the Board, wished him well and told him how much he appreciated his input and candor.

Mr. Proffitt went on to commend and congratulate the Department on its no-tobacco policy scheduled to go into effect in February, 2010. He believes this will help improve the health of the inmate population as well as help address rising health-care costs.

The Chairman indicated he had spoken with Reverend Paige about the three Board Committees and as the Reverend had expressed an interest, asked if he would accept appointment to the Liaison and Correctional Services/Policy & Regulations Committee. Reverend Paige agreed. The Chairman then asked Mr. Blank if he would consider sitting on the Administration Committee. Mr. Blank indicated he had no objection.

The Chairman concluded his remarks. No action by the Board was required.

# X. Future Meeting Plans

The Chairman announced the September 16, 2009, meetings are scheduled as follows:

Liaison Committee – 9:30 a.m., Board Room, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia; Correctional Services/Policy & Regulations Committee – 10:30 a.m., Board Room, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia;

**Administration Committee** – **12:30** p.m., Board Room, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia;

**And Board Meeting** – **1:00** p.m., Board Room, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

#### XI. Adjournment

There being nothing further, by *MOTION* duly made by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Burrell and unanimously *APPROVED* (Blank, Burrell, Decker, Kallen, Mitchell, Paige, Washington), the meeting was adjourned. There was no discussion. The Chairman voted his approval of the move to adjourn. There is one vacancy. The Motion carried.

	(Signature copy on file)
	STERLING C. PROFFITT, CHAIRMAN
RAYMOND W MITCHELL SE	CRETARY