

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS

MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING.....September 20, 2023; 12:00 PM

LOCATION.....6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

PRESIDING.....Vernie Francis, Chairman

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: The Honorable Vernie Francis, Chairman
Roland Sherrod
Jessica Vermont
David Hackworth
Dr. Anita Maybach
Michael Carrera
Dr. Amanda Trent
Tiffany Jenkins

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: The Honorable Charles Jett, Vice Chairman
Dr. Cleopatra Booker

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Geoff Garner, Executive Director
Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor
John Rock, Jail Death Investigator
Alison Lautz, Jail Death Investigator
Paul Beaupre, Local Facilities Manager
Ashley Gordon, Executive Secretary
Mary-Huffard Kegley, Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT: Ryan McCord, Administrative Compliance Director
Ayesha Osborne, Office of Attorney General
Major Jim Pritchett, Chesterfield Sheriff's Office
Chris Smith, Western Tidewater Regional Jail
Sheriff Antionette Irving, Richmond City Sheriff's Office
Major Tracy Stancil-Purchases, Richmond Sheriff's Office
Major Bagby, Richmond Sheriff's Office
Major Dickerson, Richmond Sheriff's Office
Major Feighner, Richmond Sheriff's Office
Captain Harris, Richmond Sheriff's Office
Leslie Winneberger, Legal Counsel Richmond Sheriff's
Office
Blaire O'Brein, Legal Counsel, Richmond Sheriff's Office
Col. Larry Leabough, Riverside Regional Jail
Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel, Riverside Regional Jail
March Altman, Riverside Regional Jail

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Lieutenant Charlene Jones, Riverside Regional Jail
Captain Lakeisha Mason, Riverside Regional Jail
Major Tojuanna Mack, Riverside Regional Jail
Major Kawan Peterson, Riverside Regional Jail

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Francis determined there was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF JUNE BOARD MINUTES

The July 26, 2023, minutes were approved by motion of Mr. Carrera, second by Dr. Trent.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

A) Case Recommendations:

1. Mr. Sherrod read the motion below as follows:

The Jail Review Committee investigated the following cases by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding each death. The Jail Review Committee finds that investigation did not reveal any evidence indicating that the facility was out of compliance with the regulations promulgated by the Board. NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE that the following cases be recommended to the Full Board for closure:

Cases		
22-0012	23-0001	23-0006
23-0013	23-0016	23-0027
22-0041	22-0056	22-0034
22-0058	23-0009	23-0017
22-0017	23-0005	21-0079
22-0036	22-0037	22-0049

Upon a ***Motion*** by Mr. Sherrod and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

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2. Mr. Sherrod as a motion offered the following:

The Jail Review Committee investigated the following cases by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding each death. The Jail Review Committee finds that the investigation did reveal evidence indicating that the facility was out of compliance with the regulations promulgated by the Board; however, the Jail Review Committee finds that the corrective actions taken by the jail appropriately address the substance of the violation such that no further measures are necessary. NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE that the following case(s) be recommended to the Full Board for closure:

Cases	
22-0032	22-0057
22-0018	23-0026
22-0026	22-0028
22-0040	

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Sherrod and second by Mr. Carrera the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Certification and Inspections Report: Tawana Ferguson

A.) Certifications and Suggested Motions

1. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification as a result of 100% compliance with Board standards for the following facilities:

1. Northern Neck Regional Jail
2. Highland County Lockup
3. Alleghany County Regional Jail
4. Floyd County Lockup
5. Page County Jail
6. Grayson County Lockup
7. Southampton County Jail
8. Eastern Shore Regional Jail
9. Fluvanna County Lockup
10. Louisa County Lockup
11. Southside Regional Jail

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Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Trent and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

2. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

In recognition of the outstanding achievements of 100% compliance with Board standards, I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Suspension of the 2023 annual inspections for the following facilities:

1. Northern Neck Regional Jail
2. Highland County Lockup
3. Alleghany County Regional Jail
4. Floyd County Lockup
5. Page County Jail
6. Grayson County Lockup
7. Southampton County Jail
8. Eastern Shore Regional Jail
9. Fluvanna County Lockup
10. Louisa County Lockup

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Trent and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

3. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification as a result of 100% to include re-certification to hold male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia for the following facilities:

1. Northern Neck Regional Jail
2. Southside Regional Jail
3. Fluvanna County Lockup
4. Louisa County Lockup

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Trent and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

4. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification for the following facilities:

1. Western Tidewater Regional Jail

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2. Chesterfield County Jail
3. Albermarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Trent and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

5. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification to include re-certification to hold male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia for the following facilities:

1. Dinwiddie County Lockup
2. Virginia Beach Lockup #3

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Trent and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

6. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Accept the corrective plans of action for deficiencies cited during the 2023 annual inspection for the following facilities:

1. Essex County Lockup
2. Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority – Amherst Adult Detention Center
3. Western Virginia Regional Jail
4. Greene County Lockup
5. Hampton City Community Correctional Center
6. RSW Regional Jail
7. Charlotte County Jail
8. Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority – Halifax Adult Detention Center
9. Middle River Regional Jail
10. Middle Peninsula Regional Jail
11. Pamunkey Regional Jail
12. Prince William-Manassas Regional Jail
13. Western Tidewater Regional Jail
14. Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail
15. Norfolk City Jail
16. Arlington County Jail
17. Rockbridge Regional Jail
18. Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority – Lynchburg Adult Detention Center
19. Meherrin River Regional Jail – Alberta
20. Chesapeake City Jail

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- 21. Pittsylvania County Jail
- 22. Newport News City Jail & Annex

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Trent and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

Motion to include non-Board members in closed session

The following was offered by Mr. Hackworth as a motion:

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712(F) I *MOVE* that the presence of the following individuals will reasonably aid this board in considering the subject of the closed session:

Names of the individuals to be included:

**Ryan McCord
Geoff Garner
Alison Lautz
John Rock
Paul Beaupre
Tawana Ferguson
Ashley Gordon
Mary-Huffard Kegley
Ayesha Osborne
Sheriff Irving
Major Purches
Major Bagby
Major Dickerson
Major Feighner
Captain Harris
Leslie Winneberger
Blair O'Brien**

Upon a ***Motion*** by Mr. Hackworth and a second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

Closed Session

Mr. Hackworth offered the following in the form of a motion:

I *MOVE* that the Board begin CLOSED session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(16) to discuss or consider medical and mental health records; and

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pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Hackworth and a second by Mr. Sherrod, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Reconvene Open Session

Upon the members' return to open session, Mr. Hackworth offered the following in the form of a motion:

I MOVE that the Board reconvene our open session having concluded a closed session to discuss or consider medical and mental health records and to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. I MOVE that this committee and its individual members certify that during the closed session, the Board limited its discussion to matters lawfully exempt from the public meeting requirements and identified in the closed session motion. If a member cannot so certify, I ask that they state the reason specifically on the record and that the recorder take role.

All members in attendance certified by Roll Call.

PRESENTATIONS – Richmond City Jail

Leslie Winneberger presented to the Board Richmond City Jails proposed compliance plan which they believed would address the Board's concern about security checks. They do not believe the Board's proposed compliance plan would work, because they do not believe it is feasible or would work in the real world, and they believe it sets the facility up for failure.

Motion to include non-Board members in closed session

The following was offered by Mr. Carrera as a motion:

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712(F) I MOVE that the presence of the following individuals will reasonably aid this board in considering the subject of the closed session:

Names of the individuals to be included:

Ryan McCord

Geoff Garner

Alison Lautz

John Rock

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Paul Beaupre
Tawana Ferguson
Ashley Gordon
Mary-Huffard Kegley
Ayesha Osborne

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Carrera and a second by Mr. Hackworth, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Closed Session

Mr. Carrera offered the following in the form of a motion:

I MOVE that the Board begin CLOSED session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(16) to discuss or consider medical and mental health records; and pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Carrera and a second by Mr. Hackworth, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Reconvene Open Session

Upon the members' return to open session, Mr. Carrera offered the following in the form of a motion:

I MOVE that the Board reconvene our open session having concluded a closed session to discuss or consider medical and mental health records and to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. I MOVE that this committee and its individual members certify that during the closed session, the Board limited its discussion to matters lawfully exempt from the public meeting requirements and identified in the closed session motion. If a member cannot so certify, I ask that they state the reason specifically on the record and that the recorder take role.

All members in attendance certified by Roll Call.

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PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED – Richmond City Jail

Chairman Francis appreciated the Sheriff and her staff for coming to further discuss the matter. After meeting with the Council, the Board would like to reevaluate the matters and table it until the next meeting date, October 18, 2023.

PRESENTATIONS – Riverside Regional Jail

Jeff Gore presented the Board with updates and shared Riverside Regional Jail's views. The current compliance plan will expire two days from the meeting date if the board does not take any action.

Additional Items for Discussion/Board Member Comment

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss before the Board of Local and Regional Jails, upon a *Motion* by Chairman Francis and duly seconded, the meeting was *adjourned*.