

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS
LIAISON COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Regular Meeting.....October 15, 2014

Location6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

Presiding.....John Roberts, Acting Committee Chairman

Present..... Carl Peed, Board of Corrections
John F. Anderson, Board of Corrections
Ann Gardner, Board of Corrections
Rev. Anthony Paige, Board of Corrections
Phyllis J. Randall, Board of Corrections
Bobby N. Vassar, Board of Corrections
David A. Hackworth, Chesapeake Sheriff’s Office
Walter Minton, Riverside Regional Jail
Tim Trent, Blue Ridge Regional Jail
Bill Wilson, RSW Regional Jail
Matt Marsteller, Blue Ridge Regional Jail
Paul Perry, Peumansend Creek Regional Jail
David Kidwell, Arlington County Sheriff’s Office
Robyn deSocio, State Compensation Board
Brooks Ballard, Local Facilities Unit, Department of Corrections
Donna Lawrence, Compliance and Accreditation Unit, Department of Corrections
Jim Parks, Offender Management Services Unit, Department of Corrections

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. and attendees in the room identified themselves for the record. Mr. Roberts welcomed all attendees.

I. Committee Chairman (Mr. John Roberts at the request of Chairman Simons)

Mr. Roberts advised the members that at the request of Chairman Simons he would chair the meeting in his absence.

Mr. Roberts called for a Motion to approve the August Minutes.

Upon a **MOTION** by Mr. Trent and duly seconded, the August 20, 2014 minutes were unanimously **APPROVED**.

II. Funding and Budget Issues (Ms. Robyn deSocio, State Compensation Board)

Ms. deSocio provided an update of events that have occurred since the August meeting. The forecasting process was completed in September and shortfalls are anticipated for per diems. The forecasting process enables the Compensation Board to estimate additional funding needs. Last year's budget forecasted \$10-11 million range, but actual dollar amounts for the current budget are expected to be established in the next couple of weeks. The forecasting process was more difficult this year because of the transition from LIDs to LIDs/CORIS. The forecasts are based on data from about 70% of data entered. There is currently an outstanding vendor change request, which affects Average Daily Populations (ADP) and will hopefully, be resolved by mid-December. This change request involves data not entered in real time, affecting the historical data and ADP. This issue does not affect payments or intake. Currently, the data is based on end of month headcounts, which are variable relating to weekdays/weekends. Remarkably, the most recent forecast is lower than last year.

The Compensation Board is using actual inmate data to determine per diem funding. Since the payment cycle runs from March through February using actual inmate counts, Ms. deSocio does not anticipate forecast issues to be problematic relating to payments and re-evaluations to the ADP will be conducted in December.

Of concern is categorization of offenders in the LIDs system without all offenses entered causing inaccuracies in state vs. local responsibility. The Compensation Board has requested additional funding to bring in temporary staff to analyze potential missing data.

The Compensation Board was asked to submit five and seven percent administrative budget reductions. Aid to localities funding, which supports constitutional officers was not involved in the budget reduction plans, but was reduced by about \$30 million in funding. The Governor and the General Assembly have worked on a plan to address these shortfalls, identifying \$100 million from the five and seven percent reductions from state agencies as well as \$30 million from an overall aid to localities reduction. More funding will need to be identified for fiscal year 2016 (FY16). The Governor's budget is expected to address this future shortfall. The reductions in distributions are expected to be announced in the near future and will likely be applied optionally as they have in the past either by funding reductions or the return of payments to the Commonwealth.

III. Prison/Local Jail Population Report and Jail Construction Update – Ms. Donna Lawrence/Ms. Brooks Ballard

Ms. Lawrence reported the Prison capacity as 31,508 and the prison population as 30,322 with 70 Federal Prisoners. The out-of-compliance rate was 5,367 as of October 6, 2014. The jail capacity and population numbers are not available at this time.

Ms. Ballard provided the construction update. Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority – Abingdon/Duffield/Haysi is approximately 70% complete with full completion expected in December 2014. Central Virginia Regional Jail has experienced some delays changing the expected completion date from January 2016 to June 2016.

Mr. Roberts advised the committee that Bill Wilson was not providing these reports because he is now the newly hired Superintendent of the RSW Regional Jail in Warrenton, Virginia. The committee congratulates Mr. Wilson on his new position. Mr. Carl Peed, Chairman of the Board of Corrections announced that Mr. Wilson has been appointed as a member of the Liaison Committee.

Offender Management Service Update - Mr. Jim Parks

Mr. Parks reports that, due to budget reductions, the VADOC is expecting an announcement within the next day or two regarding the closing of facilities. This will likely be different from previous facility closings and will take place over the course of a shorter timeframe. Most likely, local facilities administrators have noticed the recent reductions in intake with jail populations and out-of-compliance rates creeping up. Construction at Keen Mountain Correctional Center is complete and will help somewhat, but will continue the increase until around the first of the year when improved intake will be reinstated.

Ms. deSocio added that per diems would likely need to increase based upon actual inmate populations. The impact on the VADOC will affect funding in other areas and face review based on actual numbers.

Additionally, Mr. Parks advised that the impact will be directly related to the number of VADOC beds lost and warned that the out-of-compliance rate will likely never return to previous levels due to the permanent removal of beds.

Other Business

Mr. Roberts reminded the attendees that the 2015 meeting schedule was included in the packets and suggested members review the dates. Approval/disapproval is on the November Board of Corrections agenda.

Mr. Wilson agreed to seek an official opinion from the Attorney General regarding ICE detainees.

Tim Trent alerted the members that interstate commissions have been eliminated and the FCC has recently begun focusing on intrastate commissions. The current revenue returned to local facilities is around \$13.5 million, assisting facility budgets without impacting the localities' funds. The Virginia Association of Regional Jails (VARJ) has taken a strong stance and met with Senator Warner, Representative Hurt and other

lawmakers. The FCC contacted a representative of the VARJ. Some potential proposals are under consideration including eliminating site commissions following a two-year transition and a cost recovery between \$.005 and \$.01 based on actual costs. Additional proposals include a differentiation between jails and prisons possibly based on size and geographical location. Mr. Trent will be attending a meeting on Monday October 20, 2014 in Atlanta to discuss available options and will advise the committee of the results in the November meeting.

Reverend Paige expressed his concerns about the Ebola virus asking if facilities are taking precautionary steps. Ms. Lawrence advised that VADOC medical staff have received communication from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) advising the use of cleaning products that contain 180 proof alcohol, obviously not practical in a prison. Other options are currently under review.

Other Comments

There being nothing further, by *MOTION* duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.