

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

Regular Meeting .....September 18, 2013

Location.....6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

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

Present .....Peter G. Decker, III, Chairman, Board of Corrections  
Linda D. Curtis, Member, Board of Corrections  
Felipe Q. Cabacoy, Member, Board of Corrections  
William Osborne, Member, Board of Corrections  
Rev. Anthony Paige, Member, Board of Corrections  
Carl Peed, Member, Board of Corrections  
Robyn deSocio, State Compensation Board  
Tim Trent, Blue Ridge Regional Jail  
Walter Minton, Riverside Regional Jail  
William Smith, Western Tidewater Regional Jail  
Captain John Jenkins, Fauquier County  
Deputy Laura Hopkins for Sheriff Steve Draper, City of Martinsville  
Sheriff Gabe Morgan, City of Newport News  
Bill Wilson, Local Facilities Unit, Department of Corrections  
Brooks Ballard, Local Facilities Unit, Department of Corrections  
Jim Bruce, Policy Unit, Department of Corrections  
Jim Parks, Offender Management Services Unit, Department of Corrections  
Chuck Hall, Hampton/Newport News Community Services Board  
Rev. Floyd Quinley, Guest of Rev. Anthony Paige

The meeting was called to order and attendees in the room identified themselves for the record. Mr. Roberts welcomed all attendees.

**I. Committee Acting Chairman (Mr. John Roberts)**

Mr. Roberts called for a Motion to approve the August Minutes. By **MOTION** duly made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously **APPROVED**.

**II. Prison/Local Jail Population Report and Jail Construction Update – Mr. Bill Wilson**

Mr. Wilson reported the Department’s out-of-compliance number at 4,792 as of September 16. He stated that information submitted by the jails for the Board’s Jail Bed Capacity Report is being compiled and that this year’s report is a little different in that the Board had only requested jail population numbers for two particular points in time; as of August 24 (a weekend day) and as of August 28 (a week day). He noted

the 2012 jail ADP is up from last year to 29,801. He also indicated that a correction will be made to the number of permanent beds reported for the Hampton City Jail, which original number was too low. He also remarked about the bed situation at Chesapeake City Jail and a short discussion ensued. Mr. Wilson also reported that to his knowledge, nothing negative had come from the OSIG jail audits.

Mr. Parks noted that 128 reception beds have been opened at Nottoway Correctional Center and that River North Correctional Center will be opening on October 1 and filling on October 7. Further discussion was held regarding Chesapeake.

There being nothing further, Messrs. Wilson and Parks concluded their reports.

### **III. Funding and Budget Issues (Ms. Robyn deSocio, State Compensation Board)**

Ms. deSocio reported that state agency budget submissions have been completed for the FY15-16 biennium and that per diem funding for jails is one of the Comp Board's priorities. Based upon current inmate forecasting, there is an anticipated per diem funding shortfall of between \$9-10 million for the current fiscal year.

She discussed the three jails opening during the next biennium and that funding consideration is more likely for the two opening in FY15, with the possibility that funding for the expansion opening in FY16 could be funded at a later date. She mentioned there is currently a need for 190-200 jail overcrowding positions statewide. She noted the LIDS/CORIS conversion is still in process and that vendor personnel resources have been reshuffled to address critical issues that are still outstanding. Seventeen critical issues have been identified, and a fix is currently being installed to address six or seven of the highest priority issues that is expected to address the majority of the problems most jails are experiencing. She emphasized that no one will lose money because of CORIS issues.

Ms. deSocio noted the Comp Board's jail mental health report is due to the General Assembly by November 1. Sheriff Morgan asked if the information from that report could be incorporated into CORIS at some point. Ms. deSocio noted it would be difficult this year but it can be looked at down the road.

At the conclusion of Ms. deSocio's comments, Ms. Ballard indicated she had a walk through at Richmond City Jail, and the larger portion of the facility will be opening in the first quarter of the coming year. She stated that RSW is moving along and its opening is anticipated for the middle of next year. She also reported that the Planning Studies for Chesapeake City Jail and Hampton Road Regional Jail had been passed by the Board during its August meeting. She mentioned there are some rumblings about Loudoun expanding as well as Prince William/Manassas. And, she noted there has again been some rumblings about Pittsylvania County, the Cities of Martinsville and Danville and Henry County joining forces to create a regional jail authority. Mr. Wilson mentioned that the Board received notice that the State Fire Marshal's Office will be increasing its hourly rate for fire safety inspections to \$52.56/hour. This

follows the Board's new negotiated agreement as of late last year at a rate of \$51.00/hour. Mr. Wilson made the suggestion that if a jail has a local fire bureau, perhaps it could be used to perform the annual fire safety inspection instead of having to use the State Fire Marshal's Office but that an opinion from the Office of the Attorney General should be requested.

He again noted that TB tests are still in short supply and if a jail documents that it was unable to obtain the tests despite a good-faith effort to do so, when the jail inspectors come by, the jail would be found to be in compliance as a result of that good-faith effort.

At this time, Mr. Chuck Hall with the Hampton/Newport News Community Service Board (CSB) addressed the Committee regarding solutions to re-entry challenges being experienced by his CSB. Many of his comments related to funding issues and the disparity between the funding rules governing adults versus children as well as private providers versus local CSBs. He noted his CSB receives its funding from Virginia Medicaid and that Virginia is spending money it does not need to spend. It was noted that any changes to the process would have to be addressed at the legislative level. He indicated that services by private providers are not coordinated with CSBs, which he feels is wasteful. There were several questions and points of clarification posed to Mr. Hall.

After more conversation, Mr. Roberts suggested that Sheriff Morgan be Mr. Hall's contact for the Virginia Sheriff's Association and that contact should also be made with the Virginia Association of Regional Jails to further his cause. Mr. Hall closed by stating that something needs to be done, that it can be done by appropriating more money and that his is a common-sense approach. Mr. Hall left his contact information with meeting attendees. Rev. Paige cautioned everyone to be sure we understand all factors related to this issue because sometimes it is not always evident on the surface.

There were no other comments. Mr. Roberts thanked Mr. Hall for his comments.

#### IV. **Other Comments (Mr. John Roberts)**

There were no comments offered and no new business. With that, Mr. Roberts noted the next meeting will be held on November 13, 2013, at 9:30.

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