

FINAL/APPROVED
THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

The Virginia Board of Corrections (Board) met on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the Department of Corrections (VADOC) Headquarters, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Phyllis Randall, Chairman
Bobby Vassar, Vice Chairman
John F. Anderson, Jr., Secretary
Ann Gardner
Colin P. O'Dawe
Reverend Dr. Yvonne Jones Bibbs

MEMBERS ABSENT: Reverend Kevin L. Sykes

VADOC STAFF PRESENT: Donna Lawrence, Compliance Certification and Accreditation Unit
Erma Locust, Compliance Certification and Accreditation Unit
Bob Casey, Compliance, Certification and Accreditation Unit
Rebecca Hancock, Policy and Initiatives Unit
Donna P. Foster, Administrative Support-Board of Corrections

GUESTS PRESENT: Phillip Figura, Office of the Attorney General
Timothy Trent, Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority
Josh Salmon, Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority
Matt Marstellar, Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority
Jamie Pham, Vectre Corporation
Katy Evans, Richmond Times Dispatch
Tina Parsons, Member of the Public

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Randall called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Randall determined there was a quorum present.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Randall welcomed everyone in attendance.

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APPROVAL OF MAY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Randall presented the May 17, 2017 minutes for review and approval.

Upon a *MOTION* by Vice-Chairman Vassar and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *APPROVE* the May 17, 2017 Board meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment made.

PRESENTATIONS

Rebecca Hancock advised that the proposed revision of the Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities are in the public comment period until August 11, 2017. There have been no public comments so far.

LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE

Ms. Gardner provided an overview of the Funding and Budget Issues Report, Prison Population Report, the Jail Construction Update, Offender Management Services Update as well as other business.

Ms. Gardner reported that Ms. deSocio reported on the Funding and Budget issues stating that the Compensation Board is in the process of collecting data in regard to the compression salary increase for local facilities. They expect to have information returned to the facilities by the end of the week. Mental health screening instruments are currently in use, with some jails reporting long term use of the required instrument. The Compensation Board will also be collecting data for the annual mental illness in jails survey.

Ms. Gardner reported that Mr. Casey reported the jail construction updates. Mr. Casey indicated that the Chesapeake facility is currently under construction with an expected completion in 2018. Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail is expected to be completed in 2019 and received bids on July 6, 2017. Pamunkey and Central Virginia Regional Jails' reimbursements have been granted. Newport News and Martinsville have been approved, but not yet reimbursed.

Ms. Gardner reported that Jim Parks reported that Offender Management Services has the out-of-compliance at 2,851, of which 2,449 are male and 402 are females. Mr. Parks remarked that this is one of the lowest population rates that he has seen. They are working to get the mental health and medical services prepared at lower security facilities for female housing requirements. The Deep Meadow Correctional Center recently opened 30 new construction infirmary beds.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

No Administration Committee meeting was held.

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CORRECTIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE UPDATE/Policy & Regulations
LOCAL FACILITIES SECTION – STAFFING/FUNDING AND UNANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS:

It is noted that the recording equipment malfunctioned during this segment of the meeting. Mr. O’Dawe offered the following Committee recommendations for Board approval:

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. O’Dawe and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Unconditional certification as a result of 100% compliance for:

**Eastern Shore Regional Jail
Loudoun County Adult Detention Center**

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. O’Dawe and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

The Board of Corrections, in recognition of the outstanding achievement of 100% compliance with standards, approves the suspension of the 2017 annual inspections for the Meherrin River Regional Jail-Alberta, Virginia Beach Correctional Center, Blackstone Lockup and Meherrin River Regional Jail-Mecklenburg.

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. O’Dawe and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

SOUTHSIDE REGIONAL JAIL

The Board of Corrections grants a modification of Standard 6VAC15-80-160, Minor Renovation Project, of the Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 1994, to allow the Southside Regional Jail to proceed with its renovation by submitting this project as a Minor Renovation Project. This approval of modification shall not be construed as a future variance to Board Standards 6VAC15-80-160 for this facility or as a current or future variance for any other facility.

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. O’Dawe and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

The Board of Corrections grants a waiver of Standard 6VAC15-80-211, Value Management Analysis, of the Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 1994, to allow the Southside Regional Jail to proceed with its renovation without performing a Value Management Analysis.

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This approval of waiver shall not be construed as a future variance to Board Standards 6VAC15-80-211 for this facility or as a current or future variance for any other facility.

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. O'Dawe and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

The Board of Corrections approves the Southside Regional Jail Authority's request for state funding for the improvement and upgrade of the security doors in their facility. This approval recognizes a total eligible cost of \$276,930 of which up to 50% or \$138,465 would be eligible for State reimbursement. Such reimbursement is subject to availability of funds and compliance with Board Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 1994 and Sections 53.1-80 through 82 of the Code of Virginia.

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. O'Dawe and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chairman Randall reminded the attendees that the General Assembly began a review of which body should be empowered with the responsibility to review deaths in local facilities. They considered the Board of Corrections as well as the Inspector General, finally deciding upon the Board of Corrections as the appropriate body to be charged with the duties. In making this determination, the General Assembly also determined that the members of the Board of Corrections should include specific qualifications to be fully capable of this challenge. While all board members were encouraged to apply, several members chose to relinquish their membership.

Reverend Yvonne Bibbs, who in spite of enduring tragic personal loss during her tenure, attended meetings faithfully. Reverend Bibbs opted to concentrate on her spiritual endeavors rather than remain a member of the Board of Corrections.

Ann Gardner, a Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney for Alleghany County was previously a prosecutor in the city of Roanoke for twelve years and in private practice prior to that. Ms. Gardner also opted not to apply for further service with the Board of Corrections.

Colin O'Dawe is an attorney at Kalfus and Nachman, a civil litigation firm with offices in Norfolk, Newport News and Roanoke. He is a busy father of two young children and chose not to extend his appointment on the Board of Corrections.

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Rev. Bibbs, Ms. Gardner and Mr. O'Dawe will be missed. They all were involved Board members and their years of services are greatly appreciated. The Virginia Department of Corrections and current Board members thank them dearly for their service.

Returning are Mr. John F. Anderson, Jr., Reverend Kevin Sykes, Ms. Phyllis Randall and Mr. Bobby Vassar. The new Board members are expected to be named in the near future.

Chairman Randall was asked by Deputy Secretary of Public Service Victoria Cochran to select and vote upon two meeting dates in the very near future during which to have a meet and greet meeting with the new Board members and another for a Summit. Chosen were August 8, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. for the meet and greet and August 16, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. for the Summit.

Chairman Randall thanked Donna Lawrence and Bob Casey for their assistance and helping her learn their functions within the Virginia Department of Corrections.

Mr. Figura thanked the Board members adding that he had no idea what to expect when he initially began working with them. He found the Board members to be a very collegial and compassionate group who truly focus on ensuring suitable housing for incarcerated offenders. In his experience, he noted that the members are concerned about the future of inmates as well as the working conditions for staff.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

September 20, 2017
October 18, 2017
November 15, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss before the Board of Corrections, upon a *Motion* by Chairman Randall and duly seconded, the meeting was *Adjourned* by unanimous vote at 12:43 p.m.

APPROVED:

Phyllis J. Randall, Chairman

John F. Anderson, Jr., Secretary