

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

Regular Meeting.....March 15, 2017

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

Presiding.....Superintendent Timothy Trent, Chairman

Present..... John F. Anderson, Board of Corrections  
Ann Gardner, Board of Corrections  
Colin O’Dawe, Board of Corrections  
Phyllis Randall, Board of Corrections  
Bobby Vassar, Board of Corrections  
Stephen Draper, Martinsville Sheriff’s Office  
David A. Hackworth, Chesapeake Sheriff’s Office  
Bill Wilson, RSW Regional Jail  
Keith Lockridge, Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office  
Paul Perry Peumansend Creek Regional Jail  
Laura Hopkins, Martinsville City Jail  
Jim Whitley, Northwestern Regional Jail  
Bill Hefty, Hefty, Wiley and Gore  
Jeff Gore, Hefty Wiley and Gore  
Jamie Pham, Vectre Corporation  
Robyn deSocio, Compensation Board  
Dick Hall-Sizemore, Department of Planning and Budget  
Keith Dawkins, Offender Management Services Unit, Department of Corrections  
James Bruce, Policy and Initiatives Unit, Department of Corrections  
Rebecca Hancock, Policy and Initiatives Unit, Department of Corrections  
Bob Casey, Compliance and Accreditation Unit, Department of Corrections  
Donna Foster, Liaison Support, Department of Corrections

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and Chairman Trent welcomed all attendees.

**I. Committee Chairman**

Chairman Trent called for a motion to approve the November 16, 2016 minutes.

Upon a **MOTION** and duly seconded, the November 16, 2016 minutes were unanimously **APPROVED**.

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

Ms. deSocio reported that the General Assembly approved language and funding to support a 2% across the board salary increase effective August 1, 2017 for constitutional officers, regional jails and employees provided that the governing authority of such employees uses funds to support salary increases. The amendment is provided in lieu of a 1.5% bonus effective December 1, 2017 as proposed in the introduced budget bill. Also approved, effective August 1, 2017, a salary decompression increase for sheriffs' offices and regional jails, to include all positions with Compensation Board funding; an increase of \$80 per year of service for all sworn positions with between three and thirty years of continuous service and an increase of \$65 per year of service for all non-sworn positions with between three and thirty years of continuous service. Additional participation in the sheriffs' and regional jails' master deputy and master jail officer programs has been funded with an effective date of August 1, 2017. Funding in the second year has been approved to support staffing for the city of Chesapeake's 192 bed jail expansion project, scheduled to be completed in February 2018.

The budget bill proposed funding of \$4.2 million and two staff positions for the Department of Criminal Justice Services to support mental health screenings and assessments in local and regional jails in grant funds. Those funds were diverted by the General Assembly for the provision of other mental health services. Language was included under the Compensation Board section of the budget which requires local and regional jails to screen for mental illness of every individual, on admittance to jail, by using a standardized jail mental health screening instrument. This screening instrument will be designated by the Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. There was language approved, directing the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to prepare a report on the potential use of the now closing Peumansend Creek facility for inmates with mental illness.

There have been stakeholder meetings held to consider alternatives to the current liability insurance program. Budget language to approve the continuation of these meetings was approved. A great deal of information has been provided by risk management, but additional information from other providers is pending. The group has interest in reviewing additional information prior to making any recommendations.

Budget estimates for jails and localities were made available on the Compensation Board website last Friday. The reconvened legislative session is on April 5th and the Compensation Board will have their annual budget hearing on April 6th. Budgets will be set on April 26th and out on May 1st.

The "Managing Jail Risk Conference" will be held in late spring or early summer. More information will be available soon.

Anne Wilmoth returned in January following a long absence, but has since retired at the end of February. Ms. Wilmoth was the developer of the original LIDs program utilized by the jails, Compensation Board and other agencies since 1996. She was instrumental in the development of LIDS-CORIS, the newer jail inmate data system as well.

III. **Prison/Local Jail Population Report and Jail Construction Update – Mr. Bob Casey**

Mr. Casey reported that the Chesapeake City Jail expansion is currently under active construction with an expected completion date of late fiscal year 2018 (FY18). Prince William-Manassas Regional Jail's Phase II expansion is scheduled for a FY19 completion.

IV. **Offender Management Service Update - Mr. Jim Parks**

Mr. Dawkins reported on behalf of Jim Parks that the out-of-compliance total is 3,600 of which 3,174 are males and 426 are females.

V. **Other Business**

Sheriff Draper inquired on behalf of Sheriff Dan Smith of Patrick County about options available for state responsible inmates with high medical expenses. Mr. Dawkins confirmed that the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) will pay medical expenses for state responsible offenders. To discuss VADOC payment of eligible medical expenses, contact Linda Capen at 804-887-7845. Ms. deSocio added that there are funds available through the Compensation Board as well. State responsible inmates who are out-of-compliance are eligible for emergency medical funds if expenses are incurred outside of the jail, such as at a hospital or other medical facility. She noted that an official opinion of the Attorney General has indicated that the Commonwealth is not responsible for expenses incurred on behalf of inmates sentenced to state-responsible time until the 61st day after transmission of the final court order to the VADOC.

I. **Other Comments**

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