

# THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS

The Virginia Board of Local and Regional Jails (Board) met on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at the Department of Corrections (VADOC) Headquarters, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** The Honorable Vernie Francis, Chairman  
Bobby Vassar, Vice Chairman  
John F. Anderson, Jr, Secretary  
The Honorable Charles Jett  
Cleopatra Lightfoot-Booker, Psy.D  
Karen Nicely, LPC  
Joanne Peña  
Roland Sherrod, CPA

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Ryan C. McCord

**BOARD COUNSEL:** Phillip Figura, Esq., Office of the Attorney General (Conference Call)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Heather Masters, M.D., S.F.H.M., F.A.C.P.

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:** Tawana Ferguson, Jail Inspector  
Paul Beaupre, Jail Inspector  
John Rock, Jail Death Investigator  
Alison Lautz, Jail Death Investigator  
Donna Foster, Administrative Support

**VADOC STAFF PRESENT:** Marcia Powers, Construction Support Services Administrator

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Colonel Larry Leabough, Riverside Regional Jail  
Percy Ashcraft, Prince George County Administrator  
Jeff Gore, General Counsel, Riverside Regional Jail  
Patrick Wilson, Richmond Times Dispatch  
Mark Bowe, Richmond Times Dispatch  
Bob Brown, Richmond Times Dispatch  
Kerri O'Brien, WRIC 8  
Forrest Shelor, WRIC 8

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## 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 JULY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Francis presented the July 21, 2021 minutes for review and approval.

Upon a *Motion* by Chairman Francis and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the July 21, 2021 Board meeting minutes.

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

## PRESENTATIONS

The newly hired Jail Death Investigators attended their first meeting with the Board of Local and Regional Jails. Alison Lautz came to the Board from the City of Norfolk, Office of the Medical Examiner. John Rock came to the Board from the City of Newport News Homicide Division.

## JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE

### Actions

**I make the following recommendations in the form of a Motion by Ms. Pena:**

The Jail Review Committee investigated the following case by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding the death. The Jail Review Committee further *FINDS* that the 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 case be recommended to the Full Board for closure.

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**\* Comments from the public are limited to five minutes per person on matters not on the agenda**

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|         |  |          |
|---------|--|----------|
| 19-0018 | Culpeper County Jail                   | 5/30/19  |
| 19-0023 | Roanoke City Jail                      | 8/8/19   |
| 19-0027 | Western Virginia Regional Jail         | 9/23/19  |
| 19-0028 | Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail  | 9/21/19  |
| 19-0029 | BRRJA-Lynchburg Adult Detention Center | 9/24/19  |
| 19-0030 | Eastern Shore Regional Jail            | 10/19/19 |
| 19-0032 | Rappahannock Regional Jail             | 10/18/19 |
| 19-0033 | Pamunkey Regional Jail                 | 10/24/19 |
| 19-0035 | Henrico County Jail                    | 10/25/19 |
| 19-0037 | Arlington County Jail                  | 11/19/19 |
| 19-0038 | Chesterfield County Jail               | 12/12/19 |
| 20-0003 | SWVRJA-Haysi                           | 1/8/21   |
| 20-0006 | SWVRJA-Haysi                           | 2/9/20   |
| 20-0012 | Henry County Jail                      | 4/13/20  |
| 20-0020 | Roanoke City Jail                      | 3/22/20  |

Upon a *Motion* by Ms. Pena and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

## CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

### **Compliance, Certification and Accreditation - Certifications Report: Local/Regional/Community Facilities**

#### BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

- Newport News City Jail
- Martinsville City Jail and Annex
- Franklin County Jail

Mr. Vassar made the following recommendations 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:**

Newport News City Jail

**Unconditional certification as a result of 100% for:**

Martinsville City Jail and Annex

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Mr. Jett made the following recommendations 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:**

Franklin County Jail

## BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

**The Board of Local and Regional Jails, in recognition of the outstanding achievement of 100% compliance with standards, approves the suspension of the 2021 annual inspection for the Newport News City jail and the Martinsville City Jail and Annex.**

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

## CLOSED SESSION

**I MOVE that the Board begin *CLOSED* session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(16) and pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) which permits meeting in closed session for the following reason: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body.**

Upon a *Motion* made by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the Above Recommendation

**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:**

Ryan McCord  
Phillip Figura  
John Rock  
Alison Lautz  
Tawana Ferguson  
Paul Beaupre  
Donna Foster

## RECONVENE

**I MOVE that the Board reconvene our open session having concluded a closed session to consult with legal counsel and to brief staff members on matters pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely**

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affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. I MOVE that this Board 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.

Upon a *Motion* made by Ms. Pena and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the Above Recommendation. All members certified.

I *MOVE* that the Board of Local and Regional Jails *APPROVE* the Consent Agreement between Riverside Regional Jail and the Board, subject to the final edit by staff for technical and conforming changes.

Upon a Motion made by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to Approve the Above Recommendation.

## ADJUDICATION PROCEDURE

I MOVE that the Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVE the Adjudication Procedure.

Upon a *Motion* made by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the Above Recommendation.

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

Jeff Gore thanked the Board and Mr. McCord for working with Riverside Regional through the process which he said is robust and a good result.

Chairman Francis advised that there will be a brief Board meeting prior to the Jail Review Committee meeting on October 20.

## FUTURE MEETING DATES

Wednesday, September 22, 2020

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

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## 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* by unanimous vote of the attending members.

DRAFT