

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS
POLICY AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

APPROVED DECEMBER 6, 2023

REGULAR MEETING..... November 1, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

PRESIDING.....Dr. Cleopatra Booker, PsyD, Committee Chair

PRESENT.....Dr. Cleopatra Booker, PsyD, Chair
David Hackworth, Board of Local and Regional Jails
Tiffany Jenkins, Board of Local and Regional Jails
Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor, Board of Local and Regional Jails
Geoff Garner, Executive Director, Board of Local and Regional Jails
Mary-Huffard Kegley, Policy Analyst, Board of Local and Regional Jails
Major Jim Pritchett, Office of the Sheriff, Chesterfield County, VA

Call to Order

Dr. Booker, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. The presence of a quorum was determined.

Public Comment

None

Motion by Mr. Hackworth to approve minutes of October 2023. Second by Ms. Jenkins. Unanimous approval.

Old Business

- A. Discussion of Workgroup Plans for review of 6VAC15-40, *Minimum Standards for Jails and Lockups*:
1. Board staff have been assigned to coordinate review of specific regulatory sections. Sheriffs and Jails have provided individuals to serve on workgroups. Additional individuals may join the discussion in the future.
 2. Dr. Booker and Dr. Maybach will serve as Board representatives for the Health and Behavioral Health Care review. Ms. Jenkins and Ms. Vermont will serve as alternates.
 3. At the next Board meeting, Dr. Booker will offer Board members the opportunity to participate in the regulatory review process.
 4. Dr. Booker suggested the Board utilize contacts with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to connect with Community Service Board representatives to serve on review workgroups.
 5. Discussion of Governor Youngkin’s initiative to reduce regulatory burdens. Workgroups will review existing standards of 6VAC15-40, recommend

consolidation of standards when applicable, elimination of unnecessary standards and draft suggested revisions/standards.

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6. At future Board meetings, Dr. Booker will provide updates regarding the workgroups status and activity

New Business

- A. **Motion** by Mr. Hackworth that the Committee recommend that the Board require Board audits prior to the opening of a new facility, unit or program at a jail or lockup, thereby ensuring operational policies are in place in advance of occupancy. Second by Ms. Jenkins. Unanimous approval.
- B. Discussion of human rights detailed in prisoner handbook.
- C. Discussion of the Board's practice of waiving audits on jails holding current American Correctional Association. The Committee agreed this practice should be abandoned and that this will be an agenda item for the Board.
- D. Discussion of Virginia Department of Health inspection procedures.
- E. Discussion of the role of and future opportunities for the Board's Liaison Committee.

There being nothing further and upon unanimous approval, the meeting was *adjourned*.