

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

Regular MeetingNovember 14, 2006

Location6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

Presiding Chairman..... Roy Cherry, Chairman, Liaison Committee, Board of Corrections

PresentSterling Proffitt, Acting Chairman, Board of Corrections
W. Alvin Hudson, Board of Corrections
Jimmy Burrell, Board of Corrections
Bobby Mitchell, Board of Corrections
Jacqueline Fraser, Board of Corrections
Clyde Cristman, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety
Jack Dewan, Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Ann Wilmouth, State Compensation Board
Ron Elliott, Peumansend Creek Regional Jail
Stuart Kitchen, Sheriff, Sussex County Jail
Chris Webb, Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority
John Roberts, Newport News City Farm
Tom Jones, Charlotte County Jail
Gene Johnson, Director, DOC
Bert Jones, Architecture and Engineering, DOC
Fred Ambiso, Video NOC Manager, DOC
Bill Wilson, Compliance and Accreditation, DOC
Donna Foster, Compliance and Accreditation, DOC

I. September Minutes

- Minutes from the September 19, 2006 meeting were motioned for approval, seconded and passed.

II. Minutes Summary

- Bert Jones presented the construction updates for the Department of Corrections. St Brides Phase II is underway with the main structure up, the roofing started and it is now on schedule, having made up some time. Deerfield has received certificates of occupancy and will load inmates earlier than scheduled due to the overcrowding status. The new construction in Tazewell County has been named the Pocahontas Correctional Center. It is 80% complete and is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007. The new facility in

Pittsylvania County is on schedule to open in May 2007 and will be named Green Rock Correctional Center. Jeff Dillman has been named the warden of Green Rock and has asked for office space to be made available for the new staff. Mr. Jones handed out a map of the state of Virginia locating state facilities to include the new construction. Number 33 (#33) on the aforementioned map is the new facility in Pittsylvania County, #34 is the new facility in Tazewell County. Mr. Burrell asked if there were only two facilities with medical beds (designated by triangles, #30 and #31). Mr. Jones answered that the two located on the map are the only two secure medical units within hospitals (MVC and Southampton Memorial), but UVA provides some services to the Department of Corrections. Stuart Kitchen asked if Powhatan Correctional Center still has a medical unit available to inmates. Mr. Jones answered, yes, there is an infirmary at Powhatan Correctional Center as well as one at Greensville Correctional Center. Marion Correctional Center has a mental health facility and some mental health programs at Brunswick Correctional Center. Mr. Kitchen asked if the Western Region had been divided. Mr. Jones said, no, but it has been reorganized. Mr. Jones stated that there is a facility in the Mt. Rogers area and possibly one in Charlotte County that are slated for discussion during the upcoming short session of the General Assembly. Mr. Burrell asked why some of the numbers for the correctional units (on the map handout) were missing. Mr. Jones stated that, originally, there were correctional units with all the consecutive numbers, but that numerous facilities had been closed and the original unit number was not changed.

- Bill Wilson presented the population report. He was advised by Gary Bass that 20 inmates would be loaded into Deerfield Correctional Center this week (week of 11/14), 20 more next week (week of 11/20) and 50 additional in concurrent weeks. Also 75 beds were made available at Pocahontas Correctional Unit #13 for female inmates. The construction updates include Northampton taking possession of their jail in December 2006, Gloucester County has not yet broken ground so he anticipates an additional year before they will be ready to accept inmates. Culpeper County's community based correction plan has been approved by the Board of Corrections, at a cost of approximately \$38.8 million, is scheduled for completion in June 2010. He wanted to tell the committee that a colleague, Erma Locust has sent out a survey to the jails to find barriers between the jails and the DOC. One problem that has been identified concerns inmates' personal property. Personal possessions must be eliminated through donation, destruction or sent home, preferably prior to reception into the DOC. Any other issues that are identified will be brought before the committee. Jack Dewan stated that this has been an ongoing problem for years and federal prisons finally have refused to accept inmate possessions. Mr. Kitchen stated that jails are starting to follow the federal prison policy and notify other jails what they will and will not accept. Chris Webb stated that he calculated approximately 250 additional out-of-compliance inmates per month. Mr. Wilson stated that is a possibility, that judges are sending more people to jail on

a consistent basis. Some inmates are considered for alternative programs, such as electronic home monitoring once received.

- Mr. Cherry asked Clyde Cristman if he had any comments he would like to make. Mr. Cristman stated that he would like the committee to know that he is meeting with the DOC, the Compensation Board and the Department of Planning and Budget on a monthly basis regarding the out-of-compliance numbers. In this meeting they review individual jails looking for hot spots and reviewing concerns of sheriffs and superintendents who have notified them that there are issues. He said that the only reason the numbers are not worse is because the DOC has done an incredible job keeping the numbers down. He said that one area identified as a problem is the need for additional beds for females. The out-of-compliance numbers have gone from 1100 to 2700 since March when he started his position as Deputy Secretary of Public Safety. He stated that he hopes this is an anomaly and not a reflection of an increased crime rate or they will need to dramatically increase the forecasts for 2012, which they are looking at now. Mr. Cherry said that he spoke on behalf of the committee in thanking Mr. Cristman for representing the Secretary's office in the Liaison committee meeting.
- Mr. Cherry asked Gene Johnson if he would like to add anything. He said that we are all fighting the same battle and anything that the DOC can do to assist the local facilities, he will be glad to offer the assistance of the DOC.
- Robyn deSocio was unable to attend the meeting. Ann Wilmouth was in attendance to answer questions. There were no questions at this time.
- Mr. Cherry discussed the initial meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee, which took place on November 8, 2006 and Anna McCray from the Virginia Department of Emergency Services is providing coordination for the project. Some of the sheriffs were unable to attend, but the State Police were represented as was the National Guard, the Department of Transportation and Ted Costen also attended from the Virginia Department of Emergency Services. The next meeting will take place in January.
- The committee voted to present Judge Lemmond with a plaque honoring his 20 years of service on the committee in the January meeting. The Board of Corrections will present a resolution to Judge Lemmond in January.
- Alvin Hudson notified the committee that Tom Jones, Sheriff of Charlotte County, has been elected President of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association Board of Directors. Congratulations Sheriff Jones on behalf of the Liaison Committee.

By motion duly made by the Chairman of the Liaison Committee, Roy Cherry, and seconded by several members in attendance, the meeting adjourned.