

# THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

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The Virginia Board of Corrections (Board) met on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at the Department of Corrections (VADOC) Headquarters, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** The Honorable Vernie W. Francis, Jr., Chairman  
Bobby Vassar, Vice Chairman  
William T. Dean  
Olivia Garland, Ph.D.  
The Honorable Charles Jett  
Heather Masters, M.D., S.F.H.M., F.A.C.P.  
Karen Nicely, LPC  
Reverend Kevin L. Sykes

**BOARD JAIL REVIEW UNIT:** Steve Goff, Investigative Analyst  
Kemba Jennings, Policy Analyst

**BOARD COUNSEL:** Phillip Figura, Esq., Office of the Attorney General

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** John F. Anderson, Jr., Secretary

**VADOC STAFF PRESENT:** Emmanuel Fontenot, Compliance, Certification and Accreditation  
Erma Locust, Compliance, Certification and Accreditation Unit  
Bob Casey, Compliance, Certification and Accreditation Unit  
Sharen Faxio, Compliance, Certification and Accreditation  
James Bruce, Policy and Initiatives Unit  
Donna Foster, Administrative Support, Department of Corrections

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Caitlyn Kilpatrick, Senate Finance Committee  
Adam Rosatelli, Senate Finance Committee  
Jamie Bitz, JLARC  
Sarah Berday-Sacks, JLARC  
James Pritchett, Chesterfield County Jail  
Kathy Painter, Rockbridge Regional Jail  
Derek Almarode, Rockbridge Regional Jail  
John Logan, Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail  
Jeff Kepler, Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail  
Roy Witham, Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail  
Patrick Wilson, Richmond Times Dispatch  
Denice Lavoie, Associated Press  
Bruce Crusier, Mental Health America-Virginia

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## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

## DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Francis determined there was a quorum present.

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Francis welcomed everyone in attendance. He asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

## APPROVAL OF MARCH BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Francis presented the March 20, 2019 minutes for review and approval.

Upon a *Motion* by Chairman Francis and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the March 20, 2019 Board meeting minutes.

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

## PRESENTATIONS

### **Kemba Jennings-Best Practices**

Ms. Jennings reported that some of the best practices that are being implemented include the Guardian RFID (one of many brands) which enables tracking of rounds made by officers, medication delivery, dangerous device issuance, inmate counts, etc. One method of using this type of system enables the officer to electronically scan a wristband or I.D. of an inmate during interactions. These systems are capable of providing a countdown for the next round, even sounding an alarm in the event the round is late to ensue. Some facilities are using internal reviews to check video content against logs and live events. CMT and CMA positions are being reduced while increasing the LPN and RN positions. Improved communication between receiving and transferring facilities improves continuity of care. External medical investigations are being implemented.

Administrative reviews that include daily meetings with CSBs (Community Service Boards), the medical program director and court services are being utilized. Suicide reviews help improve detection, monitoring and management. Rounds reminders that include individual updates especially with suicide concerns are helpful. Facilities are using signage to increase suicide awareness as well as inform offenders of awareness. Security policies are being updated following individual occurrences, increasing accountability of staff. Compliance, Certification and Accreditation has seen 15 day assessments evolve to 7 day assessments as well as walk-throughs with department heads which increases accessibility to the inmates. Additionally,

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consultation with subject matter specialists during decision-making and enhanced dialog with staff are improving outcomes.

### LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Jett 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.

Mr. Jett reported that Tim Trent served as chairman of the Liaison Committee meeting. The March 20, 2019 meeting minutes were approved.

Mr. Jett reported that Ms. deSocio advised that the Compensation Board completed their review and established budgets for FY20 (Fiscal Year 2020). This information was provided to localities and Regional Jails on May 1, 2019. Budget development for the next biennium (FY21 and 22) will begin this summer and go into the fall. Compensation Board staff is participating in a number of workgroups related to medical and behavioral health as well as participating in the workgroup established by the Board of Corrections to develop standards as required by the General Assembly. The workgroup developing standards is being lead by Dr. Michael Schaefer from the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services (DBHDS). Compensation Board staff are participating in Dr. Schaefer's group as well as another workgroup from DBHDS and VADOC to develop a single HIPPA release form that will enable information sharing among agencies. In addition, Compensation Board staff are working on jail and prison inmate forecasting as well as per diem funding forecasting.

Mr. Jett reported that Mr. Casey reported that Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail (204 bed expansion) is nearing 65% completion. The locality has decided to build out shell space for their work release program. This will increase the scope of the project to be presented to the Board at the July meeting. The anticipated completion date remains March 2020. The Henry County 400 bed new jail project received two pre-qualified bids in January, one \$8 million and the other \$10 million over budget primarily due to MEP (mechanical, electrical and plumbing) prices. Current options are looking at serious cuts that include eliminating beds or possibly killing the project altogether. If the project moves forward the anticipated completion date would likely be pushed back to 2022.

Mr. Jett reported that Jim Parks did not attend the meeting, but Chairman Trent reported the total for out-of-compliance inmates is 2,607 of which 2,353 are males and 254 are females.

### JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

The Jail Review Committee investigated the following cases by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding each death. The Jail Review Committee **FINDS** that the evidence presented in these cases did/did not reveal any act or omission by the facility or any employee or agent thereof that may have directly or indirectly contributed to the inmate's death. The Jail Review Committee further **FINDS** that investigation revealed/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 cases be recommended to the Full Board for closure.

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Case	Location	Date of Death
18-0030	Virginia Beach Correctional Center	12/28/18
18-0004	Virginia Beach Correctional Center	8/16/18
18-0033	Richmond Justice Center	3/21/17
18-0044	Henrico County Jail	5/15/18
18-0041	Fairfax County ADC	4/23/18
18-0060	Hampton Roads Regional Jail	10/13/18
18-0043	Hampton Roads Regional Jail	5/15/18
18-0062	Hampton Roads Regional Jail	11/15/18
18-0046	Central Virginia Regional Jail	5/23/18
18-0052	Northern Neck Regional Jail	7/10/18

## CORRECTIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE /POLICY & REGULATIONS LOCAL FACILITIES SECTION – STAFFING/FUNDING AND UNANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS:

By recommendation of the Compliance, Certification and Accreditation Unit to approve as follows:

**I make the following recommendations in the form of a Motion:**

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

**Danville Adult Detention Center  
Middle River Regional Jail**

Upon a *Motion* by Vice-Chairman Vassar and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

Jeff Kepler-Prince William Regional Jail, Roy Witham-Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail, Derek Almarode-Rockbridge Regional Jail and Erma Locust on behalf of Henry County Jail addressed the Board members specifying the corrections made to their facilities to reach compliance of the Minimum Standards for Jails and Lockups. Being satisfied with their corrections the Board members voted on approval for Unconditional Certification.

**Unconditional certification for:**

**Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail  
Henry County Jail  
Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail  
Rockbridge Regional Jail**

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

**The Board of Corrections, in recognition of the outstanding achievement of 100% compliance with standards, approves the suspension of the 2019 annual inspections for the Danville Adult Detention Center and Middle River Regional Jail**

Upon a *Motion* by Vice-Chairman Vassar and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendations.

### GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairman Francis asked for discussion and input from the Board members regarding changing the date and time of the June Jail Review Committee meeting. Following some discussion, the members agreed to meeting on June 12, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

### CLOSED SESSION

None

### ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

None

### FUTURE MEETING DATES

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss before the Board of Corrections, upon a *Motion* by Chairman Francis and duly seconded, the meeting was *Adjourned* by unanimous vote of the attending members.