

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

Regular Meeting.....March 18, 2015

Location6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

Presiding.....John Roberts, Acting Committee Chairman

Present..... Carl Peed, Board of Corrections
John F. Anderson, Board of Corrections
Ann Gardner, Board of Corrections
Rev. Anthony Paige, Board of Corrections
Tammi Lambert, Board of Corrections
Bobby N. Vassar, Board of Corrections
David A. Hackworth, Chesapeake Sheriff’s Office
John Jenkins, Fauquier Adult Detention Center
Keith Lockridge, Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office
Tim Trent, Blue Ridge Regional Jail
Bill Wilson, RSW Regional Jail
Matt Marsteller, Blue Ridge Regional Jail
Eugene Taylor, Hampton Roads Regional Jail
David Kidwell, Arlington County Sheriff’s Office
Brian Struzzieri, Virginia Beach City Jail
George Pender, Member of the Public
Brooks Ballard, (Retired) Local Facilities Unit, Department of Corrections
Bob Casey, Local Facilities Unit, Department of Corrections
James Bruce, Policy and Initiative Unit, Department of Corrections
Jim Parks, Offender Management Services Unit, Department of Corrections
Donna Foster, Liaison Support, Department of Corrections

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and attendees in the room identified themselves for the record. Mr. Roberts welcomed all attendees.

I. Committee Chairman (Mr. John Roberts at the request of Chairman Simons)

Mr. Roberts advised the members that at the request of Chairman Simons he would chair the meeting in his absence.

Mr. Roberts called for a Motion to approve the November minutes.

Upon a **MOTION** by Mr. Trent and duly seconded, the November 19, 2014 minutes were unanimously **APPROVED**.

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

Ms. deSocio reported the legislature approved an across the board pay increase in FY16 (Fiscal Year 2016) for constitutional officers, regional jails and state employees, although the legislation has a revenue contingency clause requiring actual revenues to meet or exceed expected levels. There is no provision for a partial increase if full revenue expectations are not met. Whether the contingency is met should be clear by July. Also, entry level grade 7 officers and deputies will receive an additional increase to provide for a new minimum salary of \$31,009, including the 2% pay increase. The new minimum salary will be \$30,427 if the revenue expectations are not met to provide the 2% increase. After one year, entry level officers are upgraded to a grade 8 position, which previously provided for a 9.3% increase. After the new minimum salary is implemented, the upgrade to a grade 8 will provide for an approximate 4.5% increase. The exact increase percentage depends upon whether the across-the-board 2% salary increase goes forward.

A budget amendment was approved for the removal of aid to localities reductions, which were in place from FY09 until FY13, removed in FY14, and reissued in FY15. They have again been removed for FY16. Also approved is additional staffing in FY16 for the expansion of Central Virginia Regional Jail for the new kitchen and receiving areas. Beds will not be added until FY16. The Compensation Board is believed to be fully funded to provide fourth quarter inmate per diem payments.

Language was approved by the legislature to change capital construction cost reimbursements from 50% to 25% for jail construction projects approved by the governor on or after July 1, 2015. Approved language changes to statute regarding the reimbursement rates for construction costs for existing regional jails remain unclear and the budget language will likely prevail in allowing only 25% reimbursement. Expansion projects for which funding has been approved include Pamunkey and Prince William/Manassas Regional Jails at the 50% reimbursement rate.

Programming dealing with adjustments that didn't function properly in the LIDS-CORIS (Local Inmate Database) software was causing the average daily populations of inmates to be calculated incorrectly last year, and especially during inmate forecasting cycles. A fix was installed in December, 2014, but this fix introduced another problem later detected, causing duplications of adjustments when monthly certification are completed. The Compensation Board has asked the LIDS technicians not to certify monthly financial certifications until an additional correction can be installed. This repair is expected to be installed in LIDS-CORIS in May.

A LIDs conference is planned for the summer of 2015 tentatively in June, however a venue has not yet been secured and the date may be changed.

Budget estimates were released on the Compensation Board website on March 12, 2015. An annual budget hearing will be held on April 9, 2015 and the reconvened

session of the General Assembly will occur on April 15, 2015 to consider amendments proposed by the governor to bills and the budget.

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

Mr. Casey reported the following construction updates expected in 2015:

- Central Virginia Regional Jail has been approved for phase I at 50% reimbursement;
- Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority – the reimbursement package has been submitted and will require a final inspection;
- RSW Regional Jail – the reimbursement package was recently received;
- Chesapeake City Jail – a 200 bed expansion requires a revision to the planning study;
- Hampton Roads Regional Jail – a security control upgrade will be submitted to the Board of Corrections at the May meeting;
- Martinsville City Jail – an upgrade to electrical and security controls;
- Newport News Public Safety Building – an upgrade to the first floor magistrate and intake area will be submitted to the Board of Corrections at the May meeting;
- Piedmont Regional Jail – a new intake/booking area upgrade will be submitted to the Board of Corrections at the May meeting;
- Rockbridge Regional Jail – multiple miscellaneous upgrades;
- Rockingham/Harrisonburg Regional Jail – may reassign the current 315 beds to Middle River Regional Jail;
- Southampton County Jail – a kitchen/dining hall addition.

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

Mr. Parks reports that prison populations are shifting. The out-of-compliance rate was approximately 5,400 when the committee last met in November. They rose to around 5,500 in December following the closing of Powhatan Correctional Center and are currently 4,865. Beds have been added at Buckingham and Augusta Correctional Centers. A new building was added at Marion Correctional Treatment Center and a 200 bed dormitory housing unit is being added at Keen Mountain Correctional Center with an expected completion in mid to late summer 2015.

V. **Training Credit Transferability-David Rogers**

During the November Liaison and Board of Corrections meetings, the issue was raised concerning the inability to transfer training credits between the Department of

Corrections and localities and the concern about DCJS (Department of Criminal Justice Services) refusing to certify the DOC (Department of Corrections) training. In accordance with §9.1-116 Code of Virginia, DCJS is permitted to review and approve curriculum being created by the DOC for 2015 that will meet core requirements for other officer training throughout the state. Individual cases will be considered by DCJS for transferability of previous training credits for exemption. The DOC has enhanced the training program to meet the standard option.

VI. **Federal Communications Commission Update-Mr. Tim Trent**

Mr. Trent reports that the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) has extended the deadline for ending commissions on inmate phone calls.

VII. **ICE Detainers-Mr. Bill Wilson**

Mr. Wilson reported that the Attorney General has provided an official opinion regarding ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainers stating that offenders will not be held on ICE detainers without criminal charges.

VIII. **Other Business**

Mr. Roberts reminded the attendees that the next meeting date is Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

IX. **Other Comments**

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