

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS  
MEETING MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING.....May 15 2024; 12:00 PM

LOCATION.....6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

PRESIDING.....Vernie Francis, Chairman

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:   The Honorable Vernie Francis, Chairman  
                                  The Honorable Charles Jett, Vice Chairman  
                                  Michael Carrera  
                                  Dr. Cleopatra Booker, PsyD  
                                  Tiffany Jenkins  
                                  David Hackworth  
                                  Charles Carey  
                                  Dr. Anita Maybach  
                                  Jessica Vermont

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:   Amanda Trent  
                                  Roland Sherrod, Jr.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT:    Ryan McCord, Director of Administrative Compliance,  
                                  Department of Corrections  
                                  Brian Flaherty, Executive Director  
                                  Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor  
                                  Alison Lautz, Jail Death Investigator  
                                  Gerald Olson, Architect  
                                  Ashley Gordon, Executive Secretary  
                                  Mary-Huffard Kegley, Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT:         Andy Parker, Office of Attorney General  
                                  Major Jim Pritchett, Chesterfield Sheriff's Office  
                                  Sheriff Mike Taylor, Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office  
                                  Margaret Hamilton, Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office  
                                  Brandi Sparks, Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office  
                                  Oscar Meeks, Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office  
                                  Dave Arnold, Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office  
                                  Royal E. Eanes, Piedmont Regional Jail  
                                  Major Kunasia Finley, Newport News Sheriff's Office  
                                  Derek Almarode, Rockbridge Regional Jail  
                                  Michael Moore, Portsmouth Sheriff's Office  
                                  Lavonda Graham-Williams, City Attorney of Portsmouth  
                                  Trey Burke, Portsmouth City  
                                  Luke Janir, Moseley Architects  
                                  Tony Bell, Moseley Architects

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## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

## DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Francis determined there was a quorum present.

## APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY BOARD MINUTES

The March 13, 2024, minutes were approved by motion of Mr. Hackworth, second by Mr. Carrera, and unanimous vote.

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

## PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Hackworth presented project proposals for Portsmouth City Jail and Pittsylvania County Jail for renovations, upgrades, and construction. Mr. Hackworth recused himself from the votes of Portsmouth City Jail and Pittsylvania County Jail prior to Board action.

1. Vice Chairman Jett read the motion as follows:

The Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVES the Portsmouth City Jail's request for state funding for the renovation and upgrades in their facility. This motion recognizes a total eligible cost of \$105,683,776 of which up to 25% or \$26,420,944 would be eligible for State reimbursement in a lump sum payment. Such reimbursement is subject to the availability of funds and compliance with Board Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 2018, and Sections 53.1-80 through 82 of the Code of Virginia.

Upon a ***Motion*** by Vice Chairman Jett and second by Mr. Carrera, the Committee voted to ***Approve*** the above recommendation by vote of 8-Yay, 1-Nay.

2. Vice Chairman Jett read the motion as follows:

The Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVES the Pittsylvania County Jail's request for state funding for the construction of their new facility. This motion recognizes a total eligible cost of \$60,307,012 of which up to 25% or \$15,076,753 would be eligible for State

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reimbursement in a lump sum payment. Such reimbursement is subject to the availability of funds and compliance with Board Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 2018, and Sections 53.1-80 through 82 of the Code of Virginia.

Upon a ***Motion*** by Vice Chairman Jett and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

Gerald Olson, Board Architect, presented project proposals for Prince William – Manassas Regional Adult Detention Center and Montgomery County Jail for renovations, upgrades, and vehicle sallyport additions.

1. Dr. Booker read the motion as follows:

The Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVES the Prince William – Manassas Regional Adult Detention Center’s request for state funding for the renovation and upgrades in their facility. This motion recognizes a total eligible cost of \$2,165,000 of which up to 25% or \$541,250 would be eligible for State reimbursement in a lump sum payment. Such reimbursement is subject to the availability of funds and compliance with Board Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 2018, and Sections 53.1-80 through 82 of the Code of Virginia.

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Booker and second by Mrs. Vermont, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

2. Dr. Booker read the motion as follows:

The Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVES the Montgomery County Jail’s request for state funding for the vehicle sallyport addition to their facility. This motion recognizes a total eligible cost of \$884,206 of which up to 25% or \$221,051 would be eligible for State reimbursement in a lump sum payment. Such reimbursement is subject to the availability of funds and compliance with Board Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 2018, and Sections 53.1-80 through 82 of the Code of Virginia.

Upon a ***Motion*** by Dr. Booker and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to ***Approve*** the above recommendation.

Board Regulatory Compliance Supervisor Tawana Ferguson presented the Certification and Inspections Report with suggested motions.

1. **Dr. Booker read the motion as follows:**

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I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional Certification as a result of 100% compliance with Board standards for the following facilities:

1. Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority – Abingdon Adult Detention Center
2. Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority – Haysi Adult Detention Center
3. New River Valley Regional Jail Authority
4. Central Virginia Regional Jail

Upon a *Motion* by Dr. Booker and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

**2. Dr. Booker read the motion as follows:**

In recognition of the outstanding achievements of 100% compliance with Board standards, I make the following recommendations in the form of a Motion: Suspension of the 2024 annual inspection for the following facilities:

1. Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority – Abingdon Adult Detention Center
2. Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority – Haysi Adult Detention Center
3. New River Valley Regional Jail Authority
4. Central Virginia Regional Jail

Upon a *Motion* by Dr. Booker and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

**JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

**A) Case Recommendations:**

**1. Vice Chairman Jett read the motion below as follows:**

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 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(s) be recommended to the Full Board for closure:

<b>Cases</b>	
24-0009	24-0010
23-0043	23-0044
24-0002	24-0007
23-0029	24-0004
23-0051	23-0048

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Upon a *Motion* by Vice Chairman Jett and second by Mr. Carrera, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

**Additional Items for Discussion/Board Member Comment**

Mr. Flaherty introduced Deputy Secretary Lisa Walbert and Policy Advisor Randall Richardson from the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security. Vice Chairman Jett read a proclamation on behalf of the Board in recognition of Chairman Francis' tenure with the Board. Chairman Francis thanked Board members for their hard work and dedication during his service.

**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*.