

THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS

APPROVED MINUTES

The Virginia Board of Local and Regional Jails (Board) met on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at the Department of Corrections (VADOC) Headquarters, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: The Honorable Vernie Francis, Chairman
Bobby Vassar, Vice Chairman
John F. Anderson, Jr, Secretary
The Honorable Charles Jett
Cleopatra Lightfoot-Booker, Psy.D
Karen Nicely, LPC
Roland Sherrod, CPA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Ryan C. McCord

BOARD COUNSEL: Phillip Figura, Esq., Office of the Attorney General (Conference Call)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Joanne Peña
Bobby Vassar

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Tawana Ferguson, Jail Inspector
Paul Beaupre, Jail Inspector
John Rock, Jail Death Investigator
Alison Lautz, Jail Death Investigator
Jerry Olson, Architect
Donna Foster, Administrative Support

VADOC STAFF PRESENT: Marcia Powers, Construction Support Services Administrator

GUESTS PRESENT: Superintendent Chris Smith, Western Tidewater Regional Jail
Jim Pritchett, Chesterfield County Sherriff's Office
Tony Bell, Mosely Architect
Jeff Rosen, Hampton Roads Regional Jail
Jeff Vergakis, Hampton Roads Regional Jail
Jeff Anderson, Hampton Roads Regional Jail
James Welch, Federal DOJ Monitor
Brian DeProfio, City Manager
Kat Weber, Disability Law Intern
Jeff Newton, Middle River Regional Jail
Eric Young, Middle River Regional Jail
Patrick Wilson, Richmond Times Dispatch

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Francis determined there was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Francis presented the September 22, 2021 minutes for review and approval.

Upon a *Motion* by Chairman Francis and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to *Approve* the September 22, 2021 Board meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

PRESENTATIONS

The newly hired Jail Death Investigators attended their first meeting with the Board of Local and Regional Jails. Alison Lautz came to the Board from the City of Norfolk, Office of the Medical Examiner. John Rock came to the Board from the City of Newport News Homicide Division.

JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Actions

I make the following recommendations in the form of a Motion by Ms. Pena:

The Jail Review Committee investigated the following case by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding the death. The Jail Review Committee further *FINDS* that the 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 be recommended to the Full Board for closure.

*** Comments from the public are limited to five minutes per person on matters not on the agenda**

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|---------|--|----------|
| 19-0018 | Culpeper County Jail | 5/30/19 |
| 19-0023 | Roanoke City Jail | 8/8/19 |
| 19-0027 | Western Virginia Regional Jail | 9/23/19 |
| 19-0028 | Prince William/Manassas Regional Jail | 9/21/19 |
| 19-0029 | BRRJA-Lynchburg Adult Detention Center | 9/24/19 |
| 19-0030 | Eastern Shore Regional Jail | 10/19/19 |
| 19-0032 | Rappahannock Regional Jail | 10/18/19 |
| 19-0033 | Pamunkey Regional Jail | 10/24/19 |
| 19-0035 | Henrico County Jail | 10/25/19 |
| 19-0037 | Arlington County Jail | 11/19/19 |
| 19-0038 | Chesterfield County Jail | 12/12/19 |
| 20-0003 | SWVRJA-Haysi | 1/8/21 |
| 20-0006 | SWVRJA-Haysi | 2/9/20 |
| 20-0012 | Henry County Jail | 4/13/20 |
| 20-0020 | Roanoke City Jail | 3/22/20 |

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

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Compliance, Certification and Accreditation - Certifications Report: Local/Regional/Community Facilities

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

- Newport News City Jail
- Martinsville City Jail and Annex
- Franklin County Jail

Mr. Vassar made the following recommendations in the form of a Motion:

Unconditional certification as a result of 100% to include re-certification to hold male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia for:

Newport News City Jail

Unconditional certification as a result of 100% for:

Martinsville City Jail and Annex

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Mr. Jett made the following recommendations in the form of a Motion:

Unconditional certification to include re-certification to hold male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia for:

Franklin County Jail

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

The Board of Local and Regional Jails, in recognition of the outstanding achievement of 100% compliance with standards, approves the suspension of the 2021 annual inspection for the Newport News City jail and the Martinsville City Jail and Annex.

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

CLOSED SESSION

I MOVE that the Board begin *CLOSED* session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(16) and pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) which permits meeting in closed session for the following reason: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body.

Upon a *Motion* made by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the Above Recommendation

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712(F) I MOVE that the presence of the following individuals will reasonably aid this board in considering the subject of the closed session:

Ryan McCord
Phillip Figura
John Rock
Alison Lautz
Tawana Ferguson
Paul Beaupre
Donna Foster

RECONVENE

I MOVE that the Board reconvene our open session having concluded a closed session to consult with legal counsel and to brief staff members on matters pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely

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affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. I MOVE that this Board and its individual members certify that during the closed session, the Board limited its discussion to matters lawfully exempt from the public meeting requirements and identified in the closed session motion. If a Member cannot so certify, I ask that they state the reason specifically on the record and that the recorder take role.

Upon a *Motion* made by Ms. Pena and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the Above Recommendation. All members certified.

I MOVE that the Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVE the Consent Agreement between Riverside Regional Jail and the Board, subject to the final edit by staff for technical and conforming changes.

Upon a Motion made by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to Approve the Above Recommendation.

ADJUDICATION PROCEDURE

I MOVE that the Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVE the Adjudication Procedure.

Upon a *Motion* made by Mr. Jett and duly seconded, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the Above Recommendation.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Jeff Gore thanked the Board and Mr. McCord for working with Riverside Regional through the process which he said is robust and a good result.

Chairman Francis advised that there will be a brief Board meeting prior to the Jail Review Committee meeting on October 20.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Wednesday, September 22, 2020

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

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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* by unanimous vote of the attending members.

APPROVED:

Signature on File

The Honorable Vernie W. Francis, Jr., Chairman