

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

Approved: 11/15/2023

REGULAR MEETING.....October 18, 2023; 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
 Roland Sherrod
 Michael Carrera
 Dr. Cleopatra Booker
 Tiffany Jenkins
 David Hackworth

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Amanda Trent
 Dr. Anita Maybach
 Jessica Vermont
 Charles Carey

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Geoff Garner, Executive Director
 Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor
 John Rock, Jail Death Investigator
 Alison Lautz, Jail Death Investigator
 Gerald Olson, Architect
 Ashley Gordon, Executive Secretary
 Mary-Huffard Kegley, Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT: Ayesha Osborne, Office of Attorney General
 Sheriff Antionette Irving, Richmond City Sheriff’s Office
 Major Tracy Stancil-Purches, Richmond Sheriff’s Office
 Leslie Winneberger, Legal Counsel Richmond Sheriff’s
Office
 Blaire O’Brein, Legal Counsel, Richmond Sheriff’s Office

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Francis determined there was a quorum present.

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APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER BOARD MINUTES

The September 20, 2023, minutes were approved by motion of Mr. Carrera, second by Mr. Sherrod.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

A) Case Recommendations:

1. Mr. Sherrod 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 cases be recommended to the Full Board for closure:

Cases	
23-0012	23-0028
22-0045	22-0053
22-0054	

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

2. Mr. Sherrod as a motion offered the following:

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 investigation did reveal evidence indicating that the facility was out of compliance with the regulations promulgated by the Board; however, the Jail Review Committee finds that the corrective actions taken by the jail appropriately address the substance of the violation such that no further measures are necessary. NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE that the following case(s) be recommended to the Full Board for closure:

NONE

Motion to include non-Board members in closed session

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The following was offered by Mr. Sherrod as a motion:

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:

Names of the individuals to be included:

**Geoff Garner
Alison Lautz
John Rock
Gerald Olson
Tawana Ferguson
Ashley Gordon
Mary-Huffard Kegley
Ayesha Osborne
Sheriff Irving
Major Purches
Leslie Winneberger
Blaire O'Brien**

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Sherrod and a second by Mr. Hackworth, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Closed Session

Mr. Sherrod offered the following in the form of a motion:

I *MOVE* that the Board begin CLOSED session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(16) to discuss or consider medical and mental health records; and pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

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

Reconvene Open Session

Upon the members' return to open session, Mr. Sherrod offered the following in the form of a motion:

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I MOVE that the Board reconvene our open session having concluded a closed session to discuss or consider medical and mental health records and to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. I MOVE that this committee 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.

All members in attendance certified by Roll Call.

PRESENTATIONS – Richmond City Jail

Sheriff Irving presented to the Board Richmond City Justice Centers plan to purchase a new security system that will be installed June of 2024 as well as conducting more trainings in which they believe will help change the culture in the facility.

Motion to include non-Board members in closed session

The following was offered by Vice Chairman Jett as a motion:

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:

Names of the individuals to be included:

Geoff Garner

Alison Lautz

John Rock

Gerald Olson

Tawana Ferguson

Ashley Gordon

Mary-Huffard Kegley

Ayesha Osborne

Sheriff Irving

Major Purches

Leslie Winneberger

Blaire O'Brien

Upon a *Motion* by Mr. Sherrod and a second by Mr. Hackworth, the attending members voted unanimously to *Approve* the above recommendation.

Closed Session

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Vice Chairman Jett offered the following in the form of a motion:

I MOVE that the Board begin CLOSED session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(16) to discuss or consider medical and mental health records; and pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

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

Reconvene Open Session

Upon the members' return to open session, Vice Chairman Jett offered the following in the form of a motion:

I MOVE that the Board reconvene our open session having concluded a closed session to discuss or consider medical and mental health records and to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. I MOVE that this committee 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.

All members in attendance certified by Roll Call.

Additional Items for Discussion/Board Member Comment

Geoff Garner shared the names of the Board members and their committee assignments.

Dr. Booker shared the following as a motion:

I would like to make a motion regarding the Richmond City Justice Center compliance plan review, that we table this discussion until the next Board meeting to allow the Board staff to work on revising a plan that is limited to specifically the 1045 expectations and also removes the capacity limitations.

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

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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*.