

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

Approved: 2/21/2024

REGULAR MEETING.....January 17, 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
 Roland Sherrod
 Michael Carrera
 Dr. Cleopatra Booker, PsyD
 Tiffany Jenkins
 David Hackworth
 Charles Carey

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Geoff Garner, Executive Director
 Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor
 Paul Beaupre, Regulatory Compliance Analyst
 Keischer Brittingham, Regulatory Compliance Analyst
 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
 Major Jim Pritchett, Chesterfield Sheriff’s Office
 Major Royal Eanes, Piedmont Regional Jail
 Mike Taylor, Pittsylvania County Sheriff’s Office
 Chris Smith, Western Tidewater Regional Jail
 Alisa Gregory, Sheriff, Henrico County
 Patricia Moore, Henrico County Regional Jail

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Francis determined there was a quorum present.

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APPROVAL OF DECEMBER BOARD MINUTES

The November 15, 2023 minutes were approved by motion of Mr. Carrera, second by Dr. Booker, and unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

PRESENTATIONS – Henrico County Regional Jail West

Sheriff Gregory shared with the Board the Henrico County Regional Jail’s plan of action following the compliance plan issued. She is now providing training for all staff, in reference to what’s required of a security check and what the expectations are. They have reverted to the old forms due to the misunderstanding of the previous forms. As a part of the training, they went over the disciplinary process of falsification in documents. As a disciplinary action, the officer who falsified his rounds was terminated and decertified.

The Board decided that sufficient compliance has been demonstrated by what Sheriff Gregory presented.

PRESENTATIONS – Certification Report: Tawana Ferguson

Motion 1:

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. Southside Regional Jail
2. Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail

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

Motion 2:

In recognition of the outstanding achievements of 100% compliance with Board standards, I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Suspension of the 2023 annual inspections for the following facilities:

1. Southside Regional Jail
2. Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail

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

Motion 3:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification as a result of 100% compliance with Board standards, to include re-certification to hold male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia for Southside Regional Jail.

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

Motion 4:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification for the following facilities:

1. Lancaster County Correctional Center
2. Accomack County Jail

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

Motion 5:

I make the following recommendation in the form of a Motion: Unconditional certification as a result in 100% compliance with Board standards to include certification to hold male and female juveniles in accordance with §16.1-249.G of the Code of Virginia for Lancaster County Correctional Center.

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. 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

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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:

Cases	
23-0038	23-0019
23-0022	23-0023
23-0024	23-0025
23-0035	23-0039
23-0041	23-0045
23-0047	

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:

Cases	
23-0034	23-0042

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

Additional Items for Discussion/Board Member Comment

a. Policy Update

Mr. Garner, Executive Director, shared that due to the discussion in the Liaison meeting the board will conduct further review of policy 30-3 to share on a later date. The board will move forward and finalize the rescission of all other policies and implementation for new policy 10-9.

- 1. Motion to rescind policies: 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4, 10-5, 10-6, 10-7, 10-8, 20-1, 20-2, 20-3, 20-4, 20-6, 20-7, 20-8, 20-9, 20-10, 20-11, 20-12, 20-13, 20-14, 20-15, 30-1, 30-2, 30-5, 30-6, 30-7, 30-8, 30-9, 30-10:**

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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.

2. Motion that the Board approve and implement draft policy 10-9 Administrative Compliance with enforcement of BOLRJ standards:

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

b. Draft memorandum re Board standard -1045

Chairman Francis and Mr. Garner will revise the draft to correct the language that is used to make sure it reiterates that facilities should not rely on technology or cameras but to physically look inside of cells. The language used on Town Hall explaining the expectations of 1045 will be adapted in the revision of this policy.

c. Plan of action from Richmond City Justice Center

The Board reviewed the plan of action submitted by Sheriff Irving, which addressed the facility's issues with standard 1045. The Board accepted the plan of action without a vote.

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*.