

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

MINUTES

APPROVED 11/20/24

REGULAR MEETING

September 18, 2024; 12:15p.m.

LOCATION

6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

PRESIDING

The Honorable Charles Jett, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Cleopatra Booker, PsyD
Captain Charles Carey
Michael Carrera
Tiffany Jenkins
Roland Sherrod, Jr.
Dr. Amanda K. Trent

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

David Hackworth
Dr. Anita Maybach
Lieutenant Joseph Tucker
Jessica Vermont

BOARD STAFF PRESENT

Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor
Brian Flaherty, Executive Director
Mary-Huffard Kegley, Policy Analyst
Alison Lautz, Jail Death Investigator
Gerald Olson, Board Architect
John Rock, Jail Death Investigator

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew Parker, Office of the Attorney General
Lieutenant Charles Armstrong, Riverside Regional Jail
Deputy Superintendent Jonathan English, Northern Neck Regional Jail
Major E. Jones, Chesterfield Sheriff's Office
Superintendent Michelle Lewis, Northern Neck Regional Jail

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jett called the meeting to order at 12:15p.m. and welcomed attendees.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chair Jett determined quorum present.

APPROVAL OF JULY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Carrera to approve minutes of the July 17, 2024, Board meeting. Second by Dr. Booker. Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Jett transferred leadership of the meeting to Mr. Sherrod to present the Nominating Committee report. Mr. Sherrod reported nominations:

Chair: Dr. Booker
 Mr. Hackworth
 Chair Jett
 Dr. Trent

Vice Chair: Dr. Booker
 Mr. Hackworth
 Chair Jett
 Dr. Trent

Secretary: Dr. Booker
 Mr. Hackworth
 Dr. Trent

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Mr. Sherrod facilitated the Board vote for each office. Results of the vote:

Chair: Chair Jett – 6 votes
Vice Chair: Dr. Booker – 6 votes
Secretary: Dr. Trent – 5 votes

PRESENTATIONS

Jail Construction Update

Gerald Olson, Board Architect

Mr. Olson reported 10 construction projects were approved by the BLRJ in calendar year 2024: 8 projects were new projects, 2 projects were resubmitted from 2023. BLRJ continues to work with the Department of General Services (DGS) regarding cost proposals for the projects.

Certification Report

Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor

1. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

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:

- i. Chesapeake Correctional Center*
- ii. Martinsville City Jail & Annex*
- iii. Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center*
- iv. Newport News City Jail & Annex*
- v. Roanoke City Adult Detention Center*

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

2. Dr. Trent read the motion as follows:

As a result of 100% compliance with Board standards, I **MOVE** suspension of the 2024 life, health, and safety inspections for the following facilities:

- i. Chesapeake Correctional Center*
- ii. Martinsville City Jail & Annex*
- iii. Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center*
- iv. Newport News City Jail & Annex*
- v. Roanoke City Adult Detention Center*

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

Jail Review Committee (JRC) Report

Case recommendations

1. Mr. Sherrod read the **Motion** as follows:

The JRC investigated the following cases by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding each death. The JRC 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 Board for closure:

- i. *Case number 23-0040*
- ii. *Case number 24-0019*
- iii. *Case number 24-0020*
- iv. *Case number 24-0021*
- v. *Case number 24-0023*

Motion by Mr. Sherrod, second by Mr. Carrera. Unanimous approval.

2. Mr. Sherrod read the **Motion** as follows, second by Mr. Carrera.

I **motion** to forward *Case number 24-0016* to the Board with a finding that the facility was out of compliance with regulations promulgated by the Board and that further action by the Board is warranted.

Motion by Mr. Sherrod, second by Mr. Carrera. Unanimous approval.

DISCUSSION

1. §9.1-192 Code of Virginia, Report of Inmate Death:

Mr. Flaherty reported BLRJ has incorporated the required demographic information into the BLRJ Report of Inmate Death to collect this information effective October 1, 2024. BLRJ collaborated with the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to provide the requested information quarterly

2. 6VAC15-40-10, Minimum standards for jails and lockups: Mr. Flaherty reviewed the process for Board staff to continue review of the regulations with a plan to present recommendations for BLRJ consideration. Mr. Flaherty reported that Board staff dedicated several dates to regulatory review: August 21, September 4 and 5, 2024

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3. 6VAC15-40-1045, Supervision of inmates: Mr. Flaherty reported the proposed document is currently being reviewed by the Office of Regulatory Management (ORM). Following review, the process requires posting on the Commonwealth's Town Hall website. Mr. Flaherty shared the success of collaboration with stakeholders throughout the process will continue.

4. Veteran inmates: Dr. Booker reviewed discussion which occurred during the September 18, 2024, Liaison Committee meeting regarding collection of information regarding veterans in jails. The Board directed BLRJ staff to connect with the appropriate individuals and/or organizations to collaborate on the subject.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon a **Motion** by Mr. Carrera and second by Dr. Booker. the meeting was adjourned.