

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

MINUTES

Approved January 15, 2025

REGULAR MEETING

November 20, 2024; 12:15p.m.

LOCATION

6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

PRESIDING

The Honorable Charles Jett, Chairman

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Cleopatra Booker, PsyD
Captain Charles Carey
Michael Carrera
David Hackworth
Tiffany Jenkins
Dr. Anita Maybach
Roland Sherrod, Jr.
Lieutenant Joseph Tucker
Jessica Vermont

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Amanda Trent

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

Jessika Booker, Henrico County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Alicia Gregory, Henrico County Sheriff's Office
Michelle Mitchell, Henrico County Sheriff's Office
Andrew Parker, Office of the Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER

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

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Jett determined quorum present.

APPROVAL OF JULY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Booker to approve minutes of the September 18, 2024, Board meeting. Second by Mr. Hackworth. Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

PRESENTATIONS

Jail Construction Update

Gerald Olson, Board Architect

Mr. Olson reported the 10 construction projects approved by the BLRJ in calendar year 2024 are now in the budget development process. Governor Youngkin will present his proposed budget December 18, 2024.

Henrico County Sheriff's Office Update

Sheriff Alicia Gregory updated the Board regarding her office's compliance plan. Sheriff Gregory reported the jail management system is proceeding successfully. She also acknowledged the beneficial support of other facilities sharing information and resources.

Certification Report

Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor

1. Mr. Hackworth 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:

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- i. Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority – Halifax Adult Detention Center
- ii. Franklin County Jail
- iii. Hampton City Community Corrections
- iv. Roanoke County Jail
- v. Gloucester County Jail
- vi. Madison County Lockup
- vii. Pittsylvania County Jail
- viii. Western Virginia Regional Jail

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

2. Mr. Hackworth 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. Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority – Halifax Adult Detention Center
- ii. Franklin County Jail
- iii. Hampton City Community Corrections
- iv. Roanoke County Jail
- v. Gloucester County Jail
- vi. Madison County Lockup
- vii. Pittsylvania County Jail
- viii. Western Virginia Regional Jail

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

3. Mr. Hackworth read the motion as follows:

I **MOVE** unconditional certification for the following facility:

- i. Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority – Amherst Adult Detention Center

Upon a **Motion** by Mr. Hackworth and second by Mrs. Vermont, 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

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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:

Case number 24-0008

Case number 24-0014

Case number 24-0033

Case number 24-0040

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

Mr. Sherrod read the **Motion** 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 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 addresses the substance of the violation such that no further measures are necessary. NOW THEREFORE, I **MOVE** that the following cases be recommended to the Full Board for closure:

Case number 24-0013

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

DISCUSSION

1. 6VAC15-40 Regulatory Update: Mr. Flaherty reported BLRJ staff has completed review of the 151 regulations and plans to share with Mr. Parker as the Office of Attorney General (OAG) representative to the Board. Several regulations require reengagement with the stakeholder workgroups for discussion, including the 6VAC15-40-600 and 700 standards.

2. 6VAC15-40-1045 Update: The Office of Regulatory Management (ORM) approved the Board's proposed guidance, and it was published in the Virginia Register on November 18, 2024. The 30-day public comment period ends December 19, 2024, and it will be presented to the Board for action in January 2025.

3. 6VAC15-45 Regulations for Private Management and Operation of Prison Facilities Update: The regulations are no longer within the purview of the BLRJ.

Mr. Hackworth read the motion as follows:

I **MOVE** repeal of 6VAC15-45.

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

4. Repeal of the seven (7) BLRJ guidance documents was approved by the Office of Regulatory Management (ORM) and published in the Virginia Register on November 18, 2024, with an effective date of December 19, 2024.

5. The BLRJ Orientation/Refresher is scheduled for December 10, 2024, 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m., at the Academy for Staff Development (ASD). There will be no public comment.

6. 2025 Board meetings will occur the third Wednesday of odd numbered months.

ADJOURNMENT

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