

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

REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2026; 9:30 AM

LOCATION

6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, VA 23235

PRESIDING

David A. Hackworth, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Captain Charles Carey
April Green
Tiffany Jenkins
John McLaughlin, Jr.
Dr. Sarah Scarbrough
Roland Sherrod
Dr. Paul Targonski
Chief Joseph Tucker
Jessica Vermont

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

BOARD STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Superintendent Richard Alsbrook, Southwest Virginia Regional Jail
Nicole Deyo, Community Bending Bars
Superintendent Jeffrey Dillman, Riverside Regional Jail
Superintendent Chris Hayes, Western Virginia Regional Jail
Sergeant Justin Humphries, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office (LCSO)
Executive Director John Jones, Virginia Sheriffs Association
Superintendent Keith Lockridge, Blue Ridge Regional Jail
Policy Analyst Clair Mairead, Behavioral Health Commission (BHC)

Executive Director Nathalie Molliet-Ribet, BHC
Sheriff Mike Mondul, Danville Sheriff's Office
Fatimah Munahhid, Survivors 4 Justice Reform Virginia
Sheriff Mike Taylor, Pittsylvania Sheriff's Office

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hackworth called the meeting to order.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Hackworth determined quorum present.

WELCOME BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Hackworth and Mr. Flaherty welcomed April Green and Paul Targonski to the Board, recently appointed by Governor Spanberger.

BLRJ recognized the recent passing of Sheriff Steve Draper, the longest serving Sheriff in the Commonwealth and valued contributor to BLRJ, with a moment of silence.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Flaherty read public comments submitted by Tanya Bland, RN, BSN, representing A Voice Has Weight LLC. Comments are attached to minutes.

AMENDMENT TO MAY 20, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Mr. McLaughlin to amend May 20, 2026, meeting minutes in order to correct a misspelling on page two, second by Chief Tucker. Unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF JULY MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Chief Tucker to approve minutes of July 15, 2026, Board meeting, second by Captain Carey. Unanimous approval.

MOTION TO RECESS

Motion to recess by Captain Carey, second by Mr. McLaughlin. Unanimous approval.

MOTION TO RECONVENE BOARD MEETING

Motion to reconvene Board meeting by Mr. McLaughlin, second by Captain Carey. Unanimous approval.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hackworth called the meeting to order.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Hackworth determined quorum present.

JAIL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

1. **Motion**: The following was offered by Mr. Sherrod, second by Mrs. Vermont:

- A. Motion to Close Cases **With no Violations**

Motion: On September 9, 2026, the Committee investigated the following case by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding each death. The Committee finds the investigation did not reveal any evidence indicating the facility was out of compliance with the regulations promulgated by the Board. NOW THEREFORE, I **MOVE** the following case for closure:

Case number #26-0021

Unanimous approval.

- B. Motion to Close Cases **With Violations Properly Addressed**

Motion: The following was offered by Mr. Sherrod, second by Mrs. Vermont:

Motion: On September 9, 2026, the Committee investigated the following case by reviewing institutional, medical, and mental health records and other relevant evidence of the circumstances surrounding each death. The Committee finds that the investigation revealed evidence indicating that the facility was out of compliance with Board regulations; however, the Committee further finds that corrective actions taken by the facility appropriately addressed the Committee's concern. NOW THEREFORE, I **MOVE** the following case for closure:

Case number # 25-0055

Unanimous approval.

POLICY AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Certification, Inspections and Audit Report

The following was offered by Ms. Jenkins, second by Captain Carey:

a. **Motion:**

As a result of 100% compliance with Board standards, I **MOVE** unconditional certification for the following facilities:

- i. Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail
- ii. Fluvanna County Lock-up

Unanimous approval.

The following was offered by Ms. Jenkins, second by Captain Carey:

b. **Motion:** As a result of 100% compliance with Board standards, I **MOVE** suspension of the 2026 life, health and safety annual inspections for the following facility:

- i. Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail

Unanimous approval.

The following was offered by Ms. Jenkins, second by Mr. McLaughlin:

c. **Motion:** I **MOVE** unconditional certification for the following facility:

- i. Fluvanna County Lock-up

Unanimous approval.

The following was offered by Ms. Jenkins, second by Chief Tucker:

d. **Motion:** As a result of compliance with Board standards and in accordance with §16.1-249(G) of the COV, I **MOVE** unconditional certification to hold male and female juveniles for the following facility:

- i. Fluvanna County Lock-up

Unanimous approval.

B. Regulatory Review

The following was offered by Ms. Jenkins, second by Captain Carey:

a. **Motion:** On Wednesday, September 9, 2026, the Policy & Regulations Committee recommends Board approval to continue moving forward CQI, Serious incident reporting and Telehealth draft regulations through the promulgation process in adherence to APA 2.2-4000. NOW, THEREFORE, I **MOVE** Board approval of such draft regulations, as attached to minutes.

Unanimous approval.

6VAC15-40-680 Visitation and 6VAC15-40- Legal Visits draft regulation language previously approved by the Policy & Regulations Committee July 15, 2026, and approved by the State Board of Local and Regional Jails July 15, 2026, is attached to minutes.

BLRJ will continue moving forward with the draft language for 6VAC15-40-680 pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (APA).

CONSTRUCTION REPORT

Gerald Olson, Board Architect

A. Norfolk City Jail Renovation and Upgrade Project (Revision of Total Eligible Cost)

The following was offered by Mrs. Vermont, second by Chief Tucker:

Motion – The State Board of Local and Regional Jails APPROVES the Norfolk City Jail’s amended request for state funding for medical upgrades in the facility. This motion amends the Board’s July 15, 2026, approval in the amount of a total eligible cost of \$580,912.00 of which up to 25% or \$145,228.00 would be eligible for State reimbursement in a lump sum payment. The revised total eligible cost is \$625,724.00 of which up to 25% or \$156,431.00 would be eligible for State reimbursement in a lump sum payment. Such reimbursement is subject to the availability of funds and compliance with Board Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities, 2018, and §§ 53.1-80 through 82 of the COV, and I so **MOVE**.

Unanimous approval.

STATE AND FEDERAL MANDATES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS – COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The following was offered by Mr. Sherrod, second by Captain Carey:

Motion – I **MOVE** the State Board of Local and Regional Jails recommend retention of three mandates in the Catalog of State and Federal Mandates on Local Governments, as managed by the Commission on Local Government:

- Correctional Facility Standards (SPSHS.BLRJ001)
- Correctional Facility Cost-Sharing (SPSHS.BLRJ002)
- Correctional Facility Compliance Audit (SPSHS.BLRJ005)

Unanimous approval.

BLRJ FINANCIAL REPORT

BLRJ received FY27 operating budget from the DOC totaling \$1,107,285. BLRJ is working with the DOC to reconcile the operating budget with the funds appropriated in the Governor's Chaptered Budget Bill of \$1,313,776.

Additionally, BLRJ has expressed the contractual services budget allocation of \$30,000 to be inadequate based upon a two-year average and is requesting \$42,731 in non-personal services.

Lastly, BLRJ is requesting detailed reconciliation regarding APL, funded positions, and total personal services amount to accurately understand current staffing authorization and available personnel funding.

MEETING SCHEDULE

- November 18, 2026
 - 9:30 AM
 - Norfolk Sheriff's Office
- January 6, 2027
 - 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23235
 - Mr. Hackworth explained this date avoids conflict with the General Assembly, which convenes January 13, 2027
 - Mr. McLaughlin, Dr. Scarbrough and Mr. Sherrod agreed to assist with legislative review during the 2027 General Assembly Session

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mr. Hackworth referenced the current workgroup established by HB1421. He requested member commitment to involvement as the workgroup considers restructuring BLRJ.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hackworth adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS
JULY 15, 2026

6VAC15-40-680. Visitation

Visitation policies and procedures shall be posted publicly and include:

- A. Maximum visiting opportunities are limited only by safety, personnel constraints, inmate disciplinary status, and technical difficulties associated with non-contact virtual visits.
- B. Procedures for visitation eligibility, approval process, scheduling (including some evenings and weekend days), screening and searches, alternative visitation methods, denials, restrictions, and process for making formal complaints.
- C. Specific requirements for visitor registration, identification, and appropriate attire.
- D. List of approved items that visitors may bring into the facility. Items brought into the facility by visitors for inmates shall be subject to inspections and approval.

New Regulation (required by law)

6VAC15-40- Legal Visits

Legal visit policies and procedures shall be posted publicly and include:

- A. Attorneys and legal representatives of law firms with a current attorney-client relationship with the inmate may be afforded maximum visiting opportunities that are limited only by safety, personnel constraints, and technical difficulties associated with non-contact virtual visits.
- B. Procedures for visitation eligibility, approval process, scheduling (including some nights and weekends), screening and searches, alternative visitation methods, denials, restrictions, and process for making formal complaints.
- C. Specific requirements for visitor registration, identification, and appropriate attire.
- D. List of approved items that visitors may bring into the facility. Items brought into the facility by visitors for inmates shall be subject to inspections and approval. Page 7 of 8
- E. Attorneys shall be permitted to have confidential and secure legal counsel visits inside the facility, by telephone, or by video conference with their clients. Conditions for inmate visits with an attorney or a legal representative must maintain the confidentiality of the attorney-client conversations, not be recorded, or monitored all while ensuring proper security and sight supervision.
- F. Any denial or postponement of legal visit by the facility shall be supported by rationale and counsel be promptly notified. The rationale shall be approved by the agency administrator or designee and, upon request, provided in writing to the attorney or legal staff whose visit was denied or postponed.

APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

Revision to 6VAC15-40-110. Serious Incident Reporting

Inmate deaths, discharging of firearms, erroneous releases, escapes, fires requiring evacuation of inmates, hostage situations, and recapture of escapees, inmate assaults on staff resulting in serious injury or death, shall be reported to BLRJ within 24 hours of the incident using BLRJ's designated Serious Incident Report form, which shall be transmitted to the email address specified on BLRJ's website.

New Regulation 6VAC15-40-____. Continuous Quality Improvement.

Each facility shall submit a quarterly standardized continuous quality improvement report to the Board, documenting the delivery of health care services and improvements implemented.

New Regulation 6VAC15-40-____. Telehealth Services.

Each facility that utilizes telehealth services shall establish written policies and procedures to accommodate inmate participation in such services. Policies should include:

1. Provision of a private and secure space that ensures confidentiality;
2. Provision of functional equipment and connectivity to support telehealth.
3. Any such platform utilized shall be HIPAA-compliant.

PUBLIC COMMENT, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

Good morning, Ms. Kegley,

Thank you again for confirming my attendance for the BLRJ meeting scheduled for September 9, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting in person at this time. If remote participation or public comment by Zoom is permitted, I would be able and willing to participate virtually. Please let me know whether a Zoom option can be made available and how I should join or register.

If virtual participation is not available, I respectfully request that my written comments and inquiry questions still be provided to the Board and included in the appropriate meeting record. I would also appreciate written responses to my questions, including the policy, clinical, operational, or regulatory rationale supporting each response.

My questions include:

1. What coordinated process is used to prevent, recognize, and respond to diabetic emergencies after the kitchen closes?
2. When insulin has been administered but a meal or medically necessary snack is delayed, refused, or unavailable, who is responsible for initiating and documenting the safety response?
3. How is it determined whether an individual's insulin regimen, glucose pattern, nutritional needs, or history of hypoglycemia requires a scheduled evening or bedtime snack?
4. If a snack is medically necessary, how is it provided when regular food service is unavailable?
5. Is medically necessary nutrition ever dependent on an incarcerated individual's ability to purchase commissary food?
6. Are correctional officers trained to recognize that confusion, sweating, weakness, unusual behavior, slurred speech, seizures, or unconsciousness may represent a medical emergency requiring immediate nursing assessment?
7. How are refusals distinguished from barriers such as delayed access, lockdowns, communication limitations, disability, unavailable food, or an inability to understand instructions?

8. What quality-review or reporting process measures medication delays, missed monitoring, unavailable therapeutic nutrition, emergency transfers, repeat incidents, and unresolved barriers?
9. What oversight responsibility does BLRJ have regarding these concerns, and which matters fall under another agency's authority?

I am not assuming that facilities lack policies or emergency procedures. My purpose is to understand how the policies work together in practice and the rationale for the current approach. I am seeking a professional discussion regarding prevention, coordination, documentation, accountability, and patient safety.

Please confirm whether Zoom participation is possible and whether my written questions can be presented to the Board if I cannot attend in person.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration.

Respectfully,

Tanya Bland, RN, BSN
Founder and Patient Advocate
A Voice Has Weight LLC
tbrn4hire@gmail.com

PUBLIC COMMENT, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

Name: Tonya B Wright

Email: tbw@wisdomsembrace.org

Phone Number: [7573091733](tel:7573091733)

Message: Dear Members of the Virginia Board of Local and Regional Jails: My name is Tonya Bowden Wright, Founder of Wisdom's Embrace, a Hampton-based advocacy initiative supporting incarcerated individuals and their families while promoting fairness, accountability, and meaningful rehabilitation within the justice system. I am writing to respectfully request that the Board consider reviewing Virginia's standards and guidance concerning funeral furloughs and bereavement accommodations in local and regional jails. This request arises from a recent situation involving Daylon Jackson, who is currently incarcerated at Western Tidewater Regional Jail and whose anticipated release date is less than 45 days away. Daylon recently lost his grandmother. His family sought permission for him to attend her funeral, followed the instructions provided to them, worked with the Public Defender's Office, and obtained court approval for the furlough. Transportation was subsequently arranged. However, when transportation arrived on the day of the funeral, Daylon was not permitted to leave. The family was informed that although the furlough had been "court approved," it was not "court ordered," and that the jail retained final authority regarding his release. I have separately contacted the leadership of Western Tidewater Regional Jail regarding the specific circumstances surrounding Daylon's case. I understand that the Board of Local and Regional Jails is not an enforcement body for individual operational grievances, and I am not asking the Board to intervene in or adjudicate that individual complaint. Instead, Daylon's experience has raised a broader policy concern that I believe falls directly within the Board's responsibility for establishing standards and guidelines governing Virginia's local and regional jails. Virginia Administrative Code 6VAC15-40-200 already provides that written procedures shall govern the granting of furloughs. Daylon's experience raises an important question about whether the existing minimum standards provide sufficient guidance concerning what must happen between the filing of a furlough request, court action, facility approval or denial, and communication of that decision to the incarcerated individual, counsel, and family. In this instance, the family reasonably believed that court approval meant Daylon would be permitted to attend the funeral. A family without legal or judicial training cannot reasonably be expected to understand the distinction between a furlough being "court approved" and "court ordered" unless that distinction and its consequences are clearly communicated. Moreover, the Public Defender's Office assisted with the filing. If additional judicial language or administrative authorization was required, there appears to have been an opportunity for that issue to be identified before transportation arrived on the day of the funeral. There was also a second request that deserves consideration. The family asked whether, if Daylon could not physically attend the funeral, he could be provided a quiet and appropriate place within the facility to attend or view his grandmother's funeral remotely. The family received no response to that request. As painful as this experience

has been for Daylon and his family, my purpose in contacting the Board is forward-looking. **I do not want another incarcerated individual or another Virginia family to experience this.** I respectfully ask the Board, and particularly its Policy & Regulations Committee if appropriate, to consider whether Virginia's minimum standards regarding furloughs should more specifically address: • clear written requirements distinguishing court authorization from facility authorization for funeral furloughs; • timely written communication of approval or denial to the incarcerated individual, counsel, and/or requesting family; • procedures for identifying incomplete or insufficient court documentation before the date of a funeral; • an expedited review process when funeral arrangements are time-sensitive; • written explanations when funeral furloughs are denied; and • reasonable alternative bereavement accommodations, including secure remote participation in funeral or memorial services when physical attendance cannot be authorized. I fully recognize that jail administrators must retain appropriate authority to address legitimate security, transportation, classification, staffing, and public-safety considerations. My request is not intended to eliminate that discretion. Rather, I am asking whether statewide minimum standards can ensure that such discretion is accompanied by clear procedures, timely communication, and meaningful consideration of humane alternatives. Daylon cannot get the opportunity to attend his grandmother's funeral back. His family cannot undo the additional pain and confusion they experienced that day. But their experience can identify an opportunity for improvement. If the Board determines that this issue would be appropriate for consideration by the Policy & Regulations Committee, I respectfully ask that this correspondence be forwarded for its review. I would also appreciate information regarding whether the Board currently has additional standards, guidance documents, or model policies governing funeral furloughs or bereavement accommodations beyond 6VAC15-40-200. If appropriate, I would welcome the opportunity to provide the Board with supporting documentation or additional information regarding the circumstances that prompted this request. Thank you for your consideration and for your work establishing standards intended to protect the health, safety, and welfare of individuals within Virginia's local and regional correctional facilities. Respectfully, Tonya Bowden Wright Founder, Wisdom's Embrace Hampton, Virginia
[\[TBW@wisdomsembrace.org\]](mailto:TBW@wisdomsembrace.org)(mailto:TBW@wisdomsembrace.org) [757-309-1733](tel:757-309-1733) Every Story Deserves to Be Heard With Respect, Compassion and Hope



A. HACKWORTH

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
State Board of Local & Regional Jails

P.O. BOX 26963
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261
(804) 674-3000

Certification Report of the State Board of Local and Regional Jails
September 9, 2026

Jail and Lock-up Compliance Audits

Compliant Facilities - 1

Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail was audited August 4-7, 2026. The facility was found compliant with 41 out of 43 (2 N/A's) applicable life, health and safety standards and 73 out of 85 (12 N/A's) other applicable standards. The facility is not certified to house juveniles, and the superintendent is not requesting certification. There were no deficiencies cited during this audit cycle.

Non-applicable Standards

- 6VAC15-40-170, *Written Procedures for Accountability of Inmate Participants*
- 6VAC15-40-180, *Conditions for Inmate Participations in a Work Release Program*
- 6VAC15-40-190, *Conditions for Inmate Participation in Education Release or Rehabilitation Release Programs*
- 6VAC15-40-200, *Furlough*
- 6VAC15-40-210, *Earnings*
- 6VAC15-40-220, *Removing Inmate Participants from Program*
- 6VAC15-40-230, *Written Agreement with Director (VADOC)*
- 6VAC15-40-240, *Offender Participation in Compliance with Appropriate Criteria and Approval (VADOC)*
- 6VAC15-40-300, *Permission of Reading Materials*
- 6VAC15-40-1111, *Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus*
- 6VAC15-40-1190, *Housing of Juveniles*
- 6VAC15-40-1193, *Separation of Juveniles*
- 6VAC15-40-1195, *Contact with Juveniles (LHS)*
- 6VAC15-40-1200, *Isolation and Segregation of Juveniles (LHS)*

RECOMMENDATION: Unconditional certification.

Non-compliant Facilities – 1

Fluvanna County Lockup was audited July 15, 2026. The facility was found compliant with 17 out of 18 standards. The facility is certified to house juveniles and the sheriff is requesting recertification in

accordance with **§16.1-249(G) – Code of Virginia**. There was one life, health and safety standard cited during this audit cycle.

Citations

1. 6VAC15-40-1380, Fire Safety Inspection (LHS)

According to standard, the facility shall have a state or local fire safety inspection conducted every 12 months. Localities that do not enforce the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code shall have the inspection performed by the State Fire Marshal's Office. Written reports of the fire safety inspection shall be on file with the facility administrator.

A review of the facility's fire safety inspection records between 2023-2026 revealed there were no inspections conducted for years 2024 and 2026 .

Plan of Corrective Action

In an effort to ensure compliance with this standard, the facility administrative staff has reviewed inspection procedures and will notify the State Fire Marshal's Office to be added to its inspection schedule prior to due date. Also, the facility's administration will maintain a binder to store copies of inspection reports that will be readily accessible to all staff. The 2026 inspection was performed July 29, 2026. **Plan of corrective action verified by BLRJ staff July 29, 2026**

RECOMMENDATION: Unconditional certification.

Certification Report prepared by:
Tawana M. Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor

***LHS – Life, Health and Safety Standards**