

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL JAILS
POLICY & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2026; 11:30 AM

LOCATION

6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, VA 23235

PRESIDING

Tiffany Jenkins, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Captain Charles Carey
David A. Hackworth
April Green
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
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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jenkins, Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees, and confirmed quorum present.

Motion by Mrs. Vermont to approve minutes of July 15, 2026, Committee meeting, second by Mr. Hackworth.
Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Flaherty read public comments submitted by Tonya B. Wright, founder of Wisdom's Embrace. Comments are attached to minutes.

CERTIFICATION, INSPECTIONS and AUDIT REPORT

Tawana Ferguson, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor, presented the Certification, Inspections and Audit Report to the Committee.

The following was offered by Mr. McLaughlin, second by Mr. Hackworth:

- a. Motion: As a result of 100% compliance with Board standards, I MOVE the following facilities be recommended to the Board for unconditional certification:
Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail
Fluvanna County Lock-up
Unanimous approval.

The following was offered by Captain Carey, second by Chief Tucker:

- b. Motion: As a result of 100% compliance with Board standards, I MOVE the following facility be recommended to the Board for suspension of the 2026 life, health and safety annual inspection:
Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail
Unanimous approval.

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

- c. Motion: I MOVE the following facility be recommended to the Board for unconditional certification:
Fluvanna County Lock-up
Unanimous approval.

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

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

DISCHARGE PLANNING

Mr. Flaherty explained the agenda item is about next steps and considerations regarding §53.1-68.C. of the COV. Collaborations with DBHDS, BHC, and jails identified an opportunity to enhance the regulatory framework to acknowledge behavioral health is a shared responsibility. BLRJ objective is to develop a regulation that is consistent with law, provides meaningful guidance, and is operationally feasible.

Discussion included:

- Committee members agreed collaboration is imperative
- Lack of services in communities and requirements to confirm services
- Potential to utilize CQI to identify best practices, as well as outside the carceral setting
- Vast differences between jails re staffing, resources, available community services
- Reality of inmate transiency
- Reality jails are not mental health providers
- Necessity to ensure any regulations are realistically acceptable

It is the guidance of the Committee to move forward with the collaborative efforts.

SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORTS 6VAC15-40-110

Fast-track update is necessary to ensure consistent collection, validation, reconciliation and analysis of information.

Discussion included:

- Definition of serious incident, inclusion of “death”
- Data collection/potential value

Motion by Dr. Scarbrough, second by Chief Tucker to move forward with revised language:

- 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.

Unanimous approval.

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (CQI)

Fast-track regulation in order to gather more comprehensive information.

Motion by Mr. McLaughlin, second by Mrs. Vermont, to recommend language to the Board:

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

Unanimous approval.

TELEHEALTH SERVICES

Fast-track regulation in order to comply with COV.

Motion by Mr. McLaughlin, second by Mrs. Vermont, to recommend language to the Board:

- 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.

Unanimous approval.

6VAC15-40-680 Visitation and 6VAC15-40-685 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Chief Tucker, second by Mr. Hackworth. Unanimous approval.

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)

6VAC15-40-685 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.
- 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.