

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

MINUTES

APPROVED NOVEMBER 19, 2025

REGULAR MEETING

September 17, 2025; 12:30 p.m.

LOCATION

6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia

PRESIDING

Colonel Chris Smith, Vice Chair

PRESENT

Captain Charles Carey
Michael Carrera
David Hackworth
Tiffany Jenkins
John McLaughlin, Jr.
Ryan Moore
Roland Sherrod, Jr.
Dr. Amanda Trent
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, Architect
John Rock, Jail Death Investigator
Demetrice Tyler-Holliday, Executive Secretary
Andrew Parker, Office of the Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT

Robyn DeSocio, State Compensation Board
Jeff Dillman, Riverside Regional Jail
Royal Eanes, Piedmont Regional Jail
Juan Gelabert, Arlington County Sheriff's Office
Jeff Gore, Riverside Regional Jail
Tojuanna Mack, Riverside Regional Jail
James Parks, DOC

CALL TO ORDER

Colonel Smith, Committee Vice Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Carrera to approve minutes of the July 16, 2025, Committee meeting, second by Mr. McLaughlin. Unanimous approval.

STATE COMPENSATION BOARD

Ms. DeSocio reported the 1.5% bonus discussed during the May meeting is in the final appropriation process at the local government level. The State Compensation Board is in the process of developing the budget package to prepare for the next 2-year budget. It is anticipated to focus on jail staffing needs and inmate per diem. There have been no major changes in jail populations, therefore, no major funding changes are anticipated. The effort to assist jails in identifying veterans through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Re-Entry Search Services (VRSS) is nearing implementation.

Mr. Hackworth asked if emergency positions will be deleted upon a decline in jail populations. Ms. DeSocio replied that as population has decreased since 2020, the emergency positions were delegated to other jails in need due to overcrowding. Currently, there are jails which qualify as overcrowded.

Mr. Carrera asked if indexing per diem is being considered. Mr. DeSocio answered she is aware the Virginia Association of Counties (VACO) and the Virginia Association of Regional Jails (VARJ) support indexing per diem.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Mr. Parks provided the offender management report:

- 1098 out of compliance inmates
 - 1046 males
 - 52 females

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Flaherty reported 2025 legislative mandates are on track for completion.

- a. Jail Capacity Report
- b. SB 1039 (Senator Pekarsky) Telehealth
- c. HB 2221 (Delegate Cousins) Inmate ID Cards/Documentation
- d. HB 2105 (Delegate Pugh Kent) Jail Policies
- e. Virtual Court Survey – BLRJ has begun collaboration with the State Compensation Board

DISCUSSION

1. Construction Report:

Mr. Olson reported that four projects are in various stages of design, construction and closeout:

- i. Fairfax County Adult Detention Center
- ii. Loudoun County Jail
- iii. Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail
- iv. Franklin County Jail

- 10 projects were approved by the 2025 General Assembly
- During calendar year 2025, BLRJ approved four projects. The projects are currently pending review by the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) for funding in the Governor's proposed budget which will be presented in December and considered by the General Assembly during the 2026 Session:
 - i. Piedmont Regional Jail
 - ii. Prince William-Manassas Adult Detention Center
 - iii. Roanoke County Jail
 - iv. Western Tidewater Regional Jail

2. Mrs. Ferguson reported the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Health (VDH) will be reviewed by the BLRJ during the September 17, 2025, meeting. BLRJ awaits VDH final approval and signature.
3. Mr. Flaherty shared that the BLRJ initial newsletter, distributed in July, was well received and provides the opportunity to share news of positive jail initiatives.
4. Mr. Flaherty shared draft regulations for restraint of pregnant inmates to align with requirements of the Code of Virginia (COV).
5. CQI, which was legislatively mandated in 2019, will be initially implemented through a BLRJ pilot program.
6. Mr. Flaherty reported BLRJ worked with the Office of Regulatory Management (ORM) and Vulcan Technologies to revise BLRJ guidance for 6VAC15-40-1045 Supervision of Inmates. It is an effort to comply with Governor Youngkin's Executive Orders 19 and 51. The revision will be considered during the September 17, 2025, BLRJ meeting.

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Hackworth, second by Mrs. Jenkins. Unanimous approval.