

The Piedmont Regional Jail Authority Board meeting was held on January 19, 2022 via WebEx hosted by Taylor Harvie

The following were **Present:**

Not Present

Amelia Taylor Harvie
David Felts
Abraham Redman

Ricky Walker

Buckingham William Kidd

*Roger Jamerson

Daniel Braxton - entered meeting late

Karl Carter

Cumberland Darrell Hodges
Jennifer Crews

Robert Saunders

Lunenburg Edward Pennington
Tracy Gee

Arthur Townsend

*Donald Penland

Nottoway Ted Costin

Robert Jones

John A. Roark

*B.R. Fulford

Prince Edward James Garnett

*Sarah Puckett

Douglas Stanley

* David Wilmoth

Tony Epps

* denotes alternates

Also present

Jail Jerry R. Townsend – Superintendent (PRJA)
Gloria Giles - Secretary

Also present: Major Jason Baker - Jail
Lt. Sherard Tisdale- Jail
Cpl. Candace Terry –Jail
Lauren Schmitt – Commonwealth Strategy Group

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Garnett and then turned over to Superintendent Jerry Townsend who opened the floor for nominations for Jail Board Authority Chairman and Vice Chairman. James Garnett and Tracy Gee were

nominated for Chairman. James Garnett respectfully declined to be considered. Douglas Stanley was nominated for Vice chairman. There were no other nominations. By a unanimous vote Tracy Gee was elected as Chairman and Douglas Stanley was elected as Vice Chairman for 2022. Gloria Giles was nominated for secretary and by a unanimous vote was elected for 2022. There were no other nominations.

Lauren Schmitt with Commonwealth Strategy group was introduced and updated the board on the progress to include the additional requested positions for the jail in the governor's budget, as outlined below.

Legislative Report for Piedmont Regional Jail Authority January 19, 2021

The Virginia General Assembly legislative session began last week on January 12th and is scheduled to adjourn on March 12th. Inauguration was last weekend, and we officially have a new administration led by Governor Youngkin. The Republicans now hold the majority in House of Delegates and the Democrats remain in control of the Senate.

Unfortunately, former Governor Northam did not include funding for Piedmont in his budget amendments proposed in late December. Our meetings were positive with his office and they recognized the need. However, we learned there are two other jails that are in similar positions to us (Western Tidewater and Central Virginia Regional) and we believe the Governor's office felt they would have to fund all three and not just Piedmont.

We quickly moved on to Plan B and secured budget amendments in the legislature. Senator Mark Peake and Delegate Wendell Walker submitted amendments on our behalf. Delegate Matt Fariss, whose district PRJA is in, was planning to carry the amendment, but was told by caucus leadership he needed to scale back on the number of amendments he proposed. He asked Delegate Walker to do so on his behalf and we are confident that both delegates will be strong advocates for us. The public safety subcommittees of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees will review all proposed amendments and decide which to include. We will meet with members of these subcommittees and educate them on the urgent need for this funding.

On Sunday, February 20th, the Senate and the House of Delegates will release their proposed budgets. It is our goal to be in at least one of those budgets, if not both. At that point, "budget conferees" are appointed from both chambers and they determine the final budget. We have been told that Delegate Fariss will be a budget conferee.

We will draft a letter for Piedmont to send to every subcommittee member and also plan for Superintendent Townsend to meet with legislators in Richmond toward the end of January or early February.

We will continue to keep you updated on our progress and how you can help.

Locality representatives will attend the local government legislative day on February 3rd and will pursue this with their government representatives there.

The minutes of the meeting held on December 15, 2021 of the Piedmont Regional Jail Authority Board were approved with an amendment to include "the concerns raised at the October meeting regarding the funding to Nottoway County for VCBR inmates were satisfied at the November 17, 2021 meeting", by a motion from Tracy Gee, seconded by Edward Pennington.

The treasurers' report for December 2021 was approved by a motion from Douglas Stanley, seconded by Edward Pennington.

The accounts payable for December 2021 was accepted by a motion from Darrell Hodges, seconded by Tony Epps.

The current budget was reviewed. Chairman Gee called attention to revenue items for Powhatan, Page, Rockbridge and North Carolina US Marshals being unusually low. This will be discussed when the finance committee meets to consider the upcoming budget. Superintendent Townsend reported that the reduced revenue is due to the impact of COVID.

The commissary account was reviewed.

The Superintendent discussed the transportation report, jurisdiction report, and the billing summary for December 2021.

The Superintendent's update addressed the following:

1. COVID / Vaccine Update: There are 18 positive COVID employees, 18 offenders at this time.
2. Budget Amendment (Comp Board Bonus \$206,688). **By a motion from Taylor Harvie, seconded by Doug Stanley an amendment to the budget to include the bonus paid by the jail and reimbursed by the Comp board was approved.**
3. Compensation Board Audit (Excellent Audit)
4. Wellpath (Medical Contractor) : 2 Vacancies (RN and CMT)
5. Sanitation (Facility sanitation is ongoing)
Jail personnel in attendance introduced themselves and described their role at the jail. The Superintendent will have different employees attend the meeting each month to give them exposure to the meetings and learn the role the board has in running the jail.
6. Capital Projects: Bar Screen (Update)
There was a major breakdown in the bar screen equipment which required renting by pass pumps and port a johns. The RFP will be expedited for the bar screen project. Doug Stanley stated that

this should qualify for emergency procurement process. A regular maintenance contract will be obtained for the new bar screen.

Walk-in Freezer and Generator awaiting arrival.

7. Moseley Architectures (Tower Replacement) awaiting proposal. Superintendent will submit a request to the board of corrections for partial funding for the towers and bar screen.
8. Staff Vacancies (1 Food Service Supervisor, 1 cook, 23 Security Officers)
9. VCBR (19 offenders)
10. Medication Bill (Counties)
11. Visitation (TBA)
12. Commonwealth Strategy Group (Ms. Schmitt will be online to give update)
13. ARPA Funding Request Update **County boards have not met but all counties acknowledge responsibility**
14. Health Insurance Cost Comparison (Regional Jails) **This cost will be considered in the next budget.**
15. Website update (Group photo of the Jail Board)
The entire website rough draft has been updated and will be provided to the administration team for review in the next week or so. It is requested that the board set a date to have a group photo taken for the website.
16. Budget Planning for FY22/23 – In the next few weeks the supervisors will be submitting request for the new budget. The Superintendent requests that the board keep proposed salary increases by the state in mind as they begin their budget process.

Superintendent Townsend requested that the board go into closed session regarding a personnel issue.

On a motion by Douglas Stanley, seconded by Edward Pennington and carried, the Board entered into closed session pursuant to VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A1) to discuss a personnel matter.

"WHEREAS, the Piedmont Regional Jail Authority Board ("Board") convened a Closed Session Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a certification by the Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

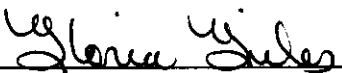
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

David Felts, Amelia County	- aye
Taylor Harvie, Amelia County	- aye
Abraham Redman, Amelia County	- aye
William Kidd, Buckingham County	- aye
Daniel Braxton, Buckingham County	- aye
Robert Saunders, Cumberland County	-aye
Jennifer Crews, Cumberland County	-aye
Darrell Hodges, Cumberland County	-aye
Edward Pennington, Lunenburg County	- aye
Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County	- aye
Ted Costin, Nottoway County	- aye
Tony Epps, Prince Edward County	- aye
James Garnett Jr., Prince Edward County	-aye
Douglas Stanley, Prince Edward County	-aye

Douglas Stanley made a motion, seconded by Taylor Harvie and unanimously approved, to return to Open Session."

The meeting was adjourned to February 16, 2022

All motions carried unless noted.

, Secretary