

**The Piedmont Regional Jail Authority Board meeting was held on April 21, 2021 via WebEx hosted by Taylor Harvie**

The following were **Present:**

**Not Present**

Amelia Taylor Harvie  
David Felts  
Ricky Walker

Abraham Redman

Buckingham William Kidd  
Frank Knott

\*Roger Jamerson

Rebecca Carter

Cumberland Darrell Hodges  
Don Unmussig  
Robert Saunders

Lunenburg Edward Pennington  
Tracy Gee

Arthur Townsend  
\*Donald Penland

Nottoway Robert Jones

John Prosis

John A. Roark  
\*C.L. Abernathy Jr.

Prince Edward James Garnett  
Douglas Stanley  
Tony Epps

\*Sarah Puckett

\* David Wilmoth

\* denotes alternates

Also present

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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting held on March 17, 2021 of the Piedmont Regional Jail Authority Board were approved by a motion from Taylor Harvey, seconded by Frank Knott. Douglas Stanley abstained.

The treasurers' report for March 2021 was approved by a motion from Douglas Stanley, seconded by Taylor Harvey.

The accounts payable for March 2021 was accepted by a motion from Tracy Gee, seconded by Douglas Stanley.

The current budget was reviewed.

Tracey Gee requested that a revised budget be submitted to include proposed salary changes and updated capital projects list.

The commissary account was reviewed.

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

The Superintendent's update addressed the following:

There are currently 360 Covid vaccines available. 131 employees have had both vaccines and new employees are being offered the vaccine. 14 offenders have had at least one vaccine. 263 offenders have had both vaccines. New arrestees are being offered the vaccine.

A female offender attempted suicide by jumping off of the top tier of the housing unit. She sustained many injuries and was transported to the hospital. The Amelia commonwealth attorney furloughed the offender. The jail is requesting release of the inmate. The offender will be released soon and the medical costs will be assigned to the jail if she is in custody.

Medical staffing numbers are improving. Wellpath is looking for a new HCA. The jail will be reimbursed for any staff shortages.

The roof project as begun. The project should be completed in about two weeks, weather permitting.

The quotes for the camera integration project have greatly exceeded the anticipated cost of \$50,000 to \$75,000. The actual costs will be up to twice the anticipated cost. Quotes are still being received. With this increase, the amount to begin the project will be paid out of this year's budget with the remainder to be paid out of next year's budget. A new capital projects list to reflect this change will be submitted with the budget for next year.

Sanitation continues. I1 and I2 dorms are being renovated. It is expected to take about two weeks for each dorm.

12 hour shifts began on April 5, 2021 and appear to be going well.

The server for the main jail has been received.

There are currently 14 staff vacancies. Job fairs continue to be scheduled.

The Superintendent, the Chairman and John Roark had a very productive meeting with the officials at VCBR. A counselor will come to the jail once a week to meet with offenders from VCBR.

The K9 Officer is currently in DOC K9 School.

The search of employees, visitors, and contractors will begin in late May.

Kitchen equipment is being repaired. These repairs are expensive and given the age of the equipment will be included in next year's budget for replacement.

Prince Edward is looking into an offender work crew contract with VDOT to address the liter problem in the county.

The Superintendent has received a verbal approval for an increase from \$53.00 per day for federal inmates to \$65.00 per day. He is looking into possibly increasing the number of federal inmates by 50, with the ability to screen inmates prior to their being housed at the jail. He has requested an increase to \$75.00 per day for federal inmates when the federal inmate population is above 92. The jail has an exemption for 92 beds from federal recovery from the compensation board. Currently the amount withheld for more than 92 beds is \$11.31 per day.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup> is employee appreciation week. Gift bags and special meals will be provided to the staff to acknowledge appreciation for all they do. Vendor contributions will offset this cost.

Westwood pharmacy bills will be submitted in the future without offender names.

Two Sergeants have been hired and will assume duties on April 25, 2021.

Drafting is at a minimum and employees are only drafted from break days. No oncoming or off going staff is being drafted.

The meeting was adjourned to May 19, 2021 via WebEx.

**All motions carried unless noted.**

\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary