

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL JAIL AUTHORITY
September 13, 2019
Held at the New River Valley Regional Jail

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the New River Valley Regional Jail Authority was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman Mark Armentrout with ten (10) members and three (3) alternates present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Carroll County:	Mr. Lyons
	Giles County:	Sheriff Millirons; Mr. Chidester
	Grayson County:	Sheriff Vaughan; Mr. Shepley
	Pulaski County:	Sheriff Worrell; Mr. McCready
	Radford City:	Sh. Armentrout; Mrs. Cumberland
	Wythe County:	Mr. Reeves

ALTERNATES PRESENT:	Bland County:	Ch. Deputy Mustard
	Carroll County:	Ch. Deputy Bourne
	Giles County:	Mr. Martin

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:	Superintendent Gregory Winston
	Dep. Superintendent John Bowman
	Mr. Steve Durbin - Sands Anderson PC
	Mr. Robert Lyons- Citizen
	NRVRJ Retirees: Captain James Murphy,
	Cpl. Lori Diamond
	Officer Bob Sumner

B. ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Akers called the roll and reported a quorum present.

Superintendent Winston recognized three recent NRVRJ retirees Captain James Murphy (20 years), Corporal Lori Diamond (19 years) and Officer Robert Sumner (19 years). Each was presented a plaque displaying their respective badges and our gratitude for their many years of dedicated service to the jail. 1st Sgt Lori Mabry (20 years) also was recognized but was unable to attend.

C. APPROVAL OF JULY 2019 MINUTES:

Copies of the Minutes from the July meeting were mailed to each member. Chairman Armentrout asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes as presented.

Motion: Sheriff Millirons moved that the July Minutes be approved as presented. Sheriff Vaughan seconded the motion.

Action: The motion passed unanimously.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

None

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Copies of the monthly financials were distributed. In Mr. Workman's absence, Tammy Dobbins, Director of Finance reviewed them in detail with the group.

Motion: Mr. Reeves made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Mr. McCready seconded the motion.

Action: Following a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Design and Construction Committee:

Design & Construction did not meet today.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Employee Activity:

Superintendent Winston updated the group on recent events NRVJR staff has participated in. We held an on-site Blood Drive on August 21st collecting 26 pints of blood. We also had a successful Back-to-School Drive for Dublin Middle School collecting several boxes of much needed school supplies. Funds from our No-Shave Campaign were used to donate \$300 to the family of a sick Dublin Elementary School student for traveling expenses to and from UVA.

Academy:

The academy continues with eight officers attending this session. Graduation is scheduled for November 13th.

Operations:

- Headcount today: 995
- Total days served 30,089
- Average Daily Population: 970
- Average Daily Population for male prisoners: 780
- Average Daily Population for females prisoners: 190
- Number of commitments: 551
- Avg Daily commitments: 18
- Number of releases: 534
- Avg Daily releases: 18

Inmate Issues:

We've had two very seriously ill inmates requiring expensive medication and treatment. One was finally sentenced and released from our custody. The second inmate had a small bond in one of our jurisdictions. We were able to get them bonded out of our jail and transferred to another jurisdiction where they had additional charges.

Court Case:

There was a case that came out of 4th Circuit Court regarding the treatment of prisoners with Hepatitis C. Even though this was a prison case, there has been a lot of talk regarding our requirements to treatment someone with Hepatitis C incarcerated for 2 years or less. This case really drew out the distinction between what is medically necessary and what counts as something that is medically required even though they may not be here a lengthy period of time. That may affect us down the road as Hepatitis C is highly prevalent in correctional populations and costs about \$70,000 to treat. Less expensive medications require longer times to treat and with the transient nature of jail populations we would be using the more expensive short term treatment for prisoners with that disease if it were medically necessary. We're monitoring that case closely as it may change the way we approach the treatment of Hepatitis C in local correctional facilities.

In-Custody Death:

We had an in-custody inmate death yesterday morning. The Virginia State Police is handling the overall investigation. Superintendent Winston said he would brief any Authority members that needed more details on our own internal investigation.

X-Ray Body Scanner:

Our x-ray body scanner was installed and initial training was held yesterday. This should definitely help us identify prisoners that are bringing in dangerous contraband and we look forward to using it soon. The policy has been written and it will have to be certified with the Radiological Group at the Virginia Department of Health. The scanner will also be available to the jurisdictions if they suspect prisoners are concealing contraband.

HR:

Our Human Resource Director left with two weeks' notice. Staff has collectively taken on some additional responsibilities until we can get someone brought in. We're in the process of interviewing and hiring some folks. Due to the volume of work, we will be bringing in two people. The HR Manager will start work on Monday and we expect to offer the HR Director's position to someone in the coming week.

RFP's—Request for Proposals:

We have completed the Pharmacy Services RFP and will awarding that today. Once we make the award we'll negotiate a final contract with those folks.

We have received two responses for the RFP Back of the Envelope Performance Contracting. We're evaluating those proposals and will make a decision soon. There is a chance that we will need to call a special meeting or at least a committee meeting to move forward.

Maintenance:

The kitchen dishwasher has been installed and is working. We also have two new convection ovens and a blast chiller received at no cost to us. The convection ovens were part of an investment by our kitchen services vendor and the blast chiller was acquired for free from another locality.

Health Department:

We've been working with the health department over the last month regarding some food related issues and prep/proper cooling of food. We did acquire some additional equipment to do that. During that time, the health department was in here quite a bit and identified two additional drains that need to be replaced. We had to have some other drains repaired last year and the same vendor will be coming to into repair these.

Plumbing:

Money was budgeted last spring for a major plumbing issue that originated during the 2010 expansion. The vendor that did the installation had ongoing issues and came back multiple times for years to fix/replace things. Eventually they said they had done enough and wouldn't be coming back. We receive a quote for \$32,500 to repair it and had planned to do it at the end last fiscal year. Unfortunately we had some other necessary repairs and tabled the plumbing until this fiscal year. Since the original quote in April until the new quote in July, the cost of materials went up \$22,000 so we're now looking a minimum of \$55,000.

Replacing a Server:

We unexpectedly had to replace a server. About 5 days before the end of last fiscal year, Pronets came to us saying our server had about a week's worth of life left in it. We negotiated with them to order it then and bill us in this fiscal year. It was installed and is now up and running.

AirTeq/Norments:

Contractors from AirTeq/Norments came and inspected the pneumatic system in the jail where our air sliders are failing us. We currently have two compressors. The new one installed last year already has 7,000 hours on it from having to keep up with the air in the back of the jail. We're waiting on their assessment to get those things corrected.

Question on HR Director Search:

Mr. McCready mentioned our search for an HR Director. Superintendent Winston has been working with Pete Huber who works for the Community Workforce Development in Pulaski County. The group is trying to improve the outcome of local prisoners once they are released back in the communities by finding labor for us. Yesterday they met with five employers who are interested in getting information to prisoners who are short-term local responsible inmates so that they will actually have jobs or can get jobs once released.

As part of that meeting, Superintendent Winston was invited to speak at the Society of Human Resources Directors meeting. It's not his reason for attending but it may help generate some HR interest from someone.

Mr. McCready said we may also look into hiring a retired HR Director that may want some additional income for a few months. Superintendent Winston said he's looking at all of the options and is considering hiring a temp for a few weeks to do some filing.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Chidester asked what procedures were in place at other jurisdictions when someone is arrested that has a lawfully possessed firearm/knife on their person. Mr. McCready asked specifically how firearms were handled upon arrest after the officer takes possession and who is responsible for logging/storing it. Sheriff Worrell said Pulaski County logs it in as evidence until it can be picked up. Carroll County said that they keep it as well. Grayson County has the inmate fill out a form and will hold it for 30 days. The inmate can notify a family member to come pick it up and if they don't come within those 30 days it is destroyed.

Superintendent Winston said that the transportation officers are unable to bring that to the jail due to security reasons. After much discussion, it was decided that it needs to be handled at the jurisdictions due to liability. Sheriff Vaughan said it was important to educate the deputies that whenever possible to leave the weapons locked in the vehicle, at the house or with family/friends. Not be bringing it in if it isn't involved in the crime. Mrs. Cumberland added the least amount of people involved in handing it off, the better.

After more discussion on the topic, Chairman Armentrout said we would leave this as it is and discuss it again at a later meeting.

H. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

I. OTHER BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

J. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Mr. McCready made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Mrs. Cumberland seconded the motion.

Action: Following roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, Chairman Armentrout adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Chairman Mark A. Armentrout