

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL JAIL AUTHORITY
July 12, 2024
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 10:04 a.m. by Chairman Richard Chidester.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Bland County:	Sheriff Ramsey
	Carroll County:	Mr. Martin
	Giles County:	Mr. Chidester; Sheriff Millirons
	Grayson County:	Mr. Smith
	Pulaski County:	Sheriff Worrell
	Radford City:	Sheriff Armentrout; Mr. Fleisher

ALTERNATES PRESENT:	Wythe County:	Mr. Hankins; Ch. Deputy Cline
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STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:	Dep. Superintendent Chris Loan
	Major Daniel O'Dell
	Mr. Steve Durbin-Sands, Anderson, Marks & Miller
	Tonya Akers, Tim Clark, Lt. Matt Wells—NRVRJ

B. ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Akers called roll and reported a quorum with eight (8) members and two (2) alternates present.

C. APPROVAL OF MAY 2024 MINUTES:

Copies of the May minutes were mailed to each member. Chairman Chidester asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes as presented.

Motion: Mr. Hankins made the motion to approve the May minutes as presented. Sheriff Worrell seconded the motion.

Action: The motion passed unanimously.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

In Superintendent Haug's absence, Deputy Superintendent Loan updated the group on current projects. The roof project is almost complete and should be finished next week. The camera project was bumped up and the group has already completed one housing unit.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Copies of the monthly financials were passed out and reviewed by Tim Clark, Director of Finance. This marked the end of FY 2023-24 the revenues were 90% of 100 with our accruals at roughly 110% with expenses trending out at 98%. One of our biggest hits was on the food services cost which due to a CPI increase and a changing over from one organization to another.

Printed copies of the FY 2024-25 Operating Budget were handed out to everyone present. Staff sent out an RFP for inmate telephone services and had five groups reply. Two weren't very successful with what they could offer us and we have interest in three of the organizations. On July 18, the FCC will have a ruling on whether these vendors can charge commission rates for using phones, tablets, etc. The vendors believe it will be tied up in litigations for bit but if it should pass, in April 2025 commissions go away. So, at this point we're in limbo and will probably get with these three groups to see what type of contingencies they have in place if this should pass.

Motion: In Mr. Sweet's absence, Chairman Chidester said there was a recommendation out of Finance to approve the monthly financial reports as presented.

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

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Headcount:

Deputy Superintendent Loan gave the headcount this morning as 678 and added that our count has been trending up for the past month. We have had a couple of DOC runs and feel that should start picking up again soon.

Staffing:

We have hired 12 new people (9 officers, 1 housing control, 1 med tech and 1 LPN) since the last meeting. We have had 12 resignations (10 officers, 1 LPN and 1 retirement). Many of the resignations have gone to jurisdictions and DOC. We continue working on our onboarding process and making changes.

Update on reimbursement:

Reimbursement on our door project didn't come through the last budget approval. Mr. Olsen with Virginia DOC emailed Superintendent Haug saying he would be resubmitting that next week to the Board of Local & Regional Jails for be in the next budget year. He will also be submitting Phase 1 and 2 of the roof and fence project as well.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

G. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

H. OTHER BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Transportation:

Sheriff Millirons brought up the transportation issues his office continues to have especially on nights/weekends. Deputy Superintendent asked if the jurisdictions were being notified when the jail doesn't have any transportation officers available? Several sheriffs said they were not receiving calls. Dep. Superintendent Loan said recently on one particular weekend, we had eight officers sitting with inmates at the hospital.

Sheriff Millirons said he knew we had to have a certain number of officers with inmates at the hospital but couldn't we send jail officers instead of transport officers. Dep. Superintendent Loan said our Captains have been instructed that if all of our transport officers are tied up and they have an officer on shift that has been through the transportation FTO process, they are to send them. There were was a lengthy discussion on the matter. Lt. Well attended today's meeting to answer questions and explained some of the plans for adding extra officers on weekends.

Sheriff Millirons asked how many officers were we still needing and currently we have 30 vacancies. Mr. Smith asked why officers were leaving and was it due to more money elsewhere. Dep. Superintendent Loan said the ones that recently left had started here with goals of going to a sheriff's office or patrol. The other reasons that we had were due to training and that's what we've been focusing more on it in recent months. Our current starting salary is \$46,331 which is the current comp board minimum.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Chidester asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Sheriff Millirons made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Mr. Hankins seconded the motion.

Action: The motion passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Chairman Richard Chidester