

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL JAIL AUTHORITY
November 8, 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 10:27 a.m. by Chairman Richard Chidester. There wasn't a full quorum present at 10:00 am so the meeting was delayed until two additional members arrived and the meeting could proceed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Carroll County:	Mr. Martin; Sheriff Kemp
	Floyd County:	Sheriff Craig
	Giles County:	Mr. Chidester
	Grayson County:	Mr. Smith
	Pulaski County:	Sheriff Worrell
	Radford City:	Sheriff Armentrout
	Wythe County:	Sheriff Foster; Mr. Vaught

ALTERNATES PRESENT:	Wythe County:	Mr. Hankins
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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

Prior to roll call Chairman Chidester asked for a moment of silence in memory of Gregory P. Winston who passed away on November 2nd. Mr. Winston served as the Superintendent of the NRVRJ from 7/19/16 – 7/31/22 and will be missed by many.

B. ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Akers called roll and reported a quorum with nine (9) members and one (1) alternate present.

C. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2024 MINUTES:

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

Motion:	Sheriff Kemp made the motion to approve the September minutes as presented. Mr. Vaught seconded the motion.
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Action:	The motion passed unanimously.
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Mr. Chidester announced that Superintendent Haug is traveling out of state to visit a family member that's having surgery. We wish her safe travels and Deputy Superintendent Loan will be presenting her portion of the meeting.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

In Superintendent Haug's absence, Deputy Superintendent Loan gave project updates. All of the jail's major projects are now complete with the exception of some pipe repairs. Our maintenance group has fixed all of the pipes up to 3-inch pipes and we will be going out for quotes to repair them.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCIAL REPORTS :

In Mr. Sweet's absence, Mr. Martin deferred to staff to present the finance reports. Copies of the monthly financials were passed out and reviewed in detail by Tim Clark, Director of Finance. We should be trending at 33% for compliance and currently our expenses are at 34% and our revenue is strong at 43%.

Motion: Mr. Martin said there was a recommendation out of Finance to accept the monthly financial reports as presented.

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

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Headcount:

Dep. Superintendent Loan gave today's headcount as 582 and our average population for October was 603.

Staffing:

Since our last meeting we've hired thirteen people—eleven officers, one med tech and one records clerk. We have lost five and out of that amount, three were new hires. Currently we have ten people in background and we're tracking about twelve officers down.

Training:

With our recent changes in training, we've reviewed our academy schedule and are going back to (5) 8-hour days vs (4) 10-hour days. This will trim our academy down from 12 weeks to 9 weeks. Beginning with this class graduating in a few weeks, we're holding them back from going to shift to get them trained on transports and hospital duties. Hopefully that will help when transportation department is covered up, we'll have certified officers to assist with any new committals.

Part time Investigator Position:

We're looking for a part time background investigator. One of our fulltime investigators was recently deployed for a year and also one of our part time investigators has resigned. The pay for the part time position is \$25 an hour. He asked the sheriffs to please refer anyone to us that may have recently retired with previous investigating experience.

Cell Phone Assigned to the Shift Commander on Duty:

This past week we had an issue with our telephone system and being unable to receive incoming calls. In the event this should happen again, we've issued a cell phone that will be carried by the shift commander on duty. That cell number will be provided via email to members/alternates.

Upcoming Projects:

We're looking to replace the kitchen floor and dishwasher. The floor is beginning to pit out when it's being cleaned and is deteriorating in spots. That will be something discussed more in the next budget cycle.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

Attorney Durbin said that today's experience makes him think that the Authority might be interested in adopting virtual meetings. That would be permitted under the Code of Virginia on a limited basis and would be useful in a situation like this morning. This would be done through a change in the By-Laws. After discussion, it was decided that Attorney Durbin will prepare a proposed amended By-Laws to present for consideration at the January 2025 meeting.

H. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

I. OTHER BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Lt. Wells reported that we now have an ADA van in our fleet that is fully operational. If you have an arrestee that is wheelchair bound, please alert Sallyport so we can bring that van.

Sheriff Foster discussed a transportation issue that he had experienced yesterday around 4:30 pm. Two deputies had an inmate in front of the magistrate and told the transportation officer to please wait because the inmate wasn't going to get bond. The transportation officer said they were going to go ahead and leave so his deputies would have to bring the inmate to the jail. It seemed senseless to him that the jail already had a van there and his deputies ended up bringing the inmate here. Deputy Superintendent Loan said he would look into it and be back in touch.

J. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion: Mr. Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Sheriff Foster seconded the motion.

Action: The motion passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Chairman Richard Chidester