

Behavioral Health Commission- Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 9, 2024 – 3:00 p.m.

Central State Hospital, 26317 W Washington St, Petersburg, VA 23803

Members Present

Delegate Patrick Hope, Vice Chair

Delegate Carrie Coyner

Delegate Ellen Campbell

Delegate Adele McClure (virtual)

Delegate Joseph Obenshain

Delegate Vivian Watts (virtual)

Delegate Rodney Willett

Senator R. Creigh Deeds, Chair

Senator Barbara Favola

Senator Russet Perry

Members Absent

Senator Lashrecse Aird

Senator Tara Durant

Call to order and opening remarks- Senator Creigh Deeds, Chair

Roll call- Agnes Dymora

Executive Director Nathalie Molliet-Ribet presented the agenda and introduced all the guest presenters.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services Commissioner Nelson Smith gave an update on the implementation of crisis services including 988, mobile crisis units, and crisis centers. Commissioner Smith also discussed the details of the Special Conservators of the Peace (SCOPs) Pilot. He then briefed members on trends in temporary detention orders (TDOs) and shifts in state hospitals' populations. Lastly, he covered several initiatives that are being implemented to better meet the needs of forensic patients. At the conclusion of his presentation Commissioner Smith discussed the contents of the DBHDS dashboard and spoke briefly about the Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP). He answered members' questions throughout his presentation.

Dr. Brandi Justice, CEO of Central State Hospital briefed members on the history of the hospital, the current operations of the hospital buildings, and staffing. She also discussed patient admissions and discharges. Dr. Justice answered members' questions throughout her briefing.

Staff from the Department of General Services provided an update on the new Central State

Hospital currently under construction. They discussed the layout of the building and projected completion dates.

Several individuals offered public comments.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Commission meeting will be on September 10, 2024.

Delegate Watts and Delegate McClure participated virtually due to an injury and illness, respectively.