

**VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS LHRC**  
**SWVMHI Learning Center - Dogwood Room**  
**340 Bagley Circle, Marion, VA 24354**  
**DATE (4/17/18) & TIME (12:00 PM)**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

LIST MEMBERS PRESENT: E. Denton Staley, Chairperson; Gardner Umbarger, Vice Chairperson; Barbara Bartnik, Secretary; Michelle Debord

LIST MEMBERS ABSENT: Diedra Mathena

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Rotenberry, Human Rights Advocate; Cynthia McClaskey, PhD; Jeffrey Gordon, MD; Mallory Jessee, LCSW; Jim Lundy, MSN; Julie Stoots, MSN; Sean Carrigan; Next Friend Appointee

**CALL TO ORDER**

E. Denton Staley (Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:25 PM. Introductions were made at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was motioned to be approved by Gardner Umbarger seconded by Barbara Bartnik and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The October 17, 2017 minutes were motioned to be approved by Gardner Umbarger seconded by Michelle Debord and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

**ADVOCATE UPDATE**

- Continued efforts to recruit for LHRC consumer member(s)
- SWVTC discharges and new group homes / community services in region
- Retirement of B.J. McKnight, Human Rights Advocate
- SHRC Changes – Sam Dillon and Ann Pascoe

**SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE**

- Facility Updates provided by Director Cynthia McClaskey, PhD included a subset of individuals with intellectual disabilities at SWVMHI, an upcoming visit from Senator Creigh Deeds, upcoming RAM Clinic in the area, an upcoming suicide prevention event, admissions increases over the last few years, increase in forensic individuals and upcoming transitional living units in the region.

- Director Cynthia McClaskey, PhD and staff discussed upcoming Admissions Unit Guidelines to address anti-ligature requirements and to address contraband issues.
- Director Cynthia McClaskey, PhD discussed ongoing efforts to track human rights restrictions and bring those forward to the LHRC when criteria is met for review. It is expected this process will be complete and ready for the next LHRC meeting.

CLOSED (EXECUTIVE) SESSION - Upon a motion made by Michelle Debord seconded by Barbara Bartnik, the committee entered closed session at 2:15 PM pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711, a.15 and §2.2-37.05.5 for the purpose of discussion of medical record / treatment plans.

- Consent & Authorization/Next Friend Appointment - SWVMHI  
The LHRC reviewed this request from SWVMHI and interviewed the proposed next friend. The LHRC determined the next friend appointment met the regulatory requirements.
- Individual Telephone, Mail and Visitor Restrictions - SWVMHI  
The LHRC reviewed three current plans and accepted the plans as presented.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Upon reconvening in open session at 1:48 PM, all members of the Local Human Rights Committee certified that to the best of each ones' knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in closed session.

#### 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

The committee continues to keep a quarterly schedule, with special called meetings as needed, with the upcoming dates of July 17, 2018 and October 16, 2018. An additional meeting will be added to the schedule at the July 17 meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Denton Staley at 1:56 PM seconded by Michelle Debord and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

These Minutes were transcribed by Brandon Rotenberry, MSW, Human Rights Advocate.