

WILLIAMSBURG REGIONAL AREA LHRC

Approved Minutes

March 27, 2025

9:00AM

Eastern State Hospital: 4601 Ironbound Road Williamsburg, VA 23188-2652

MEMBERS PRESENT

Melissa South – Chairperson

Dick Roberts - Member

Members Absent

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Lashanique Green – Human Rights Advocate, DBHDS Office of Human Rights

Mykala Sauls – Human Rights Advocate, DBHDS Office of Human Rights

Dr. Leroy Graham, MD – Medical Director, Eastern State Hospital

Meghan Rene, Director of Patient Relations, Eastern State Hospital

Melissa Bennett, Clinical Director, Eastern State Hospital

CALL TO ORDER

Melissa South called meeting to order at 9:11AM

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE

Those in attendance make introductions. Chair welcomes attendees.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Melissa South motioned for the agenda to be approved and Dick Roberts seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved by all committee members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Melissa South motioned for the minutes to be approved and Dick Roberts seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved by all committee members present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Chair.

ADVOCATE REPORT AND TRAINING

Lashanique Green provided the attached Advocate Report.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS

ESH: Next Friend Review – 9:20 AM

The review of the Next Friend was motioned to be approved after returning to open session by Melissa South and seconded by Dick Roberts and unanimously approved by all members in attendance.

ESH: Fact Finding Hearings - 9:35 AM

The motion to find no violations of the Human Right regulations was made by Melissa South and seconded by Dick Roberts and unanimously approved by all members in attendance.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion made by Melissa South and seconded by Dick Roberts the committee entered closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711, a.15 and §2.2-37.05.5 for the purpose of discussion of treatment plans.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon reconvening in open session, each member certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only private business matters, lawfully exempted from statutory open session requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened, were considered in the closed session, namely to review ESH's Next Friend Review and BF vs ESH Appeal.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Melissa South adjourned the meeting at 10:15AM.

The next meeting will be May 21st at Eastern State Hospital.

Advocate Report, State Facilities

Quarterly ANE and complaint statistics

For the calendar quarter ending 12/31/2025:

Facility	Abuse Cases*	Complaint Cases*
WSH	14 (3)	10
CCCA	7 (4)	3
NVMHI	14 (1)	9
SWVMHI	8 (1)	12 (1)
Catawba	18 (7)	3
SVMHI	10 (5)	8 (1)
CSH	31 (2)	10
HDMC	1 (1)	2
PGH	2 (1)	36 (19)
VCBR	9	57 (24)
ESH	21 (6)	78
SEVTC	2 (1)	0

*Cases in parentheses are substantiated.

Similar community information may be located by reviewing minutes from Local Human Rights Committees in your area via the Commonwealth Calendar:

<https://commonwealthcalendar.virginia.gov/>

Summary of current Variances for Facilities

- Central State Hospital has four variances all of which expire in 2025. There are no new variances pending.
- Western State Hospital has one variance which expires in 2027. There are no new variances currently pending.
- Virginia Center for Behavioral Rehabilitation has one variance which was renewed last month and expires in 2027. There are no new variances pending.

DBHDS Updates

- Please note that the OHR web page is the greatest resource to access to identify the most appropriate OHR team member(s) you need to contact. The OHR Regional Contact Map, along with the Human Rights Staff Contacts list can be accessed in the Contact Information section of the OHR web page.

Trainings for State-Operated Facility Staff

- New training for facilities is currently being developed, including and revised and expanded training for Facility Investigators. More information to come soon!

SHRC Meetings

Next meeting: March 6, 2025

The SHRC is required to meet at least 8 times a year. Unless special circumstances apply, administrative sessions normally convene at 8:30AM. Regular sessions normally convene at 9:00AM and run until all agenda items are addressed. Portions of meetings are held in closed session. Appeals are normally scheduled for late morning. Feel free to join any meeting to observe the open portions. Contact brandon.charles@dbhds.virginia.gov to advise him you will be joining as an LHRC member observing the open meeting. You can join in-person or virtually. For a full schedule, please visit our website.

LHRC Trainings

New LHRC members will receive notice in their appointment letters regarding attending Orientation and viewing the other training materials (Overview HRR, LHRC Forms, Fact Finding Hearings, FOIA) sessions.

If you are a new member and have not received Orientation, please notify

brandon.charles@dbhds.virginia.gov.

Individual trainings at LHRC meetings will be conducted by OHR throughout the year.

LHRC Recruitment

We are currently recruiting for Local Human Rights Committees assigned to the Facility Operations Team with a priority focus on **individual** members:

Staunton Area LHRC – Meets quarterly in Staunton at Western State Hospital.

Tri-City LHRC – Meets quarterly in Petersburg at Central State Hospital.

Williamsburg Regional LHRC – Meets quarterly in Williamsburg at Eastern State Hospital.

Please contact Brandon Charles, MSW, Facility Operations Manager at

brandon.charles@dbhds.virginia.gov for more information or an application.