

APPALACHIAN JUVENILE COMMISSION

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April 17, 2026

The regular meeting of the Appalachian Juvenile Commission was held on Friday, April 17th, 2026 at the Washington County Administration Building located at 1 Government Place, Abingdon, Virginia.

Commission members present:

Shawn Utt – Vice-Chair, Smyth County
April Collins – Dickenson County
Arlene Matney – Tazewell County
Mark Thompson – Scott County
Jason Berry – Washington County
Brad Johnson – Buchanan County

Commission members absent:

Anthony Farnum – City of Bristol
Rhonda Lester – Russell County
James C. Lane - Chairman, Norton
Representative – Lee County
Dawn Gilbert – Wise County

Staff and others present included Trey Murray, Executive Director; Danny Johnson, Finance Director; Jeremy Hurley, Chief Deputy Director; and Neil Bramlette, Deputy Director of Operations

Call to Order

Shawn Utt, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

Approval of Minutes

After review, Arlene Matney moved to approve the minutes of January 16th, 2025. Brad Johnson seconded the motion.

Upon consideration the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: April Collins, Arlene Matney, Shawn Utt, Brad Johnson, Mark Thompson, and Jason Berry.

NAYES: *None*

ABSTAIN: *None*

Financial Statement

Danny Johnson presented information regarding the FY26 nine-month financial report covering 7/1/25 – 3/31/25.

Jason Berry moved to accept the FY26 six-month financial report as presented. April Collins seconded the motion.

“SERVING SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA”

Bristol, Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Norton, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Wise

Upon consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: April Collins, Arlene Matney, Shawn Utt, Brad Johnson, Mark Thompson, and Jason Berry.

NAYES: *None*

ABSTAIN: *None*

Authorize Execution of AJC's 457 Deferral Contributions/Employer Contributions Agreement New Plan Document

As the Commission has previously approved a 457 match to mirror VRS's matching schedule, as well as approved Roth contributions as mandated by the SECURE 2.0 Act, Trey Murray and Danny Johnson requested the Commission authorize its execution via the following resolution.

APPALACHIAN JUVENILE COMMISSION
FORMAL RECORD OF ACTION

The following is a formal record of action taken by the governing body of Appalachian Juvenile Commission (the "Company").

With respect to the amendment and restatement of the Appalachian Juvenile Commission 457 (the "Plan"), the following resolutions are hereby adopted:

RESOLVED: *That the Plan be amended and restated in the form attached hereto, which Plan is hereby adopted and approved;*

RESOLVED FURTHER: *That the appropriate officers of the Company be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to execute all Plan Documents and Amendments on behalf of the Company;*

RESOLVED FURTHER: *That Fred R. Murray III, Daniel L. Johnson and J. Neil Bramlette are hereby named as the Trustees of the Plan: and*

RESOLVED FURTHER: *That the officers of the Company be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to take any and all actions and execute and deliver such documents as they may deem necessary, appropriate or convenient to effect the foregoing resolution including, without limitation, causing to be prepared and filed such reports, documents of other information as may be required under applicable law.*

After discussion, Jason Berry made the motion to authorize execution of AJC's 457 Deferral Contributions/Employer Contributions New Plan Document. Mark Thompson seconded the motion.

Upon consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: April Collins, Arlene Matney, Shawn Utt, Brad Johnson, Mark Thompson, and Jason Berry.

NAYES: *None*

ABSTAIN: *None*

Detention Alternatives Language and Discussion from the 3/16/17 AJC Meeting

Trey Murray discussed the Commission's decision from the 3/16/17 meeting as documented in the minutes of said meeting that a juvenile placed on Outreach Detention must be reviewed by a Judge within 72 hours. The Detention Alternatives Program has been operating under discussion from this meeting whereby Electronic Monitoring cannot be utilized without a court order, however this discussion was not documented in the minutes of the 3/16/17 meeting.

Trey Murray and April Collins further discussed allowable procedures via the Code of Virginia and VJCCCA guidelines, as well as practices being utilized in other areas of Virginia. Specifically, CSU's being able to refer to certain detention alternative services prior to obtaining a court order for youth who meet requirements.

Neil Bramlette demonstrated equipment from a new Electronic Monitoring provider we have contracted with.

After discussion, April Collins made the motion to adjust current operating philosophy per the March 16, 2017 AJC Board meeting to implement additional allowable services per the Code of VA and VJCCCA guidelines. Arlene Matney seconded the motion.

Upon consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: April Collins, Arlene Matney, Shawn Utt, Brad Johnson, Mark Thompson, and Jason Berry.

NAYES: *None*

ABSTAIN: *None*

Nepotism Policy Review

Trey Murray presented information regarding the review of the current nepotism policy to include AJC Board Members.

After discussion, April Collins made the motion to approve the Nepotism Policy as amended with legal counsel from Penn Stuart to include AJC Board Members. Mark Thompson seconded the motion.

Upon consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: April Collins, Arlene Matney, Shawn Utt, Brad Johnson, Mark Thompson, and Jason Berry.

NAYES: *None*
ABSTAIN: *None*

Updates

Jeremy Hurley presented information to the Commission members on the Light the Music program that was implemented at the HJDC.

Trey Murray presented updates to the Commission members on the following topics.

- HJDC and DAP utilization
- The Shelter Care study

As all topics were solely informational, no action items required voting by the Commission Members.

Open Session

No business was brought forth.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for June 26th, 2026 at 10:00am.

Adjourn

Shawn Utt moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.

X 

Shawn Utt
Vice-Chairman

X 

Fred R. Murray
Executive Director