



CITY OF POQUOSON

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Office of the City Manager

J. Randall Wheeler

December 14, 2009

TO: City Council

THROUGH: City Manager

FROM: Assistant City Manager

**SUBJECT: Resolution In Support Of Colonial Services Board Resolution Re:
Downsizing Of Eastern State Hospital**

Presented for review and endorsement is a resolution adopted by the Colonial Services Board calling upon the Governor-Elect and General Assembly members representing the geographic region identified as Health Planning Region 5 (HPR-5) to develop a responsible plan for the downsizing of Eastern State Hospital. The Colonial Services Board opposes this unfunded downsizing and encourages the development of sufficiently funded community-based services to include practical time frames for developing these services.

JFW:ei

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE RESOLUTION OF THE COLONIAL SERVICES BOARD RELATIVE TO THE DOWNSIZING OF EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2009 the Colonial Services Board of Directors adopted a resolution calling upon the Governor-Elect and General Assembly members representing Health Planning Region 5 (HPR-5) to convene discussions immediately to develop a responsible plan for Eastern State Hospital downsizing that focuses on the development of sufficiently funded community-board services to include practical time frames for development of these services; and

WHEREAS, the counties of James City and York and the cities of Poquoson and Williamsburg have been asked to support this resolution as well as to include its provisions in their respective legislative programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Poquoson, Virginia:

Section 1: That City Council does hereby endorse the resolution adopted on November 3, 2009 by the Colonial Services Board relative to the downsizing of Eastern State Hospital, a copy of which is attached herewith.

Section 2: That this resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED: _____

TESTE: _____

City Clerk

BOARD RESOLUTION

Eastern State Hospital Downsizing Initiative

WHEREAS, The Colonial Services Board has been created by the counties of James City and York, and by the Cities of Poquoson and Williamsburg as a Community Services Board under the authority provided to each by Chapters 10 and 11 of the Code of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Community Services Boards are mandated to provide only emergency services and case management services under the Code of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Colonial Services Board exists as one of 9 such Community Services Boards operating in the geographic region identified as Health Planning Region 5 (HPR 5); and

WHEREAS, Chapter 37 of the Code of Virginia defines the responsibility for designating facilities to provide safety net services in the civil commitment process to the Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS); and

WHEREAS; The Community Services Boards in HPR 5 have already demonstrated their fiscal and service-related responsibilities by serving 400% of the individuals for which they have been funded in relation to previous hospital downsizing projects; and

WHEREAS, Eastern State Hospital has long served as the primary safety net for consumers in HPR 5 through provision of acute and long-term psychiatric inpatient for individuals with mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Eastern State Hospital is building a new Adult Mental Health Facility that will reduce current non-geriatric adult inpatient bed capacity from in excess of 200 to 145 prior to August 2010; and

WHEREAS, DBHDS has instructed the Director of Eastern State Hospital to continue to accept forensic admissions while beds are being reduced; and

WHEREAS, Civil admission capacity at Eastern State Hospital will virtually be eliminated in HPR 5 as a result of this process; and

WHEREAS, HPR 5 requested in 2008 that a moratorium be placed on Eastern State Hospital downsizing until a reasonable process that included adequate and sustainable state-administered funding, and a reasonable time frame for building community service capacity to meet the needs of persons previously institutionalized; and

WHEREAS, The 2008 request from HPR 5 has not been honored by the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Adequate community mental health capacity or funding does not exist today, nor can it now be developed by August 2010; and

WHEREAS; State-administered funds for Community Services Boards are being reduced at the same time these additional responsibilities are being imposed upon them; and

WHEREAS, The Code-defined safety net function of the DBHDS Commissioner is being administratively altered in a manner that will create unnecessary risk for individuals, families, agencies and communities within HPR 5; now, therefore, be it

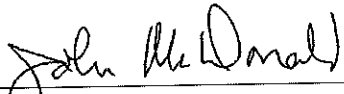
RESOLVED that the Colonial Services Board's Board of Directors opposes this unfunded and inadequately-planned downsizing of Eastern State Hospital; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Colonial Services Board's Board of Directors calls upon the Governor-Elect and General Assembly members representing HPR 5 to convene discussions immediately to develop a responsible plan for Eastern State Hospital downsizing that focuses on the development of sufficiently-funded community-based services, including practical time frames for development of these services; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Executive Director of the Colonial Services Board prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Commissioner of DBHDS; to members of the General Assembly representing the localities served by the Colonial Services Board, and to the elected governing bodies and County Administrator/City Manager of the Counties of James City and York, and the Cities of Poquoson and Williamsburg; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Colonial Services Board requests that the Counties of James City and York, and the Cities of Poquoson and Williamsburg, join the Colonial Services Board in support of this Resolution, and to include its' provisions in their respective Legislative Programs.

Approved and adopted the 3rd day of November 2009, I the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Colonial Services Board's Board of Directors.



Chair, Colonial CSB Board of Directors