

**Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia
Board of Directors Meeting
September 15, 2025**

Members Present

Ana Alvarez
Cody Hennelly
Pamela Kincheloe, RN, Chairperson
Lydia Lawrence
Patrice Lepczyk
Anitha Raj
Douglas Samuelson
Robert Sharpe
James Smith, III MD

Staff Present

Ann McFeeley
Dean Montgomery

Guests (Partial List)

Elizabeth Breen, Hunton Andrews Kurth, COPN Counsel, Inova Health System
Paul Dryer, Senior Director, Strategy & Planning, Inova Health System
Ibrahim Hanna, MD Chief Medical Officer, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital
Mary Ann Harkins, Harkins Consulting
Charanjit Khurana, MD, Interventional Cardiology, VHC Health
Chris Lane, CEO, VHC Health
Jessica Parker, Senior Director, Strategy & Planning, Inova Health System
Betsy Reilly, Business Analyst, JHU Healthcare
Loren Rufino, Senior Vice President, Perioperative Services and Surgery and Musculoskeletal Service Lines, Inova Health System
Adrian Stanton, Vice President, VHC Health
Eric Thorn, MD, Interventional Cardiology, VHC Health
Robin West, MD, President of the Musculoskeletal Service Line, Inova Health System
Spencer Wildonger, Director of Planning, Transformation, JHU Medicine

I. Call to Order

Pam Kincheloe, RN, Chairperson, Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia (HSANV), called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. She welcomed guests and reviewed the agenda.

Kincheloe stated that, among other matters, the board would consider two certificate of public need (COPN) applications:

- **Franconia Springfield Surgery Center II (COPN Request VA-8835)**
- **VHC Health, Expand Virginia Hospital Center (COPN Request VA-8827)**

II. Previous Minutes

The board approved minutes of the June 9, 2025, meeting.

III. COPN Applications: Franconia Springfield Surgery Center II, COPN Request VA-8835

Conflict of Interest Query

Kincheloe followed HSANV conflict of interest procedures to determine whether any member had a conflict of interest on the FSSC-II application. No conflicts were declared, alleged, or otherwise identified.

FSSC-II Presentation

Elizabeth Breen, FSSC-II COPN counsel, introduced herself and others present to discuss the application: Robin West, MD, President, Musculoskeletal Service Line, Inova Health System; Loren Rufino, Senior Vice President, Perioperative Services and Surgery and Musculoskeletal Service Lines, Inova Health System; and Ibrahim Hanna, MD Chief Medical Officer, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. They summarized key elements of the proposal, emphasizing several aspects and objectives:

- The proposal would establish a second freestanding surgery center on Inova's Springfield, Virginia medical campus, but would not increase the number of licensed operating rooms within Inova Health System or the planning region.
- FSSC-II will be designed and equipped as an ambulatory orthopedic surgery facility that can respond to the ongoing shift of complex orthopedic and musculoskeletal cases, including joint replacements, to an outpatient setting.
- The license for the four operating rooms sought would be transferred from Inova Mount Vernon Hospital (two operating rooms) and Inova's Lorton surgery center (two operating rooms). The project would be operating room inventory neutral.
- The delicensed operating rooms at IMVH and Inova's Lorton surgery center will revert to unlicensed procedure rooms.
- Inova's demand projections indicate that all operating rooms on the Springfield medical campus, fourteen in three separate facilities, will be used heavily, at or greater than Virginia State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP) surgery service volume standard of 1,600 hours per operating room annually.
- The reconfiguration of licensed surgery capacity within Inova facilities will permit more efficient use of Inova Health Systems surgery services and related resources.
- The project is consistent with the applicable provisions of the Virginia State Medical Facilities Plan.

Board & Staff Questions, Discussion

In response to questions, Breen, West, Rufino and Hanna confirmed that:

- The delicensed operating rooms at IMVH and Inova's Lorton surgery center will be available to be relicensed as operating rooms if demand and medical trade patterns warrant.
- It is likely that after opening FSSC-II will be syndicated, offering minority shares in the facility to participating orthopedic surgeons. Orthopedic surgeons who have shares in the surgery center now on the Springfield medical campus (Franconia-Springfield Surgery Center) will be eligible to obtain shares in FSSC-II. Inova will retain a majority interest.
- The project's high construction and equipment costs, nearly \$7.0 million per operating room, are necessary to build and equip a surgery service that can offer state-of-the-art orthopedic care.
- Inova Health System is developing and will own the building in which FSSC-II proposes to lease space.

Public Comment

There was no public comment other than the letters of support submitted with the application. There is no known opposition to the project.

Final Summary

Elizabeth Breen indicated that the applicant did not believe it necessary to make a concluding statement. She offered to respond to any additional questions or concerns.

Staff Recommendations

Dean Montgomery called attention to the information presented in the agency staff report on the application. Based on that information, and on the testimony presented by FSSC-II representatives, he recommended approval of the application as submitted.

Board Deliberation and Vote, COPN Request VA-8835

James Smith offered a motion to recommend approval of COPN Request, VA-8835. Douglas Samuelson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of nine in favor (Alvarez, Hennelly, Kincheloe, Lawrence, Lepczyk, Raj, Samuelson, Sharpe, Smith) and no one opposed.

**COPN Application: VHC Health, Expand Virginia Hospital Center,
COPN Request VA-8827**

Conflict of Interest Query

Kincheloe followed HSANV conflict of interest procedures to determine whether any member had a conflict of interest on the VHC Health application. No conflicts were declared, alleged, or otherwise identified.

VHC Health Presentation

Adrian Stanton, Vice President, VHC Health, introduced himself and others present to discuss the application: Chris Lane, CEO, VHC Health; Charanjit Khurana, MD, Chief Medical Officer, VHC Health; and Eric Thorn, MD, Interventional Cardiologist, VHC Health.

Among other considerations, they stated that:

- The project combines needed incremental expansions of three critical care services at Virginia Hospital Center (VHC), emergency care, cardiac catheterization, and intensive care.
- VHC is the second largest provider of these services in the planning region. All three are heavily used and demand is increasing. Additional capacity is needed in all three.
- The elements of the proposal that are subject to COPN review, cardiac catheterization laboratories and intensive care beds, are consistent with the applicable service development provisions of the Virginia State Medical Facilities Plan.
- Expansion of these services will permit VHC to respond more easily and efficiently to the communities it serves.
- Given the limited availability of space to expand on the VHC campus, and the location of these services in the hospital, combining the expansion into a single, consolidated development initiative reduces construction costs and minimizes disruption of hospital operations.
- Adding capacity at VHC to respond to current and near-term demand will not affect neighboring services negatively.

The handout used by VHC Health representatives to depict proposed changes at VHC is attached (Attachment 1).

Board & Staff Questions, Discussion

In response to questions Stanton, Lane, Khurana, and Thorn indicated that:

- Construction of the “corner addition” will take longer than usual because of local development and construction constraints, including the necessity of minimizing the disruption of adjoining hospital services and functions.
- If authorized on schedule, VHC hopes to complete the project by early 2028.
- The eleven-bed intensive care addition would consist of seven general intensive care beds and four cardiac care intensive care beds.
- With the completion of the proposed addition to VHC, there is no remaining free space for lateral expansion on the hospital campus.
- VHC is the principal provider of inpatient care to northern Virginia Kaiser Foundation Health Plan.

Public Comment

There was no public comment on the application other than the letters of support submitted with the application. There is no known opposition to the project.

Applicant Final Summary

Adrian Stanton thanked the board for its consideration of the application. He offered to answer any additional questions reviewers might have.

Staff Recommendation, COPN Request VA-8827

Based on the data and information presented in the agency staff report on the proposal and on the testimony presented by VHC Health representatives, Montgomery recommended approval of the application as submitted.

Board Deliberation and Vote, COPN Request VA-8827

Douglas Samuelson offered a motion to recommend approval of the VHC Health application, COPN Request, VA-8827. Ana Alvarez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of nine in favor (Alvarez, Hennelly, Kincheloe, Lawrence, Lepczyk, Raj, Samuelson, Sharpe, Smith) and no one opposed.

IV. Other Business

The next scheduled board meeting is November 10, 2025.

V. Adjourn

Kincheloe adjourned the meeting at 9:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dean Montgomery", written in a cursive style.

Dean Montgomery

Attachments 1