

**Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia
Board of Directors Meeting
March 2, 2026**

Members Present

Ana Alvarez
Patricia Deitos, RN
Cody Hennelly
Lee Draznin
Michelle Kimmell
Pamela Kincheloe, RN, Chairperson
Patrice Lepczyk
Anitha Raj
Douglas Samuelson
Robert Sharpe
Amy Wong

Staff Present

Ann McFeeley
Dean Montgomery

Guests (Partial List)

Charanjit Khurana, MD, Vice Chief, Medical Specialties, VHC Health Medical Group
Jamie Martin, Counsel, VHC Health
Betsy Reilly, Business Analyst, JHU Healthcare
Adrian Stanton, Vice President, VHC Health
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 7:35 PM. She welcomed guests and reviewed the agenda.

Kincheloe stated that, among other matters, the board would consider a certificate of public need (COPN) application from VHC Health to establish a cardiac PET service in Fairfax County (COPN Request VA-8855).

II. Previous Minutes

The board approved minutes of the January 5, 2026, meeting.

III. COPN Application: VHC Health, Establish Cardiac PET service (COPN Request VA-8855)

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 Charanjit Khurana, MD, Vice Chief, Medical Specialties, VHC Health Medical Group. They summarized the application, emphasizing key elements and considerations, including:

- PET scanning is the standard of care imaging option for many patients with coronary artery disease, especially those that may benefit from myocardial perfusion imaging.
- VHC Health, the region's second largest provider of inpatient and outpatient cardiovascular care, provides a wide array of cardiovascular services but does not have PET scanning capability.
- In 2025, Virginia Hospital Center provided about 3,500 SPECT scans, the principal alternative to a cardiac PET scan.,
- Existing and authorized cardiac PET services in the planning region serve patients of specific cardiology practices.
- Projected capital and operating costs and charges are within the capital expenditure range seen for similar projects locally and statewide.
- As with other recently authorized cardiac PET imaging services, the VHC Health service would be organized and operated as an independent diagnostic testing facility (IDTF), not a hospital-based service.
- There is no indication that adding cardiac PET imaging within VHC Health would affect other services negatively.

Board & Staff Questions, Discussion

In response to questions Stanton and Khurana indicated that:

- VHC Health employs a large and growing number of cardiologists who are not affiliated with the medical groups that have cardiac PET services. The project will permit access to cardiac PET imaging by VHC Health cardiologists and those they serve.
- The proposed location of the service (near Tysons Corner in Fairfax County) is in Virginia Hospital Center's primary service area.
- The service would be an independent diagnostic testing facility (IDTF). Its cost and charges would be lower than a hospital-based service. The service would be cost competitive with the other office-based services authorized recently.
- VHC Health anticipates that the cardiac PET service will be used to capacity, about 2,500 patients annually, by the second year of operations but would like to be able to perform non cardiac PET scans occasionally if circumstances make that necessary or desirable.
- VHC's oncology focused PET-CT system is a hospital-based service, not an IDTF.
- VHC Health's system wide charity care policies and practices will apply to the service.

Public Comment

PET of Reston (POR), a local provider of oncology focused PET-CT imaging, noted that the VHC Health proposal anticipates the possibility of serving oncology and neurology patients with its off campus cardiac PET system.

POR does not object to VHC Health obtaining a dedicated cardiac PET capability but opposes its use for non-cardiac patients. POR recommends that, if authorized, approval of the off campus VHC Health PET-CT scanner be conditioned to permit only cardiovascular patient imaging. The full PET of Reston statement is attached (Attachment 1).

Applicant Final Summary

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

Staff Recommendation, COPN Request VA-8855

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

Montgomery called attention to the PET of Reston critique of the application, He noted that the Commissioner of Health often attaches conditions to COPN authorizations and may do so in this case. Montgomery said in this instance that it does not appear to be warranted or advisable. VHC Health has a PET-CT scanner at Virginia Hospital Center that focuses on oncology, neurology and other non-cardiac patients. That service is hospital based, not an off campus IDTF. It is highly likely that the PET-CT system requested will be used to capacity, about 2,500 scans annually, within two years or less.

He observed that other than under exceptional circumstances, VHC Health has no incentive to use the cardiac PET scanner to serve oncology and neurology patients.

Board Deliberation and Vote, COPN Request VA-8855

Douglas Samuelson offered a motion to recommend approval of the VHC Health application (COPN Request, VA-8855). Michele Kimmel seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of eleven in favor (Alvarez, Deitos, Draznin, Hennelly, Kimmell, Kincheloe, Lepczyk, Raj, Samuelson, Sharpe, Wong) and no one opposed.

IV. Virginia General Assembly, 2026 Session

Montgomery called attention to the status report on legislative proposals of interest to HSANV being considered in the current session of the Virginia General Assembly. He noted that the proposal of direct interest to HSANV (HB 1203), which would have exempted nonhospital ambulatory surgery center development from COPN regulation, failed in committee in the House of Delegates.

Staff will distribute a final status report at the end of the session, in about two weeks.

V. Other Business

The next board meeting was set for April 13, 2026.

VI. Adjourn

Kincheloe adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dean Montgomery

Attachments (1)