Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia
Board of Directors Meeting
October 5, 2026

Members Present
Patti Deitos, RN
Pamela Kincheloe, RN
Patrice Lepczyk
Anitha Raj, Chairperson
Douglas Samuelson
Robert Sharpe
James Smith, III MD
Jennifer Weber

Staff Present
Ann McFeeley
Dean Montgomery

Guests (Partial List)

David Ashman, Vice President, Physician Services, Children's National Hospital
Paul Dreyer, Senior Director, Strategy & Planning, Inova Health System
Paula Graling, RN, Vice-President, Nursing Surgery Services, Inova Fairfax Hospital
William Madigan, MD, Chief, Division of Ophthalmology, Children's National Hospital
Steve Narang, MD, President Inova Fairfax Hospital Medical Campus, Inova Fairfax Hospital
Jessica Parker, Senior Director, Strategy & Planning, Inova Health System
Diego Preciado, MD, GWU, Pediatric Otolaryngology, Children's National Hospital
Tony Sandler, MD, Senior Vice-President, Children's National Hospital
Domiciano Santos, MD, Pediatric Anesthesiology, Children's National Hospital
Rachel Selekman, MD, Pediatric Specialists of Virginia
Adrian Stanton, Vice President, VHC Health
Lisa Tobin, RN, Senior Director, Outpatient Surgery, Virginia Hospital Center
Emily Towey, Hancock Daniels, Counsel, Children's National Hospital
Elizabeth Wells, MD, Executive Vice President, Chief Clinical Officer, Children's National Hospital

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I. Call to Order

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

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

- Inova Fairfax Hospital, COPN Request VA-8899
- Children's National Hospital, COPN Request VA-8901
- VHC Health, COPN Request VA-8911

She indicated that the proposals would be considered in the order shown on the agenda and that the board would vote on each separately after all were presented and discussed.

II. Previous Minutes

The board approved minutes of the August 31, 2026, meeting.

III. COPN Applications:

A. Inova Fairfax Hospital, expand surgery service (COPN Request VA-8899)

Conflict of Interest Query

Raj followed HSANV conflict of interest procedures to determine whether any member had a conflict of interest on the Inova Fairfax Hospital application. No conflicts were declared, alleged, or otherwise identified.

Inova Fairfax Hospital Presentation

Jessica Parker, Senior Director, Strategy & Planning, Inova Health System, Steve Narang, MD, President Inova Fairfax Hospital Medical Campus, Inova Fairfax Hospital, and Paula Graling, RN, Vice-President, Nursing Surgery Services, Inova Fairfax Hospital (IFH), presented the proposal. Among other considerations, they focused the presentation on:

- The history of the Inova Health System/Children's National Hospital 2013 joint venture (Pediatric Specialists Virginia) and the outpatient surgical hospital it established. Under the terms of the agreement, the joint venture will terminate in 2027 and the license for its two operating rooms will revert to Inova Fairfax Hospital.
- The details of the steps necessary to add the two operating rooms at IFH where they are needed most.
- Children's National Hospital does not contest the reversion of the PSV operating rooms to IFH. CNH has filed a COPN application to establish a surgery center with two operating rooms, which will permit uninterrupted service at the surgery center under CNH ownership.
- The project is inventory neutral. It will not result in an increase in the licensed operating room complement.
- The project is necessary and beneficial, but will not eliminate the need for a more substantial expansion of surgery capacity within a few years.

The surgery service data and the steps to be taken to add the two general purposed operating grooms at IFH are attached (Attachment 1).

Board & Staff Questions, Discussion

In response to questions Parker, Narang and Graling stated or confirmed that:

- Projections of surgery demand at IFH consider the development of Inova Alexandria Hospital replacement hospitals and the ongoing realignment of Inova Health System surgery capacity in southeastern Fairfax County.

- Inova's Woodburn surgery center is licensed under Inova Fairfax Hospital. It is a department of the hospital, not syndicated or separately licensed as an IDTF.
- Surgery volumes are expected to remain substantially above the Virginia SMFP standard over the next five years. Additional operating rooms, beyond the two requested in the current proposal, will be needed soon at IFH.

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

Parker thanked the board for its consideration of the application.

B. Children's National Hospital COPN Request VA-8901

Conflict of Interest Query

Raj followed HSANV conflict of interest procedures to determine whether any member had a conflict of interest on the Children's National Hospital application. Pamela Kincheloe declared a conflict on the proposal. No other conflicts were declared, alleged, or otherwise identified.

Children's National Hospital Presentation

Elizabeth Wells, MD, Executive Vice President, Chief Clinical Officer, Children's National Hospital (CNH) and Tony Sandler, MD, Senior Vice-President, Children's National Hospital presented the CNH proposal.

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They discussed the formation of the CNH-Inova joint venture in 2013 (Pediatric Specialists of Virginia), and the history and growth of the surgery center. The service has matured much as expected over the last decade. The joint venture agreement terminates in 2027. Per the agreement the two operating rooms Inova Fairfax Hospital contributed to the venture will revert to IFH upon dissolution. Among other considerations, Wells and Sandler stated:

- Beyond COPN authorization, public need for the surgery center is established and widely recognized. Pediatric Specialists Virginia serves several thousand northern Virginia children annually. Demand is increasing.
- With the reversion of PSV license for its operating rooms to Inova Fairfax Hospital, the project is necessary to permit uninterrupted service at the center.
- There is no indication or expectation that retention of the facility at its current location and capacity will have negative health system effects.
- Project capital costs are modest, about $700, 000.
- There is strong clinical and community support for the surgery centers.

Board & Staff Questions, Discussion

In response to questions Wells and Sandler indicated that:

- CNH plans to add MRI scanning at the surgery center next year. No other near-term changes are anticipated.
- CNH expects that many northern Virginia residents now using its District of Columbia outpatient surgery service to shift to the Viginia center, ensuring full and efficient use of the facility.
- More than 40% of the children served in 2025 at PSV were Medicaid patients. The patient and payer mix is not likely to change with the dissolution of the joint venture

Public Comment

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

Applicant Final Summary

Wells thanked the board for its consideration of the CNH proposal.

C. VHC Health, COPN Request VA-8911

Conflict of Interest Query

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

VHC Health Presentation

Adrian Stanton, Vice President, VHC Health and Lisa Tobin, RN, Senior Director, Outpatient Surgery, Virginia Hospital Center presented the application.

Among other considerations, they stated that:

- Virginia Hospital Center's surgery services are used heavily. Recent service volumes in its general purpose operating rooms exceed the service volume planning standard of 1,200 hours per room. Unused capacity elsewhere in the planning region, notwithstanding, demand is increasing.
- Service volumes higher than the Virginia SMFP planning standard qualify the hospital for consideration to add capacity in accordance with the institutional need provision of the plan.
- VHC has an institution specific need to add surgery capacity to meet current and near-term demand.
- VHC surgery caseloads are expected to remain at or above the Virginia SMFP service volume standard with the additional capacity requested.
- There is no indication that adding surgery capacity at the hospital to meet current and near-term projected demand would have negative health system effects.

Board & Staff Questions, Discussion

In response to questions Stanton and Tobin stated that:

- VHC Health's recently opened Eisenhower surgery center in south Alexandria is not expected to reduce demand at VHC. It is not a practical alternative to adding capacity at the hospital.
- The specialty hospital (psychiatry and rehabilitation) VHC Health is developing in south Arlington will not have a surgery service.

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.

Applicant Final Summary

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

Staff Recommendations, COPN Request VA-8899, Request VA-8901, Request VA-8911

Based on the data and information presented in the agency staff report on the applications and the amplifying information presented by the IFH, CNH, and VHC Health representatives, Dean Montgomery recommended approval of the applications as presented. He emphasized that the proposals qualify for consideration to add capacity under the institutional need provision of the Virginia State Medical Facilities Plan. In each case the operating rooms requested are likely to be used efficiently over their useful life. There is no known opposition to any of the three.

Board Deliberation and Vote, Inova Fairfax Hospital, COPN Request VA-8899

Douglas Samuelson offered a motion to recommend approval of COPN Request, VA-8899, Patti Deitos seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of eight in favor (Deitos, Kincheloe, Lepczyk, Raj, Samuelson, Sharpe, Smith, Weber) and none opposed.

Board Deliberation and Vote, Children's National Hospital, COPN Request VA-8901

James Smith offered a motion to recommend approval of COPN Request, VA-8901. Douglas Samuelson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of seven in favor (Deitos. Lepczyk, Raj, Samuelson, Sharpe, Smith, Weber) and none opposed, with one abstention (Kincheloe).

Board Deliberation and Vote, VHC Health, COPN Request VA-8911

Patti Detios offered a motion to recommend approval of COPN Request, VA-8911. Douglas Samuelson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of eight in favor (Deitos, Kincheloe, Lepczyk, Raj, Samuelson, Sharpe, Smith, Weber) and none opposed.

IV. Other Business

The next HSANV meeting will be on Monday, November 9, 2026.

V. Adjourn

Raj adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Dean Montgomery

Attachments (1)