

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner



DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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Board of Juvenile Justice  
Thursday, April 16, 2015  
Holiday Inn - Statesboro  
455 Commerce Drive, Statesboro, Georgia 30458  
9:00 AM

**Opening Remarks**

Chair Elaine Snow called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice. The meeting was held at 455 Commerce Drive, Statesboro, Georgia 30458

**DJJ Staff Present:** Commissioner Avery D. Niles; Assistant Commissioner Mark Sexton; Director Tracy Masters; Deputy Commissioner Michael McNeely; Deputy Commissioner Carl Brown; Deputy Commissioner Sarah Draper; Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb; Deputy Commissioner Miguel Fernandez; Deputy Commissioner Jeffrey Chandler; Associate Superintendent Audrey Armistad; CFO Sonja R. Allen-Smith; Chaplain Danny Horne; Director Ricky Rich; Assistant Deputy Commissioner Joe Vignati; Sharon Starks; Matthew Montgomery; Edith Guilford; Director Lisa Bryson; Shawn Swain and Vanessa O'Donnell.

**Others Present:** Mindy Park, Attorney General's Office and Commissioner Homer, Bryson, Georgia Department of Corrections.

**Secretary's Report:** Chair Snow asked Vice Chair Taylor to conduct the Roll Call. The following members were present: Spurgeon Ambrose; Willie C. Bolton; Thomas Coleman; John B. Edwards; Julia Neighbors; Franklin Rozier; Elaine Snow and Sandra Taylor. Judicial Advisory Council Member Quintress Gilbert was present as well.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the current agenda. A motion was made by Board Member Ambrose and seconded by Board Member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 25, 2015 Board Meeting. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Bolton and seconded by Board Member Ambrose. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Niles discussed the following topics during his report:

- 2015 legislative updates (HB310, HB360 and HB76)
- DJJ Citizen's Academy
- HITS Officers graduation and swearing in
- Staff members selected for committees for the American Correctional Association (ACA)
- Recent media attention on the agency
- The transition of Crisp RYDC
- Recognized Director Lisa Casey Bryson for 25 years of faithful service to the State of Georgia
- Investigator Shawn Swain was sworn-in during the Board Meeting. He recently graduation from the Police Academy's Basic Law Enforcement Class

CFO Sonja Allen-Smith updated the DJJ Board on the following topics:

- Amended FY 2015 Budget
- FY2016 Budget
- Bond Projects

For additional details, please see Addendum A.

## **Board of Education**

Chair Snow asked for a motion to adjourn from the regular DJJ Board and reconvene as the DJJ School Board. A motion was made by Board Member Edwards and seconded by Board Member Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Associate Superintendent Armistad presented the 2015-2016 School Calendar to the DJJ Board. A motion was made by Vice Chair Taylor to approve the calendar. The motion was seconded by Board Member Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Associate Superintendent Armistad stated that the Georgia Preparatory Academy will hold the Spring graduation on May 21, 2015 at the Atlanta YDC.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to adjourn from the DJJ School Board and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board. A motion was made by Board Member Edwards and seconded by Board Member Ambrose. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Chair's Comment**

Chair Snow thanked everyone for coming to Statesboro for the Board Meeting.

## **Old Business**

There was no old business before the Board.

**New Business**

There was no new business before the Board.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at the DJJ Headquarters in Decatur, Georgia.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Elaine P. Snow, Chair  
Board of Juvenile Justice

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Avery D. Niles, Commissioner  
Department of Juvenile Justice

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Adam Kennedy  
Board Secretary