



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, August 25, 2016
DJJ Headquarters
10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Chair Elaine Snow called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice. The meeting was held at the DJJ Headquarters, 3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30032.

DJJ Staff Present: Chief of Staff Mark Sexton, Sharon D. Starks, Director Scott Mall, Associate Superintendent Richard Behrens, Director Ricky Rich, Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton, Deputy Commissioner Joe Vignati, Deputy Commissioner Sean Hamilton, Chief Financial Officer Sonja R. Allen-Smith, Deputy CFO Drew Townsend, Deputy Director Cathy Raissle, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Theodore Carter, Jr., Mary Elliott, Director Mary Shepherd, Dr. Letunya Walker, Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Deputy Commissioner Sarah Draper, Director Allyson Richardson, Jenny Clark, Carrie Hamilton-Shavers, Chief Investigator John Pearson, Director Andrew Laarhoven, Director Lisa Bryson, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Debbie Carter, Janssen Robinson and General Counsel Cindy Wang, Commissioner Avery D. Niles participated briefly via teleconference.

Others Present: Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office; Brian Lawler, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget; Ron Scroggins, Together Georgia; Johanna Margeson, Barton Center; Gary Burke, Lakewood Church of Hope; Logan Fletcher, Nelson and Mullins

Secretary's Report: Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Willie C. Bolton, Lisa Colbert, Angie Holt, Adam Kennedy, Julia Neighbors, Elaine Snow, Fred Stephens and Kelly Stewart. Advisory Council Members Steven Teske was present as well. Advisory Council Member Quintress Gilbert participated via teleconference.

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

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2016 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Colbert and seconded by Board Member Stewart. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioner Report was previously submitted to the Board via email and it was included in the Board materials.

The following topics were discussed during the Commissioner's Report:

- Introduction of new staff members Sean Hamilton, Deputy Commissioner of Regional Detention Facilities and Scott Mall, Director of Communications
- DJJ hosted a meeting that included judges from Bahrain that were interested in Juvenile Justice Reform. The group was touring the country as part of an International Visitor Leadership Program.
- Update on Dr. Armistad's progress from her medical procedure.
- The Retirement Luncheon for Dr. Audrey Armistad (10/4/2016 @ 11:00AM)
- The Ribbon Cutting at Terrell RYDC (10/4/2016 @ 2:00PM)
- Wilkes RYDC Groundbreaking Ceremony (10/11/2016 @ 1:00PM)

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

Board of Education

During the DJJ Board of Education meeting, the following topics were discussed:

- Introduction of Dr. Richard Behrens, Associate Superintendent (**Addendum A**)
- Georgia Preparatory Academy Fall Open House Schedule (**Addendum B**)
- Introduction of Mary Shepherd, CTAE Director
- Activity Report of the Division of Education
- Student Population Count (**Addendum C**)

Dr. Behrens stated the Division of Education will begin making brief divisional reports at the next Board Meeting.

A request was made by Board Member Colbert to get a report on what is being done regarding literacy for DJJ youth. Board Member Stephens requested information on the transition of DJJ youth back to the schools in their communities.

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 Secretary Adam Kennedy and seconded by Board Member Colbert. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Comments

Chair Snow welcomed Dr. Behrens to DJJ.

Old Business

There was no old business before the Board.

New Business

Board Member Colbert invited the Board to attend the Community Safety Forum in Savannah on December 10, 2016. Additional details will be provided later.

Board Members Bolton and Yarbrough represented the board at the Peace Officers Association of Georgia conference in Savannah, Georgia. Board Member Yarbrough was the keynote speaker.

Chair Snow announced that the next Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, September 22, 2016 at DJJ Headquarters, 3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30032 at 10:00 AM.

The meeting was adjourned.

Elaine P. Snow, Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner
Department of Juvenile Justice

Adam Kennedy
Board Secretary