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**Board of Juvenile Justice &  
Board of Education / Joint Board Meeting  
Middle Georgia State University  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025  
Board Meeting Minutes  
(In-Person and Zoom Conference)**

**Opening Remarks:**

**Call to Order:** On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Chair Sandra Taylor called the joint board meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education to order at approximately 10:00 AM. The meeting was held in-person and by Zoom at the Middle Georgia State University Conference Center in Macon, GA.

**DJJ Staff Present:** Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, DJJ Executive Team Members, and various DJJ Staff Members.

**Other Attendees:** Senior Assistant Attorney General Amy Radley. Guests in the audience and on Zoom.

**Invocation:** Chaplain Emily Kelly

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Board Member Danny Blackmon

**Roll Call:** Conducted by Secretary Adam Kennedy (in-person), Chair Sandra Taylor (in-person), Vice-Chair Willie Bolton (in-person), Danny Blackmon (in-person), Senior Judge Quintress Gilbert (in-person), Timothy McCulley (in-person), Michael Murphy (in-person), Penny Penn (virtual), Scotty Hancock (virtual) and Fred Stephens (in-person). A quorum was declared. (Board member Garland Hunt arrived at the conclusion of the meeting.)

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda by Vice Chair Bolton and seconded by Board Member Murphy. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**Approval of April 24, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made to approve the minutes by Board Member Stephens and seconded by Board Member McCulley. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Commissioner's Report:**

- Commissioner Reynolds-Cobb talked about the upcoming graduation ceremony. Graduation is one of the most exciting days of the year as DJJ staff can see the outcome of all their hard work and all that the youth have accomplished and celebrate with the youth and their loved ones. DJJ also had an employee recognition week to recognize and celebrate all of the staff's hard work as well. The Commissioner thanked everyone for all their hard work to make sure the agency is successful.
- During a previous board meeting with the invited youth speakers, the youth mentioned that they had never gone fishing. Therefore, DJJ partnered with the Department of Natural Resources, as suggested by Chair Taylor, in setting up a fishing trip for the deserving youth. The Commissioner believes every child should go fishing, and she thanked everyone who participated.
- Secretary Kennedy will work on organizing plant tours with Kia and Hyundai for the youth.
- "A Great Place to Work" survey has been launched and will be headed by Director of Communications Glenn Allen. The Department expects to receive suggestions from the staff regarding ways to improve working at DJJ.
- The next Town Hall Meeting will be held in Forsyth on June 3, 2025. This meeting will focus on supporting staff health and wellness as staff wellness is very important.
- The facilities have so many activities going on, the Commissioner encouraged the Board members to attend.

### **Divisional Updates:**

#### **Educational Updates: - Tammy Anderson, Curriculum & Assessment Director**

##### **Spring 2025 Graduation Report**

- Education Report
- CTAE Program
- TCC Technical Certificate of Credit
- Orange Duffel Bag Initiative (ODBI)

#### **Division of Community Services – Rusty Rodgers, Deputy Commissioner**

- Chart outlining the Division of Community Services
- State of the Division – Average Daily Population
- Evidence Based Services in the Community
- Electronic Monitoring
- Accountability through Sanctions

- Emerging State Policy and Trends in Juvenile Offending  
House Bill 268 – School Safety
- Division Challenges
- SW Region Youth Success Story

**Old Business:**

- Election Process
- Nominating Committee
  - o Board Member Stephens
  - o Board Member Penn
  - o Board Member Hunt

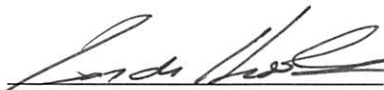
**New Business:**

- None

**Chair's Comments:**

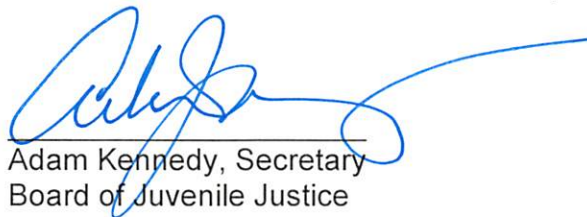
- Chair Taylor recognized Mattie Robinson, the Executive Assistant to the Commissioner. She does a great job in setting up these board meetings and handling the requests from the Board so quickly.

A motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Kennedy and seconded by Vice Chair Bolton. Meeting Adjourned.



Sandra H. Taylor, Chair  
Board of Juvenile Justice

Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb Commissioner  
Department of Juvenile Justice



Adam Kennedy, Secretary  
Board of Juvenile Justice