Avery D. Niles, Commissioner



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BOARD MEETING SUMMARY December 8, 2016

Members Present: Vice-Chair Sandra Taylor (presiding), Secretary Adam Kennedy, the Honorable Lisa Colbert, Willie C. Bolton, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Julia Neighbors, Richard Ambrose, Dick Yarbrough, and the Honorable Penny Penn. Judicial Advisory Committee Member the Honorable Quintress Gilbert was also present.

Motions and Other Business:

- 1. Vice-Chair Taylor called the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice to order on Thursday, December 8, 2016, at 10:06 AM in the Board Room of the Central Office of the Department of Juvenile Justice, at 3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30032.
- 2. A motion to approve the agenda for the December 8, 2016, meeting was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 3. A motion to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2016, meeting was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 4. The Commissioner had previously submitted his written report (included in materials). The Commissioner recognized former Chief Financial Officer Sonja Allen-Smith who now works for the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. Vice-Chair Taylor commended her. The Commissioner also introduced the new incoming Chief Financial Officer Kelly Dudley, coming from the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The Commissioner also announced additional staff changes. Board Member James Valbrun has been re-appointed by the Governor to the Board.
- 5. The Commissioner announced the holiday lunch for the Board and staff, the youth graduation set for December 15, 2016, and officer graduations on December 16, 2016. He also informed the Board that Channel 46 News was working on a series on juvenile justice reform.
- 6. The Commissioner asked for a moment of silence for the officers shot in Americus.

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- 7. The Commissioner gave a brief legislative update and mentioned the Governor's special recognition of DJJ's juvenile justice reform efforts.
- 8. A motion to adjourn the Board of Juvenile Justice and to reconvene as the Juvenile Justice Board of Education was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 9. Dr. Richard Behrens, Associate Superintendent, gave an overview of the blended curriculum model for the special school district, and introduced certain staff members. Family Engagement Coordinator Gail Tolbert Smith presented to the Board. Community Services Division aiding in the family engagement efforts.
- 10. Board member Neighbors asked about youths taking ACT and the preparation for it. She requested additional information. Board member Bolton suggested that the youths received laminated copies of their diplomas.
- 11. Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton spoke briefly about re-entry efforts for DJJ youth entering the workforce. Board member Coleman mentioned businesses wanting to hire DJJ youth.
- 12. Board member Colbert asked about record expungement for youths. Assistant Attorney General Amy Radley and Board member Penn explained the GCIC coding system and information as it relates to juveniles.
- 13. A motion to adjourn the Juvenile Justice Board of Education and to reconvene as the Board of Juvenile Justice was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 14. Old Business: No old business. Board member Yarbrough commended Board training, though he would like longer presentations.
- 15. New Business: No new business. Board member Bolton commended staff on a great year. He also wanted more information on training.
- 16. With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Cindy Wang, General Counsel