



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, July 23, 2015
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: Commissioner Avery D. Niles; Chief of Staff Mark Sexton; Jeffrey Coleman; Sharon D. Starks; Edith Guilford; Sharon D. Starks; Director Jim Shuler; Janssen Robinson; Dr. Audrey Armistad, Associate Superintendent; Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton; Deputy Commissioner Michael McNeely; Deputy Commissioner Joe Vignati; Special Assistant Carl Brown; Deputy Commissioner Miguel Fernandez; Deputy Commissioner Sarah Draper; Director Ricky Rich; Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb; Director John T. Smith; Director Nadine Crocker; Assistant Deputy Commissioner Margaret Cawood; Chief Financial Officer Sonja R. Allen-Smith; Director Joan Quinn-Cannon; Teri Stripling; Chaplain Danny Horne; Ombudsman Debbie Alexander-Carter; Director Lisa Bryson; Director Barry Shephard; Assistant Deputy Commissioner Diana Aspinwall; Natasha Bray; Kim Todd; Director Andrew Laarhoven; David Schwartz; Director Allyson Richardson and Brandi Hicks.

Others Present: Cindy Wang, Private Citizen; Chester Lalheeder; Private Citizen; Jody Bradham, Talentquest; Lawrence Bell, Troutman Sanders; Helen Sloat, Nelson & Mullins; Joan Brownson; Zerlyda Fleming, Office of Planning and Budget and Jessica Johnson, Office of Planning and Budget.

Secretary's Report: Chair Snow asked Vice Chair Taylor to conduct the Roll Call. The following members were present: Spurgeon Ambrose; Willie C. Bolton; Angie Holt; Julia Neighbors; Danny Porter; Franklin Rozier; Elaine Snow; Fred Stephens; Sandra Taylor; James Valbrun and Dick Yarbrough. Judicial Advisory Council Member Quintress Gilbert was present via teleconference.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include resolutions for the Gainesville RYDC Sewer Easement. A motion was made by Board Member Holt and seconded by Board Member Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda. A motion was made by Vice Chair Taylor and seconded by Board Member Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2015 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Holt and seconded by Vice Chair Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Report

The following topics were discussed or presented during the Commissioner's report:

- Deputy Commissioner Joe Vignati was recognized for 25 years of faithful service to the State of Georgia.
- Property Manger Teri Stripling asked the Board to approve two resolutions regarding sewer easement at the Gainesville RYDC. A motion was made by Secretary Adam Kennedy and seconded by Vice Chair Taylor to approve both resolutions. The motion carried unanimously. For additional information, please see **Addendum A**.
- Chief Financial Officer Sonja R. Allen-Smith updated the Board on the amended FY2015 budget, the FY2016 budget, bond projects for 2016 and the AFY2016-FY2017 budget instructions. For additional information, please see **Addendum B**.
- The impressive art work of a youth under DJJ supervision.
- The first Commissioner's Youth Council that was held on July 22, 2015.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. A motion was made by Vice Chair Taylor and seconded by Board Member Holt. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to return to the Regular DJJ Board Meeting. A motion was made by Secretary Adam Kennedy and seconded by Board Member Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

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 Vice Chair Taylor and seconded by Board Member Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

Associate Superintendent Armistad discussed the following topics during the School Board Meeting:

- DOE Audit Findings and the Corrective Active Plan. For additional information, please see **Addendum C**.
- The Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP).
- The Education Transition Centers (ETC).

Board Member Bolton made a motion that Commissioner Niles, thru the Office of Communications would send out information highlighting the accomplishments of the DJJ school, Georgia Preparatory Academy. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Taylor and carried unanimously.

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 Holt. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Comment

- Chair Snow stated that Board Member Rozier's term has ended and he does not wish to be reappointed. She thanked him for his service to the Board and to the agency.
- Chair Snow encouraged the Board Members to get actively involved with DJJ in their respective districts when possible.
- Board Member James Valbrun will be sworn in by Governor Deal on Monday, July 27, 2015 at 2:00 PM in the Governor's Office.
- Chair Snow thanked Cindy Wang, the incoming General Counsel for being willing to come to the DJJ Team.
- Judge Gilbert invited the Board to attend the opening of the Macon Judicial Center on August 27, 2015.

Old Business

There was no old business before the Board.

New Business

There was no new business before the Board.

Chair Snow announced that the next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2015 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