



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, July 23, 2020
Decatur, GA

Board Meeting Minutes

Opening Remarks

Chair Sandra Taylor called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice at 10:03 am. The meeting was held as an audio conference (Teams) with key staff at DJJ Central Office, Decatur, GA.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Tyrone Oliver, Chief of Staff Mark J. Mitchell, Assistant Commissioner Sean C. Hamilton, Deputy Superintendent Zane Shelfer, DJJ Executive staff members, and various DJJ staff members.

Amy Radley with the Attorney General's Office participated via Teams.

Secretary's Report: Board Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Danny L. Blackmon, Vice-Chair Willie C. Bolton, Judge Lisa G. Colbert, John B. Edwards, Angie M. Holt, Margaret D. Kaiser, Adam Kennedy, Penny Penn, Past Chair Elaine Snow, Chair Sandra H. Taylor, and Dick Yarbrough

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the current agenda. A motion was made by Board member Holt and seconded by Board member Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2020 Board meeting. A motion was made by Board member Penn and seconded by Board member Yarbrough. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner Tyrone Oliver presented his report to the Board.

The following topics were discussed:

Commissioner Oliver presented proposed DJJ Mission Statements to the Board. There were two versions of the mission statement to choose and vote on. A motion was made by

Board member Holt to accept the second version of the mission statement and seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton. The motion carried.

Director Joan Quinn-Cannon presented the Board with the DJJ Go bond resolution for a vote (Addendum A). A motion was made by Board member Yarbrough and seconded by Board member Blackmon to approve the bond resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Oliver updated the board on COVID-19 cases within the agency to include numbers of staff and youth affected and have recovered. He then referred to Dr. Michelle Staples-Horne to update the board members on COVID-19 procedures for the agency, to include CDC regulations of medical isolation. Dr. Staples-Horne addressed youth testing concerns from Board member Yarbrough.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn from the regular DJJ Board Meeting and reconvene as the DJJ School Board. A motion was made by Vice-Chair Bolton and seconded by Board member Kaiser. The motion carried unanimously.

Board of Education:

Deputy Superintendent Zane Shelfer provided information to the Board on request from State Board of Education/Department of Education waivers as they related to the agency youth.

Deputy Superintendent Shelfer requested from the Board approval to delay the start date of the Fall semester to August 3, 2020. A motion was made by Secretary Adam Kennedy to delay the start of the Fall semester to August 3, 2020 and seconded by Board member Edwards. The motion carried unanimously. The Deputy then gave a description of the Opening guidance documents for Fall semester 2020. Vice-Chair Bolton would like to amend the motion to delay of start date of the Fall semester to include giving authority to the Commissioner Oliver (Superintendent) and Deputy Superintendent Shelfer flexibility to change the start date as needed in case COVID-19 cases go up. Board member Kennedy amended his motion to agree, and Board member Edwards seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Superintendent Shelfer concluded his report with information on the CARES Act funding for the youth in our agency and transition centers. The LEA's received \$351,000 to spend within two years on improving technology for the youth within the agency. A committee will be developed on how to spend the funding rewarded to the agency.

This concludes the Deputy Superintendent's report.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn from the DJJ School Board and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board. A motion was made by the Board member Holt and seconded by Board member Blackmon. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Comments:

Chair Taylor commended the Commissioner on a phenomenal year under his leadership and the staff of DJJ. She thanked him for his dedication. She expressed her gratitude to the move to more evidence-based programs and information that will be provided to the Board. Thanked the Commissioner for his accessibility to the board, and the relationships built. The Commissioner took the time to thank his staff for the team efforts they show daily.

Old Business:

No old business.

Comments: Board member Yarbrough wanted to know the attitude and morale of the staff. The Commissioner commended his staff on their attitudes in this new environment and working hard to continue to provide the best in customer service. He cannot thank them enough for their dedication to the agency.

New Business:

No new business.

Comments:

No comments.

With no further business before the Board, Chair Taylor stated that the next scheduled meeting will be held on August 27, 2020, at 10:00 am. Chair Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Board member Colbert and seconded by Board member Penn. The motion was unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Sandra H. Taylor, Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner
Department of Juvenile Justice

Adam Kennedy, Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice