



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, June 27, 2019
Decatur, GA

Opening Remarks

Vice-Chair Taylor called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice at 10:03 am. The meeting was held at the DJJ Training Academy, Forsyth, GA.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Avery D. Niles, Chief of Staff Sean C. Hamilton, Associate Superintendent Jean Lee, Deputy Commissioner Pamela Johnson, Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Edith E. Darden, Deputy Commissioner Victor Roberts, Deputy Commissioner Sherry Shoats, Chaplain Danny Horne, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Martha Dalesio, CFO Andrew Laarhoven, General Counsel Cindy Wang, Director Glenn Allen, Assistant Commissioner Catina Martin-Fenner, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Audrey Stokes, Deputy Commissioner Margaret Cawood, Director Joan Quinn-Cannon, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Allyson Richardson, Chris Raiford, Director Latera Davis, Director Debaja Coleman, Ombudsman Herman Archie, Selma W. Calloway, DeFrance Gurley, Auditor William Smith, Cheryl Mitchell, Chris Lampley, Steven Carter-Williams, Tracy Cassell, Cathy Dravis, Director Windy Hix, Ben Harvill, Tamara Mays, Interim Director Dana Kilpatrick, Tomika Grigsby, Erica Jackson, Sophia Thomas, Candy English, Doris Patterson, Assistant Director Chris Wood, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Lisa Mantz, Carolene Maddox, Becky Dobras, Monica Hale, Michael Berrian, Phillis Hampton, Kiara Williams

Others Present: Attorney General's Office; Adrien Sandercock, OPB; Meaghan Ryan, OPB; Tenika Kemp, EIM; Renee Carl, EIM

Secretary's Report: Vice-Chair Taylor conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Willie Bolton, John Edwards, Sandra H. Taylor, Judge Lisa G. Colbert, Angie Holt, Elaine P. Snow (teleconference), Richard Ambrose, Adam Kennedy, Dick Yarbrough, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Judge Quintress Gilbert

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

Vice-Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 23rd, 2019 Board Meeting. A motion was made by the Board member Holt and seconded by Board member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioner's Report was included in the Board materials. Commissioner Niles presented his report to the Board.

The following topics were discussed:

Commissioner Niles gave staff and ETC updates, mentioned the ACA Flag ceremonies, the upcoming ACA audits for two facilities (Terrell & Crisp), and officer graduations. There was a total of 85 graduates from training. A juvenile correctional officer who was previously involved with the juvenile justice system discussed how the youth need emotional support-system to do better.

Ms. Tamara Mays presented the Faithful Service certificates. There were 7 employees recognized.

Chief Financial Officer Andrew Laarhoven gave a presentation on the budget and Appropriations **(Addendum A)**.

Field Supervisor Mark Adair provided an update on the Office of Investigations **(Addendum B)**. Secretary Kennedy requested a breakdown of staff vs youth investigations. Judge Colbert wanted to know who decides what to investigate. Board members Edwards and Bolton asked about getting information to the Commissioner. Board member Yarbrough offered tips to Communications Director Glenn Allen on handling media inquiries.

William Smith gave a presentation on financial audits **(Addendum C)**. Board member Edwards wanted to know about p-card usage. Board member Bolton asked about restrictions on fuel cards.

Finally, the Commissioner specially recognized Sgt. Melissa Lamb, Juvenile Correctional Officer, DeKalb RYDC, for her professionalism and service at the DeKalb RYDC.

Board members Bolton and Judge Colbert would like for the Board to re-examine the Department's Mission Statement. Vice-Chair Taylor suggested getting thoughts from the Governor's Office.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

Vice-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 Board member Kennedy and seconded by Board member Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

Board of Education

Associate Superintendent Jean Lee provided an update on the youth graduation. Judge Colbert commended the staff on the uplifting graduation ceremony. Dr. Lee also discussed the summer school plans/curriculum and gave an update on the Muscogee ETC. She also mentioned the various collaborative partnerships with the surrounding colleges on programs for the youth in the RYDCS and more student field trips. Board member Edwards suggested reaching out to PHD candidates for other possible partnership ideas.

Vice-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 Kennedy and seconded by Board member Colbert. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Comments:

No comments

Board Officer Nominations:

Nominating Committee Chair Angie Holt reported the nominations: Adam Kennedy (Secretary), Willie Bolton (Vice-Chair), and Sandra Taylor (Chair). The Board opened the floor for further nominations. There were no nominations for each office. Each office nomination was voted to be closed separately. No objections to the process. Though no other nominees, official election to be held at the next meeting in July.

Old Business:

No old business

Comments:

Board member Coleman moved that the Board support the Commissioner. Vice-Chair Taylor suggested a board resolution. The motion was seconded by Board member Bolton. The motion passed unanimously. Board member Coleman will draft the resolution to highlight the Commissioner's accomplishments for the Board's consideration at the next meeting. Vice-Chair Taylor also recognized Chair Snow's service as the Board's Chair. Formal recognition to be made at the July meeting.

New Business:

No new business

Comments:

Board member Yarbrough suggested that the Department recognize a youth and a staff member, alternately, each quarter—highlighting achievements and projects.

Vice-Chair Taylor announced that the next Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, July 25th, 2019 10:00 am, DJJ Central office, Decatur, GA.

The meeting was adjourned.

Sandra H. Taylor, Vice-Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Sean C. Hamilton, Chief of Staff
Department of Juvenile Justice

Adam Kennedy, Board Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice