



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, May 24, 2018
Decatur, GA
10:00 am

Opening Remarks

Vice-Chair Sandra Taylor called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice at 10:03 am. The meeting was held at the DJJ Central Office, Decatur GA.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Avery D. Niles, Chief of Staff Joe Vignati, Associate Superintendent Jean Lee, Deputy Commissioner John Pearson Sr., Deputy Commissioner Catina Martin-Fenner, Deputy Commissioner Pamela Johnson, Assistant Commissioner Sean Hamilton, Edith E. Darden, Director John T. Smith, Mary Catherine Heard, General Counsel Cindy Wang, Director Latera Davis, Director Scott Cagle, Chief Financial Officer Andrew Laarhoven, Deputy Commissioner Margaret Cawood, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Victor Roberts, Kim Todd, Director Mike Barton, Ombudsman Herman Archie, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Bakia Parrish, Marcia Pfister, Bradley Mazza, Jarvin Wright, Jonathan McMichael, Chaplain Larry Hill, Jennifer Salmon, Kevin Burley, Kristi Johnson, Jenkins Ivey, Andrew McGee, Joe Talaber, Director Joan Quinn-Cannon, Cathy Dravis, Lisa Whitaker, Todd Bentley, Teri Stripling, HR Director Charmaine Johnson, Mary Shepherd, Robbin Dickerson, Theodosia Ware, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Allyson Richardson, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Audrey Stokes, Lashune Jones, Director Chris Woods, Erica Seamon, Steven Carter-Williams, Director Willie Gilmore, Carrie T. Hamilton, Dr. Christy Doyle, Donica Thompson, Wycherly Gumbs, Jim Shuler, Eddie Edwards

Others Present: Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office

Secretary's Report: Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Willie Bolton, Thomas Coleman, John B. Edwards, Angie Holt (teleconference), Adam Kennedy, Julia Neighbors, Penny Penn, Elaine Snow, Fred Stephens (teleconference), Kelly Stewart (teleconference), Sandra H. Taylor, Dick Yarbrough, Judge Quintress Gilbert

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

Vice-Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2018 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Yarbrough and seconded by Board Member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioner Report was previously submitted to the Board via email and it was included in the Board materials. Commissioner Niles presented his report to the Board.

The following topics were discussed:

The Faithful Service awards were presented by HR Manager Kristi Johnson. Six employees were recognized.

Director of Office of Engineering and Construction Services Joan Quinn-Cannon presented on facility updates and the bond resolution. A motion was made by Board Member Edwards and seconded by Board Bolton to adopted and approve the bond resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Niles discussed the challenging youth population, including gang involvement, and the community issues impacting the facilities. Board member Bolton asked about any security concerns. Secretary Kennedy asked about impact on community services. Commissioner said the turnover rate in community low. Commissioner also mentioned providing more cameras and body cameras to staff.

Commissioner Niles asked that Board members submit qualified applicants to apply for current open positions.

Deputy Commissioner of Support Services Margaret Cawood presented on programming services and upcoming projects on youth assessment tool. Dr. Christy Doyle assisted in answering questions and concerns of the Board members.

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 Chair Snow. The motion carried unanimously.

Board of Education

Associate Superintendent Jean Lee discussed the upcoming youth graduation on May 25, 2018, and break down of diplomas, GEDs, and technical skills certificates. She also mentioned that the valedictorian and salutatorian accepted to college received donated laptops.

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 Board member Yarbrough and seconded by Board member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

No old business

Comments:

Vice-Chair Taylor thanked everyone for their participation and to the staff that coordinated the April Board meeting in Statesboro.

New Business

No new business

Comments:

Board member Bolton announced that he would be attending the Wilkes County Meet & Greet for the new DJJ Wilkes Director.

Vice-Chair Taylor announced that the next Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at DJJ Headquarters, 3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30032 at 10:00 AM.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner
Department of Juvenile Justice

Adam Kennedy, Board Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice