



**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, June 24, 2021
Decatur, GA
Board Meeting Minutes
DJJ Central Office and via Audio/Zoom Conference**

Opening Remarks

On Thursday, June 24, 2021. Chair Sandra Taylor called the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice to order at 10:00 AM. The meeting was held at DJJ Central Office and via audio/Zoom conference for those who could not attend in person.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Tyrone Oliver, Deputy Superintendent Zane Shelfer, DJJ Executive Team Members, and various DJJ Staff Members.

Attendees included: Assistant Attorney General Amy Radley (in person) and public guests (remote attendance).

Invocation: Chaplain Danny Horne

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Board Member Danny Blackmon.

Roll Call: Members present were Chair Sandra Taylor (in-person), Vice-Chair Willie C. Bolton (in-person), Secretary Adam Kennedy (via Zoom), Danny Blackmon (in-person), Angie M. Holt (via Zoom), Judge Lisa Colbert (via Zoom), Chief Gary Yandura (in-person), Penny Penn (in-person) Dick Yarbrough (via audio), and John Edwards (via audio). Judicial Advisory Member Judge Quintress Gilbert (in-person) participated. Quorum was declared.

Agenda approval: Chair Taylor called for a motion to approve June 24, 2021 agenda. The motion was made by Board Member Blackmon, seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton, and approved unanimously.

Minutes approval: Chair Taylor called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 board meeting. The motion was made by Vice-Chair Bolton, seconded by Board Member Blackmon, and approved unanimously.

Special Recognitions

Chair Taylor opened the meeting recognizing Board Members Elaine Snow and Dick Yarbrough -- both will be leaving the DJJ board in July. Chair Taylor thanked both for their long-term service to the board.

Commissioner Oliver thanked both members for their commitment to DJJ.

Director of Communications Glenn Allen and Secretary Adam Kennedy also expressed appreciation for their dedicated service.

Commissioner's Report

Groundbreaking

Commissioner Oliver mentioned the groundbreaking of the new facility shelter that will be located in Gwinnett County. The shelter will help child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The 26-bed facility is scheduled to be completed by June 2022.

Facility Tour Update

Commissioner Oliver stated that various members of the legislature and the Governor's Policy Team would like to return to tour additional facilities. The facility tour aims to bring awareness about the agency and show day-to-day operations of the facilities throughout the State of Georgia. The Commissioner also thanked the facility staff for their dedicated service to the youth.

Organizational Chart

Commissioner Oliver provided an update on the organizational structure of the Executive Team since former Chief of Staff Mark Mitchell left the agency.

Divisional Report

Interim Director of the Office of Human Resources (OHR) Katrina Patterson presented on OHR's current projects. She discussed recruitment strategies such as identifying and prioritizing critical facilities/positions, accelerating hiring timeframes, and restructuring the agency recruiting process. Patterson also discussed OHR policies, processes, and training goals to include: staff training, working with a HR consultant, and partnering with the State Human Resources Administration Division (HRA) to further refine the agency's processes.

Questions/Comments (OHR)

Commissioner Oliver commended Patterson and her team for meeting the OHR commitment goals. The Commissioner also announced that Patterson would officially be the OHR Director effective July 1, 2021.

Secretary Kennedy thanked Patterson for her presentation and asked if the OHR has had any issues reaching the 14-day hiring process goal. He also wanted to know if the community side of the hiring process is being addressed.

This concluded the Commissioner's Report.

Chair Taylor called for a motion to adjourn the regular DJJ Board Meeting and reconvene as the DJJ School Board. A motion was made by Board Member Colbert to adjourn the Board of Juvenile Justice and reconvene as the Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton (and Board Member Yarbrough) and approved unanimously.

Board of Education

State of the School System Address

Deputy Superintendent Shelfer along with Lead Regional Principal Dr. Muriel Horne and Assistant Deputy Superintendent Dr. Letunya Walker presented on the "State of the School System." Dr. Horne presented on "Who We Are" as a school district, discussing the operating budget, staffing information, and the school system enrollment data. Dr. Walker presented on "What We Have Done," elaborating on the student's 2020-2021 graduations rates, certification programs, awarded school accreditation, and online programs. Deputy Shelfer presented on "Where We Are Going," emphasizing that the school system will continue to focus on student achievement, teacher and recruitment retention, collaboration, and technology infrastructure.

This concluded the Deputy Superintendent's report.

Chair Taylor called 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 to adjourn the Board of Education and to reconvene as the Board of Juvenile Justice. It was seconded by Secretary Kennedy and approved unanimously.

Comments: Chair Taylor encouraged the board members to attend one of the future graduations ceremonies.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Report from the Nominating Committee (Holt as Chair, Coleman, and Kaiser).

Board Member Holt stated the Nominating Committee met and would like to submit the slate of officers and positions for nomination:

➤ **Adam Kennedy - Secretary**

A motion to close the nominations was made by Board Member Yarbrough, seconded by Board Member Colbert, and approved unanimously.

➤ **Willie Bolton – Vice-Chair**

A motion to close the nominations was made by Board Member Edwards, seconded by Board Member Yarbrough, and approved unanimously.

➤ **Sandra Taylor - Chairperson**

A motion to close the nominations was made by Board Member Edwards, seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton, and approved unanimously.

Chair Taylor said the election will be held on July 22, 2021.

Executive Session:

Chair Taylor called for motion to move into executive session to discuss litigation matters. The motion was made by Board Member Colbert, seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton, and approved unanimously (Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Bolton, Secretary Kennedy, Board Members Blackmon, Holt, Edwards, Colbert, Penn, Yarbrough and Yandura).

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned after returning from executive session. The motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Chair Bolton and seconded by Board Member Colbert, and approved unanimously.

The next scheduled meeting will be July 22, 2021, at 10:00 AM, DJJ Central Office, Decatur GA, and via audio/Zoom conference.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM.

Sandra H. Taylor, Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner
Department of Juvenile Justice

Adam Kennedy, Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice