



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, October 22, 2015
DJJ Headquarters
10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Chair 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, Assistant Commissioner/Chief of Staff J. Mark Sexton, Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton, Sharon D. Starks, Director Jim Shuler; Janssen Robinson, Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Eriles McCollough, Director John T. Smith, Deputy CFO Drew Townsend, Special Assistant Carl Brown, Associate Superintendent Audrey Armistad, Director Sherry Shoats, Irish Lundy, Chief Financial Officer Sonja Allen-Smith, Director Catina Martin, Periscia Lane, Sabrina Davis-Fuller, Felicia Walker, Director Harold Cooper, Deputy Commissioner Miguel Fernandez, Deputy Commissioner Sarah Draper, Director Joan Quinn-Cannon, Director Nadine Crocker, Dr. Letunya Walker, Ombudsman Director Debbie Carter, Deputy Commissioner Dwayne Orrick, Kathy Sidwell, Director Scott Cagle, Director Andrew Laarhoven, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Margaret Cawood, Director Ricky Rich, Chaplain Danny Horne, Deputy Commissioner Joe Vignati, General Counsel Cindy Wang and SMRT Members: Paul Wilson, Commander William Belflower, Edrick Washington, Jay Turner, Joseph Brittain, Corey Jones, Demetrius Monts, Tamarrow Holmes, Danny Figueroa, Ryan Lohnes, David Quintyne, Kimberly Smith, Teri Farrow, Jesse Floyd, Commander Jesse Dewberry,

Others Present: Sgt. Major Darryl Moore, Concerned Parent; Mindy Park, Attorney General's Office; Jody Bradham, TalentQuest; Elizabeth Newcomb, Nelson Mullins – MAAC, Together Georgia Youth Village; Melissa Harjrosa, Naresco and Holly Mims, NYAP.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Spurgeon Ambrose, Willie C. Bolton, Thomas Coleman, John Edwards, Angie Holt, Adam Kennedy, Julia Neighbors, Danny Porter, Elaine Snow, Fred Stephens, Kelly Stewart and Sandra Taylor. Judicial Advisory Council Member Quintress Gilbert was present as well.

Chair Snow 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 Snow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2015 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Holt and seconded by Board Member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner's Report

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

- CFO Sonja R. Allen-Smith gave an update on the FY2016 Amended Budget and the FY2017 Budget Requests. For additional details, please see Addendum A
- Director Harold Cooper presented the Employee Recognition Awards. The winners were: Kathy Sidwell, Customer Service Award; Periscia Lane, Extra Mile Award; Macon YDC Nursing Team, Peer Award; Security Management Response Team (SMRT), Safety Award
- The 3rd DJJ Citizen Academy which begins on Thursday, October 22nd in Augusta, Georgia
- The recent retirement of Academy Director Neil Cannon and the upcoming retirements of Director Bobby Hughes of the Elbert Shaw/Dalton RYDC (November 2015) and Director Stephen Westberry of the Loftiss/Thomasville RYDC (December 2015)
- Deputy Commissioner Miguel Fernandez was recognized by the Commissioner and DJJ Board for receiving the National Association of Social Workers-Georgia (NASW-GA) Chapter's Distinguished Social Work Public Service Award on October 22, 2015 at the NASW-GA 60th Anniversary Celebration.

Proposed Name Change for Court Services Offices

Deputy Commissioner Joe Vignati requested permission from the Board to change the name of the agency's Court Services Offices (CSO) to Community Services Offices. After a brief discussion, a motion to change the name was made by Board Member Willie C. Bolton and seconded by Board Member Angie Holt. 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 Board Member Holt and seconded by Board Member Ambrose. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- The next Georgia Preparatory Academy graduation will be held on December 18, 2015. The location will be determined at a later date.
- FTE Count during the month of October

Sgt. Major Darryl Moore, a concerned parent, thanked the Office of Education for helping to prepare his daughter for a brighter future upon her scheduled release in November 2015. Because of the education program at DJJ, his daughter will graduate with a High School Diploma rather than a GED.

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 Secretary Adam Kennedy. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Comment

Chair Snow reminded the Board that there will not be a Board Meeting during the month of November 2015.

Old Business

There was no old business before the Board.

New Business

Vice Chair Taylor an update on a former DJJ employee.

Chair Snow announced that the next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10, 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