

**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, April 26, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

**Department of Juvenile Justice
3408 Covington Highway
Decatur, Georgia 30032-1513**

Opening Remarks

Board Chairman Avery D. Niles called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and DJJ Board of Education.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner L. Gale Buckner; Deputy Commissioner Carl Brown; Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb; Deputy Commissioner Michael McNeely; Sarah Draper; Carol Jackson; Debbie Alexander; Dr. Audrey Armistad; Angela Cosby; William Dean; Ed Cook; Jim Shuler; Janssen Robinson; Matt Montgomery; Tracy Masters; Diane Avery.

Others: Larry Barnes; Ed and Susan Risler; Elizabeth Rodgers, Attorney General's Office.

Chairman Niles asked all guests to stand and state their name and affiliation.

Chairman Niles asked everyone to stand for the invocation by Board Member Perry McGuire followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Chairman Niles recognized the Board's most recently appointed member Angie M. Holt and asked her to say a few words about herself.

Chairman Niles then asked Secretary Taylor to conduct the Roll Call. Board members present were: Michael L. Baugh, Willie Bolton, Bruce Garraway, Angie Holt, Elizabeth Lindsey, Avery Niles, Perry McGuire, Daniel Menefee, Frank Rozier, Elaine Snow and Sandra Taylor. Secretary Taylor noted a quorum was present.

Secretary's Report

Chairman Niles asked for a motion that the Board accept the Agenda for the current meeting. Board Member Menefee made a motion to accept the agenda for the April 26, 2012 Board meeting. The motion received a second by Board Member Michael Baugh and the Agenda was approved.

Chairman Niles asked for a motion that the Board approve the minutes of the March 22, 2012 Board meeting. Board Member Menefee made a motion to approve the Minutes for the March

22, 2012 Board Meeting. The motion received a second from Board Member Baugh and the Minutes were approved.

Employee Recognition

Mr. Harold Cooper, representing Acting Human Resources Director Sam Clonts, presented the 4th Quarter Employee Recognition Award Winner William “Bill” Dean. Mr. Dean is the Richmond County Juvenile Probation Manager and was nominated by eight employees. He is honored to receive both the Team Player and Above and Beyond Awards.

Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

Secretary Taylor read a Board Resolution honoring former Board Member Dr. Ed Risler then made a motion the Resolution be approved by the Board. Board Member Elizabeth Lindsey seconded the motion and the motion carried. Dr. Risler was present to receive the Resolution.

Commissioner Buckner called on Assistant Commissioner Jeff Minor to offer comments on Dr. Risler’s impact on the Board and Agency.

Vice-Chairman Dan Menefee presented a Golden Gavel plaque to Dr. Risler.

Commissioner Buckner presented DJJ’s Legacy Award to outgoing Board Members Larry Barnes and Dr. Ed Risler.

National Crime Victim’s Rights Week

Dee Bell presented a box of toiletry items donated by DJJ employees to Ms. Kim Frndak on behalf of the Women’s Resource Center.

Chairman Niles called on Commissioner Buckner to present the Commissioner’s Report.

Commissioner’s Report

Commissioner Buckner announced plans for a statewide Faith Based Community Re-Entry Program using Gainesville/Hall County as the pilot and being implemented statewide within 12 to 18 months.

Atlanta YDC will be taking youth in, on April 30.

The re-missioning of some DJJ facilities is being explored. Commissioner Buckner has issued a directive to Deputy Commissioners Carl Brown and Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb to gender segregate the youth population by June 30.

The staff is exploring a “super max” facility for the top 25 youth who manipulate other youth and/or staff and cause problems.

Potential criminal cases involving the Augusta YDC are being considered by the Richmond County District Attorney's Office. No additional action is planned by DJJ until the District Attorney's office determines their plan of action.

Policies have been revised and updated and Facility Directors have been directed to utilize the comprehensive tools available to them through these policies to help manage youth population.

Chairman Niles called on Ed Cook to present a Board Resolution.

Bond Resolution

Ed Cook presented a Resolution to approve construction bonds authorized by the General Assembly. Board Member Garraway made a motion that the resolution be accepted as written. Board Member Snow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Niles requested a motion to adjourn from the regular DJJ Board meeting and reconvene as the Board of Education. A motion was made by Board Member Menefee and seconded by Board Member Garraway and the motion carried.

Chairman Niles called on Dr. Armistead to present the Education update.

Education Update

Dr. Armistead advised there was concern regarding excessive erasures on 2011 CRCT test score sheets at three DJJ facilities. Immediately upon notifying Commissioner Buckner of the allegations, Commissioner Buckner instructed Internal Affairs Director Sarah Draper to initiate a complete investigation into the possibility of cheating. The results of the investigation revealed no evidence of cheating.

DJJ is working with DOE to connect DJJ with the Longitudinal Data system.

DJJ worked with DOE to receive funding to revamp curriculum and instructional delivery to students. Funds will be used to implement student learning objectives that will allow DJJ to measure teacher performance and reliably measure student outcomes.

Chairman Niles asked for a motion to adjourn from DJJ School Board meeting and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board.

Board Member Snow made the motion to adjourn the DJJ School Board meeting and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board. Board Member Menefee seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Regular Session

Chairman Niles announced the Board was back in regular session.

Chairman's Comments

Chairman Niles stated he has conducted several site visits and was pleased with what he saw and the actions of the staff.

Call for Old Business – None

Call for New Business – None

Chairman Niles stated the next DJJ Board Meeting would be held in Central Office on May 24, 2012 at 10:00 am. Chairman Niles then called for a Motion to Adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice.

Board Member Menefee made the motion to adjourn. Board Member Lindsey seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Avery D. Niles, Chairman
Board of Juvenile Justice

L. Gale Buckner
Commissioner

Sandra Taylor, Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice