



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, December 14, 2017
Decatur, GA
10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Chair Elaine P. Snow called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice at 10:04 am. The meeting was held at DJJ Central Office Decatur, GA.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Avery D. Niles, Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton, Chief of Staff Joe Vignati, Associate Superintendent Jean Lee, Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Acting Deputy Commissioner John Pearson, Deputy Commissioner Catina Martin-Fenner, Director Scott Mall, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Pamela Johnson, Deputy Commissioner Sean Hamilton, Edith E. Darden, Director Allyson Richardson, Director John T. Smith, Mary Catherine Heard, General Counsel Cindy Wang, Chaplain Danny Horne, Tomika Grigsby, Director Latera Davis, Director Scott Cagle, Director Mary Shepherd, Carrie T. Hamilton-Shavers, Chief Financial Officer Andrew Laarhoven, Deputy Commissioner Margaret Cawood, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Victor Roberts, Director Joan Quinn-Cannon, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Michael McNeely, Tracy Cassell, Kim Todd, Chief Audit Executive William Smith, Director Mike Barton, Kristi Johnson, Ombudsman Herman Archie, Doricia Thompson, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Lisa Mantz, Interim HR Director Charmaine Johnson, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Bakia Parrish, Rusty Rodgers, Shirley Register, Kay Conley, Jeff Johnson, Joseph Hartley, Tommy Brown, Juanita McClendon, Leslie Wyatt, Stephanie Argo, Randy Barnes, Marcia Daniely, Debra Daniel-Purnell, Marchelle Pope, Sammie Roper, Emanuel Bryson, Assistant Director Chris Wood, M C Heard, Brian Harrelson, Andrew McGee, Hilroy Wilson, Deputy Commissioner Renee McClanahan, Tamara Baker, Arnesia Searcy, Selma W. Calloway, Chris Jones, David Schwartz, Audrey Stokes, Deputy Director Maria L. Pease, Director Lisa Bryson

Others Present: Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office; Ashley Larrow, Office of Planning and Budget

Secretary's Report: Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Penny Penn, Willie C. Bolton, Adam Kennedy, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Sandra Heath-Taylor, John Edwards (via teleconference), Elaine Snow, Dick Yarbrough, and Julia Neighbors

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the current agenda. A motion was made by Board member Kennedy and seconded by Board member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2017 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Bolton and seconded by Board Member Yarbrough. 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 Commissioner commended Board Member Bolton for all his support for DJJ, including the new Wilkes RYDC facility. The Commissioner also mentioned the report from Governor's Commission on Children's Mental Health services. Commissioner Niles introduced the Interim Human Resource Director, Charmaine Johnson. Finally, the Commissioner mentioned how Georgia is doing in terms of juvenile justice reform compared to the rest of the nation.

There was a brief discussion regarding parent/grandparent accountability.

Division of Community Services will work on community project regarding available resources in DeKalb County.

Human Resources Deputy Director Maria L. Pease presented the Employee Faithful Service Awards.

The Commissioner introduced new team members and updated the Board on staff changes in leadership.

Chair Snow 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 Taylor and seconded by Board Member Kennedy. The motion carried unanimously.

Board of Education

During the DJJ Board of Education meeting, the following topics were discussed:

Associate Superintendent Jean Lee discussed the Governor's Innovation Grant received by the Georgia Preparatory Academy. The academy will receive a \$10,000 student achievement grant to be utilized for teacher recruitment and retention plans. She also announced the next Georgia Preparatory Academy graduation will be held on December 15th at 1:00 pm.

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

Chief of Staff Joe Vignati and Chair Elaine Snow recognized Commissioner Niles for his 5 years of service as the Commissioner.

Old Business

The Office of Training presented training statistics for uniformed staff.

Comments:

Mr. Bolton thanked the staff on their service.

New Business

No new business

Comments:

The Commissioner provided dates of upcoming DJJ events and challenged Board Members to attend more DJJ events.

Chair Snow thanked the Board for their participation and gave thanks and appreciation to the DJJ staff.

Chair Snow announced that the next Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, January 25, 2018 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
Board of Juvenile Justice