



Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, February 22nd, 2018
Decatur, GA
10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Chair Snow called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice at 10:06 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, Deputy Commissioner John Pearson, Deputy Commissioner Catina Martin-Fenner, Jim Shuler, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Pamela Johnson, Deputy Commissioner Sean Hamilton, Edith E. Darden, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Allyson Richardson, Director John T. Smith, Mary Catherine Heard, General Counsel Cindy Wang, Chaplain Danny Horne, Tomika Grigsby, Director Latera Davis, Director Scott Cagle, 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, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Lisa Mantz, Interim HR Director Charmaine Johnson, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Bakia Parrish, Zane Shelfer, Andrew McGee, Deputy Director Maria L. Pease, Director Lisa Bryson, Assistant Director Chris Wood, Lauren Gean, Dr. Letunya Walker, Cathy Dravis, Dr. Christy Doyle, Kodasha Thomas, Jill Hughes, , Brian Porter, Patricia Merrett, Brenda Davis, LaToya Gibbons, Kathleen Bly, Dominic Eubanks, Theodosia Ware, J. Rudd, Natalie Williams, Angelous Boykin, Shayvanna Brannon, Taquelia Sims, Jennifer Statham, Ashley Powell, Racquel Watson, Tamara Middlebrooks, David Schwartz, Michael McKnight, Yolanda Barrows, Jimmie Hooks, Evelyn Phillips, Tricia Phillips, Erica Seamon, Larry Black

Others Present: Amy Radley and Meghan Davidson, Attorney General's Office; Carly Rabner, Barton Child Law & Policy Center; Camilla Thompson and Keywanna Kaigler, Students

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

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the current agenda. A motion was made by Board Member Colbert and seconded by Board Member Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2018 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Yarbrough and seconded by Board Member Colbert. 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:

Commissioner Niles mentioned that these are challenging times for students, dealing with terroristic threats and violence at schools. Other law enforcement agencies have reached out to him for guidance. The Commissioner also presented the 2018 Quick Facts prepared by the DJJ Office of Communications **(Addendum A)**.

Ms. Kristi Johnson, HR Employee Relations Manager, presented the Employee Faithful Service Awards.

Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton announced his departure from the agency to run for state senate in his district.

Interim HR Director Charmaine Johnson presented a report on juvenile correctional officer retention. The report is included in the Board's materials. Board members Yarbrough and Coleman asked about the exit interview process. Commissioner also talked about leadership opportunities for the officers **(Addendum B)**.

Vice-Chair Taylor asked about the status of the report on fidelity of programming. Deputy Commissioner of Support Services Margaret Cawood gave an update on where she is with the fidelity report. She has visited and audited 21 of the 26 facilities so far. She hopes to give the Board a report by the next Board meeting.

Chief Audit Executive William Smith presented on the internal audit charter and what his audit division will be doing for the Department.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

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 Bolton and seconded by Board Member Colbert. The motion carried unanimously.

Board of Education

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

Associate Superintendent Jean Lee presented on the 2018-2019 school calendar. Chair Snow asked for a motion to adopt the school calendar. A motion was made by Board Member Taylor and seconded by Board Member Kennedy. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Lee also talked about the “Real Men Read Initiative,” and she presented two DJJ community youth from the Bibb County ETC who acted as legislative pages for State Representative Robert Trammel (132nd District). Each of the youth, C. Thompson and K. Kaigler presented on what they learned from the experience.

Assistant Associate Superintendent Zane Shelfer spoke about the E-Core College Program updates and the college education opportunities for DJJ Youth. E-Core Student, A. Stroger spoke on his experiences with the classes. Board member Coleman commended DJJ for all the additional educational opportunities for DJJ youth. Vice-Chair Taylor asked how many students attended school at the ETCs.

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 Colbert and seconded by Board member Thomas. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

No old business

Comments:

Chair Snow thanked everyone for their participation and recognized youth and staff. The Commissioner reminded the Board that the April board meeting will be held on April 12th in South Georgia (Statesboro) in conjunction with the annual statewide Law Enforcement Appreciation events. He also invited the Board to the Georgia Preparatory Academy open house events.

New Business

No new business

Chair Snow announced that the next Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, March 22, 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