

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

April 12, 2023

Statesboro, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sheriff Barry H. Babb
Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. J.C. "Spud" Bowen
Mr. Chris Clark
Mr. Ester Fleming Jr.
Mr. Larry Haynie – Chairman
Sheriff Donnie Pope
Mr. Rossie Ross
Mr. Alton Russell
Mr. Luis "Lou" M. Solis Jr.
Mr. W. D. Strickland
Ms. Rose Williams

CONFERENCE CALLS:

None

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Thomas Culpepper
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Guy A. Daughtrey
Mr. Gary Gullede
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard
Ms. Janelle King
Ms. Andrea Shelton

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner
Mr. Alan Watson, Chief of Staff
Mr. Peter Adams, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Ahmed Holt, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Adam Baswell, Director of OPD
Ms. Tamala Brown, Warden, Montgomery SP
Mr. Jamie Clark, Director of Engineering and Construction Services
Ms. Tatesha Gibson, SGT, Lee Arrendale SP
Ms. Mitzi Hall, Agency/Contract HAS, Johnson SP
Ms. Karen Hartley, SGT, Ware SP
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs
Ms. Anna Clair Hobby, RN, Johnson SP
Ms. Gwendolyn Hogan, Executive Assistant
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Ms. Tonya Kemp, RN, OHS
Ms. Stephanie Mobley, SGT, Montgomery SP
Ms. Dawn Mock, OIT
Mr. John Moore, OPS
Mr. James Rogers, Director of Farm Operations
Mr. Henry Rutherford III, Director of OIT
Mr. Stan Shepard, SE Regional Director
Mr. Ronnie Shuemaker, Lieutenant, Smith SP
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Chris Tiller, Director of GCI
Mr. Rob Thrower, Legislative Liaison
Mr. Robert Toole, Director of Facilities Operations
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain
Mr. Charles Vinson, OIT
Mr. Matthew Wolfe, Director, Office of Professional Standards

VISITORS:

Mr. Gregg Bennett, Wellpath
Ms. Edna Durham, Citizen
Mr. Buddy Hartley, Husband of Sgt. Karen Hartley
Ms. Jennifer Jordan, Sister of Sgt. Stephanie Mobley
Mr. James Darrell Kemp, Husband of RN Tonya Kemp
Mr. Bill Kissell, Wellpath, Senior Director of Operations
Dr. Charlene Martin, CQI Director Centurion
Ms. Lara Martin, Citizen
Mr. Deann Morris, Regional Manager Southeast, Wellpath

First, Chairman Larry Haynie called to order the April meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board”) at 3:00 p.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes. Chairman Haynie then asked Chaplain Steven Turner to deliver the invocation. Following such, Chairman Haynie led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Then Chairman Haynie recognized all guests and visitors, and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Chairman Haynie presented the April 12, 2023 Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Rossie Ross made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. The Agenda were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Chairman Haynie presented the March 2, 2023 Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. W. D. Strickland made a motion to approve the Minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. The Minutes were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

To begin the Commissioner’s Report, Commissioner Oliver discussed the Commissioner’s Dashboard, which is a four-page overview highlighting key areas and significant events within the Agency.

Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Ahmed Holt, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division, to assist in introducing and honoring four (4) correctional officers with a Commissioner’s coin for Correctional Officers Week. In addition, the Board of Corrections honors the service of correctional officers each year by presenting a Governor’s proclamation to a select group. Correctional Officers Week will be celebrated the week of May 7-13th. Individual photos were taken of each officer’s presentation.

Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Health Services, to assist in honoring four (4) correctional nurses for National Nurses Week. The Board of Corrections honors these nurses for the vital role they play in the correctional health setting each day. The nurses were presented a Governor’s proclamation and a plaque containing a Commissioner’s coin. National Nurses Week will be celebrated the week of May 6 - 12th. Individual photos were taken of the presentations.

Commissioner Oliver then asked Mr. Randy Sauls to give a New Dialysis Center (ASMP) Update.

Mr. Sauls began his presentation by discussing the new dialysis facility opening on March 20, 2023, at Augusta State Medical Prison. Some of the highlights discussed were that the new facility replaced an 11 bed dialysis facility with a new 22 bed dialysis facility, the 60 patients on dialysis, improving care efficiency and enhancing security oversight by reducing the number of dialysis shifts from 3 to 2, and reducing the operating hours from 6 am until 6 pm to 6 am until noon.

Mr. Sauls closed by discussing the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony dedication that was held on March 10, 2023 and he showed several photos of the constructing of the building.

This concluded the report of Mr. Sauls.

Next, Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Peter Adams, Assistant Commissioner of Administration and Finance Division, to give a Budget update.

Mr. Adams began his presentation by discussing the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Overview. Some of the highlights discussed were Recruitment and Retention Appropriations, the \$2,000 salary increase, security retention incentive, officer retention increase, Statewide and Agency Appropriations, statewide changes, and statewide increase.

Mr. Adams closed with Agency Specific Appropriations, Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) bonds, agency bonds increase, and GDC budget information for Fiscal Year 2024.

This concluded the report of Mr. Adams.

Following such, Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Rob Thrower, Legislative Liaison, to give a Legislative Session Update.

Mr. Thrower began his report by discussing a Legislative Recap. Mr. Thrower discussed the following House and Senate Bills:

Senate Bill 218: Drivers licenses for offenders upon reentry

- This bill codifies the current partnership between GDC and DDS for providing offenders with a driver's license into law. Other documentation outlined in the bill includes Education, Work History, and Training requested by the Parole Board.

House Bill 497: Certified medication aides in state prisons

- Previously, Certified Medication Aides (CMAs) were only permitted to work in assisted living communities and nursing homes. This bill now allows CMAs to work in state prisons. Health Care Partner Wellpath was supportive of the bill. Certified Medication Aide is a Certified Nursing Assistant that undergoes extra testing and training to administer medication in a limited scope.

This concluded the report of Mr. Thrower.

To end, Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Chris Tiller, Executive Director of Georgia Corrections Industries, to present the short Rogers Farm Video. Plus, Commissioner Oliver also asked Ms. Joan Heath, Director of the Public Affairs Office, to present a Murals of Metro Video.

Both videos were shown, and this concluded the Commissioner's report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Haynie began the Chairman's Report by advising the Board that the next board meeting will be in Helena, Georgia and that more information would be sent out regarding the May meeting.

Chairman Haynie gave an update on the Board of Corrections Georgia Prison Warden's Association scholarship fund saying that this was the final collection.

Under Old or New Business, Mr. Duke Blackburn advised Chairman Haynie that he would like to make a motion to draft an honorary resolution for Mr. Terry Edge, former Director of the Office of Professional Development.

Mr. Duke Blackburn made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Alton Russell. The motion were voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Last of all, Mr. Duke Blackburn asked the Board and the Department to look at the parolee max out fee again and to follow-up with him at the next board meeting. In addition, Mr. Blackburn asked the board members to sign a sympathy card for an individual.

To close the meeting, Mr. Duke Blackburn and Ms. Rose Williams asked the board members to visit more facilities when possible and Chairman Haynie reminded the Board that an Official Board Photo will be taken at the June board meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Haynie reminded the Board that the next Board of

Corrections meeting is on May 4, 2023, at Telfair State Prison, in Helena, Georgia.

The board meeting was adjourned.

Larry Haynie, Chairman

Ester Fleming Jr., Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison