

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

Special Called Meeting

August 8, 2024

Forsyth, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sheriff Barry H. Babb
Mr. J.C. “Spud” Bowen
Mr. Bruce Carlisle
Mr. Chris Clark
Mr. Thomas Culpepper
Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Ester Fleming Jr. – Vice Chairman
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard
Sheriff Donnie Pope
Mr. Alton Russell
Mr. Luis “Lou” M. Solis Jr.
Mr. W. D. Strickland
Ms. Rose Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. John B. Edwards
Sheriff Gary Gullede
Ms. Janelle King
Mr. Rossie Ross

ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE:

Ms. Elizabeth Crowder, Attorney General’s Office

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner
Mr. Alan Watson, Chief of Staff
Mr. Jackson Defore, Assistant Commissioner of Finance & Admin
Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services
Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner of Health Services Division
Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel
Mr. Adam Baswell, Director of Office of Professional Development
Ms. Komola Edwards, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Kenneth Ellis, Statewide Chaplain
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs
Mr. Cliff Hogan, Director of Data Management and Research
Ms. Gwendolyn Hogan, Executive Assistant
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Ms. Dawn Mock, Office of Information Technology
Mr. Rob Thrower, Legislative Liaison
Mr. Matthew Wolfe, Director of Office of Professional Standards

VISITORS:

None

First, Vice Chairman Ester Fleming Jr. called to order the August Special Called meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board”) at 10:00 a.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes. Vice Chairman Fleming began by honoring Chairman Larry Haynie, his wife Lisa Haynie, and the Nelons gospel group, with a moment of silence before commencing.

Vice Chairman Fleming then asked Chaplain Kenneth Ellis to deliver the invocation. Following such, Vice Chairman Fleming led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chairman Fleming welcomed and recognized all guests and visitors and gave remarks on his professional relationship with Chairman Larry Haynie. Vice Chairman Fleming then allowed the Board to have reflections and open remarks regarding their professional relationship with Chairman Larry Haynie. Following such the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Vice Chairman Fleming presented the August 8, 2024 Special Called Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. W. D. Strickland made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Thomas Culpepper. The Agenda was voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Vice Chairman Fleming presented the June 6, 2024 Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. J. C. “Spud” Bowen made the motion to approve the Minutes, which was seconded by Mr. W. D. Strickland. The Minutes were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

To begin the Commissioner’s Report, Commissioner Tyrone Oliver gave remarks on his professional relationship with Chairman Larry Haynie. Commissioner Oliver then discussed briefly the Commissioner’s Dashboard, which is a four-page overview highlighting key areas and significant events within the Agency.

To close, Commissioner Oliver stated that Ms. Tina Piper (Board Attorney) has left the Attorney General’s Office and has taken another position in state government, and Ms. Elizabeth Crowder will assume her position in the interim. Commissioner Oliver closed his report with discussing the announcement of the Governors’ statewide assessment and partnership of Guidehouse, the Moss Group, and CGL, the House creating a Subcommittee for State Appropriations for state prisons, the Sentence Study Committee, the Judges Conference, the Chief’s Conference, and the upcoming American Correctional Association Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

This concluded the Commissioner’s Report.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Under the Chairman’s Report, Vice Chairman Fleming began by asking the Board if they would like to discuss the 2024 Board Calendar and change any of the meeting locations for the remainder of the year. There was no discussion, so the 2024 Board Calendar remains with no change.

There was no Old or New Business, but Mr. Duke Blackburn briefly discussed a potential private partnership with a landowner adjacent to Central State Prison. The potential partnership would involve solar energy training and or jobs for offenders and transitional center residents. No action was taken but Mr. Blackburn wanted to bring it to the Board’s attention.

Vice Chairman Fleming asked to take a vote to go into Executive Session so that the Board may consult with legal counsel pertaining to potential litigation. Mr. W. D. Strickland made a motion to move into Executive Session, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. The vote for the Board to move into Executive Session were voted “approved” by the Board.

Vice Chairman Fleming asked for a motion to approve moving out of Executive Session. Sheriff Stacy Jarrard made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Thomas Culpepper. The vote for the Board to move out of Executive Session were voted “approved” by the Board.

Vice Chairman Fleming asked for a motion to approve moving back into Regular Session. Ms. Rose Williams made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. W.D. Strickland. The vote for the Board to move back into Regular Session were voted “approved” by the Board.

Vice Chairman Fleming closed the board meeting by reminding the Board that the next Board of Corrections meeting is on September 5, 2024, at State Offices South at Tift College, in Forsyth, Georgia.

There being no further business, the board meeting was adjourned.

Ester Fleming Jr., Vice Chairman

J.C. “Spud” Bowen, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison