

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

February 1, 2018

Forsyth, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jerry Willis, Chairman
Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Chris Clark
Mr. Mac Collins
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Carl Franklin
Sheriff Roger Garrison
Mr. Larry Haynie
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard
Mr. John Mayes
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse
Ms. Andrea Shelton
Mr. W. D. Strickland
Ms. Rose Williams
Ms. June Wood
Ms. Rocio D. Woody

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Mike Coggins
Mr. Alton Russell

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Gregory C. Dozier, Commissioner
Mr. Ricky Myrick, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Scott Poitevint, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Chief of Staff
Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel
Mr. Dan Brown, Director of Office of Information Technology
Dr. Heather Corbett, Director of Director of Career and Technical Education
Ms. Laquanda Crockett, Correctional Officer
Mr. Terry Edge, Director of Office of Professional Development
Mr. Shawn Emmons, Warden of Wilcox State Prison
Mr. Hal Gibson, Director of Engineering & Construction Services
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Office of Public Affairs
Mr. Walter Hudson, Office of Professional Standards
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Mr. Clay Nix, Director Office of Professional Standards
Mr. Calvin Oliphant, Warden of Jefferson County
Ms. Amy Pataluna, Deputy Executive Director, Georgia Correctional Industries
Mr. Mike Riley, Office of Professional Standards
Mr. Devin Sears, Correctional Officer, Bacon PDC
Mr. Chris Tiller, Executive Director, Georgia Correctional Industries
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain
Mr. Stanley Williams, Deputy Warden of Jefferson County

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General

VISITORS:

Ms. Jackie Franklin, Wife of Carl Franklin
M. Wynne Graham, Southern Center for Human Rights
Ms. Sandra Thomas, Department of Community Supervision

First, Chairman Jerry Willis called to order the February meeting for the Board of Corrections ("the Board") at 10:00 a.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes.

Chairman Willis then asked Chaplain Steven Turner to deliver the invocation. Following such, Chairman Willis led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and then recognized all guests and visitors, and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

To begin, Chairman Willis presented the February Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. The Agenda was voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Chairman Willis also presented the January Minutes to the Board for approval. Ms. Rose Williams made the motion to approve, which was also seconded by Mr. Chris Clark and Mr. Wayne Dasher. The Minutes were then voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier began his report by briefly talking about the legislative session; specifically, a drone legislation bill. In addition, Commissioner Dozier asked Assistant Commissioner Jay Sanders to introduce Dr. Heather Corbett, who now assumes the role as the Director of Career and Technical Education for the Inmate Services Division.

Commissioner Dozier continued by briefly discussing the Commissioner's dashboard, which is a three-page overview highlighting key areas within the agency.

Afterwards, Commissioner Dozier asked Mr. Ricky Myrick, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division, to present the "Beyond the Call" employee recognition award to Ms. Laquanda Crockett, Correctional Officer at Wilcox State Prison. Assistant Commissioner Myrick stated that Ms. Crockett has on more than one occasion intercepted contraband from getting into the hands of inmates at Wilcox State Prison

Assistant Commissioner Myrick presented Ms. Crockett with a plaque on behalf of the Board of Corrections and Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier. A photo was taken of the plaque presentation.

To follow, Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier asked Mr. Scott Poitevint, Assistant Commissioner of Administration & Finance Division, to give a brief Budget update. Mr. Poitevint discussed the annual Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget, statewide changes, agency specific changes, Metro State Reentry Center and the Governor's Statewide recommendations.

Thereafter, Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier asked Ms. Sharon Shaver, Director of Compliance for the Office of Professional Standards, to give a brief American Correctional Association (ACA) Accreditation update. Ms. Shaver began by discussing the history of ACA and what it meant to be accredited. Some of the highlights included when ACA was founded, ACA being the largest international correctional association, guidelines for sound correction operations, ACA represents consensus of correctional industry on effective practices and it creates consistency across the agency. In addition, accreditation allows for examination & expansion of policies and procedures, it strengthens the position of agency in instances of litigation, and it identifies strengths and weaknesses on an ongoing basis.

Ms. Shaver continued by discussing how the agency went through the process of training, auditing, collaborating, attending conferences and observing other state's hearings. Plus, our agency increased overall employee awareness and involvement, integrated and aligned our internal audit process and updated policies and began implementing them. In conclusion, Ms. Shaver discussed ACA integration, audit summaries and accreditation status.

Next, Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services Division, presented the Fiscal Year 2017 Inmate Services Impact Report. To begin, Mr. Sanders stated that the report highlights the agency's progress toward successful offender rehabilitation. Some of the highlights mentioned in his presentation were academic education (GED completions, enrollments, graduates, interactive learning, parole partners with GED), vocational/career (on-the-job training, call center training, employability soft skills, welding and diesel mechanics completions, forklift certifications). Plus, other areas such as risk reduction (cognitive programming, RSAT completions, counselor support and training, performance incentive credits), transitional services (Metro Reentry Facility, ID's, driver's license and birth certificate

documents/GDC documents repository, career centers) and chaplaincy services (New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (NOBTS), volunteer services, partners in education).

To close, Mr. Sanders discussed how the Inmate Services professionals continuously evaluate processes and programs to ensure that our agency utilize methods that best meet the needs of our offenders. We continue to develop new programs and opportunities for our offenders with our partnerships, which has expanded our educational programs, jobs skills training and evidence-based programming.

Immediately following, Ms. Joan Heath, Director of the Office of Public Affairs, introduced the February "Beyond the Walls" article that features, Ms. Tara Gazzuolo, who took the Visual Arts and Communication Design course offered at Pulaski State Prison through the Middle Georgia Technical college and was able to put the skills she gained to use. Ms. Gazzuolo is an Account Executive at Parallax Digital Studios, where she uses her graphic design skills daily. Ms. Gazzuolo is most proud of her online graphic art business, Butterfly Grafix, which has clients all over the United States.

This concluded the Commissioner's Report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Jerry Willis began the 'Chairman's Report' by moving into Regular Session to approve the appointment of Mr. Stanley Williams - Deputy Warden of Jefferson County.

Chairman Willis called upon Mr. Duke Blackburn, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, to give the Board the Committee's recommendation of the appointment.

Mr. Blackburn stated that the Facilities Committee received the board packet for Mr. Williams and after reviewing his report, the committee unanimously recommends appointment approval for Mr. Williams to the Deputy Warden position at Jefferson County.

Mr. Duke Blackburn made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Dasher, and the motion was voted approved by the Board as presented. Chairman Willis congratulated Mr. Williams and he thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Chairman Willis continued by giving the Board members an update of the Georgia Prison Wardens Association Scholarship Fund and asking members to contribute to the 2018 fund. In addition, Chairman Willis gave an update on the Board of Corrections Flower Fund.

Next, Chairman Willis asked Mr. Blackburn to briefly speak on the March Board meeting that will be held in Newnan (Coweta County). Mr. Blackburn stated that the final agenda with information is included in the Board members packet and that he looked forward to hosting their visit. In addition, Chairman Willis advised that he updated the members Committee Assignments for the 2018 calendar year. Lastly, Chairman Willis asked Mr. Wayne Dasher to briefly speak on the April Board meeting that will be held in Glennville, Georgia. Mr. Dasher stated that the draft agenda with information is included in the Board members packet and that he will have more information to follow later.

Chairman Willis began Old or New Business with stating that he had an honorary resolution for Mr. Bruce Hudson, former Board of Corrections member and a resolution for Ms. Vonnie Stewart, former Executive Assistant for Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier. Chairman Willis stated that it was an honor to prepare these resolutions for both individuals and that he wanted each member to sign each resolution showing their appreciation for Mr. Hudson and Ms. Stewart's service.

Chairman Willis continued by asking Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel, to present three property resolutions. The resolutions were Metro State Prison Revocable License Agreement/Easement with Blackhall Studios, a Revocable License Agreement/Easement with Georgia Department of Transportation at Augusta State Medical Prison, and a Revocable License Agreement/Easement for Atlanta Gas & Light at Montgomery State Prison fire station.

Ms. Ammons briefly stated that the first resolution is a Metro State Prison Revocable License Agreement/Easement with Blackhall Studios, wherein Blackhall Studios, Inc. desires to construct, at its own expense, a sound barrier on state property to attenuate the sounds generated by the firing range located on the south portion of the prison property. Blackhall Studios, Inc. has need of a temporary Revocable Lease during construction, to be followed by a Permanent Easement upon completion of construction. This proposed sound barrier will be constructed at no cost to the State and the Georgia Department of Corrections has determined that it can accommodate the easement request without causing harm to the operations of Metro State Prison.

The second resolution is a Revocable License Agreement/Easement with Georgia Department of Transportation at Augusta State Medical Prison. Essentially, the Georgia Department of Transportation is widening the road along Gordon Highway/Highway 78/Highway 278/State Route 10, at the front entrance driveway to the property and in order to complete the above road work, Georgia Department of Transportation has need of a temporary Revocable Lease during construction, to be followed by a Permanent Easement upon completion of construction. The Georgia Department of Corrections has determined that it can accommodate the easement request without causing harm to the operations of Augusta State Medical Prison.

The third and final resolution is a Revocable License Agreement/Easement for Atlanta Gas & Light at Montgomery State Prison fire station. This property currently receives natural gas service from the Atlanta Gas and Light Company. The existing service line from the prison's main building to the fire station is in need of repair, but runs underneath the security fence, parking lot, and two paved roads.

Instead of disturbing the above security fence parking lot and paved roads in order to repair the existing line to the fire station, it is proposed that the service provider could install a new service drop from the gas main running along the right-of-way of State Highway 107 in front of the property. The above new service drop would require that an easement be granted to the service provider and Georgia Department of Corrections has determined that it can accommodate the easement request without causing harm to the operations of Montgomery State Prison. The new location for the service is advantageous to the Georgia Department of Corrections by eliminating construction behind the security perimeter and disturbing existing paved areas.

Chairman Willis asked for a motion to approve all three property resolutions. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Sheriff Roger Garrison and Mr. Chris Clark, and the property resolutions were voted approved by the Board as presented.

To conclude the meeting, Chairman Willis reminded the board members that the next Board meeting will be on March 1st at Coweta County Fairgrounds in Newnan, Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jerry Willis, Chairman

Larry Haynie, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison