

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

June 1, 2017

Columbus, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Christopher Clark
Mr. Mike Coggins
Mr. Mac Collins
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Carl Franklin
Mr. John Mayes
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse
Mr. Alton Russell
Mr. W. D. Strickland
Ms. Rocio D. Woody

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sheriff Roger Garrison
Mr. Larry Haynie
Mr. Bruce Hudson
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard
Ms. Andrea Shelton
Ms. Rose Williams
Mr. Jerry Willis, Chairman

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
Mr. Dan Brown, Director of Office of Technology
Dr. Heather Corbett, Area Principal, Southwest Region
Mr. Hal Gibson, Director of Engineering & Construction Services
Dr. Cleo Griswold, Area Principal, North Region
Mr. Shay Hatcher, Warden of Rutledge State Prison
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs
Mr. Brad Hooks, Assistant Executive Director of Operations for Georgia Correctional Industries
Dr. Jennifer Irvin, Area Principal, Southeast Region
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Mr. Clay Nix, Assistant Director of Office of Professional Standards
Ms. Amy Pataluna, Interim Director, Georgia Correctional Industries
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General

VISITORS:

Ms. Jackie Franklin, Wife of Carl Franklin
Mr. David Pratt, Southern Strategy Group
Mr. Randy Robertson, President, GAFOP
Ms. Donna Tompkins, Sheriff, Muscogee County Sheriff's Office

First, Vice Chairman Alton Russell called to order the June meeting for the Board of Corrections ("the Board") at 10:00 a.m. Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes.

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

To begin, Vice Chairman Russell announced that Chairman Jerry Willis was unable to attend the Board meeting and in his absence, Vice Chairman Russell would continue with business. Vice Chairman Russell presented the June Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Ms. Rocio Woody. The Agenda was voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Vice Chairman Russell also presented the May Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was also seconded by Mr. John Mayes. The Minutes were then voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier began his report by thanking Vice Chairman Russell and Warden Shay Hatcher, for the hospitality shown to us all while visiting the city of Columbus and for assisting with the prison tour at Rutledge State Prison. Plus, Commissioner Dozier reminded the Board that the Georgia Prison Warden's Association Conference will begin on June 5th. Also, Commissioner Dozier talked about a number of partnerships between DOC and other organizations and agencies. He mentioned meetings he attended last week such as a Parole Board meeting, the Southwest Director's meeting, the Augusta University meeting, and the Georgia Association of Gideon's International meeting.

Lastly, Commissioner Dozier thanked Ms. Amy Pataluna (Interim Director, Georgia Correctional Industries) and Mr. Brad Hooks (Assistant Executive Director of Operations for Georgia Correctional Industries), for all their assistance with revamping the canning plant at Georgia Correctional Industries. Commissioner Dozier continued with a brief summary of the Commissioner's dashboard, which is a three-page overview highlighting key areas within the Agency.

Afterwards, Commissioner Dozier asked Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services, to present the "Beyond the Call" employee recognition awards to Dr. Heather Corbett (Area Principal, Southwest Region), Dr. Cleo Griswold (Area Principal, North Region), and Dr. Jennifer Irvin (Area Principal, Southeast Region).

Mr. Sanders stated that each of these regional principals began working in their current role in July 2015. In two years, they have been beneficial in the development of our current academic infrastructure that also includes Regional Educational Program Specialists and soon, Regional Educational Technology Specialists. They have positively impacted educational programming in assisting with technology integration, hiring quality teachers, developing teacher observation instruments, and assisting with facility audits. With their leadership, GDC has increased the number of GEDs from 1,224 in FY16 to 2,127 in FY17, and growing. The academic education unit has been referred to as the "Dream Team" largely because of the leadership of Dr. Corbett, Dr. Griswold, and Dr. Irvin who consistently go beyond the call of duty.

The plaques were presented on behalf of the Board of Corrections and Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier, to Dr. Heather Corbett, Dr. Cleo Griswold, and Dr. Jennifer Irvin. A photo was taken of the plaque presentations.

Thereafter, Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs, introduced the "Beyond the Walls" article on Mr. Sean Rice. The article covered the story of how Mr. Rice joined the 1st Rescued Program group, which is the first dog rescue program established within the Department. Their mission is to rescue dogs from Colwell's partners (Humane Society's Mountain Shelter and Castoff Pet Rescue), which would otherwise be euthanized, while providing a positive impact on the detainees.

Upon his release from the program, Mr. Rice began working as a dog bather and, thanks to experience gained in Rescued, ultimately gained full-time employment as a groomer at Blue Ridge Grooming in Blue Ridge, Georgia. In addition, Mr. Rice received an early release from

his probation on May 26, 2016. He now returns to Cowell PDC every Thursday, as the volunteer grooming instructor.

Next, Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services Division, introduced Dr. Cleo Griswold (Area Principal, North Region), to give an Area Principle/Education presentation. To begin, Dr. Griswold briefly discussed the organizational chart for the educational unit of the Inmate Services Division. Dr. Griswold continued to discuss the academic total for GED testing, GED prep, ABE, and LRR for fiscal year 2017, the goal devices providing instructional videos to offenders, Chromebooks used in GDC classrooms, and the future endeavors for the Inmate Services Division.

This concluded the Commissioner's Report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vice Chairman Alton Russell began the 'Chairman's Report' by asking the Board to discuss the possibility of canceling the August 3rd, Board meeting. There was some discussion and a few Board members stated that "they visited the farm during the April Board meeting in Glennville." Ultimately, there were no interest from Board members to organize a food and farm visit, so Vice Chairman Russell asked for a motion to cancel the August 3rd, Board meeting. Mr. Tommy Rouse made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Dasher, and the motion to cancel the August 3rd Board meeting, was voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

There were no Old or New Business, so Vice Chairman Russell reminded the members that the next Board meeting will be held on September 7th, in Forsyth, and an official Board photo will be taken. Furthermore, Vice Chairman Russell expressed that the Board members reached the Georgia Prison Warden's Association scholarship fund goal of \$1500.00 and the scholarship will be presented to a recipient on June 5, 2017.

To close, Board Attorney Joseph Drolet announced that he will be retiring soon and today's meeting was his final Board meeting. Mr. Drolet thanked the Board, the Department of Corrections, and the Attorney General's office for allowing him the opportunity to serve for many years.

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Russell asked for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Tommy Rouse. The Board meeting was voted "approved" to adjourn by the Board.

Jerry Willis, Chairman

Larry Haynie, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison