

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

June 1, 2023

Forsyth, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

CONFERENCE CALLS:

Ms. Janelle King

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sheriff Stacy Jarrard

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Ms. Tina Piper, Attorney General's Office

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
Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel
Mr. Adam Baswell, Director of OPD
Mr. Jamie Clark, Director of Engineering and Construction Services
Mr. Dedrick Bell, Department of Corrections
Mr. Terry Edge, Former Director of OPD
Ms. Yolande Fraser, Deputy Warden
Ms. Shunta Fears, CSM Correctional Lieutenant
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs
Ms. Gwendolyn Hogan, Executive Assistant
Ms. Ashley Jay, Special Agent, Office of Professional Standards
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Ms. Alyssa Kendricks, Public Affairs
Ms. Dawn Mock, OIT
Mr. Steven Perkins, Warden, Metro Reentry
Ms. Patricia Sweatman, Behavioral Health Counselor Supervisor
Ms. Janine Robinson, Fleet Services Manager
Mr. Henry Rutherford III, Director of OIT
Ms. Latrese Schofield, Business Support Analyst III
Mr. Chris Tiller, Director of GCI
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Sandria Thomas, Behavioral Health Counselor III
Mr. Rob Thrower, Legislative Liaison
Mr. Robert Toole, Former Director of Facilities Operations
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain
Mr. Nicholas Wince, Behavioral Health Counselor I
Mr. Matthew Wolfe, Director, Office of Professional Standards

VISITORS:

Mr. Willie A. Capers, Member, NIC
Mr. Greg Icard, Manager, ABM
Mr. Jessie Mabrey, Program Development Manager, NIC

First, Chairman Larry Haynie called to order the June meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board”) at 10:00 a.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 then confirmed Ms. Janelle King was present via conference call.

Chairman Haynie presented the June 1, 2023 Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Ester Fleming Jr. 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 April 12, 2023 Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve the Minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Chris Clark. The Minutes were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Next, Chairman Haynie presented a Board Resolution to Mr. Terry Edge, former Director of the Office of Professional Development. Mr. Edge retired from the Department after serving 36 faithful years. He was honored for his vast knowledge, strong personal commitment, and for his constant willingness to serve others throughout his career.

The resolution was presented and a photo was taken of the resolution presentation to Mr. Edge.

Chairman Haynie presented a Board Resolution to Mr. Robert Toole, former Director of Facilities Operations. Mr. Toole retired from the Department after serving 30 faithful years. He was honored for his steadfast dedication and commitment to public safety in the State of Georgia.

The resolution was presented and a photo was taken of the resolution presentation to Mr. Toole.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

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

Commissioner Oliver then discussed the 2023 GPWA Conference, the new Mission, Vision and Commissioner’s Top 5, and Core Values for the agency.

Commissioner Oliver then asked Mr. Matthew Wolfe, Director of the Office of Professional Standards to discuss the Beyond the Call. Mr. Wolfe explained that Special Agent (SA) Ashley Jay was being honored for her quick thinking, bravery, and unwavering dedication in apprehending an offender without incident.

A photo was taken of Ms. Jay’s plaque presentation.

Mr. Wolfe continued by discussing the Office of Professional Standards Update. Some of the highlights discussed were contraband seized for Fiscal Year 2023, top facilities where contraband was seized, types of contraband, total contraband arrests, contraband facilitators (phones and drones received), weekly averages, total number of phones received, and drones detected and recovered.

Mr. Wolfe closed with discussing the Contract Counselor arrest at Wheeler Correctional Facility, the Juvenile Civilian arrest at Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison, and an Attorney arrest at Hays State Prison.

This concluded the report of Mr. Wolfe.

To end, Commissioner Oliver asked Ms. Alyssa Kendrick, Marketing Specialist II, with the Office of Public Affairs, to present the GDC Journal Video Series Part 3: Making an Impact.

This concluded the Commissioner’s report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Haynie began the Chairman's Report by giving an update on the Board of Corrections Georgia Prison Warden's Association scholarship fund.

Chairman Haynie advised the Board that the \$1,500 dollar goal was surpassed and that they collected a total of \$1,640 dollars this year. In addition, the 2023 Board of Corrections scholarship recipient is Myles Fears. Myles is the son of Shaina Head, Human Resources Analyst II, Central Office. Myles will be attending Kennesaw State University in the Fall and majoring in Computer Engineering.

Under Old or New Business, Chairman Haynie asked Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel, to present two property resolutions and a bond resolution for approval.

Ms. Ammons stated that she would seek approval of all three resolutions under one vote. The first resolution was for Rogers State Prison House #163 Demo.

The Rogers State Prison House property contains staff housing. On January 9, 2022 at 9:32 p.m. House #163 had a fire, and the house is a total loss and the cost of repair far outweighs the cost to demolish. The Department has determined that House #163 can be demolished without causing harm to the operation of other structures on the Georgia State Prison property and requests the Georgia State Properties Commission complete the demolition.

The second resolution is the Phillips State Prison Construction and Permanent Easements.

The Gwinnett County Water and Sewerage Authority has need for a Permanent Utility Easement and a Temporary Construction Easement for the Cascade Falls Gravity Sewer and Pump Decommissioning Project. The Georgia Department of Corrections has determined that it can accommodate the Permanent Utility Easement and Temporary Construction Easement request without causing harm to the operations of Phillips State Prison. The Georgia Department of Corrections, as custodian of the property is willing to grant and approve Gwinnett County's offer for the Permanent Utility Easement and Temporary Construction Easement.

The third and final resolution is a bond resolution.

The General Assembly has appropriated certain funds so that the Department of Corrections may request the issuance of general obligation debt for certain projects, specifically appropriated for the purpose of financing projects and facilities for the Department of Corrections by means of the acquisition, construction, development, extension, enlargement, or improvement of land, waters, property, highways, buildings, structures, equipment or facilities, both real and personal, necessary or useful in connection therewith.

The resolution requests that the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission issue general obligation bonds for such projects in the aggregate principal amount of \$37,890,000.

Ms. Ammons concluded and asked the Board for approval of all three resolutions.

Chairman Haynie then asked for a motion to approve all three resolutions. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve all three resolutions, which was seconded by Mr. J. C. "Spud" Bowen. The resolutions were voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Next, Chairman Haynie asked Ms. Janine Robinson, Director of Administrative Support Division, Fleet Operations and Risk Management, to present the approval of employment for three (3) Fleet Operations Mechanics and a Welder.

Ms. Robinson began by stating that Mr. Dustin Adams - (GDC Fleet Mechanic), Mr. Harvey Castellon - (GDC Fleet Mechanic), Mr. Henry Lee Thomas - (GDC Fleet Mechanic), and Mr. Shannon Whaley - (Welder), all worked for Fleet Operations.

The specific job duties for these individuals, as defined by Standard Occupational Classification Manual, will include the following:

49-2096: Electronic equipment installers and repairers, motor vehicles Install, diagnose, or repair communications, sound, security, or navigation equipment in motor vehicles.

49-3023: Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles.

49-3093: Tire Repairers and Changers
Repair and replace tires.

51-4150: Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers
Use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand-soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

Ms. Robinson stated all four individuals displayed a strong work ethic, learn quickly, and are very capable.

After that, Chairman Haynie asked for a motion to approve Mr. Dustin Adams - (GDC Fleet Mechanic), Mr. Harvey Castellon - (GDC Fleet Mechanic), Mr. Henry Lee Thomas - (GDC Fleet Mechanic), and Mr. Shannon Whaley - (Welder) employment.

Ms. Andrea Shelton made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Dasher. The employments of all four individuals were voted "approved" by the Board.

Lastly, Mr. Wayne Dasher asked Chairman Haynie to move into Executive Session to discuss an employee matter.

Chairman Haynie asked for a motion to approve moving into Executive Session. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Ester Fleming Jr. The vote for the Board to move into Executive Session were voted "approved" by the Board.

Chairman Haynie asked for a motion to approve moving out of Executive Session. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Ester Fleming Jr. The vote for the Board to move out of Executive Session were voted "approved" by the Board.

Chairman Haynie asked for a motion to approve moving back into Regular Session. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Ester Fleming Jr. The vote for the Board to move back into Regular Session were voted "approved" by the Board.

After moving back into Regular Session there was no discussion. There being no further business, Chairman Haynie reminded the Board that the July and August board meetings were cancelled for the summer months, and that the next Board of Corrections meeting is on September 7, 2023 at State Offices South at Tift College, in Forsyth, Georgia.

The board meeting was adjourned.

Larry Haynie, Chairman

Ester Fleming Jr., Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison