

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

June 6, 2024
Rome, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sheriff Barry H. Babb
Mr. J.C. "Spud" Bowen
Mr. Bruce Carlisle
Mr. Thomas Culpepper
Mr. John B. Edwards
Mr. Ester Fleming Jr.
Sheriff Gary Gullede
Mr. Larry Haynie – Chairman
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard
Sheriff Donnie Pope
Mr. W. D. Strickland
Ms. Rose Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Chris Clark
Ms. Janelle King
Mr. Rossie Ross
Mr. Alton Russell
Mr. Luis "Lou" M. Solis Jr.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Ms. Tina Piper, Attorney General's Office – Absent
Ms. Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner
Mr. Alan Watson, Chief of Staff
Mr. Jackson Defore, Acting Assistant Commissioner of Finance & Admin
Mr. Ahmed Holt, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division
Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services
Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner of Health Services Division
Mr. Adam Baswell, Director of Office of Professional Development
Mr. Antoine Caldwell, North Regional Director
Dr. Gary Caldwell, Manager of Special Projects Unit
Mr. Jamie Clark, Director of Engineering & Construction Services
Ms. Komola Edwards, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Kenneth Ellis, Statewide Chaplain
Dr. Jodi Ford, Director of Career, Technical and Higher Education
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs
Mr. Cliff Hogan, Director of Data Management and Research
Ms. Gwendolyn Hogan, Executive Assistant
Mr. Joshua Jones, Warden of Hays State Prison
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Ms. Jeanie Kasper, Warden of Walker State Prison
Mr. Mike Long, Warden of Floyd County Correctional Institution
Mr. Kenneth Mantle, Statewide County Prisons Coordinator
Ms. Dawn Mock, Office of Information Technology
Mr. James Payne, Deputy Director of Facilities Admin Support
Mr. Joel Toliver, Office of Information Technology
Mr. Matthew Wolfe, Director of Office of Professional Standards

VISITORS:

Ms. Kate Boccia, CEO of NIA
Ms. Jim Drown, NIA
Ms. Kathy Drown, NIA
Ms. Leslee Evans, NIA
Mr. Hector Galindo, Citizen
Ms. Linda Galindo, Citizen
Ms. Anita Edwards, John Edwards Spouse
Mr. Gregory Neal, NIA
Ms. Alissa Northcliff, NIA
Mr. Jeremy Pez, NIA

Ms. Sharon Roy, NIA
Ms. Michele Smith, NIA
Mr. Chris Wolfe, Citizen
Mr. Paul Wolfe, Citizen

First, Chairman Larry Haynie called to order the June meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board”) at 10:07 a.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes. Chairman Haynie then asked Chaplain Kenneth Ellis to deliver the invocation. Following such, Chairman Haynie led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Haynie welcomed and recognized all guests and visitors, and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Chairman Haynie presented the June 6, 2024 Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. W. D. Strickland 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 Haynie presented the May 2, 2024 Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. W. D. Strickland made the 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 Tyrone Oliver discussed the facility visits at Walker State Prison and Hays State Prison, his attendance at the Correctional Leadership Association Southern Region Conference in Virginia, and the Office of Correctional Health of the American Correctional Association presenting the 2024 Correctional Healthcare Leadership Award to Jack “Randy” Sauls, Assistant Commissioner, of the Office of Health Services. The Commissioner also discussed the Study Committee on sentencing information and then he asked Mr. Jay Sanders to introduce Dr. Jodi Ford, Director of Career, Technical and Higher Education, Inmate Services Division, to present a Hays and Walker State Prison Career Technical and Higher Education update.

To begin, Dr. Ford discussed Hays State Prison’s On-the-Job Training at the Georgia Correctional Industries Optical Lab, Skills Training such as OSHA, Forklift, ServSafe and Career Ready Classes, the In2Work (Partnership with Aramark), and the partnership with the University of West Georgia.

Dr. Ford continued with discussing Walker State Prison’s On-the-Job Training (Georgia Correctional Industries Metal Assembly), Skills Training such as OSHA, Forklift, ServSafe, Career Ready Classes, and Soft Skills Classes, Animal Rescue (North Georgia Animal Alliance/Tigger Town), and Welding and Georgia State University.

This concluded Dr. Ford’s report.

Commissioner Oliver then asked Ms. Komola Edwards, Director of Human Resources, to give a brief Human Resources update.

Ms. Edwards began her report by giving a brief overview of the Georgia Department of Corrections Culture Equation. Some of the highlights were discussing the purpose and mission, R2 Vision, Strategic Anchors, Key Results, and Culture Beliefs of the Culture Equation. Ms. Edwards closed by discussing the Correctional Officer Vacancy/Turnovers and the Monthly Rollup Position Count.

This concluded Ms. Edwards’ report.

Commissioner Oliver asked Dr. Gary Caldwell, Manager, Special Projects Unit for Facility Operations, to present the 20 Years of Faith and Character Based Programming within GDC. Dr. Caldwell began by discussing the Faith and Character based program history, dormitory programs,

design, assignments, program facilities, active and future sites, Faith and Character Based Program mission, facts, program criteria, and the 4 Phases of the Faith and Character Based Program.

To close, Dr. Caldwell discussed the 8 Major Focus Components, the Faith And Character Based Program Statistics, and the program testimonials.

This concluded the Commissioner's Report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Under the Chairman's Report, Chairman Haynie began by advising the Board that we collected a total of one thousand six hundred dollars (\$1600.00) towards the 2024 Georgia Prison Warden's Association Board of Corrections scholarship fund, which surpassed our fifteen-hundred-dollar (\$1500.00) goal.

In addition, the 2024 Board of Corrections scholarship recipient is Taylor Alexander. Taylor's mom is Danielle Richardson, who works at Burruss Correctional Training Center. Taylor is currently attending Kennesaw State University and we will have more information on Taylor following the GPWA Conference.

Under Old or New Business, Chairman Haynie asked Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel of the Office of Legal Services, to present three property resolutions.

Ms. Ammons stated that the first was for the McRae Property Transfer. Ms. Ammons stated the State of Georgia owns and holds title to, and the Georgia Building Authority is in custody of, approximately 135 acres in the City of McRae-Helena, Telfair County, Georgia, known as the McRae Women's Facility ("the Property") located at 112 Jim Hammock Drive, McRae-Helena, Georgia 31055. The Georgia Department of Corrections requests that the property totaling approximately 135 acres be transferred from the custody of the Georgia Building Authority to the Georgia Department of Corrections for the operation of the McRae Women's Facility.

Ms. Ammons stated that the second resolution was for the Joe Kennedy Farm – Property Purchase. Ms. Ammons stated that Kimberly and Randy D. Robinson holds title to 4.53 acres located at 1310 Georgia Highway 152, Lyons, Toombs County, Georgia. The Georgia Department of Corrections intends to use the property as part of the Joe Kennedy Farm complex and is desirous of acquiring the Property for the consideration of \$260,000.

Ms. Ammons stated that the third resolution is for the Washington Power Line Move. Ms. Ammons stated that the State of Georgia owns and holds title to, and the Georgia Department of Corrections is in custody of, property in Washington County, Georgia, known as the Washington State Prison ("the Property") located at 13262 Georgia 24, Davisboro, Georgia 31018. The Georgia Power Company has need of a temporary Revocable Lease Agreement and a Non-Exclusive Utility Easement to install new 3 (Three) phase service to the compost site due to the current service needing to be relocated from the new building site. The Georgia Department of Corrections has determined that it can accommodate the easement request without causing harm to the operation of Washington State Prison.

Ms. Ammons asked the Board for a motion to approve all three property resolutions. Chairman Larry Haynie then asked for a motion to approve all resolutions and Mr. W. D. Strickland made a motion to approve the resolutions, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. All three resolutions were voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Chairman Haynie thanked Warden Jeanie Kasper, Warden Joshua Jones, Mr. James Payne, Mr. Mike Long, and Floyd County with the assistance of the board meeting and events.

Chairman Haynie reminded the Board that there were no meetings scheduled for the summer months (July and August) and that the next board meeting will on September 6, 2024 at State Offices South at Tift College in Forsyth, Georgia.

Lastly, Chairman Haynie asked the Board if they would like to draft a board resolution for former Facilities Director Stan Shepard. Ms. Rose Williams made a motion to approve the

drafting of the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. W. D. Strickland. The drafting of the resolution were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

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

Larry Haynie, Chairman

J.C. “Spud” Bowen, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison