

**BOARD OF CORRECTIONS**

**March 2, 2017**

**Forsyth, Georgia**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Jerry Willis, Chairman  
Mr. Mr. Duke Blackburn  
Mr. Christopher Clark  
Mr. Mac Collins  
Mr. Wayne Dasher  
Mr. Carl Franklin  
Sheriff Roger Garrison  
Mr. Larry Haynie  
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard  
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse  
Mr. Alton Russell  
Ms. Andrea Shelton  
Mr. W. D. Strickland  
Ms. Rose Williams

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Mike Coggins  
Mr. Bruce Hudson  
Mr. John Mayes  
Ms. Rocio D. Woody

**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  
Mr. Darrell Clark, Warden of Helms Facility  
Mr. Terry Edge, Director of Training  
Mr. Hal Gibson, Director of Engineering & Construction Services  
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs  
Mr. Brad Hooks, Assistant Executive Director of Operations for Georgia Correctional Industries  
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison  
Mr. Keith Lank, Fugitive Unit  
Mr. Robert Lawson, Deputy Warden of Harris County  
Mr. Pete Morris, Office of Professional Standards  
Ms. Cynthia Nelson, Warden of Harris County  
Mr. Clay Nix, Assistant Director of Office of Professional Standards  
Ms. Amy Pataluna, Georgia Correctional Industries  
Ms. Donna Tebought, Director Risk Reduction Services  
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources  
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain  
Mr. Lyle Wilkes, Office of Professional Standards

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:**

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**VISITORS:**

Ms. Jackie Franklin, Wife of Carl Franklin  
Ms. Kristen Kinney, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget

First, Chairman Jerry Willis called to order the March meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board” at 10:00 a.m. 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 before recognizing all guests and visitors, and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Chairman Willis presented the March Agenda to the Board for approval. Vice Chairman Alton Russell then 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 February Minutes to the Board for approval. Vice Chairman Alton Russell made the motion to approve, which was also seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. The Minutes were then voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

### **COMMISSIONER’S REPORT**

Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier began his report by giving a summary of the Commissioner’s dashboard, which is a three-page overview highlighting key areas within the Agency.

Afterwards, Commissioner Dozier asked Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs, to introduce the “Beyond the Walls” article and short video on Mr. Curtavious Gainey. Mr. Gainey was released from prison early for good behavior, earning his high school diploma through a state charter program. In the short video, Mr. Gainey stated that earning his high school diploma helped put his life back on track.

Thereafter, Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services Division, introduced Dr. Steven Turner, Statewide Chaplain, to give the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Overview (NOBTS) presentation. In his presentation, Chaplain Turner discussed the requirements for the entry of the NOBTS program, courses that are offered through the program, practical experiences, general NOBTS statistics, current assignments, and facilities that participate in the program. Chaplain Turner also discussed choir practice, worship services, aide, and the future of the NOBTS program.

Immediately following, Mr. Ricky Myrick, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division, introduced Superintendent Darrell Clark from the Helms Facility to present a facility update. Superintendent Clark began his overview by stating that the closing of Metro State Prison was the determining factor for the Helms Facility being transformed and renovated into a medium security facility. In addition, Superintendent Clark discussed the facility’s transformation, medical, the dual gender facility, programs, and the dialysis room. Also, Mr. Clark discussed intake, labor and delivery, benefits of the immediate discharge facility, and transportation.

Mr. Keith Lank, Special Agent in Charge of the Fugitive Unit, presented the “Beyond the Call” employee recognition plaque on behalf of the Board of Corrections and Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier to Special Agents Mr. Lyle Wilkes and Mr. Pete Morris. A photo was also taken of the plaque presentation.

Mr. Lank stated that Mr. Wilkes and Mr. Morris were two of the ten First Responders that were honored for their heroic acts at this year’s 200 Club of the Coastal Empire Valor Awards. Typically, a 200 Club committee selects one member from law enforcement and one from fire and rescue, but this year, the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force were honored for their role in an operation where one of their own, Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force Chief Inspector Patrick Carothers, lost his life.

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 appointments of Ms. Cynthia Nelson, Warden of Harris County, and Mr. Robert Larson, Deputy Warden of Harris County. Chairman Willis called upon Mr. Duke Blackburn, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, to give the Board the Committee’s recommendation on both appointments.

Mr. Blackburn stated that the Facilities Committee received the Board's packets for Ms. Nelson and Mr. Larson, and after the review of their reports, the Committee unanimously recommended that both appointees be approved to their respective positions at Harris County Correctional Institution.

Mr. Duke Blackburn then made the motion to approve both candidates, which was seconded by Sheriff Stacy Jarrard, Rose Williams, and W. D. Strickland. The motion was voted "approved" by the Board. Chairman Willis congratulated Ms. Nelson and Mr. Larson, and both candidates in-turn thanked the Board for the opportunity.

After the candidates were approved, Chairman Willis gave an update on the Board of Corrections flower fund. There was also a collection for the Georgia Prison Warden's Association scholarship fund. Additionally, Mr. Wayne Dasher gave an update on the Glennville Board meeting scheduled for April 13th.

Next, Chairman Willis continued with Old and New Business by asking the Board members for a motion to approve the following resolutions:

**Correctional Officers' Week:** Recognizing the week of May 1 - 7, 2017, for the faithful and dedicated service performed by correctional officers each day.

**National Nurses' Week:** Recognizing the week of May 6 - 12, 2017, for the vital roles nurses play in the health care industry, and for their commitment in providing healthcare to each individual.

**Baldwin State Prison/Georgia Power Easement:** SolAmerica Energy, an alternate energy generating utility company, currently has a permanent utility easement for the construction and operation of a transmission line. The transmission line connects a solar electricity generating facility adjacent to the prison property with the electrical distribution system. Georgia Power Company has a need to install transmission equipment to connect to the SolAmerica transmission line. The Georgia Department of Corrections has determined that it can accommodate the easement request without causing harm to the operations of the Baldwin State Prison.

Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve all three resolutions, which was seconded by Sheriff Roger Garrison. All three resolutions were voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Next, Commissioner Dozier and Ms. Amy Pataluna presented the Approval of Employment for two Georgia Correctional Industries employees. Commissioner Dozier began by reminding the Board that as Commissioner, he is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Georgia Correctional Industries (GCI) and the Board members serve dual roles as the Georgia Correctional Industries Board as well as the Board of Corrections.

Commissioner Dozier continued by stating that the Department and GCI are authorized by state law to hire an individual who has a misdemeanor conviction without prior approval of the Board. However, if an individual has a felony conviction, prior approval by the Board is needed. As such, the Board was asked to approve the two Georgia Correctional Industries employees.

The first employee was Mr. Fernando Lindo, who worked for Georgia Correctional Industries while housed at a transitional center. During that time, Mr. Lindo developed the skill of making CAD drawings. The second employee was Mr. Cabastain Jenkins, who worked for GCI in the warehouse area while housed at a transitional center.

Commissioner Dozier continued by stating that since both individuals previously worked with GCI, they would be valuable and are to be considered assets to the Georgia Correctional Industries, if they are hired. Furthermore, these positions are held at GCI Headquarters and not a state prison, so this would give both individuals an opportunity to prove themselves beyond what they've already done. Commissioner Dozier reiterated that this would jump start their transition back into society, and that the agency has done this in the past which was very successful. Ms. Pataluna nodded in agreement and added a few concurring comments.

After that, Chairman Willis asked for a motion to approve both Mr. Lindo and Mr. Jenkins' employment. Sheriff Roger Garrison made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams. The employment for both individuals was voted "approved" by the Board.

To conclude the meeting, there were several announcements:

- Chairman Willis reminded the Board members that the October Board meeting will be held at Central State Prison;
- Board members Andrea Shelton, Mac Collins, Rose Williams, Wayne Dasher, Tommy Rouse, W.D. Strickland, and Chairman Jerry Willis briefly spoke about their GED graduations and facility visits for the month; and
- Ms. Andrea Shelton mentioned that the inmate art show which was held February 13-14<sup>th</sup> at the Twin Towers, in Atlanta, raised over six thousand dollars;

To close, Chairman Willis reminded the members that the next Board of Corrections meeting will be on April 13<sup>th</sup> in Glennville. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jerry Willis, Chairman

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Larry Haynie, Secretary

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Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison