

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

**March 1, 2018
Newnan, Georgia**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jerry Willis, Chairman
Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Chris Clark
Mr. Mike Coggins
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. John Mayes
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse
Mr. Alton Russell
Ms. Andrea Shelton
Mr. W. D. Strickland
Ms. Rose Williams
Ms. June Wood
Ms. Rocio D. Woody

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Mac Collins
Mr. Carl Franklin
Sheriff Roger Garrison
Mr. Larry Haynie
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Gregory C. Dozier, Commissioner
Mr. Ricky Myrick, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Scott Poitevint, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Chief of Staff
Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel
Mr. Dan Brown, Director of Office of Information Technology
Mr. Terry Edge, Director of Office of Professional Development
Mr. Hal Gibson, Director of Engineering & Construction Services
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Office of Public Affairs
Mr. Walter Hudson, Office of Professional Standards
Mr. Brad Johnson, Canine Operations Chief
Mr. Jamey Jordan, Canine Handler
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Mr. Bill McKenzie, Warden of Coweta County Prison
Mr. Clay Nix, Director Office of Professional Standards
Ms. Amy Pataluna, Deputy Executive Director, Georgia Correctional Industries
Mr. Mike Riley, Office of Professional Standards
Mr. Jack Roberts, County Prisons Coordinator
Mr. Chris Tiller, Executive Director, Georgia Correctional Industries
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain
Mr. Alfred Weems, Correctional Officer, GDCP
Mr. Corey Youngberg, Correctional Officer, GDCP

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General

VISITORS:

Mr. Bob Blackburn, Coweta County Commissioner
Mr. Mark Fenniger, Coweta County Major
Mr. Michael Fouts, Coweta County Administrator
Mr. Wayne Garner, Former Commissioner of Corrections
M. Wynne Graham, Southern Center for Human Rights
Lieutenant Tony Grant, Coweta Sheriff Office
Mr. Jay Jones, Coweta County Emergency Management Director
Mr. Mark Morris, Department of Community Supervision
Mr. Joe Pope, Reverend

Ms. Susan Strickland, wife of W. D. Strickland
Ms. Vonnie Stewart, Teachers Retirement System of Georgia
Lieutenant Colonel Len Wood, Coweta Sheriff Office
Colonel Jimmy Yarbrough, Chief Deputy Coweta Sheriff Office
Sheriff Mike Yeager, Coweta Sheriff Office

First, Chairman Jerry Willis called to order the March 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 and Vice Chairman Alton Russell presented Ms. Vonnie Stewart, former Executive Assistant, with an honorary resolution on behalf of the Board of Corrections for her many years of dedicated service in state government.

Chairman Willis presented the March Agenda to the Board for approval. Vice Chairman Alton Russell made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Dasher. The Agenda was voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Chairman Willis also presented the February Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was also seconded by Vice Chairman Alton Russell. The Minutes were then voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier began his report by briefly thanking the Warden of Coweta County and various individuals that participated in hosting the board meeting and events. In addition, Commissioner Dozier thanked Ms. Andrea Shelton for assisting with the inmate art show that was held at the Twin Towers in Atlanta.

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. Jamey Jordan, Canine Handler, to present the K9 Unit Training Program update. Mr. Jordan explained that the Georgia Department of Corrections has twelve kennels strategically located throughout the state so that every region could have a K9 available when needed. Plus, each canine handler has two assigned dogs with the exception of Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison and Dodge State Prison, which houses one explosive dog in addition to the two assigned dogs.

Then, Mr. Jordan continued explaining that the department deploys four categories of K9s: narcotic detection, explosive detection, cell phone detection and tracking. In addition, Mr. Jordan discussed purchasing detection dogs through various vendors, training dogs and handlers at the Coweta County kennels and accepting donated dogs. To conclude, Mr. Jordan discussed bloodhounds being used for tracking down escapees from state institutions, county institutions, local sheriff and police departments. Also discussed were utilizing bloodhounds for missing persons, in-house training, utilizing donated hounds, rescues, the breeding program, the Coweta kennels (training facility), conducting quarterly evaluations and on-going and advanced K9 training purposes.

Following such, Mr. Clay Nix, Director of Office of Professional Standards, presented the “Beyond the Call” employee recognition award to Mr. Jamey Jordan, Canine Handler at Coweta County Prison. Mr. Nix stated that Mr. Jordan has poured his time and efforts into training canines throughout the state. Mr. Jordan has become an experienced canine handler who displays character traits, knowledge and the work ethic it takes to successfully train both the dogs and their handlers. Also, Mr. Jordan oversees all specialized Canine training while also coordinating mandate re-certifications, in-service classes, and any other training mandated by the state. He oversees the training program and has solidified the unit with basic standards that all must

maintain. Mr. Nix presented Mr. Jordan with a plaque on behalf of the Board of Corrections and Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier. A photo was taken of the plaque presentation.

This concluded the Commissioner's Report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Jerry Willis began the 'Chairman's Report' 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 asked Mr. Wayne Dasher to briefly give an update on the April Board meeting that will be held in Glennville, Georgia. Mr. Dasher stated that the agenda with information is included in the Board members packet and that he looks forward to everyone attending.

Chairman Willis began Old or New Business with asking the Board members for a motion to approve the following resolutions:

Correctional Officers' Week: Recognizing the week of May 6 - 12, 2018, for the faithful and dedicated service performed by correctional officers each day.

National Nurses' Week: Recognizing the week of May 6 - 12, 2018, for the vital roles nurses play in the health care industry, and for their commitment in providing healthcare to each individual.

Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve both resolutions, which was seconded by Vice Chairman Alton Russell. Both resolutions were voted "approved" by the Board as presented.

Chairman Willis continued by asking Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel, to present a property resolution on the transfer of I.W. Davis PDC to Jackson County.

Ms. Ammons briefly stated that Jackson County is interested in using the buildings and premises in support of its mission and the Georgia Department of Corrections has ceased operations on the property and has no intent to use the property in the future. The Georgia Department of Corrections is willing to transfer custody of said property to the Georgia State Properties Commission.

Chairman Willis asked for a motion to approve the property resolution. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Ms. Andrea Shelton, and the property resolution was 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 April 12th at the Garden Club in Glennville, Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jerry Willis, Chairman

Larry Haynie, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison