

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

May 7, 2015

Augusta, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Rose Williams, Chairman
Ms. Sonja R. Allen-Smith
Mr. Lee Anderson
Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Mac Collins
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Carl L. Franklin
Mr. John Mayes
Mr. J. M. "Bob" Plemons
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse
Mr. Alton Russell
Ms. Andrea Shelton
Mr. Jerry Willis
Ms. Rocio D. Woody

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. William S. Acuff
Sheriff Roger Garrison
Mr. Bruce Hudson
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Commissioner Homer Bryson
Mr. Gregory C. Dozier, Assistant Commissioner
Dr. L.C. "Buster" Evans, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Assistant Commissioner
Ms. Belinda Davis, Field Operations Manager
Dr. Jim Degroot, Statewide Mental Health Director
Ms. Gail Devore, Assistant Director of Nursing, GDC/GCHC-GRU
Ms. Sandra Farmer, Assistant Director of Nursing, GDC/GCHC-GRU
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs
Ms. Pamela Gould, Chief Probation Officer (Augusta)
Mr. Rick Jacobs, Director of Facilities Operations
Mr. Robert E. Jones, General Counsel
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Mr. Michael Kraft, Director of Probation Operations
Dr. Sharon Lewis, Statewide Medical Director
Mr. Willis Lewis, Chaplain
Ms. Charlene Martin, Director of Nursing, GDC/GCHC-GRU
Mr. Tom McElhenney, Director of Health Services
Mr. Ricky Myrick, Director of OIC
Mr. Roy Norman, Chaplain
Mr. Eric Peacock, Investigations Unit
Mr. Scott Poitevint, Director of Admin Division
Mr. Mike Riley, Investigations Unit
Mr. Stan Shepard, Warden of ASMP
Mr. Nicholas Spates, Tech Service
Mr. Scott Wilkes, Warden Augusta TC
Mr. Norman Wilson, Executive Director of GCI

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General

VISITORS:

Mrs. Lynn Blackburn, wife of Duke Blackburn
Ms. Gloria Frazier, State Representative-District 126

Chairman Rose Williams called the May meeting of the Board of Corrections to order at 10:40 a.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes. Chairman Williams asked

Chaplain Roy Norman to give the invocation. Chairman Rose Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance, recognized all guests and visitors and the Board meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed to business.

Chairman Williams presented the May Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Ms. Sonja Allen-Smith and the Agenda was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Chairman Williams presented the April Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Mr. Lee Anderson and the Minutes were voted approved by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Homer Bryson began his report by asking State Representative Gloria Frazier to stand and say a few words. Representative Frazier stated she wanted to support Commissioner Bryson as the new Commissioner of Corrections and that she was glad to be able to be in attendance. Thereafter, Commissioner Bryson discussed the Upcoming Events for May, June and July. Significantly mentioned were the Public Employee Recognition Week, Corrections Family Day in Milledgeville and the GDC Annual Awards in Forsyth. Subsequently, Commissioner Bryson continued his report with the Agency Reorganization slides depicting organizational charts on the restructuring of the agency beginning July 1st.

To follow, Mr. Michael Kraft presented on House Bill 310 which is the creation of state agency the Department of Community Supervision. In his presentation, Mr. Kraft stated that this bill creates the Department of Community Supervision and over 1600 staff will move to the new agency from the Georgia Department of Corrections along with 162,064 probationers. The headquarters for this agency will be in the Sloppy Floyd building at the Twin Towers in Atlanta. The 4th floor will be the Department of Community Supervision, the 8th floor will become the new Executive suite and the 11th floor in the west tower will be the Office of Information Technology and the servers. Plus, this agency will be structured into 49 Probation circuits and 10 districts set up to align with these judicial districts. To conclude, Mr. Kraft showed a map of the State of Georgia consisting of the internal administrative areas of operations and Mr. Kraft also provided a hyperlink for the Department of Community Supervision web page.

Next, Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs, presented and introduced the new *Impact Georgia* newsletter. Ms. Heath stated this web-based publication enables us to bring news and events from across the state, in a format that reflects our commitment to telling the Georgia Department of Corrections story to the public. In addition, the interactive links throughout the magazine will connect the viewer to the Department social media sites, where you can view additional photos and videos.

To end, Mr. Gregory C. Dozier, Assistant Commissioner, spoke briefly regarding his trip to Angola State Prison. In addition, Mr. Dozier briefly spoke on Georgia's Prison Reentry Initiative, Walker State Prison Faith Based Program and Phillips State Prison Seminary Program.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Williams gave an update on the scholarship fund for the Georgia Prison Warden's Association (GPWA) stating the scholarship amount is for \$1275.00. Chairman Williams stated the GPWA Conference will be held at Lake Lanier Islands Resort on June 7-10, 2015. The Board of Corrections Scholarship Fund will be presented at the Awards Ceremony Banquet on Monday, June 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Williams continued asking for any Old or New Business. There were a few resolutions that needed the Board's approval and signature so Chairman Williams asked Mr. Robert E. Jones, General Counsel of Legal Services, to present the property resolution for the Atlanta Southwest Probation Office property acquisition. Mr. Jones stated this resolution is to

acquire the property located at 276 Memorial Drive from the Department of Transportation for the purpose of converting it to the Atlanta Southwest Probation Office.

Chairman Williams asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. J. M. "Bob" Plemons made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Ms. Sonja Allen-Smith. There was a brief discussion as Ms. Andrea Shelton had a brief question. Ultimately, the property resolution was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Next, Chairman Williams asked Mr. Scott Poitevint to present a bond resolution. Mr. Poitevint stated this board resolution is one bond package with six separate bonds within the package. The general obligation bond sale aggregate principal amount is \$31,075,000.00. Mr. Poitevint continued stating the bond is for the purpose of financing capital 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. Chairman Williams asked for a motion to approve the bond resolution. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Ms. Sonja Allen-Smith, and the bond resolution was then voted approved by the Board as presented.

Afterwards, Mr. Robert E. Jones, General Counsel of Legal Services thanked the Board and stated that he would be going to the Department of Community Supervision as the General Counsel.

Chairman Williams concluded the meeting with several announcements such as thanking Warden Stan Shepard (ASMP), Superintendent Scott Wilkes (Augusta TC) and Board member Mr. Lee Anderson for hosting the Board meeting. Additionally, Chairman Williams thanked all correctional officers, nurses and GDC staff for their service to the agency and to the State of Georgia with recognizing that it was State Employee Recognition Week.

Lastly, Chairman Williams advised the Board there was a "get well" card being passed around to sign for Ms. Jackie Franklin, the wife of Mr. Carl Franklin. Likewise, Chairman Williams thanked the Board for their cards, flowers and support to her during the loss of a loved one.

To conclude, Chairman Williams gave an update on the Flower Fund, reminded the Food & Farm/GCI committee of their presentation date and Chairman Williams reminded the Board that there will be a discussion at the June Board meeting regarding the July and August Board meetings.

Chairman Williams reminded the members the next Board meeting will be on June 4th at State Offices South at Tift College in Forsyth.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Rose Williams, Chairman

Alton Russell, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison