

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

May 4, 2017

Forsyth, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Christopher Clark
Mr. Mac Collins
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Carl Franklin
Sheriff Roger Garrison
Mr. Larry Haynie
Mr. Bruce Hudson
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard
Mr. John Mayes
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse
Mr. Alton Russell
Ms. Andrea Shelton
Mr. W. D. Strickland

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Mike Coggins
Ms. Rose Williams
Mr. Jerry Willis, Chairman
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
Ms. Lori Benoit, Education Program Specialist
Mr. Dan Brown, Director of Office of Technology
Mr. Robert Curtis, Deputy Warden/Screven County
Mr. Terry Edge, Director of Office of Professional Development
Mr. Hal Gibson, Director of Engineering & Construction Services
Mr. Freddy Grimsley, Deputy Warden of Security/Terrell County
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs
Mr. Brad Hooks, Assistant Executive Director of Operations for Georgia Correctional Industries
Mr. Walter Hudson, Office of Professional Standards
Mr. Anthony Jenkins, Director of Education
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Mr. Clay Nix, Assistant Director of Office of Professional Standards
Ms. Amy Pataluna, Interim Director, Georgia Correctional Industries
Ms. Laverne Richardson, Deputy Warden of Care & Treatment/Terrell County
Mr. Mike Riley, Office of Professional Standards
Mr. Allen Ross, Deputy Warden of Administration, Dooly State Prison
Mr. Michael Sapp, Chaplain
Mr. Cedric Taylor, Warden of Baldwin State Prison
Ms. Betsy Thomas, Director of Human Resources

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General

VISITORS:

Mr. Lester Curtis, Citizen
Ms. Olivia Frank, Southern Center for Human Rights
Ms. Jackie Franklin, Wife of Carl Franklin
Mr. David Pratt, Southern Strategy Group

First, Vice Chairman Alton Russell called to order the May meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board”) at 10:00 a.m. Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes.

Vice Chairman Russell then asked Chaplain Michael Sapp to deliver the invocation. Following such, Vice Chairman Russell led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance before recognizing all guests and visitors, and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

To begin, Vice Chairman Russell announced that Chairman Jerry Willis was unable to attend the Board meeting and in his absence, Vice Chairman Russell would continue with business. Vice Chairman Russell presented the May Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Tommy Rouse. The Agenda was voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

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

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier began his report by discussing the Employee Appreciation Cookout, the North Regional Office Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the Public Safety Memorial Ceremony at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center, and the Tactical Challenge at the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison Firing Range. Commissioner Dozier continued with a brief summary of the Commissioner’s dashboard, which is a three-page overview highlighting key areas within the Agency.

Afterwards, Commissioner Dozier asked Mr. Ricky Myrick, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division, to present the “Beyond the Call” employee recognition plaque on behalf of the Board of Corrections and Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier to Mr. Allen F. Ross, Deputy Warden of Administration. Mr. Ross was honored for his heroic efforts in helping an individual escape from a vehicular fire.

Next, Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier asked Mr. Ricky Myrick, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division, to introduce Warden Cedric Taylor from Baldwin State Prison, to present a facility update. Warden Taylor began his overview by discussing the overall mission of Baldwin State Prison, when the facility was built, where in Georgia the facility is located, special missions for the facility, outside details, and security. In addition, he discussed that Baldwin State Prison is a level five facility, with classification levels from minimum to close. Plus, Warden Taylor discussed the mission for the food service department, the business administration office, medical, dental, and mental health services provided. To conclude, Warden Taylor discussed the housing population levels, security and non- security positions, Baldwin State Prison education and programming, and reentry efforts for offenders.

Thereafter, Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs, introduced the “Beyond the Walls” article on Ms. Tara Gazzuolo. The article covered the story of how Ms. Gazzuolo took the Visual Arts and Communication Design course offered at Pulaski State Prison through the Middle Georgia Technical college and was able to put the skills she gained to use. Ms. Gazzuolo is an Account Executive at Parrallax Digital Studios, where she uses her graphic design skills daily. Ms. Gazzuolo is most proud of her online graphic art business, Butterfly Grafix, which has clients all over the United States.

Next, Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner of Inmate Services Division, introduced Ms. Lori Benoit, Education Program Specialist, to give the Charter School Program presentation. In her presentation, Ms. Benoit discussed the partnerships with the Foothills Education Charter

High School, teacher recruitments, school hours, and the curriculum. In addition, Ms. Benoit discussed the enrollment process, the waiting list procedure, the amount of credits that were completed by students, staffing, and the number of graduates that completed the program at Lee Arrendale State Prison and Burruss Correctional Training Center. To close, Ms. Benoit discussed future endeavors at Phillips State Prison, upcoming partnerships with Georgia Military College, and graduate program statistics from each facility.

This concluded the Commissioner's Report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vice Chairman Alton Russell began the 'Chairman's Report' by moving into Regular Session to approve the appointments of Mr. Freddy Grimsley – Deputy Warden of Terrell County, Ms. Laverne Richardson – Deputy Warden of Care and Treatment, Terrell County, and Mr. Robert Curtis – Deputy Warden of Screven County.

Vice Chairman Russell called upon Mr. Duke Blackburn, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, to give the Board the Committee's recommendation on each appointment.

Mr. Blackburn stated that the Facilities Committee received the board packets for Mr. Grimsley and for Ms. Richardson and after review of both reports, the committee unanimously recommends appointment approvals for Mr. Grimsley and Ms. Richardson to their respective positions at Terrell County.

Mr. Duke Blackburn made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. John Mayes, and the motion was voted approved by the Board as presented. Vice Chairman Russell congratulated Mr. Grimsley and Ms. Richardson and both candidates thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Next, Mr. Blackburn stated that the Facilities Committee received the board packet for Mr. Robert Curtis – Deputy Warden of Screven County, and after review of his report, the committee recommends to table his appointment approval for the purpose of requesting that the committee be provided with the minimum requirements to approve this appointment.

Mr. Duke Blackburn made the motion to table, which was then seconded by Mr. Tommy Rouse, and the motion to table the appointment was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Vice Chairman Russell continued his report by giving an update on the Columbus Board meeting scheduled for June 1st, and updating and collecting for the Georgia Prison Warden's Association scholarship fund.

Vice Chairman Russell then asked the Board to discuss the possibility of canceling the July 6th, Board meeting. There were no discussions, so Vice Chairman Russell asked for a motion to cancel the July 6th, Board meeting. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Secretary Larry Haynie, and the motion to cancel the July 6th Board meeting, was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Additionally, Vice Chairman Russell asked the Board to consider possibly having a farm tour for the August 3rd Board meeting, and that the Board would discuss this possibility at the next Board meeting.

Vice Chairman Russell continued with Old or New Business asking Mr. Scott Poitevint, Assistant Commissioner, Administration and Finance Division, to present a bond resolution for the 2017 Issuance of the State of Georgia General Obligation Bond package totaling \$43,725,000. The bond is 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 and equipment or facilities.

Vice Chairman Russell asked for a motion to approve the bond package. Sheriff Roger Garrison made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Mr. Wayne Dasher and the bond package was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Furthermore, Vice Chairman Russell asked Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel of Legal Services, to present three property resolutions:

- Central State Prison Warden's House Demolition
- Metro State Prison Training Center Demolition
- Fleet Atlanta Building Demolition

Ms. Ammons gave a brief description of all three properties and stated that all three buildings are not in use, contain no salvageable equipment of value, have been determined to be economically infeasible to rehabilitate or remodel into a usable condition, and are identified as hazardous in their present states. Therefore, we are asking for the Board's approval to
demolish
these buildings.

Vice Chairman Russell asked for a motion to approve all three property resolutions. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Ms. Andrea Shelton and the property resolutions were voted approved by the Board as presented.

Vice Chairman Russell reminded the members that the next Board meeting will be held on June 1st, in Columbus, Georgia, and the official Board photo will be taken on September 7th.

There being no further business, the Board meeting was adjourn.

Jerry Willis, Chairman

Larry Haynie, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison