

**BOARD OF CORRECTIONS**

**November 5, 2020**

**Forsyth, Georgia**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Duke Blackburn  
Mr. J.C. "Spud" Bowen  
Mr. Chris Clark  
Mr. Wayne Dasher  
Mr. Ester Fleming Jr.  
Ms. Janelle King  
Mr. John Mayes  
Sheriff Donnie Pope  
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse  
Mr. Alton Russell-Chairman  
Ms. Andrea Shelton  
Mr. Luis "Lou" M. Solis Jr.  
Mr. W. D. Strickland  
Ms. Rose Williams

**CONFERENCE CALL:**

Mr. Bill White

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Sheriff Barry H. Babb  
Mr. Mike Coggins  
Mr. Larry Haynie  
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE CONFERENCE CALL:**

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:**

Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Commissioner  
Mr. Ricky Myrick, Chief of Staff  
Mr. Ahmed Holt, Assistant Commissioner  
Mr. Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner  
Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner  
Mr. Alan Watson, Assistant Commissioner  
Ms. Jennifer Ammons, General Counsel  
Mr. Dan Brown, Director of Office of Information Technology  
Mr. Sharrod Campbell, Office of Professional Standards  
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Public Affairs  
Ms. Angela Ivester, OIT  
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison  
Ms. Dawn Mock, OIT  
Mr. Clay Nix, Director of Office of Professional Standards  
Mr. Mike Riley, Office of Professional Standards  
Mr. Savario Spencer, AV Specialist  
Mr. Chris Tiller, Executive Director of GCI  
Dr. Steven Turner, Chaplain  
Mr. Dexter Walker, OIT

**VISITORS:**

Mr. Randy Robertson, State Senator (Harris County)

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

Chairman Russell then asked Chaplain Steven Turner to deliver the invocation. Following such, Chairman Russell led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Russell welcomed and recognized all guests and visitors, and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Chairman Russell presented the November 2020 Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Mr. W.D. Strickland. The Agenda was voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Chairman Russell also presented the October Minutes to the Board for approval. Ms. Rose Williams made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. W.D. Strickland. The Minutes were then voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

### **COMMISSIONER’S REPORT**

To begin the Commissioner’s Report, Commissioner Timothy C. Ward discussed the dashboard, which is a three-page overview highlighting key areas within the Agency.

To follow, Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner of Health Services Division, to present a Division Update. Mr. Sauls began his presentation by giving a Flu Vaccination Update, discussing Close Contact- Quarantine, Rapid COVID-19 Testing (Abbott BinaxNOW), and the COVID-19 Vaccination Plan for the Agency.

Some of the highlights Mr. Sauls discussed were the Influenza/COVID-19 Guidance, the Flu Season, the Vaccination, Incidence of Flu in the U.S, Tamiflu, Special Populations, Employee Education, Offender Education, and the Weekly Flu Vaccination Monitoring.

To conclude, Mr. Sauls discuss the COVID - 19 testing, the Point-of-Care Testing, the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card, and the COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccination Plan

This concluded Mr. Sauls’ report.

Next, Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Alan Watson, Assistant Commissioner of Administration and Finance Division, to give a Division Update.

Mr. Watson began his report by discussing the Fiscal Year 2016 through 2021 bond funding by category. Some of the items discussed in his report were emergency repairs, sustainment, equipment, new construction expansion, major repairs and renovation, cell phone interdiction, hardening, lock and control, facility security and life safety – cctv, facility security and life safety - fire alarms, medical renovations, inmate cell doors, buses, vehicles, and the Metro Reentry Facility.

To close, Mr. Watson discussed the Fiscal Year 2021 Bond Appropriations and the Fiscal Year 2021 Project Details statewide.

This concluded Mr. Watson’s report.

Following such, Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Clay Nix, Director of Office of Professional Standards, to give an Office of Professional Standards Update.

Mr. Nix began by discussing who the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) Team consisted of, what OPS handles, and he discussed the mission for each unit that fell under the Office of Professional Standards. Mr. Nix discussed the training that his employees receive, the Criminal Investigations Division, Canine Operations, Fugitive Apprehension Unit, Special Response Team, Intelligence Division, Criminal Intelligence Division, Digital Forensics Unit, and Drone Incidents. To close, Mr. Nix discussed the Security Threat Group, the Organized Crime and Gang Unit, Internal Affairs, Compliance Division, ACA Accreditation, and PREA.

This concluded Mr. Nix’s report and the Commissioner’s Report.

### **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Alton Russell began the Chairman’s Report by asking Board member Rose Williams to discuss the 2020 Nomination of Officers.

Ms. Williams stated that the Nominations Committee met, but since there were limited members that attended the meeting, the Committee chose to let the nominations be discussed at the December Committee meeting. Ms. Williams stated that the recommendations and nominations will be addressed at the December board meeting.

There was no Old or New Business, so Chairman Russell reminded the Board that the next Board of Corrections meeting is on December 3rd in Forsyth.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Alton Russell, Chairman

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Duke Blackburn, Secretary

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Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison