

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

September 6, 2012

Forsyth, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Tommy M. Rouse, Chairman
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Carl Franklin
Mr. Bruce Hudson
Mr. John Mayes
Mr. Ashley Paulk, Jr.
Sheriff Carlton Powell
Dr. Henrie Treadwell
Mr. Roger Waldrop
Mr. Justin Wiedeman
Ms. Rose Williams
Mr. Jerry Willis

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief George Potter
Mr. Jim Whitehead, Sr.

CONFERENCE CALL:

Mr. Bill Acuff
Sherriff Roger Garrison

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Brian Owens, Commissioner
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Stan Cooper, Director of Probation Operations
Ms. Becky East, Director of Administration Division
Mr. Danny Horne, Chaplain
Mr. Robert E. Jones, Director Legal Services
Ms. Simone Juhmi-Green, Board Liaison
Mr. John Laurence, Investigations Unit
Mr. Kenneth Mantle, Executive Assistant
Mr. Tom Sittnick, Director of Health Services
Mr. Arnold Smith, Director of Operations, Planning & Training
Ms. Patricia Smith, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Randy Tillman, Facilities Division Director

VISITORS:

Ms. Jackie Franklin, Wife of Carl Franklin
Ms. Kathryn Hamoudah, Southern Center for Human Rights
Ms. Sara Totonchi, Southern Center for Human Rights

Chairman Tommy M. Rouse called the September meeting of the Board of Corrections to order at 10:00 a.m. and Board Liaison Simone Juhmi-Green recorded the minutes. Chairman Tommy M. Rouse welcomed all visitors and staff to the Board of Corrections, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed to business.

Chairman Rouse confirmed that Mr. Bill Acuff and Sherriff Roger Garrison were connected by conference call.

Chairman Rouse presented to the Board the September Agenda for approval. Mr. Wayne Dasher made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Sheriff Roger Garrison and Mr. Ashley Paulk Jr., and was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Chairman Rouse presented to the Board the June Minutes for approval. Mr. Bruce Hudson made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Ms. Rose Williams, and the Minutes were voted approved by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Owens began his report stating that the directors from each division will be giving a brief summary of operations of the last fiscal year and to conclude we will have an overview of the current year's budget.

Commissioner Owens presented the Upcoming Events for September, October, and November 2012. Significantly mentioned, is the Military Recruitment Job Fair on September 26th at State Offices South at Tift College. 6 state agencies will be represented at the job fair and these agencies will recruit unemployed veterans for their respective agencies. On September 28th the Annual GDC Fire Arms Competition will be held and on October 25th the Georgia Probation Association "Top Gun" Firearms Competition will be held. Both competitions are at the range complex at Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison. Lastly, on November 13th - 14th the GDC Senior Leadership Off-Site will take place in Reidsville, Georgia.

Commissioner Owens reported on the Jail Backlog count, which is at 1,545. The Sheriff's numbers are at 3,643. Commissioner Owens stated that the low numbers are a direct result of the opening up of 2,650 prison beds over the last six months. There are 1,150 prison beds at Jenkins County CCA facility and 1,500 beds at Riverbend GEO facility.

Next, a short video presentation was shown on how the Probation division has developed since the 1950's through today. Probation Operations Director, Mr. Stan Cooper, spoke about his role within Probation and Mr. Cooper gave an overview on the awards that were given to the Probation division at the Georgia Probation Association conference.

Commissioner Owens called on Mr. Arnold Smith to present his report. Mr. Smith gave a brief summary and introduction of the monthly roll-up process. To follow, Mr. Smith called on Ms. Becky East to present her report for the Administration division.

Ms. Becky East went over the monthly budget update for FY 2012. Ms. East's presentation focused on expenditure projection by program, expenditure projection by object class, the budget status lapse factor management, and Georgia's Energy Challenge on how all state agencies can reduce energy consumption. Ms. East then introduced Ms. Patricia Smith, Director of Human Resources.

Ms. Smith began her report with the monthly overtime cost for the department. Ms. Smith spoke about turnover rates, workers' compensation, and FLSA comp time accumulation trends for each area. This concluded Ms. Smith's report. Ms. Smith then introduced Mr. Randy Tillman, Director of Facilities Operations, to begin his report.

In Mr. Tillman's report, he spoke about statewide prison bed space utilization, the jail backlog, facility population and some brief statistical incident information. Mr. Randy Tillman then introduced Mr. Stan Cooper, Director of Probation Operations, to begin his report.

Mr. Cooper spoke about the number of actively supervised probation cases, the number of cases that are standard, high, intensive, and other special level cases. In addition, Mr. Cooper discussed the amount of offenders that are in compliance with court financials, employable and unemployable offenders, drug screens that are conducted, and community service. Next, Mr. Cooper called on Mr. Tom Sittnick, Director of the Office of Health Services to present his report.

Mr. Sittnick began his medical update on the physical mental and dental health of inmates, the combined telemedicine consults, and telemedicine total cost avoidance by the Department that does not reflect telepsych. Plus, Mr. Sittnick went over the cost for the top 200 sickest inmates, the percentage of all medical claims, hospital admissions per 1,000, the total amount of hospital days and the average length of stay in the hospital for inmates. Lastly, Mr. Sittnick discussed the average time it takes for an inmate to be released after they are granted a medical reprieve and the Medicaid application submission and granted procedure. This concluded Mr. Sittnick's report.

Subsequently, Ms. Becky East, Director of Administration Division presented on the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. Ms. East presentation focused on expenditure projection by program, expenditure projection by object class and the budget management strategy for Fiscal Year 2013. This concluded Ms. East's report.

Commissioner Owens' concluded his report by commending the staff for a job well done.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Tommy M. Rouse began his report by congratulating Commissioner Owens on receiving the Lee Broome Memorial Award of Excellence at the Georgia Probation Association conference. In addition, Chairman Rouse congratulated Mr. Justin Wiedeman on his CPA licensure completion, Ms. Rose Williams for being the Georgia representative for the Correctional Peace Officer's Foundation and Mr. Wayne Dasher on his reappointment to the Board of Corrections.

Chairman Rouse presented and circulated a resolution honoring Mr. Kevin Tanner for his service as a Board member on the Board of Corrections. Mr. Tanner resigned from the Board of Corrections in June 2012. The resolution will be presented to him at a future event. Chairman Rouse asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Bruce Hudson made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. John Mayes and Mr. Wayne Dasher, and the resolution was voted approved by the Board.

Chairman Rouse then called on Mr. Robert E. Jones, General Counsel for the Office of Legal Services to present the Georgia State Prison (GSP) – Stanley Recreational Hunting Short Term Lease Request resolution. Mr. Jones stated that the land is three parcels totaling 220.62 acres of property at the Georgia State Prison Reservation in Tattnall County, Georgia. The land will be used for the purposes of recreational hunting on the property for Stanley Farms, LLC, their family, and invited guests only and not for a fee-based hunting club business venture.

Chairman Rouse asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Sheriff Carlton Powell made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Dasher, and the resolution was voted approved by the Board.

Chairman Rouse asked the Board if there was any old or new business. Mr. Bruce Hudson advised that Mr. Jerry Willis would present a short farm briefing. Mr. Willis distributed a packet with information regarding the food and farm statewide farm program. Mr. Willis spoke about the farming locations, major production enterprises, canning plant production, the Rogers State Prison dairy, milk production, beef unit, swine unit, row crop unit, and additional support entities. This concluded Mr. Willis report.

To conclude, Chairman Rouse advised that Board Liaison Ms. Simone Juhmi-Green will conduct a badge audit for all Board members at the adjournment of the meeting.

Chairman Rouse reminded the Board of Corrections that the next Board meeting will be on October 4, 2012 at State Offices South at Tift College in Forsyth, Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Tommy M. Rouse, Chairman

Rose Williams, Secretary

Simone Juhmi-Green, Board Liaison