

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

November 1, 2012

Forsyth, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Carl Franklin
Mr. Bruce Hudson
Mr. John Mayes
Chief George Potter
Sheriff Carlton Powell
Dr. Henrie Treadwell
Mr. Roger Waldrop
Mr. Jim Whitehead, Sr.
Mr. Justin Wiedeman
Ms. Rose Williams
Mr. Jerry Willis

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Tommy M. Rouse, Chairman
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Mr. Ashley Paulk, Jr.

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. Gregory C. Dozier, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Gary Bell, Probation Operations
Mr. Stan Cooper, Director of Probation Operations
Ms. Becky East, Director of Administration Division
Mr. Danny Horne, Chaplain
Mr. Robert E. Jones, General Counsel
Ms. Simone Juhmi-Green, Board Liaison
Mr. John Laurence, Investigations Unit
Mr. Kenneth Mantle, Executive Assistant
Mr. Randy Tillman, Facilities Division Director

VISITORS:

Ms. Jackie Franklin, Wife of Carl Franklin
Ms. Kathern Hamoudah, Southern Center for Human Rights
Mr. David Pratt, Southern Strategy Group

Vice Chairman John Mayes called the November meeting of the Board of Corrections to order at 10:00 a.m. and Board Liaison Simone Juhmi-Green recorded the minutes. Vice Chairman Mayes asked Chaplain Danny Horne to give a special invocation for the wife and family of Officer Larry Stell, who lost his life while working at Telfair State Prison and for those individuals that may have lost a family member recently.

Vice Chairman Mayes welcomed all visitors and staff to the Board of Corrections, and Commissioner Brian Owens introduced the Assistant Commissioner, Chief of Staff, Mr. Gregory C. Dozier. Commissioner Owens explained how Mr. Dozier would be an asset to the Department and how we are able to split the divisions directly down the middle with two Assistant Commissioners. Mr. Timothy C. Ward will be the Assistant Commissioner, Chief of Operations. Mr. Gregory C. Dozier will be the Assistant Commissioner, Chief of Staff. Commissioner Owens gave the Board a brief career summary review on Mr. Dozier. Mr. Dozier accepted the role and thanked Commissioner Owens, the Vice Chairman, and the Board for the opportunity.

Vice Chairman Mayes confirmed that Mr. Bill Acuff and Sherriff Roger Garrison were connected by conference call and the Board meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed to business.

Vice Chairman Mayes presented to the Board the November Agenda for approval. Chief George Potter made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Mr. Jim Whitehead Sr., and was voted approved by the Board as presented.

Vice Chairman Mayes presented to the Board the October Minutes for approval. Chief George Potter made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Bruce Hudson, and the Minutes were voted approved by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Owens began his report by giving a brief overview of the incident leading to Officer Larry Stell's death at Telfair State Prison.

Commissioner Owens presented the Upcoming Events for November 2012, December 2012, and January 2013. Significantly mentioned is the Senior Leadership Offsite in Reidsville, Georgia, Thanksgiving holiday, on December 6th, the Board of Corrections meeting and a Holiday Luncheon at the President's House for the Board members and their guests.

Commissioner Owens reported on the Jail Backlog count, which is at 1,539. The Probation Awaiting count is at 218; the total count is 1821 state inmates in the jail system across the state. The Sheriff's numbers are at 3,865; both numbers are correct. Commissioner Owens stated that six months ago if you were to pull the Probation Backlog, that number would have been closer to a 1000.

Commissioner Owens stated that Ms. Becky East, Director of Administration Division, will give a brief on the Departments' Budget request to the Governor. Two weeks ago, Commissioner Owens and Ms. East had a meeting with the Governor to present the Department's request. To follow, the Governor will make his recommendation to the General Assembly sometime in early January and that is when we will find out what the Governor's recommendation is. At that time, we will work to support the Governor's recommendation. Commissioner Owens called on Ms. East to present.

Ms. East presented the Amended Fiscal Year 2013 and Fiscal Year 2014 Budget. Some of the keys areas of focus were: the accomplishments over a ten year span, Criminal Justice Reform and the FY2013 & FY2014 Budget Reduction Strategy. Ms. East spoke about the breakdown of the fiscal budget by program, a ten year snap shot of trends spanning from 2002 to 2012. In addition, offender trend growth for probationers and inmates, personal services trends, reductions and savings, overall healthcare cost trends with focus on dental, physical and mental health and healthcare trends cost per day. Additional highlights Ms. East discussed were from Criminal Justice Reform: E-sentencing, PDC 180 day cap length-of-stay, DRC "Lite" beginning in November 2012 (7 Judicial Districts – 7,576 Active Cases), Vera Institute: Pre-sentence Assessments, Full Standard Electronic Sentencing and Performance Metrics. Plus, Two Dual Diagnosis Probation Facilities were opened in July 2012: Accountability Court Support – Zebulon (female) and Appling (male). Also, 200 Probation drug treatment beds were added in Turner County and the Day Reporting Centers expansion & partnership opportunities with the State Board of Pardons and Paroles.

To conclude, Ms. East spoke about some of the challenges ahead such as Cell Phone Interdiction, Retention and Recruitment, Population Projection, Aging Infrastructure, Affordable Health Care for America Act Impact - unintended consequences on Prison Healthcare (Analysis Ongoing). This concluded Ms. East's report.

To follow, Mr. Gary Bell of Probation Operations presented on the Narrowbanding Radio Project. Mr. Bell started his brief by stating why this project was implemented. The project was implemented to comply with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requirement to

narrowband. This also would provide radios to help increase officer safety. Mr. Bell spoke about the history and the current operations of this project. Other reasons for implementation were to increase interoperability with local agencies and within our own agency, and to “utilize technology to improve efficiencies in supervision and enhance public safety.”

Mr. Bell spoke about the Initiated Process Action Team, what type of radios to order and what was needed, radio configuration throughout the state, frequencies/talk groups, radio template for programming, the creation of statewide call signs for Probation Operations (based on circuit numbers) and implemented training on how to properly use the radios. Furthermore, Mr. Bell conducted a brief radio check demo to show how quickly we are able to establish radio communication with our local police Department. Lastly, Mr. Bell discussed the next steps in maintaining Probation call sign directory, maintaining radios as the needs change in the field and the creation of policies and procedures involving the radios and their usage. This concluded Mr. Bell’s report.

This concluded Commissioner Owens’ report.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Vice Chairman Mayes began his report by asking Mr. Carl Franklin to present on his visit to the Food and Farm Operations. Mr. Franklin explained the different areas he visited such as the dairy, poultry farm, and the general acreage. This concluded Mr. Franklin’s report.

Vice Chairman Mayes then asked if there was any old or new business. Ms. Becky East presented one bond resolution with two bond issues inside the package. One bond is a 3.5 million dollar life safety and security bond and the other bond is a 3 million dollar bond for major repairs and improvements. Some of the different types of projects the money will be spent on are: locking/controls systems renovations, replacements of locking & control systems, fire alarm systems, wastewater screening, central re-roofing, paving entry ways or perimeter road ways, heat loop replacements, waste water projects and other state-wide repairs.

The Board voted on two bond issues within one resolution. Mr. Roger Waldrop made the motion to approve, which was then seconded by Chief George Potter, and the bond resolution was voted approved by the Board.

To conclude, Vice Chairman Mayes stated that the next Board meeting will be on December 6, 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