

BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

February 6, 2014

Atlanta, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Mayes, Chairman
Mr. Bill Acuff
Mr. Lee Anderson
Mr. Duke Blackburn
Mr. Wayne Dasher
Sheriff Roger Garrison
Mr. Bruce Hudson
Mr. J. M. "Bob" Plemons
Mr. Tommy M. Rouse
Ms. Rose Williams
Mr. Jerry Willis
Ms. Rocio D. Woody

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Carl Franklin
Mr. Alton Russell

CONFERENCE CALL:

Sheriff Stacy Jarrard

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

Mr. Brian Owens, Commissioner
Mr. Gregory C. Dozier, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Assistant Commissioner
Mr. Danny Horne, Chaplain
Mr. Stan Cooper,
Mr. Rick Jacobs, Director of Facility Operations
Mr. Donald Jones, Investigations Unit
Mr. Robert E. Jones, General Counsel
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison
Mr. Jay Neal, Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Re-entry
Mr. Kenneth Mantle, Executive Assistant
Ms. Marcia McIntyre, Deputy Director Probation Operations
Mr. Arnold Smith, Director OPTD
Mr. Patrick Wolfe, Investigations Unit

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office

VISITORS:

Ms. Kathryn Hamoudah, Southern Center for Human Rights
Mr. Joe Hood, Office of Planning & Budget
Mr. Matt Ogle, Office of Planning & Budget
Mr. David Pratt, Southern Strategy Group

Chairman John Mayes called the February meeting of the Board of Corrections to order at 10:00 a.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes. Chairman Mayes asked Chaplain Danny Horne to give the invocation. Chairman Mayes led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed all visitors.

Chairman Mayes confirmed Sheriff Stacy Jarrard was connected via conference call and the Board meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed to business.

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

Chairman Mayes presented the January Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. Bruce Hudson made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. J. M. "Bob" Plemons and the Minutes were approved by the Board as presented.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Brian Owens began his report by discussing the Upcoming Events for February, March and April 2014. Significantly mentioned was the upcoming Military Job Fair 10 month campaign to recruit military personnel for positions within state agencies.

Next, Commissioner Owens reported on the Jail Backlog count, which is at 250. The total number of probationers waiting for placement is 475. Thus, the total number of state sentenced inmates in the state-wide jail system is 725. Commissioner Owens stated the Sheriff's count is at 2,263; both counts are correct.

Commissioner Owens then gave a brief career summary on Mr. Jay Neal, Executive Director of Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Re-entry, and asked Mr. Neal to provide an overview of their unit mission. Mr. Neal distributed a packet to the board members on the Georgia Prisoner Reentry Initiative Pilot Sites for Local and State Level Organizational Structure to include the framework summary.

To follow, Mr. Jay Sanders, Special Assistant to the Director of Probation Operations gave an overview on the Pre-Sentence Assessment. Mr. Sanders stated the purpose of the pre-sentence assessment is to deliver relevant information on offender's risk and needs to the Judiciary, Prosecution and Defense at the earliest possible point to promote evidence based recommendation, sentencing and placement of the offender. Mr. Sanders discussed goals such as promoting evidence based sentencing, address all pre/post adjudication concerns, collect data one time – electronically, replace paper/pencil assessments, flexible/adaptable in all 49 circuits, utilize statewide GDC "SCRIBE" backbone, classify/manage prison population. In addition, Mr. Sanders spoke about pilot sites, kick-off/vision meetings with pilot site stakeholders, statistics and the future steps being taken. To close Mr. Sanders spoke show a sample of the pre-sentence report.

Last to present was Mr. Arnold Smith, Director of Operations, Planning & Training. Mr. Smith presented on the GDC Inmate Fire Services Program. Mr. Smith stated the mission is to provide a professional fire and life safety inspection and certification program in Georgia's prison system and to manage a model inmate firefighter program to provide fire protection for all staff and inmates in GDC facilities and the Communities in which they are located. Mr. Smith showed an organizational chart and mentioned highlights such as fire stations, inmate firefighter selection, specialized service and training, community benefits, female inmate firefighters and the reentry services program.

This concluded Commissioner Owens' report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Mayes gave a summary on the Scholarship Fund for the Georgia Prison Warden's Association (GPWA). Chairman Mayes stated that the Board members have until June 2014 to contribute to the fund to reach the \$1000.00 goal. The GPWA Summer Conference is at Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel in Savannah, Georgia on June 1-4, 2014. The Board of Corrections Scholarship Fund will be presented at the Award Ceremony Banquet on Monday, June 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, Chairman Mayes stated the Board of Corrections Flower Fund still stands at \$367.71 from the past year. Chairman Mayes stated the Board of Corrections flower fund is for board members, their families and any individual person the board chairman deems appropriate to send condolences on behalf of the Board of Corrections. Items that are purchased with this fund are sympathy and funeral flowers such as sprays or wreaths, get well and sympathy cards. In addition, the Flower Fund may be used to send a donation to an organization in lieu of flowers. Board of Corrections members were asked to contribute to both funds if they wish to do so.

Furthermore, Chairman Mayes asked Mr. Wayne Dasher to give a brief update on the Joint Board Meeting & Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner in Glennville, Georgia on April 17, 2014. Mr. Dasher distributed an informational flyer and stated he is still confirming sponsors and gathering information for the event.

Chairman Mayes continued asking for any Old or New Business. Chairman Mayes stated that the Board agreed at the January meeting to table the issue of Board members receiving per diem for attending board meetings via conference call. Chairman Mayes stated that it was not reflected in the minutes that the motion to table was voted upon so Mr. Bruce Hudson made the motion to amend the minutes which was then seconded by Mr. J. M. "Bob" Plemons was voted approved by the Board.

In addition, Chairman Mayes open the floor for discussion regarding the compensation issue. Several members weighed in on their opinion and Board Attorney, Joseph Drolet read and discussed several statutes that covered this issue. After discussion, Mr. Bruce Hudson made the motion to rescind the original motion to allow Board members to receive per diem for conference call attendance, which was then seconded by Mr. J.M. "Bob" Plemons. Mr. Bill Acuff and Sheriff Roger Garrison voted against the motion to rescind, but the motion still carried and was voted approved with a ten to two vote approval by the Board.

Chairman Mayes reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is March 6th at the James "Sloppy" Floyd Building in Atlanta.

The meeting was adjourned.

John Mayes, Chairman

Jerry Willis, Secretary

Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison