

**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, December 8, 2011
10:00 a.m.**

**Department of Juvenile Justice
3408 Covington Highway
Decatur, Georgia 30032-1513**

Opening Remarks
Ed Risler, Chairman

Board Chairman Ed Risler called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and DJJ Board of Education. Chairman Risler asked guests to state their name and organization affiliation.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner L. Gale Buckner; Assistant Commissioner Jeff Minor; Deputy Commissioner Rick Harrison; Deputy Commissioner Michael McNeely; Assistant Deputy Commissioner Diana Aspinwall; Assistant Deputy Commissioner Victor Roberts; Acting Human Resources Director Sam Clonts; Daphney Wilkins; Clarice Seagraves; Joseph Mahotiere; Timothy Hall; Eddie Etim; Della Hughes; Carla Mathis; Antwan Walker; Rufus Johnson; Margaret Grimsley; Nathan Carr; Rick Harrison; Brent White; Gil McDaniel; Debbie Alexander; Harold Cooper; and Ed Cook

Others: Ashley Culberson, Attorney General's Office; Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, CJCC; Carol Jackson, former State Legislator; Normer Adams, GAHSC; Scott Sheriden, Nelson, Mullins

Chairman Risler asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Joseph, a DJJ youth, followed by the invocation by Board Member Pastor Dexter Rowland.

Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Secretary Sandra Taylor. Board members present were: Larry F. Barnes, Michael L. Baugh, James P. Kelly, Perry McGuire, Daniel Menefee, Avery D. Niles, Ed Risler, Dexter O. Rowland, Stephen K. Simpson and Elaine P. Snow. Taylor noted a quorum was present.

Chairman Risler asked for approval of the agenda for the December 8, 2011 Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education meetings.

Vice-Chairman Menefee moved to approve the agenda for the meeting.

Board Member Baugh seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Risler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board's two previous meetings on October 27 and the Specially Called Board Meeting on November 10, 2011 collectively.

Board Member Niles moved to approve the minutes.

Board Member Snow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Risler introduced newly appointed Commissioner L. Gale Buckner, for her first Board meeting.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Buckner relayed her thanks and appreciation to the Members of the Board for the warm welcome and guidance she has received since her appointment.

Commissioner Buckner asked Members to reference the Commissioner's Report included in the Board packet and review at their leisure as she would prefer to utilize her time reporting on more critical areas.

Commissioner Buckner introduced new key personnel and staff assignments. Commissioner Buckner stated that she would like to defer the remainder of her comments until later in the meeting.

Chairman Risler called for a motion to close the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and open the DJJ Board of Education meeting.

Board Member Taylor made a motion to close the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and open the DJJ Board of Education meeting.

Board Member McGuire seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Education Update

Chairman Risler, following the DJJ Board of Education Agenda called on Superintendent Buckner.

Superintendent Buckner stated she would defer to Deputy Commissioner Rick Harrison who was the agency's expert in the area of education.

Mr. Harrison stated graduations begin this week and the Education Division is projecting 17 high school diplomas, 32 GEDs, and 51 technical college certificates will be awarded across the entire system.

Dr. Rufus Johnson presented an update on the Accreditation process stating that all of the schools, as well as the school district, received accreditation last year with the first visit from SACS.

Dr. Muriel Horne reported on the Corrective Action Plan resulting from the Focused Monitoring Audit at Augusta YDC. The audit resulted in three citations which must be corrected by 10-3-2012. DJJ has set an earlier correction date of 8-3-2012 and does not foresee any problems in reaching that goal.

Mr. Coy Satterfield explained the process for the selection of Teacher of the Year. Mr. Satterfield then introduced Dr. Mary Grimsley, Ms. Della Hughes and Mr. Eddie Etim, the three finalists for Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Rick Harrison introduced Dr. Letunya Walker, DJJ's Teacher of the Year.

Following remarks by Dr. Walker, Mr. Harrison announced that his report was concluded.

Chairman Risler asked for a motion to adjourn the School Board meeting and reconvene the regular meeting.

Board Member Barnes made a motion to close the DJJ Board of Education meeting and reconvene the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice.

Board Member Niles seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Property Transfer and Easement

Mr. Ed Cook, Director of Engineering, presented a property transfer resolution for McIntosh YDC and an easement resolution for Bill Ireland YDC.

Chairman Risler asked for a motion to approve both resolutions collectively.

Board Member Menefee made a motion for the property resolutions to be approved collectively.

Board Member Baugh seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Juvenile Code Rewrite

Michael McNeely presented brief remarks on the upcoming Legislative Session and the Juvenile Code Rewrite. Mr. McNeely introduced Ms. Carol Jackson, to the Board. Mr. Jackson will begin employment with DJJ on December 16, 2011 as Director of Legislative Services.

Chairman Risler states the Agenda calls for the Board to go into Executive Session to receive a report on personnel matters which are confidential under Ga. Code 50-14-3 Para. 6 and asked for a motion to move into Executive Session.

Board Member Taylor made a motion for the Board to move into Executive Session.

Board Member Baugh seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Guests left the Board Room.

Executive Session

The Board moved into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, including ongoing personnel issues at the Augusta facility.

Regular Session

Chairman Risler announced the Board was back in regular session. An announcement was made to the general public in the waiting area.

Employee Recognition

Mr. Sam Clonts, Acting Director of Human Resources presented the Third Quarter recipients of the Employee Recognition Award. Brent White received the Team Players Award and Antwan Walker received the Above and Beyond Award.

Chairman's Comments

Next Board Meeting will be at 10:00 am, January 26, 2012, at the DJJ state office building.

Chairman Risler asks that the Education Committee meet prior to the January Board Meeting and invited members who may be interested in serving on the Education Committee to contact Committee Chair Larry Barnes.

The Chairman thanked Joseph for leading the pledge and Pastor Rowland for the prayer that began the Board meeting.

Call for Old Business – None

Call for New Business – Board Member Taylor advised that on behalf of the Policy Committee she has spoken with Tracy Masters, the new Director of Legal Services, and will meet with him further to discuss the Board's By-Laws.

Chairman Risler called for a Motion to Adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice.

Board Member Snow made the motion and Board Member McGuire seconded the motion.

The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Dr. Ed Risler, Chairman
Board of Juvenile Justice

L. Gale Buckner
Commissioner

Sandra Taylor, Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice