

Minutes

**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, October 28, 2004
1:00 p.m.**

**Augusta Regional Youth Detention Center
3485 Mike Padgett Highway
Augusta, Georgia 30916**

OPENING REMARKS

Peter J. Boylan, Acting Chair

Major General Peter J. Boylan, Acting Chair, called to order the October 28, 2004 meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice. Citing the absence of a quorum, he stated that since other members were expected, a vote on the draft minutes from the September 23, 2004 meeting will be postponed until later in the meeting.

He then asked that the audience identify themselves and state their affiliation.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Peter J. Boylan; Tommie L. Burgess; Mary Linda Duncan; Lois Frank; Elizabeth Lindsey; William McQueen; Daniel Menefee; Edwin A. Risler; J. Daniel Shuman; Mary E. Wilhite

Advisory Board Members Present: Judge Quintress Gilbert.

DJJ Staff Present: Albert Murray, Commissioner; Melissa Aaron; Audrey Armistad; Anthony Brown; Dr. Thomas L. Coleman; Angela Cosby; Ericka Davis; Miguel Fernandez; Gordon Fisher; Rick Harrison; Steve Herndon; Devadas Lynton; Anita Miller; Jeff Minor; Thomas O'Rourke; Bill Reilly; Rob Rosenbloom; James Smith; Mike Sorrells; Jimmy Taylor; Terry Waits; Chris West; Mable Wheeler; Lena Wilson; Natilyne Young

Others: John Allen, Youth Services International; Mark Cicero, Attorney General's Office; Matthew H. Gambill, Bobby Carrell & Associates; Jill Young Miller, Atlanta Journal/Constitution

Commissioner's Comments

Albert Murray, Commissioner

Commissioner Murray thanked everyone for their attendance and stated that it is a great opportunity to have the Board meeting in Augusta. He added that he had two good reasons to be in the city and was pleased to be there. Commissioner stated that he hopes everyone had the opportunity to take the tour of the Augusta YDC and, if not, would do so before they leave.

He thanked John Brady and his staff for coordinating and conducting the Open House of the Augusta YDC, and Angela Crosby, Director of the Augusta RYDC, and her staff for hosting the DJJ Board Meeting. He indicated that it is good to have the meeting outside the metro Atlanta area from time to time and have the meeting at different DJJ facilities.

Organizational Changes

Operations: Commissioner stated that since the last meeting he has made some new appointments. He indicated that Rob Rosenbloom, Deputy Commissioner of Operations, has appointed Micki Smith, Regional Administrator for Region II, to the position of Interim Assistant Deputy Commissioner of Operations. He stated that Ms. Smith has been with DJJ for a number of years and will be retiring in 2005. He added that, for her remaining time, he and Mr. Rosenbloom have decided to bring her to the Central Office to work closely with Mr. Rosenbloom. He continued that since she has been at Central Office, she has already made a difference.

Legislative Services: Commissioner stated that beginning November 1st, DJJ will have a Director of Legislative Services. He stated that this is a new role within DJJ and that it is important to him to have one individual to take leadership in promoting the DJJ Legislative Agenda. He stated that over the years, DJJ has used a team for this purpose and while that has been good, he believes that one individual would serve the Department much better by functioning as the one designated liaison. He stated that he has appointed Spiro Amburn to take on that role and would officially introduce him to the Board at the next meeting. He stated that Mr. Amburn will serve as the Department's primary contact on all legislative issues and will work closely with the General Assembly, DJJ staff, the Governor's Office, and other individuals connected with the Department on public policy issues. He added that Mr. Amburn will report directly to him. Adding some background information, he stated that Mr. Amburn earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Kennesaw State University and that he has extensive experience working in the governmental affairs and public policy arenas.

Behavioral Health: On October 1, 2004, Mr. Miguel Fernandez was appointed to the position of Assistant Director, Office of Behavioral Health. Commissioner indicated that Mr. Fernandez is a licensed clinical social worker and a certified addictions counselor who has extensive clinical experience as a direct care provider and administrator with

youth in residential treatment settings and community mental health centers, as well as, experience in providing mental health care in DJJ facilities.

Commissioner stated that he considers these to be very significant appointments to add to the DJJ team and believes that they will serve the Department well.

Commissioner announced the creation of the First Lady's Children's Cabinet which is chaired by First Lady Mary Perdue. The Cabinet was formalized and presented at a press conference earlier in the week and is made up of representatives of all the child-serving agencies in the state, including himself, Chief of Staff, Bill Reilly and the DJJ Management Team. He indicated that the group has been meeting since early spring and that the Cabinet is a wonderful opportunity for collaboration and the opportunity to talk about how departments can support one another and become stronger as a unit focusing on children's issues. He stated that he is proud to be a part of the initiative and foresees good things coming from it for the state of Georgia in the next few years.

Operations Division

Commissioner Murray informed the Board of the following:

- The Department has begun shifting some positions to centers with critical needs to help reduce the number of incidents at these facilities. He stated that this strategy arose from the Protection from Harm Conference and indicated that the DJJ Master Plan to address protection from harm was developed at the conference in Callaway Gardens.
- The Department is now in one of its peak periods. This period covers the months of October, November and December. The population increases are being handled by Operations through working with the judges on diverting youth to appropriate alternatives to detention, controlled moves of youth between RYDCs and working with the Classification Unit on maximizing moves to the YDCs. Commissioner stated that staff is doing a good job of ensuring that the Department adheres to the population caps.
- The level of care and placement for youth out of home presents additional funding stress due to it being a new process and the costs associated with the new levels are being used for the first time this year. He stated that this is also an issue for DFCS.

Program Services Division

Commissioner Murray stated that the Augusta YDC reopening process is on schedule and the first group of youth is expected to arrive during the first week of November. A projected total of ten (10) youth per week is expected until the capacity level is reached.

The first groups of youth will come from the Metro YDC as they were originally housed in Augusta prior to the closing.

Commissioner also stated that staffing of the Augusta YDC facility is on schedule with about 116 staff members hired out of a total of 172 positions. Of that total, approximately 40% of them are previous Augusta YDC employees. Staff training is also on target. The Director of Training, Marilyn Reaves and her staff have implemented a modified training schedule that is accommodating the training needs of the staff.

Commissioner continued that a Columbus YDC Implementation Team has been established to review the needs and requirements of the newly constructed YDC in Columbus. He stated that the team will look at issues such as the facility's mission, bed size, staff size, resources, building adequacy (space), security, opening schedule, population character, and other issues that need to be addressed prior to opening the facility. The Implementation Team is expected to complete its review and make a full recommendation to Commissioner Murray no later than January 10, 2005. The facility is expected to be ready for operation by Mid Spring 2005.

Office of Behavioral Health Services

The Office of Behavioral Health Services in collaboration with the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse was awarded a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Grant to establish a Young Offender Reentry Project (YORP). The Project will link formerly incarcerated youth to aftercare substance abuse and mental health services in Region III which comprises Fulton, DeKalb, Cobb, Gwinnett, Douglas, Fayette, Clayton, Henry, Rockdale and Cherokee counties. The grant project period spans four years and begins October 1, 2004 and will end September 30, 2008. The project's budget is \$500,000 annually for a total of \$2,000,000 over the four year grant period.

Commissioner stated that he is pleased that the Department was awarded this grant and knows that it will benefit the young people who come under the custody and care of DJJ.

Office of Medical Services

The health service staff positions at the Augusta YDC are being filled on target for the opening date. Medical positions that have already been filled are: Nurse Manager, Physician Assistant, two RNs, two LPNs, the Physician, Dental Assistant and Dental Hygienist. If all of the nurse positions have not been filled by November 1st, the Department will use agency contract nurses to fill in until permanent nurses can be hired.

The Office of Health Care Services will be providing mandatory nurses training at Unicoi State Park on November 3-5, 2004. The training is especially designed for nurses and mid-level practitioners.

Announcements

Commissioner Murray informed everyone that the first annual “Excellence in Corrections” conference involving members of the Criminal Justice Community was held in Macon on October 18-20th and was a huge success. An awards banquet for professional excellence within each individual participating agency was held the first night of the event. Commissioner Murray had the honor of presenting those awards to DJJ staff. He stated that this initiative was spearheaded by Jim Donald, Commissioner of the Department of Corrections (DOC). Ericka Davis, Director of the Office of Public Affairs, worked with Mr. Donald and other organizations’ staff as part of a planning committee.

Of note, stated Commissioner Murray, speakers of this conference included Justice Robert Benham, Andrew Young, and Governor Sonny Perdue.

Commissioner indicated that the success of this first conference is something to build upon and that this Department will continue to look for ways to partner with other agencies to provide better services to young offenders. Continuing, he stated that the winners from DJJ were as follows:

- Juvenile Correctional Officer of the Year – Ms. Janice Gardner, Gainesville RYDC
- Juvenile Probation/Parole Specialist of the Year – Ms. Ozell Woods, Augusta Court Service Office
- District Award of Excellence – District 9 under the leadership of Adam Kennedy
- RYDC Award of Excellence- Dalton RYDC under the leadership of Bobby Hughes
- Stakeholder of the Year – Elbert Shaw, Dalton, Georgia
- Employee of the Year – Cathy Rowan, Barrow County Court Service Office
- YDC Award of Excellence- Macon YDC under the leadership of Debbie Blasingame
- Legacy Award- Gene Johnson, former DJJ Assistant District Director who recently retired from the agency.
- Manager of the Year – Tim Suddreth, Douglas County Court Service Office
- Commissioner’s Award of Achievement – Office of Education under the leadership of Dr. Tom O’Rourke

Commissioner expressed his appreciation and commended James Smith and the staff of the Metro RYDC for their excellent service to the youth from the Augusta YDC who were housed within the Metro facility, thereby creating the 'Metro YDC' unit. The reopening of the Augusta YDC ends the services of the Metro YDC unit. Commissioner stated that Mr. Smith and his staff have done a great job with the transition of the Augusta YDC youth and helped to maintain their stability. Commissioner added that their efforts on behalf of this unique population took great teamwork and commitment to service.

At this point, Commissioner Murray presented a plaque to Mr. Smith for his services to the youth. The inscription on the plaque reads: *2004 Commissioner's Commendation to Metro RYDC Presented on Behalf of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, Albert Murray Commissioner.*

After the presentation, Acting Chairman Peter Boylan indicated that a quorum was now present and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2004 meeting. Elizabeth Lindsay moved to approve the minutes and Bill McQueen seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Following the motion and approval of the minutes, Ericka Davis, Director of Public Affairs, requested that, for the record, roll call be conducted. Ms Davis announced the presence of a quorum.

Mr. Boylan then asked for committee reports.

Finance Committee – Daniel Menefee, Chair

Mr. Menefee stated that on October 12th, he met with Commissioner Murray and Jeff Minor, Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services to discuss the amended 2005 budget and the proposed budget for FY2006. He stated that Mr. Minor will provide further detail on the budget later in the meeting and the committee will meet again one hour prior to the next Board meeting.

Institutional Management – Dr. Ed Risler, Chair

Dr. Risler stated that this committee established their goals at the last meeting and their primary task was to review the plans submitted by Dr. Coleman regarding the opening of the Augusta YDC. He stated that the committee monitored the progress of this process and is pleased with the results. He added that this committee will also be meeting prior to the next Board meeting.

Education & Staff Development – Mary Linda Duncan, Chair

Member Lois Frank presented for the Committee Chair, Mary Linda Duncan who was absent. She stated that the committee visited the Gainesville RYDC with the intent to focus on the education program at the facility.

She stated that the committee spent time with the lead teacher who is doing a wonderful job. She added that their plan is two-fold, to address education in our system and mandatory staff education. She stated that their next meeting will be prior to the next Board meeting, also.

Budget Update

Jeff Minor, Director

Office of Fiscal and Administrative Services

Mr. Minor presented the 2005 and 2006 budget recommendations. He stated that the Department has a \$265 million dollar state budget and that the Governor has asked that three separate budget proposals be presented for review. The three proposals are: 97% budget that represents a 3% cut in funds of approximately \$8 million dollars; 100% budget that is basically a redirect from lower priority to higher priority programs or to cover on-going obligations; and, 105% budget that represents \$13.2 million dollars if somehow the agency might get new money in this budget year. He provided each member with a copy of the three options side-by-side so that they could see how each item is impacted in each budget.

Mr. Minor stated that in the Personal Services Budget for FY2005 a cut of \$6.7 million dollars was made in order to handle a payroll shift. The proposal was passed last year to shift payroll from June 30th to July 1st. Similarly, the federal government shifted from a September 30th payday to October 1st. He continued that the Governor decided not to pursue a permanent payroll shift and that payroll would be met on June 30th within the existing budget. This, he stated, would add to the \$8 million dollar cut a \$6.7 million dollar cut, in order to cover those responsibilities.

Mr. Minor referenced other items on the handout that included ongoing obligations, including the Muscogee project. He pointed out that what appears to be an \$8 million dollar cut is more likely a \$19 million dollar cut. He stated that after years of budget constraints, the Department has run out of little things to cut and does not have easy answers. We have had to look deep and hard at the programs and services we provide and the cuts were not easy.

The FY 2006 budget enhancements are very important to the Department as we pursue the closeout of the MOA. Each of the enhancements is directly related to staffing that are directly related to MOA compliance. It calls for a number of new staff to support the RYDCs and YDCs including JCOs and medical staff.

The Governor's Office is very aware of the situation the Department is in relative to the MOA and is sensitive to our population issues. He stated that there is a proposal to change the short term YDC program completely (90-day Program). He stated that this is a very costly program that does not get good results and the recidivism rates are not good. He added that we are proposing to change that system and that legislation is required to do so. He continued that what is being proposed in its place is closure of beds at McIntosh YDC, Macon Behavioral Health and Lighthouse and to shift the beds at Crisp YDC and Savannah River Challenge into long term YDC programs and make those beds available to some STP kids who will probably be served for a longer period if time. Mr. Minor added that part of the short term program problem is that some of the kids need to be in the program for longer periods and some, by virtue of their offenses and assessments, don't need to be there at all.

Mr. Minor briefly highlighted other portions of the proposed budget and concluded his comments.

Chairman Boylan stated that what Mr. Minor has briefed is more complex than meets the eye and suggested that any members who would like more information or details on how the money would be allocated to schedule a separate meeting. Mr. Minor stated that he is willing to meet with individuals or groups for discussion.

Mr. Boylan added that there was no opportunity for the Board to approve the budget. It was discussed with Chief Bill Reilly that next May/June the Board, in particular the finance committee, would be involved with the formation of the budget to provide the Board the opportunity to review and pass approval on the budget prior to its submission to OPB.

Update: Memorandum of Agreement
Gordon Fisher, Assistant Deputy Commissioner
Division of Programs

Mr. Fisher began by stating that his update would be brief and that Commissioner Murray covered part of it in his comments. He noted that in the 6 ½ years that the Department has been involved in the MOA, the Department's success has been measured by whether or not we have achieved compliance with individual citations associated with the agreement. He stated that of the 105 citations, at last count, the Department was in compliance with 95 of them. He added that the yardstick by which we are measured has now changed. He continued that the federal monitor, Jim Austin, completed his final report, the 11th report, covering the period ending in December 2003. We are now in a different process with the U.S. Department of Justice that calls for a review of the six major areas of the MOA: Education, Mental Health, Medical, Physical & Programmatic, Protection from Harm, and Quality Assurance. The only major area the Department of Justice has cleared with the Department of Juvenile Justice is the area of Education, thanks to the leadership of Dr. Tom O'Rourke.

Mr. Fisher stated that the Department has indicated its readiness for DOJ to carry out its verification tours in the areas of medical, mental health continuous improvement and investigations & apprehensions. The areas of Medical and Mental Health are practically complete according to DOJ, however the DOJ attorney advises that until the Augusta Youth Development Campus is reopened and the shelter care program is established, and until he has an opportunity to observe that the program to determine if it is in compliance, he will withhold his finding on the areas of medical and mental health. Mr. Fisher stated that he is confident that with the reopening of the Augusta facility, that when the attorney visits in December, the Department would be able to close out that section.

Continuing, he stated that the other area is the Office of Continuous Improvement, formerly the Office of Quality Assurance, under the leadership of Shirley Turner. In the most recent meeting with the Justice Department there were only rave reviews of the Justice Department's findings on the performance of that unit and expects the Department to receive a letter soon from the DOJ stating that that area is also cleared.

Beginning the week of October 26th, the DOJ began looking at the area of Investigations and Apprehensions under the leadership of Jimmy Taylor. He stated that he expects this area to be in great shape, as well.

Mr. Fisher stated that Jim Austin, in his last report, indicated that the biggest obstacle to the Department of Juvenile Justice getting out of the MOA would be in the area of Protection from Harm. He stated that this is the biggest section of the agreement and that Commissioner Murray has indicated his intentions for this Department to be ready in all aspects to close out and to have done everything the Department can do within the MOA by the end of this calendar year. He added that the next meeting with DOJ is scheduled for December 13th and he anticipates that Commissioner Murray will at that time be able to announce to DOJ the Department's readiness to receive the verification tour in the area of Protection from Harm.

Graduated Sanctions/Secure Detention Proposal

Rob Rosenbloom, Deputy Commissioner
Division of Operations

Mr. Rosenbloom began by thanking Angela Cosby, Director of the Augusta Regional Youth Detention Center for inviting the Board to the facility to hold the meeting.

Mr. Rosenbloom stated that he believes the Department has a program that is a good option for the USDOJ. Of the three options available to us, whatever option is accepted by Governor Perdue and approved through the Legislature the hope is that it also includes our legislation packet that changes the way STPs are now served by the Department. Currently, STP comes to DJJ by judges' order and we do not have a say regarding that order and the sentence has to be served in the YDC unless, after review, the court decides

to look at some other alternative. STPs take up a significant number of bed spaces and program evaluations have not been good in terms of recidivism.

Mr. Rosenbloom continued that a number of judges and others in the juvenile justice system agree on secure confinement as part of a probation sanction in order to get a handle on behavior. He stated that in an effort to identify who goes to secure detention and to show the judges that we are not just taking away short terms programs and leaving them nothing, we are offering a substitute. He added that, a present, there is not a name for it but it is a graduated probation sanctions program based on the concept that if a youth is on probation and is not confined as a condition, there is criteria that will lay out sanctions and eligibility for a program and if they meet that criteria, they could enter this program.

Mr. Rosenbloom stated that all research shows that if you're dealing with youth and if you're going to have an impact on behavior and if you're going to use a short stay in secure confinement, then it should be swift and sure.

Mr. Rosenbloom stated that we are overcrowded in the RYDCs and at 100% capacity in the YDCs and that resolving this issue is contingent upon our ability to remove STP. He further explained the graduated levels of the proposed program and completed his remarks and opened the floor for questions.

Lois Frank asked for clarification on the difference between the current program and the proposed program. Mr. Rosenbloom complied and added that we would not have all the other youth in our system that would be sentenced up to 90 days as they are now. One of the differences is that there is no criterion for the current STP program.

Ms Frank asked about the current time range for sentencing. Mr. Rosenbloom responded that a judge could sentence up to 90 days. Some in depth discussion followed regarding alternative sentencing. Judge Quintress Gilbert stated that it is a radical change from the current program and that there will definitely be opposition from some of the judges and provided some insight as to how some judges may view the proposed program. She added that the current program did not change the recidivism numbers but, maybe the proposed program will.

After additional discussion by Board members, Chairman Boylan asked that this issue be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Commissioner Murray injected that there will be lively discussion regarding this subject. He stated that this proposal represents major change; it's a new direction and given some time, will address recidivism but will not know that until the sanctions program is implemented. He stated that even though money/funding is an issue, it is also the Department's desire to offer a program that has consequences and that has a criteria which was never established when the STP came about. He stated that he believes that 7-14-45 followed by intensive probation will send a message that it's not a good thing to recidivate back into the system.

Mr. Boylan recommended that since this is a very complex subject, that members interested in this subject contact Mr. Rosenbloom to set up briefings as he feels its best dealt with in a smaller setting.

Update: Board of Education

Dr. Tom O'Rourke, Associate Superintendent
Office of Education

Dr. O'Rourke thanked Gordon Fisher for his comments regarding the Office of Education relative to the MOA. He pointed out that attaining accreditation for the Department was not done in a vacuum nor was it done by accident. He expressed his appreciation to the Board and to Commissioner Murray for their support of the education program and the priority it was given. He also thanked Mike Sorrells, Director of Human Resources and other key staff for their support.

Dr. O'Rourke shared that their Teachers' Conference was just completed with approximately 450 participants, which included administrators, teachers, APEM officers and others.

He stated that the Department is moving forward with SACS accreditation, conducting school profiles, conducting surveys and is now in the planning process to have peers come out to review the overall program for strengths and weaknesses.

Dr. O'Rourke then introduced the school principal of the Augusta YDC, Audry Armistad, and asked that she share her vision for the program with the Board.

Ms. Armistad stated that she was very excited and delighted to speak with the Board about the program at Augusta YDC. Continuing, she stated that the focus will primarily be on three target groups: 1) Dual Population Youth who will return back to their public schools and continue the normal academic process; 2) Special Needs Youth – These are youth coming from the public schools as well as those youth from shelter care who she expects to have soon in terms of their education; 3) GED Preparation Youth – These youth have their GEDs or are preparing for their GED.

Ms. Armistad stated that in order to accomplish this, they will do some team teaching, pairing up veteran teachers with new teachers and use their best practices to teach the kids. This will allow the kids to work in parts where they will have three teachers available: special education, regular education and vocational programming.

Ms. Armistad stated that she is most excited about the programming for the special needs kids. It is anticipated that some of the kids coming into the facility will already have IEPs that will determine the academic portion of their stay. Those kids who do not already have IEPs will be identified and put on the right track. The kids will then be channeled into the vocational programs which includes certified construction,

landscaping and masonry. She stated that there will also be related vocational instructors who will shadow the kids throughout the day to provide immediate on-the-spot assistance when needed.

Ms. Armistad stated that the long-term plan is to partner with Easter Seal to teach the special needs students skills such as cashiering, bag handling, phone solicitation, etc., that will be useful in obtaining employment when transitioning back into their communities. For those youth working toward their GEDs, one of two things will happen. They will learn a skill while on campus or, they will be working to get their test scores up so that they can meet the adequate requirements for admission into technical schools or colleges.

Concluding her remarks, Ms. Armistad asked for questions or comments.

Mr. Boylan asked if college courses would be made available on the Augusta YDC campus for the children. Ms. Armistad responded that the long term plan is to provide some online college courses for the residents and, in addition, their partnership with the technical school will provide English 101, Math 101, etc. that will transition into any program.

Ms. Frank asked where do kids in our system learn life skills and career preparation. Ms. Armistad responded that the program overview shows where the kids will be taught life skills (good nutrition and fitness) and career preparation such as dressing for success, making decisions about careers, filling out applications.

Dr. O'Rourke resumed stating that these are the reasons why they are so excited about the program being implemented at the newly reopened Augusta YDC. He concluded the report for the Board of Education.

Chair's Comments

Major General Peter J. Boylan
Acting Chair

Mr. Boylan stated that the proposed budget cuts clearly have implications in a variety of communities and the Board made a recommendation to Chief Reilly that the new legislative liaison contact legislators in areas/locations involved. He stated that we are getting help to redress the losses.

Mr. Boylan indicated that agenda topics that were excluded from today's agenda and set aside for the next meeting were Strategic Planning Update, Open Meetings Act, Vision and Mission Statement, Legislative Agenda, and the Bill Ireland Update. He asked if it was the wish of the Board for these topics to be on the agenda for the next meeting and repeated the topics for clarification. He added that along with these topics the committee reports should also be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Because of the holiday season, the November and December meetings of the Board will be combined. Several dates were suggested by Commissioner Murray and Mr. Boylan recommended Wednesday, December 8th and asked if this date was agreeable to everyone. Mr. Boylan stated that each of the committees are scheduled to be held on the day of the Board meeting and asked that each committee report the location, time and agenda topic(s) for those meetings to Ericka Davis, Director of Public Affairs to be released to our media source so that the meetings will be held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Lois Frank injected that she is very concerned about the budget cuts, especially operating on 97%. She asked if advocacy for the Department would make a difference. Mr. Boylan responded that impact statements associated with program cuts were created for the Department and were submitted along with the budget to OPB. He added that the role for the Board to play would be similar to that of the legislative liaison, to be in contact with legislators to voice concerns about knowing where these cuts will impact communities and programs. Dr. Risler interjected that he thinks it is important that the Board speak a message that says if these cuts persists, eventually, the Department will be in violation of the MOA again. Ms Frank asked when the budget will be considered. Mr. Boylan stated that the budget is currently being considered by the Governor and OPB is putting the final touches on it for the Governor's approval in November and it will be published in early December and the legislature will not review it until they meet in January. He stated that the Board has about a month to impact it as far the Governor is concerned but a fair amount of time for the legislators.

Mark Cicero addressed Ms. Frank's concern stating that as the legal counsel for the Department of Juvenile Justice, there are rules against agencies lobbying. However, as citizens they have the right to approach their legislators to speak about their concerns as members of the public. He reminded them that their service on the Board does not deprive them of their rights as private citizens.

Hearing no other questions or comments, Mr. Boylan asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Elizabeth Lindsey, seconded by Daniel Menefee and carried.

Major General Peter Boylan, Acting Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Albert Murray
Commissioner

Dr. Ed Risler, Acting Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice