

**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, August 27, 2009
10:00 a.m.**

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

Opening Remarks

J. Daniel Shuman, Chair

Chairman Shuman called to order the August 27, 2009 meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and DJJ Board of Education. He noted the time as 10:00 a.m. He asked that all attendees stand and state their name and organization affiliation.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Albert Murray; Rob Rosenbloom; Dr. Jack Catrett; Jeff Minor; Steve Herndon; Amy Howell; Bill Amideo; Steve Hayes; Cherecia Kline; Nathan Cain; Spiro Amburn; Diane Bell; Dr. Michelle Staples-Horne; Diana Newell; Coy Satterfield; Mattie Robinson; Deborah Moore; Gary Morris; William Samuel; Robin Florie; Shirley Turner; Victor Roberts

Others: Destiny Washington, Attorney's General Office; Allison Hodgson, Senate Budget Office; Roshal Erkin, Barton Child Law & Policy Clinic; Eva Lou Shuman; State Senator Johnny Grant (via conference call); Normer Adams, Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children (GAHSC)

Chairman Shuman asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence in honor of Senator Ted Kennedy who passed away. The Chairman then asked to say the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation given by Board member Van Herrin.

Roll Call

Chairman Shuman asked for the roll to be called. Cherecia Kline conducted the roll call of attendance.

Board Members Present: Michael Baugh; Bruce Garraway; Van Herrin; James Kelly; Elizabeth Lindsey; Perry McGuire; Judy Mecum; Daniel Menefee; Dr. Edwin Risler; Pastor Dexter Rowland; J. Daniel Shuman; Stephen Simpson; Elaine Snow (via conference call); Sandra Taylor

Advisory Council Members Present: Judge Quintress Gilbert; Judge Steven Teske

Noting the presence of a quorum of the Board, Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the August 27, 2009 Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education meeting.

Stephen Simpson moved to approve the agenda for the August 27, 2009 Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education meeting. Van Herrin seconded the motion. The chairman called for the vote and the motion was carried.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 23, 2009 meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and the DJJ Board of Education and asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none. Michael Baugh moved to approve the minutes from the July 23, 2009 meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and the DJJ Board of Education. Judy Mecum seconded the motion. The chairman called for the vote and the motion was carried.

Commissioner's Report

Albert Murray, Commissioner

Commissioner Murray said good morning to everyone. Commissioner Murray started by thanking the board members who were able to attend the two finance committee meetings that DJJ held in order to get DJJ to this point. He stated their commitment to their role as a board member is very much appreciated by DJJ.

Commissioner Murray thanked all the board members who were able to attend the ceremony in Nashville, Tennessee where he received the E.R. Cass Award. He also thanked those who sent him notes of congratulation.

Commissioner Murray stated the RYDCs will be going through the Safe Crisis Management training at the end of the month. The training of all staff at the facilities is a large undertaking but has been well planned for by the division and the department. More details regarding SCM training will be provided later in his report.

The Community Services and Intake division has also implemented the procedures for the new victim notification law that impacts detention centers. DJJ is working cooperatively with the juvenile courts to identify victims of crime when youth initially enter detention and to ensure those victims receive notice of the release of the youth accused of victimizing them.

A new contract for tracking services has been entered into with DJJ's current vendor, Southwest Key. The service is an alternative to detention that provides supervision of youth while awaiting a juvenile court hearing. This service now includes GPS as an additional means to ensure the court appearance of the youth and supervision while they await court. This contract has been reduced by 25% as a budget cut from last year. Commissioner Murray said the new approach should still provide the service DJJ needs.

Commissioner Murray announced the Loftiss RYDC in Thomasville held its first graduation on August 20th for one lone graduate. Commissioner Murray stated the local media covered the youth's success and a report is in their board packet.

The Savannah River Challenge Wilderness program has ramped up to full capacity of 50 youth. As DJJ has reported these past few months, the program replaced a wilderness program that was eliminated last year as part of the budget reduction for this year.

Commissioner Murray continued saying that on August 19, 2009, he, Deputy Commissioner Rob Rosenbloom and DJJ Behavioral Health Director Richard Harrison met with the new Commissioner of the new Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities, Dr. Frank Shelp.

Commissioner Murray stated it was a productive first meeting and Dr. Shelp agreed to get back together in the near future with some additional staff from both agencies. Dr. Shelp was very interested in learning about DJJ's role and areas of common interest related to serving special needs youth. Commissioner Murray stated he looks forward to developing an effective working relationship with Dr. Shelp, even as DJJ already works collaboratively with the agency he now heads.

Moving to Campus Operations within the Programs and Secure Campuses Division:

Commissioner Murray announced the Augusta YDC will no longer serve short term youth. DJJ previously had one 20-bed unit at Augusta dedicated to this population. Effective this week these 20 beds will be serving general population long term committed youth. He stated the unit has been under-utilized and he expects to keep it full by changing the population to committed youth. There will be no changes to the facility's capacity of 120 youth.

Several YDC staff from 3 YDCs attended the Stephen Covey training on the Four Disciplines of Execution on August 3rd and 4th. This training helped maintain the focus on pursuit of the Wildly Important Goal of reducing youth on youth assaults in the facilities. DJJ has been using a data "scoreboard" to closely monitor incident data and the recently attended training will give administrators some management tools to pursue this goal.

The Eastman YDC held a school graduation on Friday, July 31st. The commencement speaker was State Senator Ross Tolleson of Perry. Also in attendance was DJJ Board member Mr. Bruce Garraway. Commissioner Murray said Dr. Jack Catrett will give the Board more details about the graduations in his remarks.

Commissioner Murray stated the Mercer Girls Basketball Team visited the Macon YDC on July 22nd and hosted a one-day basketball camp for the students. The girls were taught basketball techniques to improve their skills and the girls had a blast doing it. The Mercer Girls Basketball Team was scheduled to revisit the campus on August 26th for another session.

Some of the Savannah River Challenge students toured an archaeological "dig site" near the facility being managed by students and faculty from the University of Georgia. The students

were able to see firsthand how this scientific process works through a tour conducted by UGA. Native American artifacts have been found at the site that date back 1500 years.

Commissioner Murray said on July 20, youth participated in a boat trip to the upper keys of Florida. One boat had youth from Savannah River and the other boat transported four students and staff from the Baxley Wilderness Institute.

Commissioner Murray made reference to DJJ's collaboration with corrections to conduct contraband sweeps at DJJ facilities. Through this collaboration with Corrections Commissioner Brian Owens, DJJ has been able to benefit from the GDC tactical and canine squads to assist its facility staff in controlling contraband. GDC teams use sophisticated cell phone detection instruments and have special training in addition to the use of canine units. GDC staff conducted a contraband sweep at the Eastman YDC which lasted all day on August 13th. These GDC staff did an excellent and professional job, assisted by Eastman staff. 4 GDC search squads and canine units, about 50 staff, arrived on campus and made quite an impression on staff and the youth. YDC staff immediately locked down all residents and stopped all traffic from leaving the facility. Each resident was searched by Eastman staff. The teams then entered and conducted their search of the facility. Among the contraband found were 4 cell phones and 13 small bags of marijuana. Staff from the GDC and DJJ Offices of Legal Services was present to observe the entire process.

On August 10th a canine unit from the Muscogee Sheriff's Department also conducted a search of the Muscogee YDC parking lot. No drugs were found during that search.

DJJ recently had its first significant experience with the H1N1 flu virus. In the course of 2 weeks, 40 of the 150 youth at the Sumter YDC became ill as well as 6 staff members, though most were not confirmed to have H1N1 flu. There were a total of 7 confirmed cases of H1N1. Youth were quarantined and DJJ suspended school for several days to contain transmission of the virus to other youth and staff. The DJJ Pandemic Flu Protocol was initiated by staff resulting in containment of the outbreak. As of August 19, 2009, the facility was no longer in an isolation status. Youth have returned to school, group meals and activities. Normal facility operations have resumed. Director Derek Glisson, Alicia Harvey, Nurse Manager and the staff of Sumter YDC did an outstanding job of managing this outbreak. DJJ has prepared a Pandemic Flu Plan to be fully implemented statewide after September 1. The Office of Health Services has been very involved with other units in the agency as well as external agencies, to prepare for the reality of a pandemic flu outbreak. The CDC was contacted and utilized during the process of controlling the Sumter situation.

Commissioner Murray stated the Bill Ireland Residential Substance Abuse Program held its third graduation ceremony this year for 30 youth who completed program requirements at the Bill Ireland YDC on July 31, 2009. Deputy Commissioner Steve Herndon, Regional Administrator Ronnie Woodard, facility administration, staff and over 15 families were in attendance. The youth participated in the graduation program by presenting the welcome, a reflection, and a family member also participated by offering their perspective of the youth achievements. Miguel Fernandez, Assistant Director of OBHS was the guest speaker for the ceremony.

Commissioner Murray announced that August 31st through September 4th of 2009, The 3rd Annual School of Addiction Studies state conference will be held in Savannah, Georgia. The theme of the conference is “Keys to Change: Addictions, Prevention and Treatment.” The OBHS staff has worked on the GSAS Board collaboratively with staff from The Department of Corrections, The State Board of Pardons and Parole; The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and various community partners to plan the conference. The program will highlight addictions of children and families.

From the Office of Administrative Services Division:

In conjunction with the Attorney General’s Office, a new procedure and forms have been developed to deal with counties that delay or decline to pay for medical bills for outside care obtained for uncommitted youth. The new DJJ process will result in proposed orders to be submitted by the Attorney General to the court, and then a follow up legal proceeding if courts decline to sign the order. The orders will have medical affidavits filed with them which are consistent with DJJ’s interpretation of the statute and with recent case law which supports that interpretation.

From the Office of Training:

Commissioner Murray announced that on August 7, 2009, there were a total of 49 BJCOT (Basic Juvenile Correctional Officer Training) graduates for class #145. Victor Roberts, Northwest Regional Administrator, was the guest speaker. The Class had two distinguished honor graduates: Erica Jones, of the Dekalb RYDC and Terry L. Harris of the Gainesville RYDC.

The Office of Training continues to focus on the Safe Crisis Management Training Rollout which includes finalizing the Georgia Safe Crisis Management Training Program Curricula.

The 3-Day Safe Crisis Management Training for Non-Security Staff began August 17, 2009.

The 4-Day Safe Crisis Management Training for Security Staff is scheduled to begin August 31, 2009. It is the Agency's goal to have 15 facilities 100% trained prior to December 31, 2009.

Commissioner Murray concluded his report and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Dr. Risler stated he attended the ACA Conference in Nashville and stated he was surprised as to how big of a deal the Cass ceremony was. He said he was honored to be there to share that moment with Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray thanked Dr. Risler.

State Senator Johnny Grant had requested to speak to the Board via conference call. Senator Grant joined the meeting via telephone.

Chairman Shuman told Senator Johnny Grant that the DJJ Board was in the process of discussing the Amended SFY2010 and SFY2011 Budget Proposal and will allow him to speak for 5 minutes and express his thoughts about the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC.

Senator Johnny Grant said good morning to the Board. Senator Grant introduced himself and stated he represents the City of Milledgeville, and Baldwin County community along with 9 other counties in central Georgia. He thanked Chairman Shuman and the DJJ staff for allowing him this unusual opportunity to address the Board via speaker phone. Senator Grant also thanked Commissioner Murray, Jeff Minor and Spiro Amburn for extending the courtesy of advance notice regarding the pending closure of the Bill Ireland YDC in Milledgeville. Senator Grant stated they handled the meeting with him with sensitivity and respect and he appreciated their professionalism.

Senator Grant said he understands the dilemma of the DJJ Board and staff as they address additional budget cuts. Senator Grant said he sits on the Senate Appropriations sub-committee that reviews the DJJ budget and he knows the easy cuts, if they were any, have already been made.

Senator Grant said the Bill Ireland YDC is an old state institution. He stated because of the history of the facility as an old government center it is especially vulnerable to state budget cuts. Senator Grant stated within the past 12 months his community has seen the closure of the Georgia War Veterans Home, the closure of two large state prisons each containing over a 1,000 inmates and furloughs and cutbacks at the state hospitals, university and technical college. Senator Grant also stated his community has lost its largest private employer Rheem Air Conditioning and the closure of a few other private facilities.

Senator Grant said each month brings more bad news. Because of the concentration of state jobs in Milledgeville, the economy of this small community is extremely sensitive to the budget cuts the state is forced to take. Senator Grant stated the unemployment rate is just under 14% and this before the full impact of the closure of Rheem Air Conditioning plant.

Senator Grant stated the economic situation facing the state is unprecedented. He said we are all being called upon to make sacrifices. Senator Grant said he will be meeting with Governor Perdue in a week regarding the overall impact of the state budget cuts on the Milledgeville community and request that his office consider the cumulative cuts from many state agencies. Milledgeville is unique in the state with such a high percentage state jobs and coordination of these cuts are vital to the economy. Senator Grant also stated he will be asking Governor Perdue to be cognizant of the public safety implications of severe budget cuts to agencies such as DJJ. Senator Grant stated there are some bad youth at the Bill Ireland YDC and DJJ needs to make sure wherever they are housed the public will be safe.

Senator Grant asked the Board to consider the budget cuts and that DJJ spread them over a larger number of facilities and the Bill Ireland YDC be downsized instead of shuttered. Senator Grant noted the Milledgeville community has over 100 years of cooperation with the Bill Ireland YDC and he would hate to lose those jobs and this important tool to the rehabilitation of the youth in Georgia.

Senator Grant thanked the Board for allowing him to speak and he also thanked them for their service to Georgia and DJJ.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, Amended SFY2010 and SFY2011 Budget Proposal.

Amended SFY2010 and SFY2011 Budget Proposal

Jeff Minor, Deputy Commissioner

Jeff Minor said good morning to Chairman Shuman, Commissioner Murray, Board and visitors. Mr. Minor stated he appreciated the board attendance and support at the finance committee meetings.

Mr. Minor stated it's a very difficult time for the state of Georgia and state agencies are forced to take budget cuts that they are not comfortable with. DJJ was asked to present a budget to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) by September 1, 2009. The instructions from the Governor were to present a plan for 4%, 6% and 8% budget reductions. Mr. Minor stated what the Board will be approving is the submission of the budget proposal to the Governor. Mr. Minor said there is a long time between September 1, 2009 and January 2010. He said January 2010 is the time where the Governor comes out with his official budget for the state. Many of these cuts will wait but DJJ will be forced to take some of these cuts immediately. Mr. Minor said in addition the proposed budget cuts of 4%, 6% and 8%, DJJ's state appropriations allotment of funds is being cut by 5% starting in August 2009.

DJJ met with OPB about the agency's proposals and has received consideration of some of the issues and the timing of the issues. The budget cuts for the 4% reduction total \$11,069,989; 6% reduction is \$16,604,983 and 8% reduction is \$22,139,978.

Mr. Minor stated DJJ's structural deficit for last year was around \$6 million and with new rules that came out from the federal government the new deficit will be around \$7.5 million. Last year OPB allowed DJJ to keep some one time funding. That money was used so DJJ has now found itself in a predicament. The areas that are involved are revenues that DJJ typically has been earning in areas such as Medicaid, Targeted Case Management and Title 4E which is the federal funds related to foster care room and board. Mr. Minor stated the rules changed in both of those areas. Rules have come down from the federal government that restricts DJJ's ability to earn at the previous rate. To get that structural deficit dealt with it required DJJ to cut up to \$7.5 million more than the percentage requirements and has shaped some of the decisions that had to be made.

Jeff Minor presented DJJ's proposed budget and stated there is an Amended 2010 and 2011 budget.

He stated the instructions are the same with the only difference being in the 2010 amended budget, DJJ will be allowed to take some one time cuts in areas such as hiring freezes and a vehicle purchase moratorium. The decision was made on 9 furlough days for all employees except JCO's, and food service staff. It was a big financial decision to leave those employees off the furlough list but it was the right thing to do to help manage the facilities. The rest of the 2010 and 2011 budgets are identical. They are identical because of the timing of the closures and cuts. Most of the cuts will occur starting October 1, 2009, on all the cuts including the reduction of bed capacity at Macon YDC by 20 beds, as well as all the position cuts that is on the list on his handout. The only cut that will not occur on October 1, 2009, is the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC.

Mr. Minor stated the 4% cut which totals \$9,250,000 million called for a January 1, 2010 closure of the Bill Ireland YDC. The 6% and 8% cuts called for an October 1, 2009 closure which totals \$13,875,000. Mr. Minor said DJJ has had a number of conversations with OPB about the timing of the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC. They understand that DJJ needs time to make a successful transition to move the youth and help the staff find additional employment. OPB has agreed to the January 1, 2010 closure. Mr. Minor said the decision to close the Bill Ireland YDC was very difficult. But it was something that had to be done because the facility is 100 years old.

Mr. Minor said there is a master plan for Baldwin County that was done by the State Properties Commission to move DJJ operations from the Bill Ireland YDC. DJJ has asked OPB to redirect some bond money that DJJ received that would have otherwise been spent on Bill Ireland to be used for the design of the new 150 facility. DJJ would have to go back to OPB in a year and ask for the construction money and he hopes DJJ would get the support from the people of Milledgeville and Senator Grant. Mr. Minor said the design of the Bill Ireland YDC is not conducive to the kind of treatment DJJ wants to provide. The incident rate at the Bill Ireland YDC is higher due to the design of the facility. DJJ has had some difficulty staffing open positions at the facility. There are currently 393 full time positions and 81 of those positions are vacant. Mr. Minor said 47 of those vacant positions are JCO positions. DJJ will do everything to try to assess the needs of those staff and make placement for them.

The closures of these beds will cause DJJ to shift around its populations. The budget proposes to close 20 beds at the Macon YDC. The Macon YDC is DJJ's female facility. Mr. Minor said the change in the STP from 60 to 30 days has really freed up those beds, mitigating the harm from the bed closures due to the last budget cuts at the McIntosh YDC and Savannah River Challenge Program. It has also freed up beds at Macon and Augusta that would have been short term beds. DJJ proposes to move the remainder of the short term youth from the Savannah River Challenge Program back to their home RYDCs to spend their time. DJJ will change the program at the Savannah River Challenge Program to be a long term 150 bed facility. It will be a transition step down program that DJJ desperately needs and it would give youth the opportunity to earn their way toward release during their last 4-6 months at DJJ. Mr. Minor said the loss of those beds will cause DJJ some concerns on its population.

The Bill Ireland YDC closure is the majority of DJJ's budget cuts. DJJ has stayed away from cutting community resources and residential treatment beds. Mr. Minor said cuts were made in

those areas last year and they were very painful cuts that affected many more youth than closing secure beds. Without those programs, DJJ has extended the list of youth who need to be in secure beds because DJJ is not doing anything with them in the community. DJJ looked at closing half of the Bill Ireland YDC but realized DJJ would have to eventually close down the facility anyway. Mr. Minor said when you close a facility of that size, you don't get half the money (budget reduction). Mr. Minor explained DJJ would have only gotten \$6 million for closing half of the Bill Ireland YDC. With just the closure of half of the Bill Ireland YDC, DJJ would have to also close the Savannah River Challenge Program and 2 wilderness camps. This would have affected more beds, staff and communities. The Bill Ireland YDC has cost DJJ a lot of money to maintain.

Mr. Minor said the rest of the budget cuts are positions of all range. Mr. Minor discussed the list of positions that will be eliminated:

Secure Commitment (YDCs)

Regional Administrator

Assistant Principal at Macon YDC

Reduce admin per Diem (Dr. Freeman and Dr. Sherman)

Secure Detention (RYDCs)

2 secretary positions for regional principals

Juvenile Detention Counselor position at DeKalb RYDC

1 Librarian at Metro RYDC

FT Psychologist providing 18 hours of services at DeKalb RYDC

FT Psychologist at Metro providing services at Clayton RYDC

Community Supervision an Intake Reductions

6 Assistant District Director positions

5 Multi Service Center Director positions

Former Region 3 AOM

3 BARJ Coordinators

Mr. Minor stated DJJ has 13 district director positions in Community Services and Intake. Mr. Minor said that organizational structure is responsible for intake as well as all community supervision for probation, commitment and aftercare supervision. That department is also responsible for supervising all the JPPSs which provide court services and supervision to its youths as well as all its relationships with the courts in conjunction with its partner agencies in Mental Health, Department of Children and Family Services and others.

Mr. Minor stated in previous years the Multi Service Centers ran community schools. Mr. Minor said those were cut several years ago. Multi Service Centers are large court service offices. Most of DJJ's court service offices are managed by Juvenile Probation Managers (JPM). In these 5 cases, DJJ will use its JPMs to manage caseloads.

Administration-Community Operations

6 Regional Treatment Specialist
1 Program Coordinator in Central Office
1 Secretary III position in Central Office

Administration Reductions

Apprehensions Unit and GBI contract
1 Personnel Analyst position
1 Clerk 2 position in Training
1 Investigator position
2 29-hour positions (Legal and OCATS)
1 29-hour position (Training)

Fiscal and Information Management Reductions

1 OIT Asst. Office Director position
Medicare Director position
Federal Programs Mgr position
Architect Project Engineer position
2 Medicare Billing Techs
1 Reg. Maint. Construction Mgr.

Programs & Campus Operations

1 Assistant Deputy Commissioner position
2 Social Services Program Coordinator positions
1 Administration Assistant position
1 Central Office 29 hour clerk position
1 OBHS Regional Coordinator
1 OHS Regional Coordinator

Mr. Minor concluded his report and asked if there were any questions.

Board member Perry McGuire made a motion that the Board put off consideration of the proposed budget item until September 10, 2009 and to have a special meeting on that date. Mr. McGuire continued stating his motion that DJJ staff set up a meeting with the Governor and Board members, who wish to attend, and Senator Grant to discuss the closing of the Bill Ireland YDC. Mr. McGuire stated the Board would then meet on September 10 to vote on DJJ's proposed budget.

The motion was seconded by Board member Stephen Simpson.

Chairman Shuman asked if there was any further discussion.

Mr. McGuire said he doesn't believe that the Board received a recommendation from the (Board's) Finance Committee to endorse the proposed budget. Mr. McGuire stated this should

have been done from a procedural standpoint or a prerequisite for considering a budget. He stated the board did not receive that and secondly he didn't think DJJ has really considered the impact it will have on the youth. Mr. McGuire said there is a waiting list for some of DJJ's programs. Mr. McGuire stated he doesn't understand how things are working in the system and a decision of this magnitude will be affecting over 300 beds and the lives of the youth. Mr. McGuire said it has only been a week since the Board saw the proposed budget and he believes the process needs to be slowed down. Mr. McGuire said by submitting DJJ's budget 1 week late, (after September 1) it is not going to make a difference as to how DJJ is perceived.

Board member Michael Baugh said he heard what Mr. McGuire said but DJJ needs to look at the bigger picture. Mr. Baugh stated the money is not coming in and DJJ needs to do what it has to do because the longer they wait the harder it will be to do anything.

Board member Elizabeth Lindsey said one of the core functions of government is public safety. DJJ is talking about closing more beds when in fact DJJ needs more beds. Ms. Lindsey says DJJ's population rises in November and December and rises again in April and May. She stated DJJ's job is to rehabilitate the children at their facilities and provide public safety and she is not comfortable with the decision to close the Bill Ireland YDC. Ms. Lindsey said she knows the decision to close the Bill Ireland YDC is in response to the Governor's request but she doesn't feel it is in the best interest for the state of Georgia. She said she is in favor for the Board to delay their vote until September 10, 2009.

Board member Pastor Dexter Rowland said he was not sure what would be accomplished by delaying the vote on the proposed budget for 2 weeks. Pastor Rowland said he didn't think the DJJ Board had a greater voice than the people of Milledgeville who live there and will be impacted by the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC. Pastor Rowland stated the money is not there and these cuts are necessary. He is very confident that the plan that has been presented to the Board was a well thought out plan and has considered many of the concerns that DJJ has.

Board member Sandra Taylor said the budget issues are not something that just came up. Ms. Taylor said she has asked in the past at what point will DJJ start making serious policy decisions. At some point Governor Perdue will have to make decisions about what his priorities are. Ms. Taylor said the DJJ Board needs to sit down with the Governor and convey to him what the Board concerns are.

Board member Dr. Risler asked Mr. McGuire if he wants the board to table their decision until after the meeting with the Governor.

Mr. McGuire said yes. He would like the DJJ staff to schedule a meeting for the Board to meet with the Governor to discuss the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC.

Dr. Risler said he is supportive of DJJ's leadership and he believes they have done what they could. It is incumbent on Senator Grant to respond to the impact it will have on his community.

Pastor Rowland asked if there was anything that would prevent the Board from attending the meeting that Senator Grant will have with Governor Perdue.

Ms. Taylor requested the Board call Mr. Grant and find out the date of his meeting with the Governor and find out if he would like the DJJ Board to attend the meeting as well and voice their opinions.

Mr. Simpson said the Board seems to be concerned about public safety and the impact on the community of Milledgeville. He stated Board members need to attend the meeting because the Governor needs to hear from the DJJ Board.

Board member Daniel Menefee said the DJJ Board needs to comply with the Governor's wishes and get the budget in on time. Mr. Menefee said he doesn't have a problem with meeting with Senator Grant and Governor Perdue to discuss the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC. He doesn't think that DJJ needs to hold back the submission of the budget and needs to submit it on time by September 1, 2009.

Ms. Taylor asked what happens if the Board votes the budget down.

Commissioner Murray said he did not know because all the years he has been the Commissioner at DJJ that has never happened and he would need to seek advice as to what his options would be.

Ms. Taylor said that DJJ can probably present the proposed budget to OPB without the board approval.

Mr. Minor stated it's a budget proposal to the Governor and DJJ will be working with OPB for the next several months to make sure there're comfortable with the recommendations to the Governor about what DJJ should do. These recommendations can be influenced by legislators as well as Board members. Mr. Minor said submitting the budget doesn't make it official because it is just a proposal and can be changed.

Mr. Minor said he would recommend that the DJJ Board have a separate meeting with the Governor without Senator Grant. It puts a lot of pressure on the Governor when the judicial branch and the executive branch that he has appointed are in the room with him at the same time.

Mr. McGuire said if the DJJ Board adopts the proposed budget it will be seen as an endorsement of the budget by the administration. Mr. McGuire said it would mean the Board is endorsing the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC.

Mr. McGuire said he will amend his motion to say that the Board meets with the Governor with the express purpose of seeking a remedy that would provide an alternative to closing the Bill Ireland YDC.

Dr. Risler asked if Mr. McGuire will need to withdraw his previous motion.

Mr. McGuire said he is the author and presenter of the motion and did not think he needed a motion to amend his own motion.

Bill Amideo, director of legal services said if there is an amendment, the Board would have to vote on that first. Once that passes, the Board would then vote on the amended motion.

Commissioner Murray said DJJ knew from September 1, 2008 that the proposed budget would be due on September 1, 2009. Commissioner Murray said there may be some agencies that don't submit their budget on time but the expectation of him as the Commissioner of DJJ is that the budget be submitted by September 1, 2009. He stated DJJ would not be looked at in a favorable manner should the DJJ budget be submitted 10 days late.

Chairman Shuman asked if the Board would meet again on September 10, 2009.

Mr. McGuire said the called meeting with the Board would take place either in person or via conference call to vote on the proposed budget (on September 10).

Mr. Amideo said just for clarification; the requirement of a budget submission or estimate is a statutory requirement. He stated he was not aware of any government agencies not submitting their budget on time. Mr. Amideo said submitting the budget is a legal statutory requirement in state law.

Board member Van Herrin said that Commissioner Murray and his Executive Team have worked very hard to get DJJ out from under the MOA. He is concerned by closing 300 beds it doesn't leave DJJ with many possibilities. One of the main reasons DJJ was put under the MOA was because of issues of its facilities being overcrowded. Mr. Herrin asked is DJJ putting itself back in jeopardy. Mr. Herrin said at the end of the day it may be the right business decision to make as far as money goes. Mr. Herrin also asked how the Board can make the Governor understand that the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC may cause DJJ to go back under the MOA.

Commissioner Murray said it is his honest belief that this decision will not put DJJ back under the jeopardy of going back under the MOA. Commissioner Murray said there are a few DJJ facilities right now that are operating over capacity. That being over capacity did not keep DJJ from coming out from under the MOA. The Department of Justice understands that occasionally DJJ's facilities will be over crowded. Commissioner Murray said if DJJ's facilities were over crowded for a long period of time then that will signal to the Department of Justice that DJJ may be operating its facilities in unsafe conditions. Commissioner Murray assured the Board that any crowding now and in the future at any facilities will be manageable. It will not place the youth or staff in any unsafe position. Commissioner Murray said there is nothing in the proposed budget that would signal to the Department of Juvenile Justice that DJJ is operating its facilities in an unsafe manner.

Judge Gilbert said she did not talk to any of the juvenile judges about the closure of the Bill Ireland YDC but she is sure that they will feel like they felt on any of the other issues that concerned the Board. Judge Gilbert said whether or not the Board supports the process will be a matter of individual conscious. She stated Board members will have to vote their conscious. What the judges do as a response to that will come later after they have had a chance to digest what it means. It will either be a proposal with the Board recommendation or a proposal without it.

Mr. Garraway asked if the proposal will be moved forward because of the legal requirement with or without the Board approval. Mr. Garraway asked for clarification.

Mr. Amideo asked Mr. Garraway if his question was, if the Board voted not to approve the proposed budget, if it will still be submitted to the Governor's office.

Mr. Garraway said yes.

Mr. Amideo said he had never heard of this situation before. Mr. Amideo said he will consult on the matter and talk to Commissioner Murray, the Executive Management Team and the Governor's office.

Ms. Taylor said DJJ will have to make the decision to submit the proposed budget with or without the Board approval.

Mr. Garraway asked if there was a statutory requirement that the Board vote the proposal up or down by September 1, 2009.

Commissioner Murray said those are questions that neither he nor his Executive Management Team could answer at this time.

Mr. Garraway asked if the Board could take a recess so that Mr. Amideo can research the information.

Mr. McGuire said if DJJ submits a budget with the Bill Ireland YDC closure it will be a very hard thing to reverse. If the Board can get in front of the Governor, some clarification will be received about his expectation. Mr. McGuire said if DJJ doesn't take this time to slow down and seek relief, and the Board votes down the budget, he believes DJJ will have to go back and find that money somewhere else. Mr. McGuire said that is what he will advocate. He said he did not see the danger in slowing the process down and going through the motions of seeing if there could be any alternative.

Pastor Rowland said he understood what Mr. McGuire said but the Board vote isn't going to close the Bill Ireland YDC right away. Pastor Rowland said in Mr. McGuire's mind, if it is in the budget, it is closed.

Mr. McGuire said if the Board adopted the proposed budget then the answer is yes that is what they will be advocating.

Pastor Rowland said the Governor asked what DJJ will do if they had to make a 4%, 6% and 8% budget cuts. DJJ is saying to reach those numbers; this is the only way it can be done with having minimal impact on the youths and staff. The Governor has to take into account the whole state the same way DJJ took into account all its facilities. Pastor Rowland said his decisions will be based on the entire state. Pastor Rowland said if the funds are not there this is what DJJ will have to do.

Mr. McGuire said he will have to respectfully disagree because part of the reason the Board will meet with the Governor is to ask him to make the hard decision. DJJ is not a school system which can raise deficit numbers by increasing rates or finding the money somewhere else. DJJ has a constitutional mandate to take care of the youth. DJJ is in public safety and is in the same category as the Department of Defense and DJJ doesn't have a choice but to do its job. It has come to a point that DJJ cannot do its job. The Board will ask Governor Perdue respectfully to make a choice to essentially make an exception for DJJ and have it reflected in DJJ's budget.

Pastor Rowland said DJJ's staff is saying we can safely operate under this plan. DJJ is not putting itself in a position to go back under the MOA. Pastor Rowland said Commissioner Murray conveyed to the Board that DJJ facilities can manage if it had to.

Board member Elaine Snow asked for a vote to be called.

Mr. Simpson said there seems to be a little confusion. Mr. Simpson asked if the Board needs to deal with Mr. McGuire's amendment.

Mr. Amideo said the Board needs to resolve the amendment before they can take up the motion to close the debate.

Mr. McGuire stated the amendment is for the purpose of the meeting with Governor Perdue solely to deal with the closing of the Bill Ireland YDC and to advocate finding an alternative.

Mr. Simpson seconded the motion.

Mr. Amideo said Mr. McGuire would need to state what the existing motion was just to make sure the Board clearly understands. He stated the Board is still in debate but there has been a motion to close the debate and vote on it.

Ms. Lindsey asked if she can make a friendly amendment to the amendment.

Ms. Lindsey said the purpose to meet with the Governor should be to talk about the closure of any long term beds at DJJ and if there are any alternatives to closing any beds.

Mr. McGuire accepted Ms. Lindsey's amendment to his amendment.

Mr. Amideo said he did not know if any board members wanted to still debate any more issues. He said there was a motion for a vote. If there are any Board members that want to still debate the Board will need to make a second to the motion.

Mr. Simpson said the Board is not having the vote to close the debate which will require 2/3 of the vote. Mr. Simpson said debate appears to be closed.

Mr. Herrin asked if the motion can be restated and then the Board will decide whether they are finished debating.

Mr. McGuire stated his motion again for the Board. Mr. McGuire said his motion is to delay consideration for the vote on the budget for two weeks until September 10, 2009 in order for the Board to meet with the Governor; preferably with Senator Johnny Grant to discuss the closing of any long term beds and then reconvene on September 10, 2009 either by conference call or in person to vote on budget.

Mr. McGuire stated there is a motion to close the debate and the Board either needs to vote on that motion or vote it down if the Board will have any more debate.

Chairman Shuman asked the Board for a show of hands to close the debate. Chairman Shuman said the vote is unanimous.

Chairman Shuman asked for a roll call of the Board to delay their vote on DJJ's amended budget proposal until September 10, 2009.

Larry Barnes – not present
Michael Baugh – No
Bruce Garraway - Yes
Van Herrin - Yes
James Kelly – not present
Elizabeth Lindsey – Yes
Perry McGuire – Yes
Judy Mecum - Yes
Daniel Menefee – No
Dr. Ed Risler – No
Pastor Dexter Rowland – No
Stephen Simpson – Yes
Elaine Snow – Yes
Sandra Taylor - Yes

Chairman Shuman stated the motion carried 8 to 4. Chairman Shuman stated the Board will meet again on September 10, 2009 at 10:00 at the Central office to discuss DJJ's proposed budget.

Mr. Garraway said he never received an answer to his question and wanted to know if the legal department could get back to him about whether or not the budget will be submitted with or without the Board's approval.

Mr. Amideo said if the budget is submitted, it will be an executive decision. Commissioner Murray will have to meet with his staff and decide. Mr. Amideo said statutorily there is a requirement that the Board approve the budget. If the Board doesn't approve the budget at some point DJJ will have to create a new budget.

Chairman Shuman requested the Board take a 5 minute break.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, the Customer Service Update.

Customer Service Update

Steve Hayes, Customer Service Chairperson
Department of Juvenile Justice

Mr. Hayes greeted the Board and visitors. Mr. Hayes announced the Third Annual Team Georgia Customer Service Awards ceremony is scheduled for Monday, September 28, 2009. Mr. Hayes stated he will send out more detailed information about the event to the Board via email once the information becomes available. DJJ had a good number of nominations this year to accompany the quarterly Commendation winners that DJJ had who will also be considered in the Third Annual Awards program. Mr. Hayes said he received about 20 nominations from DJJ facilities and offices across the state to be considered. Mr. Hayes stated the deadline for those nominations was Friday, August 21, 2009.

Mr. Hayes highlighted some of the things that are being done in customer service. Mr. Hayes said his office continues to receive customer service brochures not only from DJJ's facilities but also from field offices. He stated if there were any comments that are made in the brochures that needed to be followed up on, he do so by contacting the directors of that facility or regional administrators to determine if any actions need to be taken.

Mr. Hayes read a couple of customer service brochures comments that were made.

"Everyone was just awesome to me and my son and very professional and friendly at the same time."

“The nurse on duty Sunday was very helpful and understanding. Thanks to her, she helped ease my mind.”

Mr. Hayes stated he wanted to highlight one comment made from the Screven County Court Services office.

“I received more help and attention from this office than any other place in Georgia.”

“Staff has been extremely sincere and helpful in helping with our situation.”

Mr. Hayes asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, the FY 2011 Bond Funded Capital Improvement Request Resolution.

FY 2011 Bond Funded Capital Improvement Request Resolution

Ed Cook, Director of Engineering
Department of Juvenile Justice

Mr. Cook greeted the Board and stated he was happy to come before them with another budget request. Mr. Cook stated it was the annual capital outlay budget request for capital projects. Mr. Cook made reference to his handout and stated the first list was the actual projects. He stated there were 11 projects this year that can be divided into three portions. The first two requests were always the same every year, maintenance and minor construction. Mr. Cook stated the other two handouts showed the breakdown of each of those items.

Mr. Cook said the next 5 projects are all major support additions at existing facilities. Four of the projects have been on the list for several years.

Mr. Cook stated the list only shrinks as they are funded. Mr. Cook said one was added this year to provide additional support space at the Eastman YDC to each of the housing units to turn those operations into more of a unit management type of operation.

The last 4 projects are new facility requests. Mr. Cook said the projects are on the list to keep OPB aware that once all the budget cuts are over with, DJJ will still need to make some long term capital planning concerning their facilities. That would involve at the very least, serious renovation, replacement and probable relocations of many of its beds. This can also include adding additional beds in the future.

Mr. Cook said the list is significantly smaller than it has been in the past. Within the past couple of years the list has been shrinking. DJJ has been very successful in getting its projects approved. This includes the Atlanta YDC, the new Rockdale RYDC, Augusta Medical Intake building, and the 20 bed addition to the Clayton RYDC. Mr. Cook said those were all projects that were on the list and were funded.

In addition to getting direct funding on those projects, he has managed to get some of the small projects inserted into the minor construction request and have them funded and completed. Mr. Cook said examples of that would be the new laundry that is being constructed at the Augusta YDC and the renovation of the intake area at the Metro RYDC.

Mr. Cook said one thing the Board may find interesting on the minor construction list is the larger projects that he managed to get into minor construction. The Eastman YDC visitation building and the Metro RYDC administration and warehouse building are all projects that were all on the main lists.

Mr. Cooks said he hopes DJJ can get funding soon for the other projects.

Mr. Cook asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Simpson stated on the Capital Outlay Budget request handout it states the cost to relocate 150 beds from Bill Ireland YDC to another site will cost \$26,531,619. Mr. Simpson said he also noticed for FY-2014 the fund request of \$23,258,905 and asked if this was part of the long range planning to build the other facility on the south side in Baldwin County.

Mr. Cook said yes. Mr. Cook said the way it works with OPB, DJJ has to plan out several years in advance.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve the FY 2011 Bond Funded Capital Improvement Request Resolution.

The motion was made by Van Herrin and seconded by Michael Baugh. The motion carried.

Chairman Shuman called for the next agenda item and asked for a motion from the Board to close the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and open the DJJ Board of Education meeting.

Board member Stephen Simpson called for a motion to close the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and open the DJJ Board of Education meeting. The motion was seconded by Daniel Menefee. The motion carried.

Education Update

Dr. Jack Catrett, Associate Superintendent
Department of Juvenile Justice

Dr. Catrett greeted the Board, Chairman Shuman, staff, and visitors. Dr. Catrett said he finds DJJ education to be very exciting. Dr. Catrett said school is underway to a very good start with the exception when there was a flu outbreak at the Sumter YDC and DJJ had to quarantine the kids. Dr. Catrett stated the flu is now gone and the youths are back in school.

Dr. Catrett said with that experience, DJJ found it needed to do something different with its teachers. Dr. Catrett said he contracted Dr. Michele Staples-Horne to come up with some procedures that the teachers can assist with if there's ever an outbreak again and the youths have to be quarantined. Dr. Catrett asked Dr. Michele Staples-Horne to address the Board.

Dr. Michele Staples-Horne said in the broader pandemic flu planning that is been done for DJJ, she is looking at contingency staffing. Dr. Staples-Horne said in the worst case scenario if there is large number of staff that is assigned to a particular duty like the teachers; DJJ realized they may need some other duties or other assistance from its staff. DJJ is now looking into training the teachers to administer medications, which DJJ has a specific program for that that is utilized for JCOs. The teachers will also be doing the digital temperature checks, monitoring blood pressure and assist with food service staff, if they are ill.

Dr. Staples-Horne said DJJ's chief nutritionist has already put together a plan for bag type, and disposable lunches that the teachers can assist with as well.

Dr. Staples-Horne said that DJJ is also looking at a contingency staffing plan for other staff as well, like for the JCO employees. If a number of JCO employees are out ill perhaps another post certified individual from the community will be able to step in.

Dr. Staples-Horne concluded her report and asked if there were any questions.

There were no questions.

Dr. Catrett said DJJ had a graduation at the Judge Thomas Jefferson Loftiss II RYDC. The graduation was well attended with a 100 people in attendance. Director Stephen Westberry and his staff did an excellent job. The graduation was well organized and all the youths at the facility were able to attend the graduation. Dr. Catrett said the speaker was Diana Newell and she did a great job.

DJJ had a graduation at the Eastman YDC. Dr. Catrett said Director Gary Morris and his staff did great job.

Dr. Mimi Cole is still doing site visits at DJJ's facilities. Ms. Cole visited 4 schools; the Waycross RYDC, Albany RYDC, Thomasville RYDC and Claxton RYDC. Ms. Cole was able to bring back some good reports from those schools.

Dr. Catrett said it seems that the Department of Technical and Adult Education wasn't going to allow the youths to take the GED test without a state issued identification. They wanted the youths to get identification from the Department of Driver Services. Deputy Commissioner Steve Herndon was able to intervene and assist with that. Mr. Coy Satterfield is working with Doug Engle, Director of the Office of Technology and Information Services, to develop an appropriate state identification so that DJJ's youth can take the GED test.

DJJ is waiting on their 21st Century Afterschool Program final award letter. DJJ is looking at their afterschool program and will be implementing some extra after school program to help youth's with the GED, math and reading. DJJ will also be looking at youth's that need to pass certain objectives on the CRCT's and writing tests. Dr. Catrett said as soon as DJJ receives its final award letter and the money is in the bank the program will start.

DJJ will retest for the Georgia High School Writing Test and High School Basic Skill Test.

Dr. Catrett made reference to DJJ's 2009-2010 School Calendar. Dr. Catrett stated the revised calendar includes the 9 furlough days and will need to be approved by the Board.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve the DJJ 2009-2010 revised School Calendar.

A motion was made by Dr. Risler and seconded by Van Herrin.

The motion carried.

Dr. Catrett also made reference to a Georgia Department of Education (DOE) Consolidation Application that also needs to be approved by the Board. Dr. Catrett stated the Consolidation Application is for vocational money of \$53,878.00 that DJJ received. The federal money will be used to fund one state position and the purchase of computers and peripherals. DJJ is able to swap federal money for state money in this situation. Dr. Catrett said for some reason this year DOE asked for DJJ to have the allocation to be approved.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve DOE allocation to DJJ.

A motion was made by Dr. Risler and seconded by Stephen Simpson. The motion was carried.

Dr. Catrett concluded his report and asked there were any questions.

There were none.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to close the DJJ Board of Education meeting and resume the Board of Juvenile Justice meeting.

Board member Sandra Taylor made the motion to close the Board of Education meeting and resume the Board of Juvenile Justice meeting.

Board member Pastor Rowland seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

Chairman's Comments
Chairman J. Daniel Shuman
Board of Juvenile Justice

Chairman Shuman asked if there was any unfinished business. Hearing none he asked if there was any new business.

Chairman Shuman reminded the Board they will have a Special Called meeting in Central Office on September 10, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. to vote on DJJ's proposed budget.

Board member Michael Baugh stated he will not be able to attend the meeting and asked if the roll call vote could be made via conference call or by him sending in a proxy vote.

Bill Amideo stated Michael Baugh will not be able to send in a proxy vote but can vote via conference call. Mr. Amideo stated a proxy vote is not recognized by Robert's Rules of Order.

Chairman Shuman announced the next DJJ Board Meeting will be at the Central Office on September 24, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Shuman asked if there were any other questions.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice.

Board member Larry Barnes made the motion and Board member Dr. Risler made the second.

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

J. Daniel Shuman, Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Albert Murray
Commissioner

Daniel A. Menefee, Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice