

**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, July 23, 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 July 23, 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: Rob Rosenbloom; Dr. Jack Catrett; Jeff Minor; Steve Herndon; Amy Howell; Bill Amideo; Steve Hayes; Nathan Cain; Cherecia Kline; Shirley Turner; Spiro Amburn; Rick Harrison; Eric Cathcart; John Wright; Debbie Alexander;

Others: Destiny Washington – Attorney’s General Office; Leyna Crenshaw - GAHSC

The Chairman asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation given by Board member Sandra Taylor.

Roll Call

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

Board Members Present: Larry Barnes; Bruce Garraway; James Kelly; Elizabeth Lindsey; Perry McGuire; Daniel Menefee (after roll call); Dr. Edwin Risler; Pastor Dexter Rowland; J. Daniel Shuman; Stephen Simpson; Elaine Snow; Sandra Taylor;

Advisory Council Members Present: Judge Quintress Gilbert; Judge Steven Teske (after roll call)

Noting the presence of a quorum of the Board, Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the July 23, 2009 Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education.

Larry Barnes moved to approve the agenda for the July 23, 2009 Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education meeting. Elizabeth Lindsey 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 June 25, 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. Sandra Taylor moved to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2009 meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and the DJJ Board of Education. Pastor Dexter Rowland seconded the motion. The chairman called for the vote and the motion was carried.

Commissioner's Report

Rob Rosenbloom, Deputy Commissioner

Rob Rosenbloom said he is filling in for Commissioner Murray because the commissioner is attending the 36th Annual NABCJ (National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice) Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. Commissioner Murray will take part in a panel discussion regarding economic cutbacks and how agencies such as DJJ are handling those budget reductions. Rob stated Commissioner Murray regrets he was unable to return in time for the board meeting and will be in attendance at the next meeting in August.

Division of Programs and Secure Campuses:

Each division's offices have been reviewing DJJ's mission and operation with a focus on how they can make the budget choices that will be asked of DJJ in the coming year. Mr. Rosenbloom stated DJJ will focus on its core operations and will work to minimize choices that adversely affect youth services.

In Campus Operations:

Rob Rosenbloom said the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office conducted a drug sweep at Muscogee YDC on Tuesday July 15. All employee cars were checked while staff was all present for a general staff meeting. There will be another unannounced sweep in the near future to check all areas inside the fence. The search did not find any evidence of drugs during this sweep.

The Eastman YDC will have its school graduation on Friday, July 31st at 10:00 a.m. Board members are invited to this event. Mr. Rosenbloom stated there was a change in the speaker for this event. Mr. Rosenbloom said he appreciated Judge Steve Teske's willingness and commitment, however, Judge Teske has graciously deferred to State Senator Ross Tolleson, who has agreed to be the commencement speaker. Senator Tolleson represents District 21 which includes the Eastman YDC. Judge Teske will be called upon at a later time to speak.

Mr. Rosenbloom stated a draft Memorandum of Understanding with the DHR Office of Child Support Services-Fatherhood Program has been submitted to Commissioner Murray for review. This project will provide support and release preparation for teen fathers at Eastman YDC before their transition to the community to further assist them to become responsible parents and productive citizens. DJJ is planning on a program start date of August 17, 2009.

Rob Rosenbloom stated the Bill Ireland YDC has developed a youth debate team. On June 16, 2009, under the advisement of Verna Witherspoon, librarian, and Karen Young, business manager, the team conducted their first debate before the YDC Director's monthly meeting held at Bill Ireland. The team is comprised of eight youth who were recommended by teachers, counselors, and other staff. As a prelude to the monthly YDC Directors meeting, the two teams debated the question, "Does Media Violence Affect Behavior in Youth."

Office of Health Services:

Rob Rosenbloom stated Dr. Michelle Staples-Horne initiated an interagency work group called the Correctional and Community Health Information Exchange Project. The goal of the project is to organize correctional health providers including the GA. Dept. of Juvenile Justice, GA. Department of Corrections, and local county jails with community health providers and public health clinics through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to share medical information. This will be accomplished via shared access to web-based health information. The purpose of this effort will be to share health information to prevent duplication of testing and permit health providers quick and easy access to patient's lab profiles so medical care can continue uninterrupted and also to generate some cost savings.

Office of Behavioral Health Services:

The Office of Behavioral Health's - Residential Substance Abuse Program held its second graduation ceremony this year for youth completing the program requirements. These youth receive group, individual and family counseling as part of their programming. Mr. Rosenbloom said the graduation ceremony was a culmination of effort between the Residential Substance Abuse Unit (RSAU) staff at the facility and families. The Eastman YDC had 15 youth graduate from the RSAU program on July 9, 2009 with families, security staff, RSAU staff and the Eastman YDC Director, Gary Morris along with his Executive Team, in attendance. The youth participated in the graduation program by presenting the welcome, reflection, introduction of a guest speaker and acceptance of certificates. The youth were beaming with pride from their accomplishment. The program set the bar for the other young men who are in the substance abuse program, who were also in attendance. It was a history making day as this was the first ever RSAU graduation at the Eastman YDC.

DJJ has 3 RSAU programs; one each at Bill Ireland, the Eastman YDC and the Sumter Youth Development Campus with a total capacity of 97 beds. The six month long program provides substance abuse treatment to approximately 200 youth during the year.

From the Community Services and Intake Division:

Mr. Rosenbloom stated the Community Services and Intake Division has been managing the lower level detention population over the last month and worked toward ensuring that each center is operating below the 100% capacity level. Some centers across the state continue to have population issues, but transfers between centers help alleviate the problem. Lower population levels have also allowed some needed projects to occur in centers.

The Savannah River Challenge Wilderness Program has been ramping up with intakes during July as planned. DJJ is currently on pace to reach our 50 slot total in the first week of August. The wilderness program component at the Savannah River Challenge Program has admitted 10

youth per week starting in July and that will continue until the 50 allocated beds are full. This wilderness program is managed by the Division of Community Services and Intake.

One event of many in the CSI Division is the creation of a Garden Club at the Sandersville RYDC. Residents help plant and tend the vegetable garden on the center grounds. It is the first time for many of the youth to see how food is grown and participate in the process.

Mr. Rosenbloom said fifty juvenile program managers were trained in July in the Steven Covey process called the Four Disciplines of Execution. DJJ center directors will receive the training in August. Mr. Rosenbloom noted the training will bring to the field level the enhanced ability to ensure DJJ is working each week on our most important goals: Reducing youth assaults in facilities and increasing successful completions of youth under supervision in the community to reduce youth crime.

The DJJ 2009 – 2011 Strategic Plan Update has been completed and is now available on the DJJ website. Mr. Rosenbloom said the address is in the board packet for review. The address is: http://www.djj.state.ga.us/ReferenceLibrary/_PDFfiles/StrategicPlan_2009-2011.pdf

This year's strategic plan was designed to concentrate its efforts on strategies that result in measureable outcomes. Recently, DJJ made important agency progress with its compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). With this achievement, DJJ developed its strategic plan to maintain our motivation and continue with the exceptional tasks ahead. As an agency, DJJ will now organize its efforts through strategic planning and, in particular, the agency's Wildly Important Goals (WIGS).

Mr. Rosenbloom said DJJ started organizing its efforts around these WIGS. There are two significant strategies we are using to reach its goals. (1) Safe Crisis Management is a continuum of activities aimed at improving facility safety through intervention. (2) The Enhanced Service Plan is a tool designed to help case managers address youth needs. We expect these and other strategies highlighted in the strategic plan to help DJJ fulfill its mission.

Rob Rosenbloom concluded the Commissioner's report and asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, the Board Officer Elections.

Board Officer Elections
Chairman J. Daniel Shuman
Board of Juvenile Justice

Chairman Shuman asked Board member Sandra Taylor to announce the new DJJ Board slate of officers:

Daniel Shuman – Chairman
Dr. Ed Risler – Vice Chairman
Daniel Menefee – Secretary

Ms. Taylor reminded the Board the new slate of officers was voted on and approved at the June 25th board meeting.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to be made on the election of chairman. A motion was made by Bruce Garraway. Larry Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Shuman called for a motion for Board member Dr. Ed Risler to serve as the Vice Chairman. A motion was made by Larry Barnes. Stephen Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Shuman called for a motion for Board member Daniel Menefee to serve as the Secretary. A motion was made by Larry Barnes. Sandra Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, the FY09/FY10 Budget update.

FY09/FY10 Budgets

Jeff Minor, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Juvenile Justice

Jeff Minor greeted the Board, staff and visitors. He stated it was a privilege to come before the Board to talk about the DJJ budget. Mr. Minor made reference to a memorandum from Trey Childress, Director of the Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) on behalf of Governor Perdue. The memorandum highlights some cuts that DJJ and other state agencies will have to take.

Mr. Minor said before he discusses the FY 2010 cuts, he will update the Board on how DJJ did last fiscal year. Mr. Minor reminded the board that last year in preparation for the Amended 09 and FY 2010 budget, DJJ was asked for 6%, 8% and 10% cuts in each fiscal year. There were other cuts such as pay raise that had been funded but was then withheld. Total budget cuts for DJJ for FY09 was \$42 million, which was about 12%. DJJ was also asked to withhold 25% of its June allotment, which was \$5.3 million. Mr. Minor said DJJ had to cut a lot of money in FY09. Total cuts in FY09 were \$47.4 million. Mr. Minor also said DJJ did not get the instructions for the 25% of the June allotment until May 2009. DJJ had to scramble and implement a strong hiring freeze, stop referral to programs, and do other things to make up the

\$5.3 million in a big hurry. Mr. Minor said he is glad to report that DJJ made it. DJJ ended FY09 with just a few adjustments needing to be done on the accounting side but will end last year spending about 99.998% of its final budget.

Mr. Minor reminded the Board that DJJ has five separate program budgets, which include YDCs, RYDCs, Community Supervision, Community Services, and Administration. Mr. Minor said he had to leave a cushion in each program at the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Minor thanked the DJJ staff for their leadership for making the cuts possible. He stated it was not easy to come up with those types of cuts so late in the fiscal year.

Mr. Minor said aside from the \$42 million cut in FY 2009, DJJ also had a \$27 million cut in FY 2010. Mr. Minor said the FY 2010 cuts are out of the DJJ based budget. The FY09 cuts included some base budget cuts but also some one time cuts like hiring freezes and furloughs. Mr. Minor said the \$27 million in cuts in the FY 2010 budget, which began July 1, are budget based cuts. DJJ started FY 2010 with a \$27 million cut.

Mr. Minor stated the memorandum from Trey Childress explains the amended FY 2010 and FY2011 budget instructions. These new cuts will be cuts on top of what DJJ has already taken. Mr. Minor said the instructions say the state will withhold 5% of DJJ's allotment. There will be monthly allotments based on DJJ's budget. The state will send DJJ 1/12 of its budget each month, but it will be reduced by 5% starting in August 2009.

In addition to that, OPB is requiring 3 days of furloughs for all state employees over the course of the first half of the Fiscal Year 2010, not to exceed a total of 12 furlough days for the year for employees already on furlough plans. Mr. Minor said that DJJ is trying to get some clarification as to whether or not the furloughs will affect all employees. There are concerns about JCO and food service employees. DJJ currently struggles to keep these staff. The preliminary response from OPB is DJJ may not need to furlough all employees but will then be forced to come up with the money for the employees that will not be affected by the furlough. Mr. Minor said DJJ will have to determine what is best. The furlough number for all DJJ employees is \$640,000 per day. The furlough number for all employees except JCO and food service employees is \$385,000 per day.

Mr. Minor said the instructions from OPB also require each state agency to submit budget reduction plans of 4%, 6% and 8% for Amended FY 2010 and FY 2011. These plans are due September 1, 2009. Mr. Minor said the memorandum from the OPB does not give DJJ a lot of time to do what needs to be done. DJJ cuts at the 4% level would be \$11,135,000; 6% would be \$16,702,000; and 8% is \$22,270,000 million.

DJJ received instructions in early July 2009 to begin the hiring freeze again in preparation for the budget cuts. DJJ knew the cuts were coming and started the preliminary work. Mr. Minor stated these cuts are going to be very difficult for DJJ to come up with.

Mr. Minor said DJJ survived fairly well the change from 60-30 days on the STP. This change has saved DJJ a lot of money and reduced the STP population. DJJ is trying to manage the cuts that were already taken. Some Wilderness Camps were closed and DJJ is currently trying to ramp up at the Savannah River Challenge Program so that some of the Wilderness beds can be replaced. DJJ has also suffered 6 days of furloughs in the last fiscal year. Mr. Minor said he will continue to work with the executive team and with staff to come up with recommendations.

Mr. Minor said he will be in touch with Board member Daniel Menefee about any upcoming finance committee meeting to go over some of those ideas and impacts before the August board meeting. The budget is due September 1 and the Board needs to pass a budget at the August board meeting. Mr. Minor said as the executive team reaches some preliminary decisions, the budget staff will go ahead and start implementing those budgets.

Mr. Minor asked if there were any questions.

Board member Dexter Rowland said that he is very concerned about the budget cuts and asked if DJJ knows what its breaking point is. Pastor Rowland said he sees some of the concerns already as it relates to scheduling JCOs.

Mr. Minor said he doesn't know what that breaking point is. Mr. Minor said he feels DJJ already met their breaking point last year. DJJ would have been seriously crowded in the facilities based on these budget cuts had it not been for the change in the law which changed the STP from 60 to 30 days. Mr. Minor said everything DJJ does that impacts its capacity will be critical. DJJ will have to work with the Governor's Office, prosecutors and judges to come up with some ideas.

Chairman Shuman asked what strategies will the state have for worn out automobiles and other equipment that DJJ is not allowed to buy.

Mr. Minor said a lot of DJJ automobiles and equipment are already worn out. Mr. Minor stated this will be the second year that DJJ will not purchase new automobiles. DJJ is currently working with the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) on a long-term leasing pilot. DOAS believes this lease will be better for state government than buying vehicles. This will help DJJ get some vehicles out on the road and would replace mileage that DJJ would pay employees.

Board member Dr. Risler said he is concerned that DJJ would not be able to meet its mission. Dr. Risler said he is concerned about what is in the best interest of the youths being driven by what is available. He doesn't want there to be a liability issue where somebody gets hurt and DJJ gets sued and placed back in an MOA. Dr. Risler asked if DJJ has the ability to say no to budget cuts.

Mr. Minor said DJJ does not have the ability to say no to the Governor and his staff, but they have the ability to inform them of the consequences of those budgets cuts. Mr. Minor said he doesn't think the Governor Perdue plans to take an across the board cut. Mr. Minor said the Governor's 4%, 6% and 8% reduction plan will give him latitude to take cuts where he believes

the state can absorb those cuts. Mr. Minor stated Governor Perdue is proud of DJJ and its accomplishments and he knows he doesn't want to backslide to the point of not being in compliance with the constitutional mandate. Mr. Minor also stated Governor Perdue trusts Commissioner Murray and the decisions he has made so far. Mr. Minor said DJJ will be impacting itself significantly to come up with the numbers.

Board member Elizabeth Lindsey asked if the Education budget was tied to the DJJ budget.

Mr. Minor said the DJJ Education budget is, but the Board of Education budget is not.

Elizabeth Lindsey asked if the teachers were also going to be taking 3 furlough days.

Mr. Minor said the teachers will be taking 3 days furlough. Mr. Minor also stated the teachers already took 6 furlough days last fiscal year. State employees may need to start taking 1 furlough day a month starting in October. Mr. Minor said Governor Perdue wants 3 furlough days to be taken in the first six months of the fiscal year.

Board member Sandra Taylor said DJJ is at the point where they need to make policy changes. Ms. Taylor asked how DJJ will work with the Governor's office and the legislative office or committees who are looking at the policies. Ms. Taylor stated DJJ and the Board need to be working with those individuals to make sure they understand the budget implications.

Mr. Minor said he appreciated the Board participation and stated the Board participation has helped DJJ. DJJ has been in communication with OBP and the Governor's policy staff to lay out some ideas. Mr. Minor said DJJ will be having some preliminary meetings with its appropriation chair. Mr. Minor stated in the month leading up to January when the Governor's budget comes out, a lot of work will go on and DJJ will be meeting with its constituent groups, partners, the General Assembly and the Governor's Office to try to come with something that will be best for the state and DJJ.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, the Augusta YDC easement grant resolution.

Augusta YDC Easement Grant
Ed Cook, Director of Engineering
Department of Juvenile Justice

Ed Cook greeted the Board, staff and visitors. He stated he was happy to present a board resolution involving property. Mr. Cook stated the Augusta YDC easement grant would allow the state to grant the City of Augusta a permanent sewer easement and a temporary construction easement on some land that DJJ has in custody near the Augusta YDC. Mr. Cook made reference to a handout that explains the location of the land that is being discussed. Mr. Cook said the land in question is located to the south and west of the facility. Mr. Cook said the land is about a quarter mile from the Augusta YDC. Mr. Cook said if the resolution is approved, it

would start the process so that the Properties Commission and the Legislature would continue on and actually grant the easement. Mr. Cook said he believes the City of Augusta already had a sewer in the area and the grant would be a continuation.

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

Judge Gilbert said she noticed in the resolution there was a revocable license.

Mr. Cook said yes, the legislature actually has to grant the easement. The legislature does not meet until next year. Mr. Cook explained that, in order for the County to get started, the State Properties Commission would issue a revocable license for the time between then and when the Governor signs the Bill and grant the easement.

Board member Perry McGuire asked if there are any policies that would restrict DJJ from accepting money for property easements. Mr. McGuire said normally you get paid for an easement going along your property.

Mr. Cook said he was not aware of any policy. Mr. Cook said a couple of years ago there was a push to find land that could be sold and DJJ identified quite a bit.

Mr. McGuire asked if DJJ has granted other easements in the past to other government agencies for free.

Mr. Cook said yes.

Board member Stephen Simpson said in Athens recently there was a sewage line that burst and polluted a creek nearby and they are trying to determine if there are any liabilities for that. Mr. Simpson asked if DJJ will have any liability or obligations for sewage lines so close to a creek if something happens. Mr. Simpson asked if DJJ will be liable for that and if there was any special language in the easement grant.

Mr. Cook said he did not know what kind of language the easement contained. He stated the State Properties Commission put the language together. Mr. Cook said he will ask the State Properties Commission and find out for the Board. He also said he didn't think DJJ would be liable for anything.

Bill Amideo, Director of Legal Services, said over the years he has been involved with other agencies. Mr. Amideo said it is not prohibited in any way to receive money or to charge money for an easement. Mr. Amideo stated government to government easements throughout the state have been granted without cost or fees for years. Mr. Amideo said it is a routine practice. Mr. Amideo also said the state also receives easements from local governments all the time.

Chairman Shuman asked for a motion to approve the Augusta YDC Easement Grant Resolution.

Dr. Risler moved to approve the resolution. Bruce Garraway seconded the motion. The motion was 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 Dr. Risler 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 Elizabeth Lindsey. 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 announced that the Eastman YDC graduation will be July 31, 2009. He encouraged the Board to attend.

Dr. Catrett said DJJ is trying to finish the school year, post transcripts, get grades and report cards out and finish planning for the fall semester. Dr. Catrett said most of DJJ schedules are in place, but there are last minute things that need to check. DJJ RYDCs have been very busy for the last couple weeks. The local school system employees are back at work now. Those state employees are trying to get the transcripts, units and test scores back from DJJ for the youth that spent time at a DJJ facility over the summer.

Dr. Catrett announced that on the last testing day of the school year, 60 students took the high school graduation test; 30 students took the high school writing test, 377 students took the end of the course test, 275 students took the SRCT test.

Dr. Catrett said he was proud of the students that have stepped up and put themselves in a position to take the tests. He also stated he was proud of the staff that has helped them. Dr. Catrett said he is waiting for the result of those tests.

Dr. Catrett stated DJJ has a high number of special education students. DJJ spent late spring and summer revisiting the youth's Individual Education Programs (IEPs). Dr. Catrett stated that is something that is revisited every year. DJJ looks at the goals and objectives to see where the child is and make plans for the next school year. Dr. Catrett said every third year psychological testing is done. This reestablishes whether or not the child is still eligible for the program. Dr. Catrett said DJJ's IEP evaluations are done, and the related service providers are also in place. Dr. Catrett stated related service providers include speech therapists, psychologists and physical

therapists. Dr. Catrett said the related service providers are hired on a per diem basis. Dr. Catrett announced that DJJ is ready for the school year in special education.

Dr. Catrett said there are many challenges due to the hiring freeze. Currently, there are several teacher vacancies at several DJJ facilities. There is 1 position at the Blakely RYDC, 2 at the Sumter YDC, 2 at the Macon YDC, 2 at the Bill Ireland YDC, and 1 position each at the Augusta YDC and the Savannah YDC.

Dr. Catrett said he does not want to start the school year behind as far as moving kids through. Dr. Catrett said DJJ has 45 days from the time a classroom is without a regular teacher, that DJJ can keep a substitute teacher, before it becomes a violation of HQ and state standards. Dr. Catrett said the biggest challenge is to get as many teachers in the classroom as soon as possible. Dr. Catrett said they have received plenty of applications, and he said he is sure the positions will be filled in no time.

Dr. Catrett stated DJJ paraprofessionals are required to have licenses just like the teachers do. Dr. Catrett said in July 2009, DJJ trained 44 paraprofessionals to renew their licenses. Dr. Catrett stated the 8 hours training took place at the Forsyth Training Facility. The training was done by DJJ and was geared toward its needs.

Dr. Catrett stated the English curriculum was updated and the books have been purchased and will be available the first day of school. The English teachers have been trained on how to use the new performance standard for the curriculum.

Dr. Catrett said DJJ's school system is a mastery based school system so there are some kids that are still using the English books from last year because they are in that particular course. Those students will be kept in that course and curriculum until the end of the first semester or until they finish the course.

Dr. Catrett said the year will end with the DJJ school system being in compliance with SACS and with state school standards.

Dr. Catrett reminded the Board the principal at the Bill Ireland YDC retired and one assistant principal position was lost due to the budget cuts. As a result, a school improvement team was put together at the Bill Ireland YDC to work and support the remaining assistant principal who is now acting principal. Dr. Catrett stated the team, with the help from other educational counselors, met each student at Bill Ireland to discuss their grades, progress and placement. Some of the staff at the Bill Ireland YDC attended a meeting at the Central Office to go through their fall schedule. Dr. Catrett said the Bill Ireland YDC school will be monitored closely.

Dr. Catrett said with 3 regional principals and 2 assistant principals gone, the concern is and the challenge will be; how DJJ will make sure that there is still quality in its schools. Dr. Catrett said there are 4 mandated and state positions at the Central Office with 3 being special education certified. Dr. Meme Coles who is the special education director was asked to take one day out of her schedule to go and visit a school each week and conduct a mini standard review. Dr. Catrett

said it is important that DJJ ensures the quality of its program stays the same despite these challenges.

Dr. Catrett stated there will be a regional principal and principal meeting on August 6, 2009 at the Forsyth Training Facility. Mr. Steve Herndon, deputy commissioner, will be the speaker. Dr. Catrett invited the Board to attend as well.

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

Board member Larry Barnes asked when DJJ was revising the IEP, was there any parental involvement.

Dr. Catrett stated there is good parental involvement. DJJ started the IEP via phone several years ago where they would get the parents on the phone or DJJ would get the juvenile probation parole specialist to bring the parents to the office. Dr. Catrett said not all youth have someone so DJJ also has surrogate parents for those youth.

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

Board member Elizabeth Lindsey made the motion to close the Board of Education meeting and resume the Board of Juvenile Justice meeting.

Board member Daniel Menefee seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

Chairman Shuman called for the next item on the agenda, the Youth Performance Video.

Youth Performance Video

Steve Hayes, Director of Media & Public Relations
Department of Juvenile Justice

Mr. Hayes greeted the Board, staff and visitors. Mr. Hayes stated the Youth Performance Video was put together for the MOA Recognition and Training event that was held at the Forsyth Training facility on July 10. Mr. Hayes stated he wanted to give the board members who were not able to attend the MOA Recognition event an opportunity to see the video. Mr. Hayes also said the video is about 10 minutes long and it displays the many talents that the youth at DJJ facilities have.

Mr. Hayes introduced Eric Cathcart, who is the producer and director of the youth performance video. Mr. Cathcart is also an employee at the Metro RYDC.

Mr. Cathcart said he was delighted to be at the board meeting. Mr. Cathcart said has been at the Metro RYDC for 7 years and he wanted to display the value of the youth. He thanked Mr. John Wright, who is the facility director and Debbie Alexander, who is the assistant director at the Metro RYDC, for giving him the opportunity.

Mr. Cathcart stated at the Metro RYDC they have something called the Metro TV that consists of sports, weather, and current news. He said the youth really enjoy Metro TV and decided to expand it. Mr. Cathcart said many youth at DJJ have talents that consist of writing poetry, writing lyrics, dancing and performing in plays. Mr. Cathcart said he would like to try and expand this to all the facilities.

The Youth Performance Video was played for the Board.

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 stated the Third Annual Team Georgia Customer Service Awards will be in September. There is a ceremony each year that the Governor's Office of Customer Service puts together and they are currently taking nominations. Mr. Hayes said he is in the process of putting the nominations together and getting the word out. The nomination flyers were sent to all employees. Mr. Hayes stated all DJJ commendation winners for the past year are eligible for the Annual Team Georgia Customer Service Awards.

Mr. Hayes made reference to the DJJ *Directions* newsletter in the Board packet. Mr. Hayes stated there is an article about the MOA Recognition and Training event in the newsletter. Mr. Hayes thanked Nathan Cain, an employee in the Media & Public Relations office, who assists in putting the newsletter together.

Mr. Hayes asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

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 stated he recently attended another board meeting and they announced that a lot of boards are getting away from the Robert's Rules of Order and it is being recommended by the American Bar Association. Chairman Shuman stated that Mr. Bill Amideo will do some research on that and will speak on that topic at the next board meeting.

Chairman Shuman stated the MOA Recognition and Training Event was outstanding.

Chairman Shuman announced that Elaine Snow asked to be switched to the Budget Committee and Sandra Taylor also asked to be switched to the Education Committee. Those changes were made.

Chairman Shuman announced the next DJJ Board Meeting will be at the Central Office on August 27, 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