

MINUTES of the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board

Board Meeting

Meeting Date January 27, 2017

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board (SORRB) was held at SORRB's Office, Atlanta, GA, on January 27, 2017. The meeting convened at 11:04AM, Board Chair Gerard Armorer presiding.

Members in Attendance: Donna Andrews, Paul Freeman, Gary Holstad, Lori Rozier

Members Teleconferencing: Matthew Connolly, Shannon Dunlap, Jessica Moss, Katie Strayhorn,

Members not in attendance: Jud Smith, Chris Steverson, Richard Vandever

Staff in Attendance: Tracy Alvord, Valarie Brathwaite, Betty Long, Bonnie McClurd, Markus Wiegel

Guest Attendees: Jamie Coleman, Office of Planning & Budget

Approval of minutes: December 9, 2016 Minutes – Motion: Moved by Paul Freeman that December's minutes be approved. Donna Andrews seconded – **Motion carried**

Gerard Armorer asked if there were any updates regarding Reports and Standing Committee's Jessica Moss stated no, but asked if the new Rules and Administrative Procedures changes were in process. Betty Long stated that the By-Laws are on the SORRB Website, and the other changes are in process.

Unfinished Business: The Board discussed the meeting with Kevin Baldwin, Senior Researcher for Applied Research. The meeting had been called by Tracy Alvord after she and her team reviewed research he had conducted and identified SORRB as a contributor. The research he presented during a poster session at the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers Conference in Orlando identified Failure to Register as a new sexual offense, resulting in a Georgia sex offender recidivism rate of 35%. In addition, Mr. Baldwin used information he obtained from the Georgia Sex Offender Registry to identify the number of cases that SORRB had leveled rather than speaking with SORRB for accurate data. Finally, Mr. Baldwin identified SORRB as a contributor of data to his research, which is false. During the meeting the research flaws were discussed and an offer was extended to Mr. Baldwin for SORRB to assist him in correcting faulty data. The meeting ended with Mr. Baldwin showing no interest in working with SORRB to correct the misleading data, other than to remove Failure to Register convictions as a new sexual offense conviction. He did promise to remove SORRB's name and any inference that SORRB is connect to his research project.

New Business: Gerard Armorer stated Tracy needs some assistance in addressing some SORRB issues legislatively. He asked Tracy to compile by the next Board meeting a list of the areas that SORRB needs help with so the Board can discuss them, and decide whether or not to form a Legislative Committee or if there are members who have contacts who can provide assistance.

Executive Director Report: Tracy Alvord

Tracy discussed Retreat locations of St Simon, Helen, UGA, and Jekyll that she contacted. The one location that was responsive was the Hampton Inn and Suite (Hilton) Jekyll. This location works within our budget. The Retreat meeting date is March 22 -24th. Motion: Moved by Donna Andrews the Retreat be held at Jekyll Island be approved. Paul Freeman seconded – **Motion carried**

Tracy stated that the SORRB Database started testing on January 26, 2017. Testing will be conducted for approximately two weeks, if there are no issues the database will be in place after two weeks. SORRB is now completely electronic, all files have been scanned. Sheriff Miller is officially retired, and he has sent a letter to the Governor's office stating that he will no longer be on the Board. Tracy asked Board members to respond to meeting invitations so that the travel reimbursement forms can be prepared and available for signature at the meetings. Tracy reminded members to complete the Financial affidavit as soon as possible; it is due January 31st. The current approximate date for SORRB's move is March, there is a meeting on January 31st regarding all that needs to be done regarding the move; there should be a more definite date determined then.

Case review:

68 Level 1 cases – Gary Holstad recused himself from case 16641. Donna Andrews recused herself from case 18266 - Motion: Paul Freeman moved that all cases be approved as level 1 Lori Rozier seconded. Roll-call vote – **Motion carried**

39 Level II cases – Matt Connelly recused himself from case 1368, Gary Holstad recused himself from case 17271. - Motion: Moved by Donna Andrews that all cases be approved as level II. Gary Holstad seconded. Roll-call vote – **Motion carried**

10 Predator cases – Motion: Moved by Donna Andrews that all cases be approved as Predators. Lori Rozier seconded. Roll-call vote – **Motion carried**

18 Re-Evaluation cases – Motion: Paul Freeman moved that all cases be approved as recommended levels. Donna Andrews seconded. Roll-call vote – **Motion carried**

Tracy stated for the record that she had recused herself from one of the Predator cases as she had been the treatment provider for this individual.

Adjournment February 17, 2017, SORRB's offices, Atlanta, GA, were fixed as the time and place of the next regular meeting. The January 27, 2017 meeting was adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Signature of Board Chairman:

Gerard Armorer