

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**BOARD OF GEORGIA VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**  
**1 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.**

**VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Faye Perdue (Vice-Chair)  
Sandy Adams (Secretary)  
Craig Camuso  
Suzanne Dooley  
Louise Hill  
Angela Mackey  
Vincent Martin  
Jonathan Taylor  
GVRA Executive Director Chris Wells (Non-Member)

**Introduction**

GVRS Vice - Chair Faye Perdue welcomed everyone in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the November 10th meeting were passed unanimously.

**GVRA Staff Updates/Reports**

**Executive Director – Chris Wells**

**Program Highlights** – RWS is currently serving 175 students to date. Other students are still being served virtually. \$345,000 has been approved for ceiling and roof repairs at the campus. DAS will soon be purchasing a new case management system, and the goal is to have this system operating by March 2021. DAS has been granted the opportunity to hire 163 individuals throughout the current federal fiscal year. GIB was approved to purchase a mask machine, with production starting no later than February 2021. On the whole, 75 percent of all BEP vendor locations are closed. 80 percent of all Federal Building BEP locations are currently closed.

**Agency Highlights/Initiatives** – Director Wells addressed the COVID Relief approved a weeks back which has allowed the Business Enterprise to provide relief for blind vendors. Director Wells spoke on the welcoming of the new Director of Administration-Mr. Johnathan Buxton. Director Wells also welcomed onboard Travis Trimble as IT Director for the agency. Director Wells reviewed the Agency and VR budgets.

**Vocational Rehabilitation – Dr. Christine Fleming, VR Director**

Director Christine Fleming covered the Priority Categories. New clients assigned to Priority Category (1) will continue to receive services as they are classified as being those with the most significant disabilities. Clients with an active IEP and began services prior to January 1, 2021 will continue to receive services.

**New/Old Business – Vice Chair Faye Perdue**

All board members are annually required to sign an ethics affidavit to be filed with the Georgia Ethics Office. Board members will receive more information later in a follow up email.

**Shelly Simmons- Executive Director, SILC**

Zoom Meeting – SILC & GILN Quarterly Board Meeting.

**Robin Folsom- Director External Affairs**

Ms. Folsom spoke about the legislative priorities and legislation impacting the agency and agency clients.

**Public Comments**

Marilyn Richard- Spoke about the closure of priority categories.

Star Brunner – GCDD Transition Director - Expressed concern that category closure will negatively impact the level of support for VR clients participating in inclusive post-secondary education.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.