



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
FEBRUARY 23, 2023  
9:00 A.M.  
RICHARD LEE RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM**

**Board Members Present**

John Felts, Chairman, APB  
Wendy Ryals, Vice Chair, APB  
Brett Morgan, Secretary, APB  
Lona McCastlain, Commissioner, APB  
Doug Smith, Commissioner, APB  
Jamol Jones, Commissioner, APB

**Others Present**

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB  
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB  
Felicia Bentley, Investigator, APB  
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, IRS, DCC  
Jarrod Self, Parole/Probation Manager, DCC  
Courtney Cooper, Parole/Probation Assistant Area Manager, DCC  
Daniel Potter, Parole/Probation Assistant Area Manager, DCC  
David Wilson, Public Information Manager, DOC

**Excused**

Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB  
Jack Bell, Revocation Hearing Judge, APB  
Brenton Wood, Revocation Hearing Judge, APB  
Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB

## **Call to Order**

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A quorum was declared. Chairman Felts noted that Commissioner Shock is out on sick leave.

## **Approval of Minutes – February 9, 2023**

Vice Chair Ryals moved for approval of the minutes. Secretary Morgan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

A copy of the minutes was included in each board member's packet for review.

## **Review of Population Reports**

Chairman Felts reviewed the population reports starting with the ADC report. There are 122 females and 1,720 males in the county jail backup with a combined total of 1,842. He said everything is 100% or greater except for Work Release. They have an in count of 15,531. The capacity is 14,652, so the overall is 106.0%. There is an in count of 17,637, 21 at ORCU hospital, 10 at other hospitals, and 87 out to court. They have a grand total of 17,755.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. He said everything is right at 100% or greater. They have 96.5% males and 100.2% females.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the statewide field operations report. There are 22,997 individuals on parole and 33,172 on probation. There is a grand total of 67,179 individuals under supervision. Vice Chair Ryals asked about the absconders on the report.

## **Attorney General's Report**

Ms. Nga Mahfouz, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office, was absent. A copy of pending lawsuits was included in each board member's packet for review

## **Fiscal Report Update**

Ms. Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Cummings reported that effective July 1, 2022, the Agency received funding of \$244,711 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2023. As of January 31, 2023, we've expensed \$112,252.44 (45.87%) of the FY23 Maintenance & Operations and Conference &

Travel Budget. At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 46.94% of the operating expense budget.

A copy of the fiscal report was included in each board member's packet for review.

Chairman Felts asked if there is a date set for accreditation. Ms. Cummings said there isn't one yet, but they are working on it. She said as soon as she hears something she will update the Chairman.

### **Hearing Judge's Report**

Ms. Cummings updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of January 2023. There were 409 total revocations. There were 281 waivers signed, 96 administrative revocations, and 32 individuals revoked at a hearing. There were 429 total actions.

A copy of the hearing judge report was included in each board member's packet for review.

### **Agency Updates**

Ms. Cummings mentioned the APAI conference in April. She said registration has been taken care of, and they are working on flights.

### **Old Business**

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

### **New Business**

Chairman Felts opened the elections for Vice Chair and Secretary of the Board. Commissioner McCastlain nominated Secretary Morgan as Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Jones. Secretary Morgan nominated Vice Chair Ryals as Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The nominations were approved by the Board. Secretary Morgan was elected as Vice Chair, and Vice Chair Ryals was elected as Secretary.

### **Files for Review**

A copy of the files for review was included in each board member's packet for review.

**Review of the Hearing Schedule**

A copy of the hearing schedule was included in each board member’s packet for review.

**Adoption of Recommendations**

Secretary Morgan moved to adopt the recommendations of the Board for the units as listed on the attached ratification list. Vice Chair Ryals seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

*Signature on file*

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**John Felts**  
**Chairman**

*Signature on file*

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**Brett Morgan**  
**Secretary**

**ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES**

**FEBRUARY 2023**

**UNITS:**

**RATIFIED (X)**

**R.L. Williams**



**Pine Bluff**



**Ester**



**Grimes**



**East Arkansas**



**Mississippi Co. W/R/NEACC**



**Varner**



**Ouachita**



**Other:** Pardons, Commutations, Transfer Screenings, ACT 290s, 700s, Reconsiderations, Revocation Appeals, Rescinds, Special Conditions, EPAs, Etc.



**Motion By: Secretary Morgan    Seconded by: Vice Chair Ryals**

**Ratification Date: February 23, 2023**