



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2023  
9:00 A.M.  
RICHARD LEE RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM**

**Board Members Present**

John Felts, Chairman, APB  
Brett Morgan, Vice Chairman, APB  
Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB  
Lona McCastlain, Commissioner, APB  
Andy Shock, 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  
Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB  
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB  
Felicia Bentley, Investigator, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, IRS, DCC  
Clayton Orr, Assistant Attorney General, AG's Office  
Wade Hodge, Chief Legal Counsel, DOC

**Excused**

Jack Bell, Revocation Hearing Judge, APB  
Brenton Wood, Revocation Hearing Judge, APB

## **Call to Order**

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A quorum was declared. Commissioner Jones joined the meeting via telephone.

## **Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2023**

Secretary Ryals moved for approval of the minutes. Vice Chair 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. They have an in count of 18,243 and a jurisdictional count of 18,370. There are 17 at ORCU hospital, 19 at other hospitals, 10 out on furlough, and 81 out to court. All facilities are at or over 100% capacity.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. They have an overall percentage of 105%. The county jail back up has 60 females and 55 females with a total of 115.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the statewide field operations report. There are 22,736 individuals on parole and 33,215 on probation. There is a grand total of 67,464 individuals under supervision.

## **Attorney General's Report**

Mr. Clayton Orr, Assistant Attorney General, AG's Office, went over the list of lawsuits that was provided to the Board. He noted that numbers 1 and 2 on the list are being moved to the Motion to Dismiss column. Number 7 has been assigned to Andrew Middlebrooks and has a pending Motion to Dismiss. Ms. Orr said there are still motions to dismiss on the APA cases. He said inmate Duran has filed an APA case on his criminal docket. The newest case is number 16, Paul Maxwell.

## **Fiscal Report Update**

Ms. Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Goldman reported that effective July 1, 2023, the Agency received funding of \$244,711 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2024. As of August 31, 2023, we've expensed \$37,444.65 (15%) of the FY24 Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel Budget. At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 16% of the operating expense budget.

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

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

Ms. Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB, updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of August 2023. There were 419 total actions. There were 402 total revocations. There were 283 waivers, 37 individuals revoked at a hearing, and 82 administrative revocations.

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

### **Agency Updates**

Ms. Cummings stated that ACA registration is open. That will be January 4-7, 2024, in Maryland.

### **Old Business**

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

### **New Business**

There was nothing to report regarding new business.

### **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 Ryals moved to adopt the recommendations of the Board for the units as listed on the attached ratification list. Commissioner McCastlain seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

**Other Discussion**

Chairman Felts introduced Mr. Wade Hodge as the new Chief Legal Counsel of Shared Services.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

***Signature on file***

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**John Felts  
Chairman**

***Signature on file***

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**Wendy Ryals  
Secretary**

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

**SEPTEMBER 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 Ryals    Seconded by: Comm. McCastlain**

**Ratification Date: September 28, 2023**