



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
NOVEMBER 21, 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
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
Barry Bealer, Assistant Area Manager, IRS, DCC
Clayton Orr, Assistant Attorney General, AG's Office
Lasonja Evans, Accounting Operations Manager, DOC
Wade Hodge, ADC Assistant Director, DOC

Excused

Doug Smith, Commissioner, APB
Brenton Wood, Revocation Hearing Judge, APB

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was declared. Secretary Ryals joined the meeting via telephone. Commissioner Smith was noted as being out on annual leave.

Approval of Minutes – November 9, 2023

Vice Chair Morgan moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner McCastlain 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 166 females and 1,701 males in the county jail backup. They have a combined total of 1,867. There is an in count of 18,451 and a jurisdictional count of 18,557. There are 118 females in the county 309 and 178 males in the county 309. There are 25 people on Death Row.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. The male population is at 105.3%, and the female population is at 98.6%. There is a combined total of 103.2%.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the statewide field operations report. There are 22,780 individuals on parole and 34,094 on probation. There is a grand total of 68,529 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 said they've moved a lot more cases into the dismissal column. There are two new cases. They are numbers 12 & 13. There were a few new cases received last week. Mr. Orr said most of them were not served or filed. There are a couple being assigned to civil division attorneys. He said they will be included in the next update.

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 October 31, 2023,

we've expensed \$63,971.64 (26.14%) of the FY24 Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel Budget. At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 30.20% 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 October 2023. There were 364 total revocations. There were 114 administrative revocations, 223 waivers, and 27 individuals revoked at a hearing.

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

Agency Updates

Ms. Cummings said that after Thanksgiving, the Board will have a new Hearing Judge starting. He will be starting Monday, the 27th.

Ms. Cummings gave an update on the SAFE Arkansas Mobile App. She said Phase 1 is \$28,000.

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

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

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Signature on file

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on file

Wendy Ryals
Secretary

ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD

FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES

NOVEMBER 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: Comm. McCastlain **Seconded by:** Commissioner Jones

Ratification Date: November 21, 2023