



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
January 26, 2012 @ 9:30 A.M.
APB Board Room**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Felts, Chairman
Abraham Carpenter, Vice-Chairman/Commissioner
Richard L. Mays, Jr., Secretary/Commissioner
Richard Brown Jr., Commissioner
Carolyn Robinson, Commissioner
Joe Peacock, Commissioner
James Wallace, Commissioner

HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:

Ashley Vailes, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Jim Williams, Hearing Examiner/Attorney
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB
Norma Gillerson, Fiscal Support Supervisor, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Melissa Haney, Administrative Analyst, APB
Dan Roberts, Deputy Director Parole/Probation, DCC
Steve Arnold, Assistant Director, Parole/Probation, DCC
Damian McNeal, Assistant Director, Parole/Probation, DCC
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC
Arnie Jochums, Attorney General's Office

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Felts called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 12, 2011

Commissioner Wallace moved. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

POPULATION REPORT

Chairman Felts reported that there are 15,079 inmates in the Department of Correction. He reported that the county jail backup is currently over 700 due to the Diagnostic unit being closed for new commitments for the last month. The new expanded Malvern unit will start receiving new commitments beginning on Monday, January 30, 2012 and they will eventually receive 45 new inmates a day which will bring down the backup. He stated that the new section of the Malvern unit will house new commitments, the hospital and SPU.

In review of the DCC population report there are 1,352 inmates currently incarcerated. It was also reported that there are 29,812 individuals on Probation and 23,253 individuals on Parole.

Chairman Felts reported that the Board's monthly report shows 368 approved out of 401 total screenings giving the Board a 98% approval rate. The monthly report for transfer hearings reported 254 approved hearings out of 393 for the month of December, giving the Board an approval rate of 64.6%. There were 949 total actions completed by the Board for the month of December, this number includes totals for Commutations and Pardons. The Board reports an overall approval rate of 73.6%. This percentage includes those inmates approved with programs.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Arnie Jochums had nothing to report to the board.

FISCAL REPORT

Norma Gillerson reported that as of December 31, 2011 the Board as expended 56% of the FY 2012 budget. She also informed the Board that the City of Little Rock has imposed a 1% sales tax increase which will increase the total amounts on the Boards current invoices from vendors in Little Rock. There were no questions.

HEARING EXAMINERS REPORT

The Hearing Examiners reported a total of 63 hearings conducted. Of the total 45 were revoked to ADC, 7 were revoked to TVP, 2 were not revoked, 3 were deferred, 6 compact hearing and no transfer hearings were held.

OLD BUSINESS

Act 570 Monthly Reports for December

Solomon Graves reported that in the Board's packets there is a current report as required by Act 570 and that in the report there is a slight discrepancy of 13 cases. He is currently working with Institutional Release Services to isolate these individuals in order to determine why they were counted on one report but not the other.

Faith Based Re-Entry Training

Mr. Graves reminded the Board that there will be a training program held in the Board room regarding the Faith Based Approach to Offender Re-Entry on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 1:00 pm.

Vote Sheet Changes for Sex Offender Stipulations

Mr. Graves reported there will be some upcoming changes to the vote sheets to change the way the Board votes on sex offender conditions. He will be meeting with Kim Knoll on Thursday, February 2, 2012 to discuss the changes in wording and to facilitate the necessary changes to the Board's voting sheets.

Chairman Felts stated that the sex offender training presented by DCC was an excellent learning tool for the Board and that the Board appreciates all that DCC does to keep them informed of the process.

AACET Membership

Chairman Felts stated that the AACET program is interested in involving the Board in their organization. They are currently working with DCC and ADC. Mr. Roberts told the Board that an example of the great work the organization does the Board can be found in the recent tragedy at Brickeys. The AACET organization has currently donated \$3,000 to the family and is paying for the funeral of Sergeant Easter. Chairman Felts stated that the organization is an option and he would like to discuss it being made available to the Board and support staff. Commissioner Wallace moved and Commissioner Mays seconded the motion. The motion carried. Chairman Felts reported that they will get with the AACET program manager and discuss how the Board can implement this option into payroll deductions.

Cummins Unit Hearing Votes

Chairman Felts discussed the option to move the Cummins board vote reporting day to the beginning of each month in order to equalize the month and make it easier to complete Board vote keying. The Board agreed to this and Mrs. Ellingburg stated that change will take effect in March.

February 2012 Schedule

Chairman Felts stated that if any Commissioners have any adjustment to please let him know as soon as possible so that changes can be made. Mr. Wallace reported that due to the road constructions between the APB office and the East Arkansas Unit it is very difficult for some Commissioners to get to the Unit for hearings. He has volunteered to conduct hearings at Brickeys. There were no questions.

FILES FOR DISCUSSION - REVIEW

Chairman Felts called for any questions regarding the victim input votes for January. There were no questions.

RATIFICATION OF VOTES

Commissioner Mays moved. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion to ratify the votes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Felts stated that the funeral for Sergeant Easter will be on Saturday, January 28, 2012, at noon there at the Lee County High School in Marianna. He reported that Mrs. Easter was a fine lady and this is a real tragedy for the Department of Correction. He asked that the Board and Hearing Examiners be careful when going into the Units and to always use caution around inmates.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 9:30a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Signature on File

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on File

Richard L. Mays, Jr.
Secretary

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

January 2012

<u>UNITS:</u>	<u>RATIFIED (X)</u>
BENTON	X
CACCC	X
CUMMINS	X
DIAGNOSTIC	X
EAST AR	X
MISSISSIPPI CO.	X
NEACCC	X
OUACHITA RIVER CORR.	X
PINE BLUFF	X
R.L. WILLIAMS	X
SEARC	X
SWARC	X
TRCC	X
VARNER	X
WRIGHTSVILLE	X
OTHER: PARDONS, COMMUTATIONS, TRANSFER SCREENINGS, ACT 290, 700'S, RECONSIDERATION, REVOCATION APPEALS, EPA, ETC.	X

MOTION BY: Commissioner Mays SECONDED BY: Commissioner Carpenter

RATIFICATION DATE: January 26, 2012