



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
JANUARY 28, 2016
9:00 A.M.
APB BOARDROOM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Felts, Chairman
Richard Brown, Jr., Vice-Chairman /Commissioner
Dawne Vandiver, Secretary/Commissioner
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner
James Wallace, Commissioner
John Belken, Commissioner

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Andy Shock, Commissioner
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Jim Williams, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Ashley Vailes, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Cara Boyd-Connors, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Lois Hansberry, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB

OTHERS PRESENT:

Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, APB
Mahogany Franklin, Business Manager, APB
Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 9:10 am. A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 14th, 2016

Vice- Chairman Brown moved for the approval of the minutes. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

REPORT UPDATES

Chairman Felts reported that there are 17,767 inmates incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction. There are currently 1,110 men and women on the ADC County Jail Back-up list. Chairman Felts reported every Unit is at capacity or above.

Chairman Felts stated there have been some good policies adopted to address overcrowding. He also stated that he appreciated the hard work of the Board and the extra efforts put forth by the Commissioners.

In review of the ACC Center Jurisdictional Population there are a total 1,552 offenders in ACC Centers. This includes those in ACC Centers, Omega and SE ARK TVP, and on ACC's back-up list. The total ACC's capacity is 1,620. Their statewide field report reflects 27,554 on probation, 2,431 out to drug court/specialty court, 330 boot camp releases and 23,452 on parole, for a combined total of 53,767.

Chairman Felts asked Mr. Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, for an update on the APB report for the month. Mr. Graves updated the Board that in January's 570 report consisting of Board actions, this report showed 1,533 offenders considered for parole. Mr. Graves stated to the Board that the numbers shown in the report are driven by new commitments. A copy of this report was included in the Board packets.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, updated the Board on a new lawsuit filed against the Parole Board. The suit is based on an offender's unhappiness with their parole revocation. Ms. Mahfouz stated she would update the Board as soon as she has additional information.

FISCAL REPORT

Mahogany Franklin, Business Manager, reported that the Board as December 31st, 2015, has expended 50% of its annual travel, maintenance, and operations budget.

Ms. Franklin provided copies of a memo referencing the new mileage guidelines for Board members. There will be two (2) pool cars to be used by the Board and staff when needed. Ms. Franklin explained to the Board that she is looking at ways to save money for the agency.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the fiscal report.

HEARING JUDGE'S REPORT

The Hearing Judge Activity Report was available for the Board's review. Chairman Felts stated if there were in questions regarding the report to call the hearing judges and they could give you a summary of their actions. There were a total of 385 actions that were taken.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the hearing judge report.

AGENCY UPDATES

Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, introduced Brandon Noble as the new Systems Coordination Analyst. He is currently training with Ken Giesbrecht, the former Systems Coordination Analyst. Mr. Graves mentioned the vacant Fiscal Support Specialist position is currently open. Interviews will be held the week of February 1, 2016. The vacant Victim Input Coordinator and Administrative Support Specialist III positions are scheduled to be posted in March.

Mr. Graves reviewed the 2014-2015 annual report with the Board. After discussion, Secretary Dawne Vandiver moved to adopt the report and Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Felts welcomed Mr. Rory Griffin, ADC Deputy Director and Mr. John Wheeler, ADC Reentry Administrator. Mr. Wheeler gave a presentation on "Preparing for Success" program, this program is replacing Pre Release.

FILES FOR REVIEW

There were no questions regarding the files for review.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Secretary Vandiver moved to adopt the recommendations. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The Board acknowledged Commissioner Brown's last meeting with an appreciation plaque and thanked him for his service on the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday 25th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Signature on File

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on File

Dawne Vandiver
Secretary

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

JANUARY 2016

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. WILLIAMS



PINE BLUFF/SE



GRIMES



EAST ARKANSAS



MISS CO/NEC



VARNER



OUACHITA



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



MOTION BY: Secretary Vandiver SECONDED BY: Commissioner Carpenter

RATIFICATION DATE: January 28, 2016