



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
February 22, 2018
9:00 A.M.
APB BOARDROOM**

Board Members Present:

John Felts, Chairman
John Belken, Vice Chairman
Andy Shock, Secretary
Dawne Vandiver, Commissioner
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner
Jerry Riley, Commissioner
Lona McCastlain, Commissioner

Excused with Valid Reason(s):

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB
Lisa Wilkins, Hearing Judge, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB
Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer, ADC
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

Others Present:

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Jessica Leija, Business Operations Manager, APB
Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Christie Little, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
William T. Bowman, II, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB
Lindsey Rindahl, Administrative Analyst, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC
Jerry Bradshaw, Director of Parole and Probation Services, ACC

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2018

Secretary Shock moved for approval of the minutes. Vice-Chairman Belken seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

Report Updates

Chairman Felts reported that there are 18,173 inmates incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC). There are currently 1,610 men and women on the ADC County Jail Back-up list. Chairman Felts stated that the Board of Corrections invoked the 90 day EPA and there were 251 individuals released from ADC yesterday.

In the reviewing of the Arkansas Community Correction (ACC) Center Jurisdictional Population, Chairman Felts stated there are a total 1,629 offenders in ACC Center. This includes those in all ACC Centers including RCFs, Omega, SW AR CCC, and those offenders on ACC's back-up list. Their Statewide Field Operations report reflects 30,810 on probation, 2,706 out to drug court/specialty court, 132 boot camp releases (including inactive cases) and 24,453 on parole, for a combined total of 58,105 under supervision.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the report updates at this time.

Attorney General's Report

There was nothing to report from the Attorney General's office at this time.

Fiscal Report Update

Ms. Jessica Leija, Business Operations Manager, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Leija reported that the Board, as of January 31, 2018, has expended 56% of the maintenance, operations and travel budget. Ms. Leija stated that at this time last year the Board had spent 52% of the operating expense budget. There was an attachment included in the board member's packets for review.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the Fiscal Report.

Hearing Judge's Report

Ms. Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of January 2018. Ms. Cummings reported to the Board that there were a total of 449 revocation actions. A total of 63 technical only violations that number includes: 27 absconders, 8 technical warrants, and 28 evaders. The Board discussed the report in detail of each revocation hearing judge. A copy of the hearing judge report was included in each board member's file for review.

Chairman Felts stated for the past several months the Board has only reviewed pardon applications, temporarily excluding the review of commutation applications, in an effort to resolve the backlog on pardon applications. Chairman Felts stated that beginning in March 2018, the Board will begin their normal process of reviewing 30 pardon applications and 30 commutation applications on a monthly basis.

There were no comments or questions regarding the Hearing Judge Report.

Agency Updates

Ms. Brooke Cummings stated that the Board is scheduled to have a couple of in-house training sessions the week of February 26th-February 30th. The first training will be with Ms. Sheri Flynn, ADC Sex Offender Notification Assessment Program Administrator and later in the week the Board will have a training session with Mr. Bob Parker, ADC Mental Health Administrator.

Ms. Cummings mentioned there have been some updates to the standard conditions of release. A copy of the standard conditions of release was disbursed to the board members for review. Ms. Cummings stated that should the Board have any concerns regarding those changes to contact her and she will make any necessary changes. Once the conditions have been reviewed, edited, and approved by the Board the updated conditions will be submitted for implementation.

There were no further comments or questions regarding Agency Updates.

Old Business

There was nothing to report regarding Old Business.

New Business

There were no questions or concerns regarding New Business.

Files for Review

Chairman Felts stated that the Board was reviewing potential ACC Reentry candidates. Chairman Felts stated that the potential candidates would have to be eligible and willing to complete the program; once the Board completes their review of those potential candidates that list will be submitted to the ACC Reentry staff for eligibility approval.

There were no questions or concerns regarding the Files for Review.

Adoption of Recommendations

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

Other Discussion

Ms. Shirley Ellingburg, ACC IRS Area Manager, inquired about the hearing schedule showing Benton hearings to be conducted by video conference, it was noted that there was an error on the schedule, that error will be corrected then resubmitted to IRS, Parole Board commissioners and staff members.

Chairman Felts mentioned that during the Board of Corrections it was requested that any equipment to be approved for video conferencing should be brought to the next BOC meeting to be approved. Chairman Felts asked Mr. Bo Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, where the agency was on receiving the phone conferencing equipment from the North Central Unit to be returned. Chairman Felts asked that Mr. Bowman meet with him for further clarification on the status of the equipment.

There were no further questions or concerns to be discussed at this time.

Executive Session

Chairman Felts stated the Board will go into executive session in regard to a personnel matter. There was no action taken during executive session.

The executive session began at 9:40 a.m. and ended at 9:55 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

Signature on File

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on File

Andy Shock
Secretary

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

February 2018

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. Williams/SEC



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 Shock

Seconded by: Commissioner Carpenter

Ratification Date: February 22, 2018