



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
MARCH 26, 2020
9:00 A.M.
APB BOARDROOM (CONFERENCE CALL)**

Board Members Present:

John Felts, Chairman, APB
Lona McCastlain, Vice Chairman, APB
Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner, APB
Jerry Riley, Commissioner, APB
Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB
Boyce Hamlet, 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
William T. Bowman, II, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Jerry Bradshaw, Director, ACC

Excused with Valid Reason(s):

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB
Lisa Wilkins, Hearing Judge, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Minutes - March 12, 2020

Vice-Chair McCastlain moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Carpenter 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. He said, as usual, all of the major units are above capacity. In the county jail backup, there are 162 females and 1,060 males with a combined total of 1,222. The jurisdictional count for ADC is 17,900. Of those, 17,790 are in count. There are 23 at the ORCU Hospital, 14 are at other hospitals, and 73 are out to court.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for ACC. He said ACC has been working diligently to get their backup down for the individuals waiting to come in from SSP. ACC has been able to reduce their backup in SSP to 21 males and 3 females. They have a backup for residents that will be going through the ACC Centers. They have 76 females and 32 males with a combined total of 132 on backup.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of February. Chairman Felts noted that there were 33,722 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 2,129, Parole was 25,360, Boot Camp was 18, and the Act 539s count was 23. This gives a combined total of 61,252 persons under supervision.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West advised the Board that there are 11 APA appeals that are all fully briefed. There have been no newly filed appeals received by the Board.

There were no questions regarding the Attorney General's report.

Fiscal Report Update

Ms. Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Goldman reported that effective July 1, 2019, the Agency received funding of \$295,211 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2020. As of February 29, 2020, we've expensed \$156,626.63 (53%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 58% 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

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB, updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of February 2020. The report reflects 107 administrative revocations, 366 waivers approved, and 49 additional individuals revoked at a hearing. There were 522 total revocations.

Chairman Felts informed the Board that the administrative revocations are individuals that have come back in and are automatically revoked for picking up new felony convictions.

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

Agency Updates

Ms. Cummings advised the Board that the budget has been cut 4.2% in light of the recent pandemic. That resulted in a reduction of \$99, 553 for the remaining portion of FY20. She said as of right now, we have a projected savings \$272,500.

Old Business

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

New Business

Chairman Felts said he appreciates the Board very much for understanding the requests they have gotten from the county jails with releases they are requesting. Some are medical issues. Chairman Felts said he will send a list to the Board of individuals to look at.

Files for Review

A copy of the files for review 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 Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

Other Discussion

Director Jerry Bradshaw, ACC, said they are taking as many precautions as they can with their staff. He said they have a skeleton crew at the office. He said they are responding to business as they do normally. They have utilized the In-Touch application that Marquis developed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2020 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

March 2020

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 Ryals **Seconded by:** Commissioner Carpenter

Ratification Date: March 26, 2020