

# MINUTES OF THE ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD March 15, 2012 @ 9:30 A.M. APB Board Room

# **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

# **HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:**

Ashley Vailes, Hearing Examiner/Attorney Jim Williams, Hearing Examiner/Attorney Carol Bohannan, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

# **EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:**

Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner

# **OTHERS PRESENT**

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB
Norma Gillerson, Fiscal Support Manager, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Specialist, APB
Melissa Haney, Administrative Analyst, APB
Dan Roberts, Deputy Director, Parole/Probation Services, DCC
Steve Arnold, Assistant Director, Parole/Probation, DCC
Damien McNeal, Assistant Director, Parole/Probation, DCC
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC
Kim Knoll, Asst. Area Manager, Sex Offender Aftercare Program, DCC
Arnie Jochums, Asst. Attorney General, Attorney Generals Office

# **CALL TO ORDER**

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

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 23, 2012**

Commissioner Peacock moved. Vice-Chairman Wallace seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

#### **FISCAL REPORT**

Mrs. Norma Gillerson reported that as of February 2012, the Board has expended 67% of the total budget for the fiscal year and she attached an accounts payable report for the Boards review. Vice-Chairman Wallace asked when the budget request will be submitted for next year and Mrs. Gillerson reported that they will receive information next month and they will begin submitting requests at that time.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Solomon Graves directed the Board to review the February 2012 Act 570 report in their Board packets and stated that this report is required to go out to several agencies. He stated that the report able to be extracted from eOMIS and that they can now break down the report into offenses and race.

Mr. Graves discussed the new proposed sex offender condition revisions and stated that these revisions have been made and a proposal has been presented. He gave a brief overview of the new sex offender conditions as revised. They are as follows: removal of Polygraph and Voice Stress Analysis from the vote sheets, Changing counseling to treatment/private provider, electronic monitoring will be for all sex offenders with those in the program on 90 days and those not in the program on 30 days of monitoring, sex offenders will no longer have internet access. In addition, the vote sheets will now read "No physical contact with minors or no unsupervised physical contact with minors", and "No dating individuals with minor children."

Mrs. Kim Knoll was asked to answer any questions the Board may have regarding these changes. Vice-Chairman Wallace stated that sex offenses are a big concern for society and he believes it may be a constitutional issue for the Board to tell people who they can/cannot date or marry. He requested that the Board receive the legal ruling on this issue. Chairman Felts stated that with sex offenders it is always better to err on the side of caution to protect minors and it's the Board's duty to protect the community. Mrs. Knoll stated that this stipulation was developed based on conditions from other states. It was requested that Mr. Jochums from the Attorney General's office provide this information to the Board.

Mrs. Knoll explained the no internet condition by stating that they are asking for this condition on all sex offenders because this is how they are finding new victims. They have been discovering new people everyday who have minors on their Facebook pages, are texting minors, online chatting, and who have pornography on their computers and cell phones. She stated if the parolee can justify a need for internet, such as for school or work, then the restriction could always be removed by the Board at the request of the officer.

She also explained the difference between the no unsupervised contact and the new wording of no physical contact. She explained that no unsupervised contact means an adult needs to be in the room in order to have a child present. We want to change this to no physical contact so that this won't be an issue. She suggested that this be a stipulation for all offenders with victims 12 and under. She stated that she recommends both conditions be placed for these offenders.

She also explained to the Board that if they want electronic monitoring placed on an inmate then they must order this as the DCC program does not have the authority to order it. The Board will need to check the DCC program stipulation as well as the electronic monitoring stipulation.

At this time, Vice-Chairman Wallace requested to know how the current GPS system is working and Dan Roberts followed up by stating that it is a useful tool and in a few weeks they will have more data on the success rates and scores. Vice-Chairman Wallace requested this information from Mr. Roberts office.

Mrs. Knoll stated that to make things easier for the Board they recommend that all level fours go into the DCC program. She stated the rest are at the Board's discretion. She recommended looking at their history of offenses, age of victims, number of victims, and if violence was involved. She stated those with high scores in

these areas should be highly considered for the program. Chairman Felts reminded the Board to always look at the SOSRA reports when reviewing sex offenders because the report is full of useful information that will benefit the Board.

Commissioner Peacock recommended that the Board educate the public on the various sex offender levels because people think that a level IV is the worse and that is not always accurate. He also stated that they need a little more education on the programs and they need to be informed of changes. Mrs. Knoll suggested that their group may be able to create a checklist of criteria that lists what is recommended and needed for sex offenders. She stated that she will get with Mr. McNeal to develop this list for the Board.

Commissioner Mays motioned that Board table this list of changes until Mr. Jochums can come back with an opinion on the wording changes. Commissioner Peacock seconded. Motion was carried.

# **FILES FOR REVIEW**

Chairman Felts requested that the Board review the Victim Input hearing votes for this Board. There were no questions regarding the Victim Input hearing votes.

# **RATIFICATION OF VOTES**

Commissioner Richard Mays Jr., moved to ratify the votes. Commissioner Brown seconded. The motion was carried.

# OTHER COMMENTS

Chairman Felts reminded the Board that the Ouachita River Unit hearings will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012 due to the Board of Corrections meeting at the unit on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

He also announced that the Administrative Specialist II position was offered to Mrs. Laura Harp and she will be joining our staff on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Felts stated that Wendy Kelly and Roger Cameron would be in the office at 2:00pm to discuss the ADC treatment programs with the Board.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 29 at 11:30a.m. in Hot Springs.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Signature on File	Signature on File
John Felts	Richard L. Mays, Jr.
Chairman	Secretary

# ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES

# **MARCH 2012**

<u>UNITS:</u>	RATIFIED (X)
DELTA	
GRIMES	
MCPHERSON	
NORTH CENTRAL UNIT	
NORTH WEST/WASHINGTON CO.	
TUCKER	
TUCKER MAX.	
CUMMINS	
OTHER: TRANSFER SCREENINGS, COMMUTATIONS, PARDONS	s
RECONSIDERATIONS, REVOCATION APPEALS, RESC	INDS,
SPECIAL CONDITIONS ACT 200 700'S FPA FTC	

MOTION BY: <u>Commissioner Mays</u> SECONDED BY: <u>Commissioner Carpenter</u>

RATIFICATION DATE: MARCH 15, 2012