



MINUTES OF THE ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD

March 16, 2017

9:00 A.M.

APB BOARDROOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB
Lisa Wilkins, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB
Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer, Arkansas Department of Correction
Jerry Bradshaw, Deputy Director of Parole and Probation, ACC
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
Janice Horton, Business Operations Manager, APB
Kenya Woods, Victim Input Coordinator, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Christie Little, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
William T. Bowman, II, Computer Support Analyst, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services
Pam Brown, Assistant Area Manager, Institutional Release Services

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

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes-February 23, 2017

Commissioner Vandiver moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Shock seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

Agency Updates

Ms. Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, updated the Board on the application for Executive Clemency that had been received on death row inmates, Stacey Johnson and Ledelle Lee. Ms. Cummings stated those clemency hearings will be held at the Varner Unit and were scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 24, 2017.

Ms. Cummings further stated to the Board that the clemency hearings for death row inmates, Marcell Williams and Kenneth Williams would be held at Varner as well. The Board will move their regular parole hearings that were scheduled to be held at Varner on Monday 27th to the Tuesday 28th. The Board will now conduct the clemency hearing for Marcell Williams on Monday, March 27th at 9:00 a.m. The clemency hearing for Kenneth Williams will be held on March 31, 2017 at the Varner Unit to begin at 9:00 a.m. At this time, the Board has only been notified of the 4 death row inmate applications, should there be an additional death row inmate to apply Ms. Cummings or Chairman Felts will update the Board.

Ms. Cummings stated to the Board that ADC will only allow one pool camera/news team into the hearing room at the Varner Unit, immediately following the hearing that news station will share the footage taken with other news stations as requested, any questions regarding that matter would need to be directed to the Public Information Officer, Mr. Solomon Graves at ADC. The afternoon following the death row inmate clemency hearing at the Varner Unit the Board will return the APB office for a victim input hearing and presentation from the Attorney General's office. The Board will make their non-binding recommendation on each case during a non-public hearing following each individual clemency hearing.

There were no further questions or concerns regarding Agency Updates.

Old Business

There were no updates regarding Old Business at this time.

New Business

Chairman Felts mentioned to the Board that we will have a resolution regarding Senate Bill 136 at the full board meeting on March 30, 2017. Chairman Felts stated that this should give the Board adequate time to review the Bill in its entirety, a copy of SB136 has been can be found in the office of the Chairman, his assistant, Kelly Knuckles or Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator. The Bill can also be viewed online on the Arkansas State Legislature website located at www.arkleg.state.ar.us.

There were no further questions or concerns regarding New Business at this time.

Files for Review

There were no questions regarding the Files for Review.

Adoption of Recommendations

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

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2017 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**

March 2017

UNITS:

RATIFIED

Delta



Wrightsville



Wrightsville Satellite/Wrightsville Hawkins



Tucker



Tucker Max



Cummins



Benton



TRCC/SWACC



Bowie County



McPherson



North Central



NWA- Work Release



**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: March 16, 2017