



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
MARCH 29, 2012 @ 11:00 A.M.
Arkansas Adult Probation & Parole Association Conference
Austin Hotel and Convention Center
Hot Springs, AR**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:

Ashley Vailes, Hearing Examiner/Attorney
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Jim Williams, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB
Dan Roberts, Deputy Director Parole/Probation, DCC
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Felts called the meeting to order at 11:10 am. A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 15, 2012

Commissioner Carpenter moved. Commissioner Peacock seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

POPULATION REPORT

Chairman Felts reported that there are 14,934 inmates in the Department of Correction. He stated that there are currently 380 male and 2 female inmates in the county jail backup. Chairman Felts stated that in order to be brought into ADC these inmates must be on the county jail back up list. He stated that the women are not really backed up and they come in one day and are sent to ADC the next. Commissioner Peacock requested information on how many sex offenders are currently incarcerated. The Chairman stated that this information would be gathered for the next Board meeting.

In review of the DCC population report there are 1,402 inmates currently incarcerated and 122 in the back up for TVP. There are also 52 inmates waiting to enter the centers. The DCC facilities are currently at capacity. Chairman Felts discussed the possibility of evaluating those on the back up for TVP in order to determine if they could be released early.

Chairman Felts reported that the Board's monthly report shows 309 approved out of 341 total screenings giving the Board a 91% approval rate. The monthly report for transfer hearings reported 292 approved hearings out of 448 for the month of January, giving the Board an approval rate of 65%. There were 997 total actions completed by the Board for the month of January, this number includes totals for Commutations and Pardons. The Board denied 83 cases and deferred 72 for further action. The Board reports an overall approval rate of 71.8%. This percentage includes those inmates approved with programs.

HEARING EXAMINERS REPORT

The Hearing Examiners reported a total of 58 hearings conducted. Of that total 37 were revoked to ADC, 13 were revoked to TVP, 2 were not revoked, 3 were deferred, 1 compact hearing and 2 transfer hearings were held.

NEW BUSINESS

Eomis Updates

Mr. Solomon Graves reported that he has presented to the DCC Area Managers an update on the revocation screens project that the Board has been working on since the first of the year. This project will automate all the forms that pertain to revocation in addition to the memo request form. He reported that everyone was pleased with this update and very excited about the new process. There was a consensus that it would streamline the revocation process and make their jobs much easier. Mr. Graves reported that these forms are expected to be uploaded in the Eomis test region by Friday, March 30, 2012. He stated that he will review them and then they will be submitted to the pilot sites, which are Areas 3, 7 and 11 on Monday. These areas will access these reports in Eomis to ensure that they are working properly and then there will be a week or two for training and further testing so that the other 9 areas can familiarize themselves with the process. If the process runs smoothly, the Board expects this paperless revocation system to be live and running by the end of April.

Parole Board Synopsis Screen

Mr. Graves reported that this screen will be similar in design to the Inmate File Jacket, except it will be tailored specifically for the needs of the Parole Board. That should be in production within the next 14 days. This screen will be put into the test region of Eomis. It will not take as long as the revocation forms, as the only thing that will need to be verified is that the data it is pulling the same information in the actual screens. Mr. Graves stated that he expects this to be very beneficial to the Board and will aid in the development of total automation for electronic voting. This screen will ultimately replace the Board's current file review system, as everything on the screen will be the information in the inmate files the Board currently uses.

Video Hearings

Mr. Graves reported that the last update he has is in regards to the Department of Information Systems is converting the entire state over to a new network. Previously this service was provided by AT&T via a contract with the state. DIS will now take on delivering video services to the Parole Board, ADC and in the public

schools. This process was started last week and some of the sites did not cut over and our sites were one of them. Mr. Graves stated that he has been working with DIS since Tuesday, March 27th to resolve this problem. At this time, the problem has not been resolved. In discussion with the Chairman it was determined that through the first week of April, which includes the hearings for Delta and North Central, that we do not conduct those hearings via video. It cannot be assured at this time that the system will be up and running for the hearings. Mr. Graves stated that this issue should be resolved by the end of the first week of April.

IPad Eomis Use

The Chairman stated that at this time the Board has received their new iPads. Mr. Graves reported that he has spoken with the new IT administrator and they will be setting up remote Eomis access on each iPad. This information will be given to the Board in writing at a later date.

Sex Offender Internet Conditions

Chairman Felts stated that after discussion with Mr. Arnie Jochums from the Attorney Generals Office, he felt that the Board needed to further review the laws regarding the restriction of internet use for sex offenders before the Board takes action on this new condition. This issue will be tabled until Mr. Jochums has the necessary information for the Board.

Personnel Action

It has been recommended by the Personnel Committee to hire Mrs. Laura Harp for the Administrative Specialist II position. Commissioner Mays moved to approve this personnel action. Commissioner Peacock seconded the motion to hire Mrs. Harp for the Administrative Specialist II position. Motion carried.

Other Comments

At this time, Andy Davis from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette and Mrs. Shirley Ellingburg, DCC IRS Area Manager joined the meeting and Chairman Felts did a recap of the previously discussed information.

Chairman Felts reminded the Board that painters will be painting the offices on Monday morning.

April 2012 Schedule

Chairman Felts stated that if any Commissioners have any adjustments to the schedule to please let him know as soon as possible so that changes can be made. There were several changes to the schedule discussed at this time.

FILES FOR DISCUSSION REVIEW

Chairman Felts called for any questions regarding the victim input votes for March. There was discussion on Inmate Mary Wood's parole decision. There were no other questions at this time.

RATIFICATION OF VOTES

Commissioner Mays moved. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion to ratify the votes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 9:30a.m. This meeting will take place in the APB Boardroom.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Signature on File

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on File

Richard L. Mays, Jr.
Secretary

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

MARCH 2012

<u>UNITS:</u>	<u>RATIFIED (X)</u>
BENTON	X
CACCC	X
EAST AR	X
MISSISSIPPI CO.	X
NEACCC	X
OUACHITA RIVER CORR.	X
PINE BLUFF	X
R.L. WILLIAMS	X
SEARC	X
SWARC	X
TRCC	X
VARNER	X
WRIGHTSVILLE	X
OTHER: PARDONS, COMMUTATIONS, TRANSFER SCREENINGS, ACT 290, 700'S, RECONSIDERATION, REVOCATION APPEALS, EPA, RESCINDS, SPECIAL CONDITIONS, ETC.	X

MOTION BY: Commissioner Mays SECONDED BY: Commissioner Carpenter

RATIFICATION DATE: MARCH 29, 2012