



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
May 14, 2020
9:00 A.M.
APB BOARDROOM (CONFERENCE CALL)**

Board Members Present:

John Felts, Chairman, APB
Lona McCastlain, Vice Chairperson, APB
Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner, APB
Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB
Jerry Riley, Commissioner, APB
Boyce Hamlet, Commissioner, APB

Others Present:

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB
Lisa Wilkins, Hearing Judge, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
William T. Bowman, II, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB
Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC
Jerry Bradshaw, Director, ACC
Jimmy Banks, Deputy Director Residential Services, ACC
Carrie Williams, Assistant Director Reentry, ACC

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Minutes – April 23, 2020 & May 8, 2020

Commissioner Carpenter moved for approval of the minutes. Vice-Chair McCastlain seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

A copy of the minutes was included in each board member's file for review.

Agency Updates

Ms. Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB, advised the Board that she is working on the biennial budget and annual operations plan. She said they have been scheduled by shared services to present their biennial budget request. Ms. Cummings said that is scheduled to take place next Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. in Pine Bluff.

Old Business

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

New Business

There was nothing to report regarding new business.

Files for Review

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

Adoption of Recommendations

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

Reentry Presentation:

Director Jerry Bradshaw, ACC, opened the presentation by saying that he knew the Board was interested in getting a breakdown of the Reentry program and how it works. Director Bradshaw turned the presentation over to Ms. Carrie Williams, Assistant Director Reentry, ACC. Ms. Williams explained that Act 146 gave them permission to remove individuals from ADC up to 18 months prior to them making their eligibility date. She

said they have a screening criteria that they get an IMR daily from eOMIS. There are a few things that are automatically screened out from the program. There are no Level 3 or Level 4 sex offenders screened due to not having the bed capacity. They cannot be Class III or Class IV. They cannot screen from Work Release. They cannot be less than 6 months or greater than 18 months in the eligibility window. Their current primary offense cannot be an aggravated assault on a correctional employee. They cannot be screened if they are in Pathway to Freedom or if they are in the Employed Community. Ms. Williams said those are automatically taken off the front end of the IMR they get every day. She said they screen the jackets. She looks at their charge. She looks at their risk. She said they look at the number of returns. They look at the types of disciplinary actions received. They look at the programs they have completed. She said they also look at the units they have been in. Ms. Williams said she approves them or sometimes defers them for 60 days. She said she also denies some. If she approves them, an eOMIS entry is made, and a report goes to the Parole Board every day for the Board to look at. If the Board approves them, there is an interview process. She said they have denied individuals an interview if they fail to take responsibility for their actions. They have denied several, and there are some who refuse to take the program. If they are approved, they schedule them within the next 5 days to be moved. They have 7 facilities. They are funded for 300 beds. There are 40 that are empty at this time. They do the transports themselves, or they work with the ACC transport team. From the time they are picked up, the GPS tacking device is placed on them before they leave the unit. They are on that tracking device for the full 180 days. They monitor them daily. They monitor any violations even if it's a low battery alert. Ms. Williams said the first 21 days they aren't allowed to go to work. They use that time to get them acclimated to the program. They work on their living environment and getting their identification/driver's license. They get them signed up for insurance and get them referred for mental health. They also start the education process. They are not allowed to leave the facility unless they have a court date or have to leave for medical reason. After the 21 days, they will assist them in getting full time employment. They have to work at least 40 hours. They start paying rent after they start working 40 hours. They are required to get 15 hours of programming a week. They are drug tested twice a week. They remain in the program from day 1 to day 150. If they have an approved home plan and have proven to be successful during the 150 days, then they can be approved to live their last 30 days at their approved home plan. If they have their driver's license they can drive to and from work. While they are in the program, they are still considered an inmate. They get 25% of their saved money. Once they graduate, they receive the other 75%. Any drug usage, being fired, or walking away (escape) results in them being picked up and being transported back to ADC resulting in program failure. Ms. Williams said since they started the program in 2015, they have returned 585 to ADC for program failure and they have graduated 1,847.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28, 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**

May 2020

<u>UNITS:</u>	<u>RATIFIED</u>
Delta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wrightsville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wrightsville Hawkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tucker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tucker Max	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cummins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Benton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TRCC/SWACC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bowie County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
McPherson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Central	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NWA- Work Release	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OTHER: Pardons, Commutations, Transfer Screenings, ACT 290s, 700s, Reconsiderations, Revocation Appeals, Rescinds, Special Conditions, EPAs, Etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

MOTION BY: Secretary Ryals **SECONDED BY: Commissioner Carpenter**

RATIFICATION DATE: May 14, 2020