



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
MAY 28, 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
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
Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
William Bowman, 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
Solomon Graves, Chief of Staff, DOC

Excused with a Valid Reason:

Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Minutes - May 14, 2020

Secretary Ryals 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 they are over capacity with the exception of Work Release. In the county jail backup, there are 66 females and 459 males with a combined total of 525. The jurisdictional count for ADC is 16,616. There are 24 that are in the Ouachita River Correctional Hospital, 8 in other hospitals, and 60 are out to court giving a combined total of 16,708.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for ACC. They are below 100% in all of their facilities. They have an in count of 1,652 with 1 in an outside hospital giving a combined total of 1,653.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of April. Chairman Felts noted that there were 33,285 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 2,038, Parole was 26,269, Boot Camp was 17, and the Act 539s count was 23. This gives a combined total of 61,632 persons under supervision.

Chairman Felts mentioned that the Board of Corrections met yesterday for their regularly scheduled meeting for May. They will also be meeting Monday to invoke a new 90-day EPA.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West introduced McKenzie Eccleston to the Board. He said she is the state agency's law clerk for this summer. He said we are still sitting at 11 appeals that are briefed and are active. Mr. West said in the last month or so the Board has received a handful of petitions, but they have not been properly filed nor have they been properly served.

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 April 30, 2020, we've expensed \$208,107.14 (70%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 71% of the operating expense budget.

Chairman Felts said that coming into June we need to be mindful of what we have left. If there are any questions give Ms. Goldman a call.

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 April 2020. There was a total of 279 actions. The report reflects 185 waivers, 35 individuals revoked at a hearing, and 44 administrative revocations. There were 264 total revocations.

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

Agency Updates

Ms. Cummings said that the ACA reaccreditation is approaching. It is scheduled for June 15th and 16th. There will be auditors at the office on those days.

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 for review.

Review of the Hearing Schedule

A copy of the hearing schedule 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. Vice-Chair McCastlain seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

Other Discussion

Vice Chair McCastlain asked the status of the new building. Chairman Felts said that it is coming along really good. Vice Chair McCastlain then asked what the move date is. Ms. Cummings said we’ve extended our current lease up until September 1st.

Mr. Solomon Graves, Chief of Staff, DOC, said they are maintaining the suspension of visitation in both divisions through at least July 1st.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11, 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

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:** Vice-Chair McCastlain

Ratification Date: May 28, 2020