



MINUTES OF THE ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE MEETING

**ABP Board Room
105 W. Capitol, Suite 500
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
May 27, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**Leroy Brownlee, Chairman
Abraham Carpenter, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Richard L. Mays, Jr., Secretary
John Felts, Commissioner
Carolyn Robinson, Commissioner
Joseph Peacock, Commissioner
Jimmy Wallace, Commissioner**

HEARING EXMAINERS:

**Carol V. Bohannon, Attorney
James L. Williams, II, Attorney**

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Lois Jean Hansberry, Administrative Support Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Roberts, Deputy Director, Department of Community Correction (DCC)

Jeff Tillman, Assistant Director, Department of Community Correction (DCC)

Rhonda Sharp, Public Relations, Department of Community Correction (DCC)

Kimberly Witherspoon, Attorney, Department of Community Correction (DCC)

Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, DCC Institutional Release Services

Meredith Rebsamen, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's (AG's) Office

Norma Gillerson, Fiscal Support Supervisor, (ABP)

Solomon Graves, Computer Support Specialist/ACA Coordinator, (ABP)

Lois Jean Hansberry, Administrative Support Supervisor, Revocation (ABP)

Melissa Haney, Administrative Support Specialist, Parole Services (ABP)

Called to Order

Chairman Brownlee called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. A quorum was declared, and a moment of silence observed.

Approval of May 13, 2010 Minutes

Carpenter moved,

Wallace seconded, Motion carried.

Overview of Population Reports

Chairman Brownlee, sited an overview of ADC, DCC and ABP reports. From ADC Report #1 He noted there are 15,758 inmates currently in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) with an additional 1,660 inmates waiting in the County Jails for transport to ADC. Wednesday, May 26, 2010, the Board of Correction (BOC) approved a new 90 day Emergency Powers Act (EPA), which will help to cut-down on the County Jail Back-up. According to DCC Report #5 there is a total of 21,452 on parole, and ABP Report #2 he noted the board is operating at a 91.3% of the approved actions.

Commissioner Felts noted that Report #2 has an error the Commutations (Screening) shows a total of "36 with merit" and should be "0 with merit".

Chairman Brownlee stated he will have the appropriate personnel correct the error.

Attorney General's Office

Meredith Rebsamen stated that in the AG's office there is an Opinion Department, and that department is currently looking at an issue regarding parole eligibility. In the 1990's a statute applied the term "sexual abuse" as oppose to "sexual assault." She further stated she wants the board to be aware of what's going on and that she will be in contact with the Opinion Department to address any questions that may arise.

Chairman Brownlee stated "the rule went into effect in 1994, and it is usually a plea bargain down from rape, keep an eye on that and keep us informed."

Meredith Rebsamen, stated that currently this only effects 12 inmates and it will be long time before any of those inmates are up for parole.

Fiscal Report

Norma Gillerson, reported the 4th quarter financial overview, she stated that we are only purchasing necessary items for the daily operations of the agency. Currently we have used 86.12% of the allotted budget for the agency.

Chairman Brownlee, echoed we are only purchasing items that are needed.

Hearing Examiner's Report

Each hearing examiner presented their report for the month of May, which included Ms. Bohannon conducted 24 revocation hearings and Mr. Williams conducted 25 revocation hearings.

Old Business

Solomon Graves reported:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) annual file review is approaching the end of this cycle which is July 31. An internal review will be conducted by Plato Barnett on June 10th.
- There is still a need for training to comply with ACA standards and this agency is utilizing DCC and ADC for training needs. The next training session is scheduled for June 8, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. in the board room "Leadership Security/Body Language
- During the month of June there will be two inmate panels one at Delta Unit and the other at Ouachita Unit, and two Parole office visit one in Texarkana and the other at El Dorado. The visit to the Fayetteville parole office that was originally scheduled for May 28, 2010 will be rescheduled.
- The Board will not pursue the NPRC grant during this time.
- Web Redesign – Information Network of Arkansas, a private web provider for Arkansas Government, has established standards for all state agencies and the ABP website is not in compliance. Solomon met with DCC, Monday, May 24, 2010, regarding bringing the website into compliance. He will also meet with INA to discuss the cost of bringing the board's website into compliance. He also asked board members to look at the website and let him know by June 10th if there is something that is not on the website that they would like to see on the site.

New Business

Jim Williams reported

- He and Solomon along with approximate 20 other individuals attended the three days of training on Ohio Risk Assessment Training the Trainer Class.

Solomon Graves reported

- He will be working with DCC and ADC to integrate the Risk Assessment Tool into e-OMIS. In the May BOC meeting it was reported that the implementation should begin in July or August.

Dan Roberts introduced Kimberly Witherspoon, the new attorney for DCC.

Files for Review

There were eleven victim input hearings conducted the last half of May.

Ratification of Votes

Mays moved.

Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Comments

John Felts stated that he has been approached by several board members regarding Condition #4 Laws. They are asking that in the future when files are reviewed and the inmate is a parole violator who is violated due to Condition #4, that more details be given regarding the laws that were violated.

Rhonda Sharp reported the proposed changes to Interstate Compact which will require Arkansas to pull their parolees from another state if the offender is declared an absconder. The cited report will be sent to the board for review.

Shirley Ellingburg reported that Gene Forrest corrected the error on ABP's Report #2.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Signature on File

Leroy Brownlee
Chairman

Signature on File

Richard L. Mays, Jr.
Secretary

ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE
May 27, 2010
FULL BOARD RATIFICATION VOTES BY UNITS

<u>UNITS:</u>	<u>RATIFIED (X)</u>
BENTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CACCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CUMMINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DIAGNOSTIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EAST (BRICKEYS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MISSISSIPPI CO.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NEACCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OUACHITA RIVER CORRECITON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PINE BLUFF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R. L. WILLIAMS CORRECTION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEARC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SWARC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TRCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VARNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
WRIGHTSVILLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OTHER: PARDONS, CLEMENCIES, TRANSFER SCREENINGS, RECONSIDERATION, REVOCATION APPEALS, RESCINDS, SPECIAL CONDITIONS, ACT 290, 700'S, EPA, ETC.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

MOTION BY: Richard Mays, Jr. SECONDED BY: Abraham Carpenter, Jr.

RATIFICATION DATE: May 27, 2010