



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
MAY 30, 2013 @ 9:30 A.M.  
APB BOARDROOM**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Felts, Chairman  
James Wallace, Vice-Chairman/Commissioner  
Richard Brown Jr., Commissioner  
Dawne Vandiver, Commissioner  
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner

**HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:**

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

**EXCUSED WITH VALID REASON:**

Richard L. Mays, Jr., Secretary/Commissioner  
Joe Peacock, Commissioner  
Jim Williams, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB  
Mahogany Brown, Fiscal Support Supervisor, APB  
Melissa Haney, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Specialist III (Parole), APB  
Steve Arnold, Assistant Deputy Director, Parole/Probation, DCC  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Felts called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. A quorum was declared.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 16, 2013**

Commissioner Vandiver moved. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

## **POPULATION REPORT**

Chairman Felts reported that there are 15,155 inmates in the Department of Correction and this includes those inmates in the 309 Program and in Work Release. Chairman Felts stated that there has been growth in the population within the last month. The count for the county jail backup is currently 631. Chairman Felts reported that the Board of Corrections has invoked the 1 year EPA and the 90 day EPA. He asked Mrs. Ellingburg if some of these numbers would overlap. Mrs. Ellingburg agreed with Chairman Felts.

In review of the DCC population report there are a total of 29,289 individuals on probation, 2,279 in drug court and 23,999 individuals on parole for a total of 56,048. There are currently 481 in the Boot Camp program. Chairman Felts asked Mr. Steve Arnold if there were any comments regarding the population totals. Mr. Arnold had no comment.

In review of the DCC jurisdiction population there is a total population of 1,475 with a backup with a total of 153 in regular backup. The TVP backup is currently at 116.

Chairman Felts stated that everyone should have a copy of the matrix report in their board packets. There were no questions.

In review of the APB monthly report, Chairman Felts stated that the Board had a total of 310 approved Transfer Screenings with 23 scheduled for hearings and 32 deferred for further actions for a total of 343. The Transfer Screening approval rate is 90.4%. The Board conducted a total of 401 Transfer Hearings with an approval of 275. There were 60 denied and 66 deferred for further action with an overall approval rate of 68.6%. The Board also had 7 Parole Hearings with 1 approved, 5 denied and 1 deferred for further action. The overall approval rate for Parole Hearings was 14.3%. Chairman Felts reported that Parole Hearings are those crimes that are committed prior to 1994 and usually carry larger sentences. Chairman Felts reported that there were 28 pardons, 18 voted with merit and 10 voted without merit. There were a total of 31 Commutation Screenings, 26 without merit, 2 scheduled for hearings and 3 deferred. There were a total of 5 Commutation Hearings, 2 voted with merit and 3 voted without merit. There were also 4 firearm rights only applications, of which 3 were voted with merit and 1 without merit. There were a total of 68 clemency/pardon actions. The Board had an overall total action of 963.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

Mrs. Rebsamen was not present, but Chairman Felts reported that she would be meeting with him later in the morning and if there were any questions for her they could be addressed at that time.

## **FISCAL REPORT**

Mrs. Mahogany Franklin reported that as of April 30th, the Board has expended a total of 76.88% of its funding.

Commissioner Wallace asked about the air conditioning unit that is non-functioning on one side of the office and requested a status report on its repair. Mrs. Franklin reported that Chairman Felts called Flake and Kelly this morning and left a message regarding the repair. Chairman Felts added that he left a message requesting a set date of completion. He stated that about 2 weeks ago they were told that a compressor had been ordered and would be installed as soon as it came in, but something happened and it didn't happen. He stated that they are supposed to call him back and as soon as they do he will send out an email regarding any updates.

Mrs. Franklin requested that all Board Members that went to Rhode Island for the APAI Conference turn in all receipts by June 5<sup>th</sup> so that they can be processed as soon as possible. Mrs. Franklin reported that if they will turn in the receipts, she will fill out the proper forms for the Board. Chairman Felts asked Mrs. Dawne Vandiver to give a small report about the Conference in Rhode Island. She stated that her, Chairman Felts and Commissioner Wallace went to Rhode Island for a conference. She stated that it was very interesting and attended all the meetings and asked lots of questions. They had great panel discussions and talked a lot regarding other states rules and how they function. She stated that our Board is ahead of the game in a lot of areas and it was very interesting to see how our Board differs from other states. She reported that it was a great opportunity to network and really a great learning experience.

### **HEARING EXAMINERS REPORT**

The Hearing Examiner report was available to the Board for review. There were no questions.

### **AGENCY UPDATES**

#### **Board Retreat**

Mr. Graves reminded the Board about the Board retreat scheduled for June 11-13<sup>th</sup>. He stated that they have a copy of the agenda. The retreat will take place at the Lake Point Conference Center in Russellville. He stated that last week he and Mrs. Franklin took a ride up there for a site visit to finalize all the plans. He stated that the facility is very nice and he thinks everyone is going to enjoy themselves. He stated that we will not be able to cover everything that needs to be covered, but that is just a great reason to have another retreat. He stated that we will be assembling binders for everyone with all the materials to be discussed. He stated that all the reservations and lodging have been arranged so those attending the retreat will just need to report to the Conference Center in Russellville on Tuesday and we will go from there. Commissioner Vandiver asked if casual attire will be appropriate. Chairman Felts stated that this will be casual, jeans and sweatshirts are fine. Chairman Felts stated that this will be a great opportunity for the Board to come together and discuss some issues that it has and we will have activities for bonding and education. There were no further questions regarding the Retreat.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to report at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **June 2013 Schedule**

Chairman Felts stated that the Board should have a copy of the June schedule. He stated that there is a slight change in the schedule for June 10<sup>th</sup>. The McPherson, Grimes and Cummins Units have all been moved to Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> in order to free up those regular days for the Retreat. He also stated that next Monday, they will also have an opportunity for those who wish to attend, to tour the Union Rescue Mission and the Dorcas House here in Little Rock. The Union Rescue Mission has opened a new facility and they have an interest in becoming DCC compliant and allowing parolees to reside there. He stated that they will be leaving at 9:45am to tour the facilities and if anyone is interested in going it will be a great experience.

He 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 no questions regarding the schedule.

### **FILES FOR DISCUSSION - REVIEW**

There were no questions regarding files for review

### **RATIFICATION OF VOTES**

Commissioner Wallace moved. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion to ratify the votes.  
Motion carried.

**OTHER COMMENTS**

Chairman Felts asked Mrs. Ellingburg if everything was going alright with the EPA. She stated that everything is working out just fine.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:50am to discuss the job performance of Mr. Solomon Graves. The Board reconvened at 10:20am and stated that his performance was satisfactory and no action needed to be taken at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There were no further comments or questions.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 8:30a.m. This meeting will take place at the Lake Point Conference Center in Russellville.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

**Signature on File**

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**James Wallace**  
**Vice-Chairman**

**Signature on File**

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**Richard L. Mays, Jr.**  
**Secretary**

**ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE**  
**FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES**  
**MAY 2013**

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

MOTION BY: Commissioner Mays    SECONDED BY: Commissioner Carpenter

RATIFICATION DATE:    MAY 30, 2013