



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
JULY 31, 2014 @ 9:30 A.M.  
APB Boardroom**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Felts, Chairman  
Richard Brown Jr., Vice-Chairman /Commissioner  
Dawne Vandiver, Secretary/Commissioner  
James Wallace, Commissioner  
Richard L. Mays, Jr., Commissioner  
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner  
Dennis Young, Commissioner

**EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:**

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney  
Cara Boyd-Conners, Hearing Judge/Attorney  
Jim Williams, Hearing Judge/Attorney  
Ashley Vailes, Hearing Judge/Attorney

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB  
Mahogany Franklin, Fiscal Support Supervisor, APB  
Melissa Haney, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Specialist III (Parole Services)  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Melissa Haney, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 17, 2014**

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

## **POPULATION REPORT**

Chairman Felts reported that there are 17,514 inmates incarcerated in the Department of Correction. There are currently 2,185 men and women on the County Jail Backup list.

In review of the ACC Parole and Probation Population report there are 27,718 individuals on probation, 2,304 in drug court, 22,119 individuals on parole, and 253 on Boot Camp release for a total of 52,394 under supervision.

In review of the ACC center jurisdiction population there is a total population of 1,899. This includes those in ACC correction centers and Omega and SE ARK TVP. The total ACC capacity is 1,912.

Chairman Felts reported that the Offender Violation Guide Report is available for review. There were no questions regarding this report.

In review of the APB monthly report, Chairman Felts stated that the Board had a total of 435 approved Transfer Screenings for an overall approval rate of 92.8%. There were 51 deferred and 49 were scheduled for hearings. The Board conducted a total of 430 approved Hearings out of a total 617. The Board had a 69.7% approval rate. The Board also had 6 parole hearings and all but one was approved for an 83.3% approval rate. There were 66 denied and 121 deferred. The Board conducted 73 reconsideration hearings, 79 rescind screenings and 25 rescind hearings for a total of 177 actions. There were also 29 pardons, 1 firearm restorations, 38 commutation screenings and 7 commutation hearings for a total of 71 clemencies. The Board had total actions of 1,394.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

There was no report from the Attorney General's office.

## **FISCAL REPORT**

Mahogany Franklin reported that the Board has currently expended 99.77% of its annual travel, maintenance and operations budget. The report was attached for the Board's review. She stated that a total of \$619.00 was returned back to the State at the end of FY 2014. There were no questions regarding the fiscal report.

## **HEARING JUDGES REPORT**

The Hearing Judge Report was available for the Board's review. Chairman Felts stated that there were 113 revoked to ADC and 323 waived to ADC for a total of 435 individuals returning back to ADC.

## **AGENCY UPDATES**

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, reported the draft language for the upcoming FY15 Legislative Session. He stated that the Board will clarify its rule-making authority and the responsibility of the Board's authority over ACC Residents. This language will also provide corrections to clarify the Board's ability to designate an individual to help with Board operations. Commissioner Wallace asked who this designee would be. Mr. Graves said that the Board will be able to set guidelines for this person. Chairman Felts added that the Board will be able to designate a person or persons to conduct hearings in the event that Board members are busy. He stated that this will allow the Board to have legal authority to make this designation.

Mr. Graves informed the Board that this is on the agenda for the October 6<sup>th</sup> Joint House and Senate Judiciary Meeting. The Board will discuss its structure, authority, and FY15 Legislative package. He stated that ACC will present the Act 1190 Taskforce Report at the meeting. This Act is intended to devise a comprehensive offender

re-entry plan for the State.

Shirley Ellingburg asked if there would be any clarification on the ACC center inmates eligibility for EPA. She stated that the Wardens are getting questions regarding this due to ADC inmates being housed at ACC centers. She stated that these individuals are not on the EPA list and it's a major issue. Chairman Felts stated that they will look into it and Commissioner Young asked how many inmates this would effect. Mrs. Ellingburg stated at least 200, but probably more than that in county jail.

Mr. Graves discussed updates from the last Board of Correction meeting, including the new re-entry handbook and the opening of the new Wrightsville Satellite Unit. The Board of Correction also approved amendments to the Board's policy on parole violations.

Commissioner Young asked if it was possible to expand our facilities. Commissioner Wallace requested that the Board of Correction look at a vacant Louisiana facility with 1, 000 beds for possible expansion. He stated that this facility has been offered for use and he would like to see this explored for possible use by ADC. Chairman Felts offered to invite some of the Board of Correction members to the Board to discuss this issue.

Mr. Graves added that at the last two of meetings there have been discussions on the use of video equipment, logistics and quality. He stated that Ken Geisbrecht visited with DIS, ADC and ACC to discuss options. He stated that there is an opportunity for the Board to begin using a new option and the Board has volunteered to test this possibility with ADC and DIS. He stated that they will be testing this equipment and if it is a good solution for the Board they will discuss implementation.

Mr. Graves reminded the Board that they have a netbook demo for the Board to test and he encouraged all the Board members to get with Ken and test it out. He stated that the Board will have it available until the end of August.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss

### **August 2014 SCHEDULE**

Chairman Felts stated that the August Calendar is available for review. If there are any changes that need to be made please let him and Tamara know so these can be addressed.

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

There were no questions regarding the files for review.

### **ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Commissioner Vandiver moved for the adoption of the recommendations. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion to adopt the recommendations. Motion carried.

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Wallace stated that they are having a lot of issues with gatepasses and the files not being properly prepared. He stated that they are bringing files to him that he have not had a chance to review and he does not feel that is fair to the inmate. Chairman Felts stated that the gatepasses are caused by ADC bringing people in and out so quickly. It creates an issue, but it is the best way to move inmates through the system as quickly as possible. Mr. Graves stated that he would like to thank Tamara Salaam, Hollie Cook, Delores Jones and Mrs. Ellingburg for their hard work. They are working very hard to keep up with the files.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, August 14, 2014 at 9:30a.m. at the Arkansas Parole Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 pm.

**Signature on File**

**Signature on File**

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**John Felts**  
**Chairman**

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**Dawne Vandiver**  
**Secretary**

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

**JULY 2014**

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

MOTION BY: Commissioner Vandiver    SECONDED BY: Commissioner Mays

RATIFICATION DATE: JULY 31, 2014