



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
AUGUST 27, 2020
9:00 A.M.
APB BOARDROOM**

Board Members Present:

John Felts, Chairman, APB
Lona McCastlain, Vice Chairman, 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
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Cindy Murphy, Public Information Officer, DOC
Jerry Bradshaw, Director, DCC
Nicholas Stewart, Program Admin. Parole & Probation Services, DCC
Lasonja Evans, Accounting Operations Manager, DOC

Excused:

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Minutes - August 13, 2020

Commissioner Shock moved for approval of the minutes. Secretary Ryals 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 that a lot of places that are normally over capacity are under 100%. The county jail backup has continued to grow. Chairman Felts said the reason being is because they have not been able to bring individuals from the county jail to intake at ADC. The county jail backup has 160 females and 1,379 males with a combined total of 1,539.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for ACC. He said that ACC has experienced some of the same issues that ADC has. Their population is down. Director Jerry Bradshaw, DCC, mentioned that he presented to the Board of Corrections that they resume full operations with SSP, and it was granted. He also mentioned that he asked that true absconders that meet criteria be looked at as a serious technical violation and subject to SSP 180 days. The Board of Corrections approved that as well.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of July. Chairman Felts noted that there were 32,565 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,875, Parole was 26,598, Boot Camp was 17, and the Act 539s count was 22. This gives a combined total of 61,077 persons under supervision.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West advised the Board that there are 10 active APA Appeals. He advised the Board that last week the Board was served with Nicholson v. APB. A motion to dismiss is expected to be filed. Mr. West said that Hernandez v. APB, Felts, & Rutledge was dismissed by Judge Fox.

There were no questions regarding the Attorney General's report.

Fiscal Report Update

Ms. Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Cummings reported that effective July 1, 2020, the Agency received funding of \$295,211 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2021. As of July 31, 2020, we've expensed \$2,590.39 (1%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 7% of the operating expense budget.

Ms. Cummings introduced Ms. Lasonja Evans. She is the Accounting Operations Manager for DCC, Parole Board, and Sentencing Commission.

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

Hearing Judge's Report

Ms. Cummings updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of July 2020. The report shows there were 475 individuals revoked. Of those, 387 were by waiver, 49 revoked at a hearing, and 39 administrative revocations.

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

Agency Updates

Ms. Cummings said that we recently had our Legislative Audit conducted. There were no findings.

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. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 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

August 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: Commissioner Carpenter

Ratification Date: August 27, 2020