



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
August 24, 2017  
9:00 A.M.  
APB BOARDROOM**

**Board Members Present:**

John Felts, Chairman  
Andy Shock, Secretary  
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner  
Jerry Riley, Commissioner  
Lona McCastlain, Commissioner

**Excused with Valid Reason(s):**

John Belken, Vice Chairman, APB  
Dawne Vandiver, Commissioner, APB  
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB  
Lisa Wilkins, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB  
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB  
Jerry Bradshaw, Director of Parole and Probation Services, ACC  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC

**Others Present:**

Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB  
Rachel Butler, Fiscal Support Specialist, APB  
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB  
Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Kenya Woods, Victim Input Coordinator, APB  
William T. Bowman, II, Computer Support Analyst, APB  
Christie Little, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer, ADC  
Pam Brown, Assistant Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC  
Elizabeth Taylor, Assistant Deputy Director, ACC  
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Vice-Chairman Belken and Commissioner Vandiver are both out on annual leave today. A quorum was declared.

Chairman Felts acknowledged the presence of Ms. Elizabeth Taylor, Assistant Deputy Director of ACC, and Mr. Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer of ADC, at today's Parole Board meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes – August 10, 2017**

Secretary Shock moved for an approval of the minutes. Commissioner Riley seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

### **Report Updates**

Chairman Felts reported that there are 18,329 inmates incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC). All ADC Units are at capacity at this time. There are currently 1,592 men and women on the ADC County Jail Back-up list as of today. The Board of Corrections invoked the 90 day EPA on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, there were 245 released from ADC custody on that day. The inmates that are eligible to fall with the 90 day EPA criteria were all previously granted parole, completed stipulated programs and are within 90 days of the their transfer eligibility date.

In reviewing the Arkansas Community Correction (ACC) Center Jurisdictional Population Report, Chairman Felts stated there are 2,051 offenders in ACC Centers. This includes those in all ACC Centers including RCFs, Omega, SW AR CCC, and those offenders on ACC's back-up list. The Statewide Field Operations report reflects 29,613 on probation, 2,738 out to drug court/specialty court, 192 boot camp releases (including inactive cases) and 23,826 on parole, for a combined total of 56,369 under supervision.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the report updates at this time.

### **Attorney General's Report**

Ms. Mahfouz stated the Supreme Court affirmed dismissal filed by inmate Jeremy Kennedy who claimed he was entitled to discretionary parole and with that case being dismissed the Board has seven (7) remaining cases open.

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

### **Fiscal Report Update**

Ms. Rachel Butler, Fiscal Support Specialist, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Butler reported that the Board, as of July 31, 2017, has expended 9% of its annual travel, maintenance, and operations budget. There is an attachment included in the board member's packets for review.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the Fiscal report.

### **Hearing Judge's Report**

Ms. Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, updated the Board on the current revocation hearing numbers. Ms. Cummings stated that there were 425 total actions for the month of July, with a total of 260 waivers, there were additional 135 individuals revoked from a hearing set, 61% of the total actions were waivers and 32% were revoked from a hearing setting. Ms. Cummings stated that she could provide these numbers upon request for the Board to review.

Commissioner McCastlain requested that the Hearing Judge report reflecting the revocation hearing numbers be included in the board meeting packet in the future. Ms. Cummings stated the report will be included in future board packets.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the Hearing Judge's Report.

### **Agency Updates**

Ms. Cummings stated that the Board recently received the ACA Reaccreditation Certificate at the ACA conference. Chairman Felts and Ms. Cummings attended the conference August 19-21<sup>st</sup> held in St. Louis, Missouri, where they visited with a panel of four (4) individuals who were interested in what we do here at the Parole Board, there were a range of different questions. Ms. Cummings stated that the Chairman spoke to the panel about the Board's history amongst other interesting topics in regard to our agency.

Ms. Cummings also mentioned that there was research currently completed by ADC to assist with the data to provide suggestions on the parole guidelines tool, we do not have an update on the date of the implementation of the parole guidelines tool at this time.

There were no further Agency Updates to be discussed at this time.

### **Old Business**

There were no questions or concerns regarding Old Business.

### **New Business**

There were no questions or concerns regarding New Business.

### **Files for Review**

There were no questions or concerns regarding the Files for Review.

### **Adoption of Recommendations**

Secretary Shock moved to adopt the recommendations. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Other Discussion**

Mr. William Bowman stated that he did not have an update at this time in regard to the video conference system. He plans to have an update by next Full Board meeting.

Mr. Solomon Graves stated that should the Board need anything not to hesitate to contact him or one of the ADC team members and they will be glad to help.

Chairman Felts stated the Attorney General's office notified Governor Asa Hutchinson that death row inmate Jack Greene SK922 had exhausted all his appeals, asking that there be an execution date set. Chairman Felts will update the Board with any changes regarding this subject as soon as he is notified by the governor's office.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

### ***Signature on File***

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**John Felts**  
**Chairman**

### ***Signature on File***

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**Andy Shock**  
**Secretary**

# ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD

## FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES

August 2017

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 Shock      **Seconded by:** Commissioner Carpenter

**Ratification Date:** August 24, 2017