



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
September 29, 2016  
9:00 A.M.  
APB BOARDROOM**

**Board Members Present:**

John Felts, Chairman  
Dawne Vandiver, Vice Chairman  
Andy Shock, Secretary  
James Wallace, Commissioner  
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner  
John Belken, Commissioner  
Jerry Riley, Commissioner

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

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB  
Ashley Vailes, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB  
Cara Boyd-Connors, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC  
Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer, ADC

**Others Present:**

Brooke Cummings, Board Administrator, APB  
Janice Horton, Business Operations Manager, APB  
Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB  
Kenya Woods, Victim Input Coordinator, APB  
Delores Jones, Administrative Specialist III, APB  
Lois Hansberry, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
William T. Bowman, II, Computer Support Analyst, APB  
Jerry Bradshaw, Deputy Director of Parole and Probation Services, ACC  
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

## **Call to Order**

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was declared.

## **Approval of Minutes –September 15, 2016**

Vice Chairman Vandiver moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

## **Report Updates**

Chairman Felts reported that there are 17,976 inmates incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC), he further stated that number dropped after the Board of Corrections invoked the 90 day EPA at the end of August. There are currently 1,284 men and women on the ADC County Jail Back-up list. Chairman Felts stated that because of Mr. Scott Howard, Board Investigator's work on reviewing the violation reports, there been a huge change in the county jail back-up numbers within the past year. Chairman Felts acknowledged the Board's appreciation for the work and time Mr. Howard has put forth in assisting with reducing the back-up numbers.

Chairman Felts gave his regards to the Arkansas Sheriff's Association (ASA) in the passing of Mr. Ronnie Baldwin, Executive Director of the ASA in late August. In mentioning this loss, Mr. Baldwin had contacted Chairman Felts a couple of weeks prior to his passing to let the Board know ASA, and the committee appreciated what the Board has done this year to assist in reducing the county jail back-up.

Chairman Felts called on Jerry Bradshaw, Deputy Director of Parole and Probation to comment on the ACC report for August. Mr. Bradshaw stated that the report numbers include active supervision, both probation and parole, but the report excluded absconders.

In reviewing of the ACC Center Jurisdictional Population, Chairman Felts stated there are a total 1,865 offenders in ACC Centers. The total ACC capacity is 1,867. This includes those in all ACC Centers including RCFs, Omega, SW AR CCC, and those offenders on ACC's back-up list. Their Statewide Field Operations report reflects 28,048 on probation, 2,612 out to drug court/specialty court, 320 boot camp releases and 23,106 on parole, for a combined total of 54,086 under supervision.

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

## **Attorney General's Report**

Ms. Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, mentioned that there was an on-going lawsuit that is being handled by their office, the Board will be updated with any changes. Chairman Felts reiterated to the Board that as those are received and reviewed by each board member to make sure they are given to Ms. Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, and she will see to it that the lawsuit is forwarded to Ms. Mahfouz at the Attorney General's Office.

There were no questions or comments regarding the AG's report.

### **Fiscal Report Update**

Ms. Janice Horton, Business Operations Manager, reported that the Board, as of August 31, 2016, has expended 18% of its annual travel, maintenance, and operations budget. There is an attachment included in the board packets for review.

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

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

Ms. Brooke Cummings, Board Administrator, reviewed the Hearing Judge report from August 23 to September 26<sup>th</sup>. The report shows 526 actions and outcomes. There were 17 sanction hearings held by Revocation Hearing Judge, Ms. Ashley Vailes, she also had 64 additional hearings for a total of 81 actions that were taken. Ms. Cara Boyd-Connors, Revocation Hearing Judge, had 115 actions taken. Ms. Cummings further stated these numbers do not include waivers. Ms. Carol Bohannon, Revocation Hearing Judge, had 51 actions during this time period. There were 231 waivers signed during that time period.

Chairman Felts asked Ms. Cummings if there was a reduction in the number of waivers looking back at the last 6 months. Ms. Cummings stated the numbers have been pretty consistent with a rise in waivers around June 2016 in the number of actions taken. Each board member's board packet includes the Hearing Judge report for their review.

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

### **Agency Updates**

Ms. Cummings, Board Administrator, stated

There were no further comments or questions regarding the Agency Updates at this time.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business brought before the Board.

### **New Business**

There was no new business brought before the Board.

### **Files for Review**

There were no questions regarding the files for review.

### **Adoption of Recommendations**

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

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 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

September 2016

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. Williams/SEC



Pine Bluff/Ester



Grimes



East Arkansas



Mississippi Co. W/R/NEACC



Vарner



Ouachita



**Other:** Pardons, Commutations, Transfer Screenings, ACT 290s, 700s, Reconsiderations, Revocation Appeals, Rescinds, Special Conditions, EPAs, Etc.



**Motion By:** Secretary Shock      **Seconded by:** Commissioner Wallace

**Ratification Date:** September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016