



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
OCTOBER 25, 2012 @ 9:30 A.M.  
APB Board Room**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Felts, Chairman  
James Wallace, Vice-Chairman/Commissioner  
Richard Brown Jr., Commissioner  
Carolyn Robinson, Commissioner  
Joe Peacock, Commissioner  
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner

**HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:**

Ashley Vailes, Hearing Examiner/Attorney  
Jim Williams, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

**EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:**

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Examiner/Attorney  
Richard L. Mays, Jr., Secretary/Commissioner  
Norma Gillerson, Fiscal Support Supervisor, APB

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Melissa Haney, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Dan Roberts, Deputy Director Parole/Probation, DCC  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC  
Meredith Rebsamen, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

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

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 11, 2012**

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

## **POPULATION REPORT**

Chairman Felts reported that there are 14,825 inmates in the Department of Correction and this includes those inmates in the 309 program and in work release. He stated that there are currently 297 male inmates in county backup which is a big improvement over past months.

In review of the DCC population report there are a total of 29,445 individuals on probation, 2,214 in drug court and 23,417 individuals on parole for a total of 55,651. Reports show that a total of 21,306 hours of community service have been performed for the month and an estimated 255,918 hours for the year. These numbers reflect those doing community service as stipulated for release, trash pickup for violators, and probationers.

Chairman Felts reported that the total population in the DCC residential centers is 1,516 and they have a capacity of 1,615. He stated that DCC is doing a great job keeping beds at capacity by utilizing their bed space for TVP and drug court treatment. Chairman Felts also stated that he Board enjoyed the opportunity to visit the TVP center and were very impressed with their operation. He stated that they would like to schedule a time for the Hearing Examiners to go and also tour and see how the center operates.

In review of the APB monthly report, there were a total of 316 transfer screenings with an approval rate of 90.8% and 376 transfer hearings with an approval rate of 64.1%. These percentage numbers are a result of approvals and denials, as well as those stipulated for programs by the Board. The Board had 717 total actions for the month.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

Meredith Rebsamen reported that she has been in discussion with Mrs. Freno regarding an issue with the Board and that Mrs. Freno is currently waiting for action from the Court. She will be contacting the Board as soon as a ruling is available. Mrs. Rebsamen stated that if there are any questions the Board is welcome to call her or Mrs. Freno.

## **FISCAL REPORT**

Mr. Graves reported that at Tuesday's Joint Budget Meeting there were no personnel changes except the title change for the Hearing Examiners. Their title is being changed to Revocation Hearing Judge beginning in FY13. This request will now go to the full Joint Budget Committee and then to the General Assembly in January.

Mr. Graves stated that the Board also requested an increase in the budget for maintenance, professional fees and travel expenses. He stated that the assistance provision and will go before the Joint Budget Committee Special Language Sub-Committee in early November. Chairman Felts added that this provision is the statute in place which allows ADC and DCC to assist the Board if we are lacking in the budgetary funds to carry out operations.

Mr. Graves stated that the Board will find a copy of the monthly fiscal and expenditure report in their packets and that as of July 31, 2012, the Board has expended 24.2% of its annual budget.

## **AGENCY UPDATES**

Mr. Graves reported that Assistant Area Manager Mekisha Childers will be conducting sex offender training for the Board on November 27, 2012 at 10:00 am in the Board room. This training will last for approximately 1-1 ½ hours. He stated that the sex offender group would like to show their appreciation for the Board by hosting

a potluck luncheon for the Board and staff after the training. The luncheon will begin at noon and it will be in the Board room.

There will also be a training course on Emergency Preparedness from 9am-11:30am on Monday and it will be conducted by Mr. John Belken. Chairman Felts stated that this will be a good opportunity to earn training hours and that it will cover a wide variety of emergency situations.

### **HEARING EXAMINERS REPORT**

The Hearing Examiners reported a total of 34 hearings conducted. Of that total 21 were revoked to ADC, 4 were revoked to TVP, 2 were not revoked, 4 were deferred, and 1 compact hearing and 2 transfer hearings were held. There were no questions regarding the Hearing Examiner report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to report at this time.

### **November 2012 Schedule**

Chairman Felts stated that around the holidays the Hearing dates and Victim Input dates are subject to be held on different days so the Board should pay close attention to these changes. Chairman Felts reported that November 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> will be holidays for Thanksgiving and that Full Board will be held on November 29<sup>th</sup>. The Board will also have sex offender training on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Please be mindful of these dates.

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.

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

Chairman Felts called for any questions regarding the victim input votes for October. There were no questions.

### **RATIFICATION OF VOTES**

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

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

Chairman Felts thanked Commissioner Brown for conducting a Q & A at the Ouachita River Unit for the inmates. Mr. Brown reported that there were about 45 inmates in attendance and they had a good discussion regarding the parole process and expectations of the Board. Chairman Felts stated that this is a very good opportunity to help inmates understand the process and what is expected of them by the Board and that he appreciated Mr. Brown taking the time to talk with the Ouachita River Unit.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There were no further comments or questions.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 9:30a.m. This meeting will take place in the APB Boardroom.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

**Signature on File**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Felts  
Chairman

**Signature on File**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard L. Mays, Jr.  
Secretary

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

**OCTOBER 2012**

<b><u>UNITS:</u></b>	<b><u>RATIFIED (X)</u></b>
BENTON	<b>X</b>
CACCC	<b>X</b>
EAST AR	<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 Wallace    SECONDED BY: Commissioner Peacock**

**RATIFICATION DATE:    October 25, 2012**