



**MINUTES
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
OCTOBER 27, 2011 @ 9:30 A.M.
APB Board Room**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Felts, Chairman
Abraham Carpenter, Vice-Chairman/Commissioner
Richard L. Mays, Jr., Secretary/Commissioner
Richard Brown Jr., Commissioner
Carolyn Robinson, Commissioner
Joe Peacock, Commissioner

HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:

Ashley Vailes, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Jimmy Wallace, Commissioner
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Examiner/Attorney
Jim Williams II, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Roberts, Deputy Director, Parole/Probation, DCC
Steve Arnold, Assistant Director, Parole/Probation, DCC
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC
Arnie Jochums, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB
Norma Gillerson, Fiscal Support Supervisor, APB
Tamara Salaam, Admin. Support Supervisor, APB

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Melissa Haney, Administrative Analyst

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 13, 2011

Commissioner Carpenter moved.

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

POPULATION REPORTS

Chairman Felts reported that the statewide population count is at 15,153 in the Department of Corrections and the County Jail backup population is down to 584.

It was also reported that statewide there are 29,950 individuals on probation and 23,329 on parole.

In review of the DCC population report, there are 1,500 individuals currently incarcerated and the facilities have a capacity of 1,650. Chairman Felts stated that the Omega Technical Violators Center is also almost filled to capacity at this time.

Chairman Felts reported that the Board's monthly report shows an approval rate of 602 with 261 approved screenings and 341 approved hearings for the month of October. There were 987 total actions completed by the Board for the month of October, this number includes totals for Clemencies and Pardons.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Mr. Jochums had nothing to report to the Board.

FISCAL REPORT

Mrs. Gillerson presented the September 2011 accounts payable report. Mrs. Gillerson reported that as of September 30, 2011 the Board has expended a total of \$581,230.72 or thirty (30%) of the total budget for FY 2012. There were no questions.

HEARING EXAMINER REPORTS

Mrs. Vailes reported for all Examiners. She reported that Mrs. Bohannon conducted a total of 18 revocation hearings. She revoked 17 to ADC and also conducted 1 probable cause hearing. Mr. Williams conducted 14 revocation hearings with 7 revoked to ADC, 2 to TVP and 5 were not revoked. Mrs. Vailes reported that she conducted a total of 20 revocation hearings. She revoked 12 to ADC, 4 to TVP, 3 were deferred for review and she conducted 1 compact hearing.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Graves provided a copy of the quarterly statistics report to each Commissioner. During the first quarter of this fiscal year, the Board conducted at a total of 1,379 hearings and 863 screenings. He stated that this number is down by 145 hearings and 193 screenings from the same period last Fiscal Year.

Mr. Graves reported that he and the Chairman met with the DCC Management Team in regards to Act 570 and the assessment is on track to be implemented by January and will replace the ORAS re-entry tool. This will be presented at the first November Board and Dr. Austin will be back to speak with the Board in November as well.

NEW BUSINESS

AACET Presentation

Mr. Kevin Murphy presented to the Board that in 2007 the Department of Corrections formed a non-profit benevolent association to benefit correctional employees in time of crisis and tragedy. He reported that they currently have 2,700 members and they are growing everyday.

He stated that this organization is private and they are able to negotiate better dental and vision rates for employees as well as provide many other services. At this time, they have 1,600 employees utilizing these health benefits through ADC. They are currently in the process of establishing benefits for DCC as well.

He stated that they also do scholarships for employees, employee's spouses and their children. To date, everyone that has applied for scholarships through the AACET program have received them and they hope to

continue this trend. He also stated that there is not a degree cap on the scholarships. He reported that on November 19th they will be presenting a check to UAPB to start scholarship endowment there as well.

Mr. Murphy reported that they also help with luncheons and dinners to reward employees for their hard work and dedication. They do many award ceremonies to honor these employees and have also established events that are set aside for correctional employees, such as corrections day hosted at the Travelers' games. He stated that they could assist the Board in holding these special days and luncheons as well.

He stated that their organization is also in the process of setting up a credit union for employees. He provided the Board a copy of AACET's quarterly report for their review.

Chairman Felts stated that the Board will be reviewing the information presented today by AACET and if they have any questions regarding the material they will contact Mr. Murphy for more information.

NOVEMBER HEARING SCHEDULES

Chairman Felts stated that if adjustments need to be made to the schedule to let him know so they can be addressed.

FILES FOR DISCUSSION - REVIEW

The Board reviewed the listing of victim input hearings that were conducted during the second half of October 2011. Chairman Felts discussed the victim input hearing votes with the Board and Mr. Peacock stated that there was one that he voted on and he would like to withdraw his vote and abstain from voting at this time. Chairman Felts asked that the results be amended to reflect that abstention. There were no further questions.

RATIFICATION OF VOTES

Commissioner Mays moved.

Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion to ratify the votes. Motion carried.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Signature on File

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on File

Richard L. Mays, Jr.
Secretary

**ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE
FIRST BOARD VOTE RATIFICATION**

SEPTEMBER 2011

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

BENTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CACCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CUMMINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DIAGNOSTIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EAST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MISSISSIPPI CO.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NEACCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OUACHITA REGIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PINE BLUFF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RANDALL L. WILLIAMS CORR.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEARC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SWARC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TRCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VARNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
WRIGHTSVILLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OTHER: RESCINDS & TRANSFER SCREENINGS, ACT 290'S, EPA, 700'S, SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS, RECONSIDERATION, REVOCATION APPEALS, CLEMENCIES, ETC.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

MOTION BY: RICHARD L. MAYS, JR. SECONDED BY: ABRAHAM CARPENTER

RATIFICATION DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2011