



MINUTES OF THE ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD

November 10, 2016

9:00 A.M.

APB BOARDROOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

James M. Wallace, III, Commissioner
Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB
Cara Boyd-Connors, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
Janice Horton, Business Operations Manager, APB
Kenya Woods, Victim Input Coordinator, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Lois Hansberry, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
William T. Bowman, II, Computer Support Analyst, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services
Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer, Arkansas Department of Correction
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes-October 27, 2016

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

Agency Updates

Chairman Felts stated to the Board that Ms. Brooke Cummings, Executive Administrator, would not be in attendance for today's meeting.

There were not any Agency Updates to be discussed before the Board at this time.

Old Business

Chairman Felts asked Mr. William Bowman, II (Bo), Computer Support Analyst, to update the Board on the progress that has been made with video conferencing and connectivity issues. Mr. Bowman mentioned a new pilot program that has been introduced to the Board, he further stated that pilot program would be up and running in the next few weeks. Mr. Bowman stated that DIS would be setting up the Jabber program to be used for video hearing purposes. Chairman Felts followed up on the pilot program by stating that it will be used differently than any other program the Board has used in the past. The program is a direct line that will provide better audio and picture quality. Chairman Felts further stated that other State agencies are looking into using this program.

There were no further questions or concerns regarding Old Business.

New Business

There was not any New Business to be discussed before the Board at this time.

Files for Review

There were no questions regarding the files for review.

Adoption of Recommendations

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

Other Discussion

Ms. Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, updated the Board on a case that was dismissed on Jeremy Kennedy, an inmate that was disgruntled due to the Board not releasing him on parole. The Court has agreed to count this as a strike against the inmate, which means that he will get two more strikes and after that he is not allowed to file lawsuits without prepaying the filing fees. Ms. Mahfouz further stated that while the inmates are indigent they can file and not pay filing fees, but after three strikes the inmate is personally responsible to pay the filing fees on lawsuits.

Mr. Solomon Graves, Public Information Officer, stated to the Board, on behalf of the Arkansas Department of Correction that if the Board needs anything from ADC to please contact him. Mr. Graves mentioned that ADC has been working with DIS to roll out some video capability that will improve some of the issues regarding the bandwidth at the Units. In addition, Mr. Graves mentioned to the Board that Warden Joe Page has been moved up from the Delta Unit to the Tucker Unit, Warden Wright transferred to Internal Affairs Division with ADC.

Ms. Shirley Ellingburg, Institutional Release Services, mentioned to the Board that her staff has started pulling the EPA files for the upcoming 90 day EPA which will facilitate a quicker release from ADC.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 21st, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Signature on File

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on File

Andy Shock
Secretary

**Arkansas Parole Board
FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES**

November 2016

UNITS:

RATIFIED

Delta



Wrightsville



Wrightsville Satellite/Wrightsville Hawkins



Tucker



Tucker Max



Cummins



Benton



TRCC/SWACC



Bowie County



McPherson



North Central



NWA- Work Release



**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: November 10, 2016