



**MINUTES  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
November 22, 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  
James Wallace, Commissioner

**HEARING EXAMINERS PRESENT:**

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

**EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:**

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Examiner/Attorney

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Bryan Bull, Information Technology Administrator, DCC  
Pam Brown, Assistant Area Manager, DCC Institutional Release Services  
Solomon Graves, Administrative Services Manager, APB  
Norma Gillerson, Fiscal Support Manager, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Specialist, APB  
Armie Jochums, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office  
Dr. James Austin, PhD, President, JFA Institute

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 10, 2011**

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

## **POPULATION REPORT**

Chairman Felts reported that there are 15,371 inmates in the Department of Corrections. There are 668 males in County Jail backup and no females.

Chairman Felts also reported that a new 90 day EPA will go into effect immediately.

In review of DCC population report, there are 1,494 currently incarcerated. There are 13 males and 12 females in backup. There are 34 inmates in Technical Violators backup. It was also reported that there are 29,918 individuals on probation and 23,200 individuals on parole.

Chairman Felts stated that there is a 93.4% screening grant rate and 66.1% hearing grant rate. He also wants the Board to continue to use good discretion about putting inmates into programs.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

Mr. Jochums reported that Assistant Attorney General Laurie Freno notified him that the hearing officer has ruled in favor of the Board on an unemployment claim.

## **FISCAL REPORT**

Norma Gillerson reported that as of October 31, 2011 the Board as expended 38% of the FY 2012 budget. There were no questions.

## **HEARING EXAMINERS REPORT**

Chairman Felts reported that there were a total of 44 hearings conducted. Of the total 26 were revoked to ADC, 10 were revoked to TVP, 3 were not revoked, 3 were deferred, 1 compact hearing and 1 transfer hearing were held.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Parole File Process**

Chairman Felts reminded the Board that when they get ready to visit a unit and take files to be sure to let the appropriate staff know about any changes that may occur.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Board Manual Approval**

Mr. Graves reported that the Board needs to ratify the revisions of the current board manual reviewed by the ALC Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee on November 14, 2011.

Commissioner Wallace moved to adopt the new version of the manual. Commissioner Mays seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### **Risk Assessment**

Dr. Austin reported that he wants to help the Board come up an idea or tools that the Commissioners can use when determining parole for inmates. Dr. Austin also explained why it's important to adopt a risk assessment. He stated that 6 of 7 determining factors have been tested and they show the risk of someone re-entering back into prison within 3 years.

Dr. Austin reported that assigning programs should be looked at closely because a low risk inmate doesn't need a lot of restrictions or classes and high risk inmates will probably need more classes and restrictions. He informed the Board that there will be a statewide training on December 8, 2011 to train all staff on the risk assessment. The assessment will be fully automated in the near future.

He recommended that the Board re-evaluate the assessment on a 2 year interval to make sure its functioning properly. Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Maryland and Kentucky are already using this system. The assessment does not assess sex offenders.

Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the risk assessment presented by Dr. Austin. Commissioner Mays seconded. Motion was carried.

#### **December Parole Calendar**

Chairman Felts reported that for the month of December all hearings will be conducted in the first two weeks of the month.

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

The Board reviewed the listing of victim input hearings that were conducted during the second half of November 2011. Commissioner Mays reported that he is waiting on the SOSRA to come back for Inmate Daniel Button. There were no questions.

#### **RATIFICATION OF VOTES**

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

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 9:30a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

**Signature on File**

**John Felts  
Chairman**

**Signature on File**

**Richard L. Mays, Jr.  
Secretary**

**ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE  
RATIFICATION VOTES BY UNITS**

NOVEMBER 2011

<u>UNITS:</u>	<u>RATIFIED (X)</u>
DELTA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRIMES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MCPHERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NORTH CENTRAL UNIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NORTH WEST/WASHINGTON CO.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TUCKER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TUCKER MAX.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>OTHER:</b> TRANSFER SCREENINGS, CLEMENCIES, PARDONS RECONSIDERATIONS, REVOCATION APPEALS, RESCINDS, SPECIAL CONDITIONS, ACT 290, 700'S, EPA, ETC.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

MOTION BY: Richard Mays, Jr SECONDED BY: Abraham Carpenter, Jr

RATIFICATION DATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2011