



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
NOVEMBER 19, 2020
9:00 A.M .
RICHARD LEE RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM**

Board Members Present

John Felts, Chairman, APB
Lona McCastlain, Vice Chair, APB
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner, APB
Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB
Jerry Riley, Commissioner, APB
Boyce Hamlet, Commissioner, APB

Others Present

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Cindy Murphy, Communications Director, DOC
Carrie Williams, Assistant Director Re-Entry, DCC

Excused

Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was declared. Chairman Felts mentioned that Secretary Ryals is out on annual leave.

Approval of Minutes – November 5, 2020

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

A copy of the minutes was included in each board member's packet for review.

Review of Population Reports

Chairman Felts reviewed the population reports starting with the ADC report. Before reviewing the report, he stated that the Board of Corrections invoked a modified EPA this morning. He said the overall for ADC is at 92.8% capacity. That does include the inmates from Bowie County, Texas. Regarding the backup, Chairman Felts said there are 1,730 males and 188 females for a combined total of 1,918 individuals.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for ACC. He said ACC's overall capacity is 67.6%. That includes 72.4% females and 65.7% males.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of October. Chairman Felts noted that there were 32,406 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,801, Parole was 26,396, Boot Camp was 16, and the Act 539s count was 21. This gives a combined total of 60,640 persons under supervision.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West reported to the Board that at the last meeting the total number of APA Appeals pending was 12. That number is unchanged. He said the Yancy v. Felts case out of Pulaski County was granted a Motion to Dismiss by Judge McGowan. Mr. West said he filed it a few weeks ago.

There were no questions regarding the Attorney General's report.

Fiscal Report Update

Ms. Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Goldman reported that effective July 1, 2020, the Agency received funding of \$351,800 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2021. As of October 31, 2020, we've expensed \$43,054.26 (12.24%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 28% of the operating expense budget.

A copy of the fiscal report was included in each board member's packet for review.

Hearing Judge's Report

Ms. Cummings updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of October 2020. There were 480 total actions. Of those, there were 64 administrative revocations, 346 waivers approved, and 70 individuals revoked at a hearing.

A copy of the hearing judge report was included in each board member's packet for review.

Agency Updates

Ms. Cummings advised the Board of the monthly cost of leasing our office space. The cost includes office space, shared common areas, classrooms, bathrooms, lobby, parking, and janitorial services. The monthly amount is \$10,409. Ms. Cummings said we were previously paying \$13,011 per month. That was for an office space of approximately 11,500 square feet. Our current space is 8,600 square feet plus the common areas that we share. Chairman Felts asked Ms. Cummings if parking was included in the previous amount of \$13,011. Ms. Cummings said that it was and that parking for the current space is included in the \$10,409.

Old Business

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

New Business

There was nothing to report regarding new business.

Files for Review

A copy of the files for review was included in each board member’s packet for review.

Review of the Hearing Schedule

A copy of the hearing schedule was included in each board member’s packet for review.

Adoption of Recommendations

Vice Chair McCastlain moved to adopt the recommendations of the Board for the units as listed on the attached ratification list. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

Other Discussion

Ms. Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC, asked Chairman Felts when the new Standard Conditions of Release will be automated in eOMIS. Ms. Cummings said there is a ticket in for that, and she will check on it.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Signature on file

John Felts
Chairman

Signature on file

Wendy Ryals
Secretary

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

NOVEMBER 2020

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. Williams/SEC



Pine Bluff/Ester



Grimes



East Arkansas



Mississippi Co. W/R/NEACC



Varner



Ouachita



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



Motion By: Vice Chair McCastlain Seconded by: Commissioner Carpenter

Ratification Date: November 19, 2020