



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
DECEMBER 17, 2020
9:00 A.M.
RICHARD LEE RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM**

Board Members Present

John Felts, Chairman, APB
Lona McCastlain, Vice Chair, APB
Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner, APB
Jerry Riley, Commissioner, APB
Boyce Hamlet, Commissioner, APB

Others Present

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB (via conference call)
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Lindsay Wallace, Chief of Staff, DOC (via conference call)
Cindy Murphy, Public Information Officer, DOC
Jim Cheek, Program Admin. Parole/Probation Services, DCC

Excused

Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2020

Vice Chair McCastlain moved for approval of the minutes. Secretary Ryals 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. He said that due to COVID-19, population numbers have been low. Chairman Felts said they are in the process of starting to bring inmates out of the county jails. The overall male percentage is 93.4%, and the overall female percentage is 84%. Overall, that is 92.6%. As of yesterday, there were 491 females in the county jails and 1,644 males in the county jails. The overall in count for ADC is 16,096.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. He said DCC has also been suffering as a result of COVID-19. All of their facilities are below capacity. They have an overall of 59.4%.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of November. Chairman Felts noted that there were 32,365 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,786, Parole was 26,344, Boot Camp was 16, and the Act 539s count was 22. This gives a combined total of 60,533 persons under supervision.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West reported to the Board that the case total last month was 12. It has risen to 13. Mr. West said the Board was served with a new APA Appeal a couple of weeks ago. He said he'll be filing a Motion to Dismiss as soon as he has an opportunity to do so. He said the other 12 cases are fully briefed.

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 November 30, 2020, we've expensed \$16,041.10 (17.35%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 35% 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 November 2020. There were 369 total revocations. Of those, 38 of them were at a hearing, 280 waivers were approved, and 51 of them were administrative revocations.

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

Agency Updates

Ms. Cummings advised the Board that she will be submitting the Annual Report. It is due at the end of January.

Old Business

Vice Chair McCastlain asked when the deadline for Legislation is. The Chairman said he will find out.

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

Secretary Ryals 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.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 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
DECEMBER 2020**

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

Delta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wrightsville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wrightsville Hawkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tucker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tucker Max	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cummins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Benton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TRCC/SWACC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
McPherson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Central	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NWA- Work Release	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R.L. Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pine Bluff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Grimes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
East Arkansas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mississippi Co. W/R/NEACC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vарner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ouachita	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other: Pardons, Commutations, Transfer Screenings, ACT 290s, 700s, Reconsiderations, Revocation Appeals, Rescinds, Special Conditions, EPAs, Etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Motion By: Secretary Ryals Seconded by: Commissioner Carpenter

Ratification Date: December 17, 2020