



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
FEBRUARY 25, 2021
9:00 A.M.
RICHARD LEE RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM**

Board Members Present

John Felts, Chairman, APB
Lona McCastlain, Vice Chairman, APB
Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner, APB
Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB
Jerry Riley, Commissioner, APB

Others Present

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Carol Bohannan, Hearing Judge, APB
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB
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

Excused

Boyce Hamlet, Commissioner, APB
Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB

Call to Order

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A quorum was declared. Chairman Felts noted that Commissioner Hamlet is out on sick leave.

Approval of Minutes – February 11, 2021

Vice Chair McCastlain 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. The county jail backup for females is at 270. For males, it is at 1,739 with a total of 2,009. There is an in count of 16,019 and a jurisdictional count of 16,093. The males are at 92.4%, and the females are at 80.6%. The overall percentage is at 91.4%.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. They have an in count of 1,270 and a jurisdictional count of 1,271. There are 11 SSP females and 31 SSP males. There are 34 females in the county jail backup and 32 males.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of January. Chairman Felts noted that there were 32,229 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,737, Parole was 26,113, Boot Camp was 16, and the Act 539s count was 23. This gives a combined total of 60,118 persons under supervision.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West reported to the Board that last month there were 11 pending appeals. This month there are still 11 pending appeals.

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 January 31, 2021, we've expensed \$127,745.06 (36.31%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 47% 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. Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB, updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of January 2021. There were 432 total actions. There were 412 revocations, 48 administrative revocations, 39 revoked at a hearing, and 325 waivers.

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 SB227 has become Act 148. It has been forwarded to the Governor.

Ms. Cummings updated the Board on the possibility of considering the release of offenders from the county jails. She said statutorily the Board has the authority to do that. Chairman Felts informed the Board that the offenders are New Commitments and Parole Violators. He said the Board would still be voting on those individuals. They would just be released from the county jails.

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

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 9:31 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 11, 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**

FEBRUARY 2021

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. Williams



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: Secretary Ryals Seconded by: Commissioner Carpenter

Ratification Date: February 25, 2021