



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

Board Members Present

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

Others Present

Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Barry Bealer, Assistant Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Elizabeth Taylor, Assistant Director Parole/Probation, DCC

Excused

Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, 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 Shock is out on annual leave.

Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2021

Secretary Ryals moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Riley 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 stated that ADC is beginning to bring individuals in from the county jails. In the county jail backup, there are 179 females and 1,505 males for a combined total of 1,684. The total in count is 16,054. They have 48 out to court with a grand total of 16,131. There are 205 male ACC Reentry transfers and 34 female ACC Reentry transfers.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. He said the capacity for males is 57.1%. This is because of courts not being in session. The capacity for females is 70.7%. There is an overall of 61%.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of February. Chairman Felts noted that there were 32,177 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,718, Parole was 25,921, Boot Camp was 15, and the Act 539s count was 22. This gives a combined total of 59,853 persons under supervision.

Attorney General's Report

Assistant Attorney General Joe West reported to the Board that last month there were 11 active APA appeals. This month the number remains the same, but there has been some movement with the cases. He said the Board has been served with one, *Mosley v. Felts*. Mr. West said he filed a Motion to Dismiss yesterday. All 11 cases are full 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 February 28, 2021, we've expensed \$151,006.39 (42.92%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 53% 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 February 2021. There were 265 individuals that waived, 39 administrative revocations, and 33 individuals revoked at a hearing for a total of 337 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 requested the vacant Hearing Judge position to be posted. She said that it was approved. However, the minimum qualifications were incorrect. Ms. Cummings said she is working on getting it fixed.

Old Business

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

New Business

Chairman Felts introduced the new Board member, Commissioner Brett Morgan.

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. Vice Chair McCastlain 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, April 15, 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**

MARCH 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: Vice Chair McCastlain

Ratification Date: March 25, 2021