



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
AUGUST 26, 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  
Andy Shock, Commissioner, 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, Business Operations Manager, APB  
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB  
Felicia Bentley, Investigator, APB  
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office  
Lindsay Wallace, Chief of Staff, DOC  
Cindy Murphy, Public Information Officer, DOC  
Jim Cheek, Program Admin. Parole/Probation Services, DCC  
Warren Collier, DCC Parole/Probation Officer, DCC  
Bob Parker, ADC Mental Health Service Administrator, DOC

**Excused**

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB  
Jack Bell, Hearing Judge, APB

## **Call to Order**

Chairman Felts called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was declared.

## **Approval of Minutes - August 12, 2021**

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 mentioned that there was a telephonic Board of Corrections meeting Tuesday. The Board of Corrections invoked a new 90-day EPA. Chairman Felts said it looks like everyone is around 98% capacity overall. The county jail backup has 171 females and 1,340 males. There is an in count of 16,556. There is a jurisdictional count of 16,663. That includes those in hospitals, out on furlough, and out to court.

Chairman Felts then reviewed the population report for DCC. He said they have an in count of 1,458. They have a total count of 1,461. He said they are still not near capacity.

Chairman Felts ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of July. Chairman Felts noted that there were 32,467 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,623, Parole was 25,050, Boot Camp was 13, and the Act 539s count was 22. This gives a combined total of 59,175 persons under supervision.

## **Attorney General's Report**

Assistant Attorney General Joe West reported to the Board that there have been no changes to the number of Circuit Court cases. Every one of them have been fully briefed and are waiting on a decision from the Judge. Mr. West said that he filed a brief before the Supreme Court in the Wood v. Parole Board, Felts, and Shock case yesterday.

## **Fiscal Report Update**

Ms. Christie Goldman, Business Operations Manager, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Goldman reported that effective July 1, 2021, the Agency received funding of \$244,711 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2022. As of July 31, 2021, we've

expensed \$1,964.84 (1%). There was \$115,500 in appropriation transferred 9903 for IT Expenses. To date, \$2,170.74 has been expensed in error out of IT purchases. These items should have been paid from Business Area 9903 (DOC). The complete and accurate total expensed from our budget during the month of July is \$3,424.26 (\$1,964.84 + \$1,459.42). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 1% 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 July 2021. There were 495 total actions. Of those, 474 were revoked. There were 70 individuals who were administratively revoked, 45 individuals were revoked at a hearing, and 359 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 they have ordered iPADS.

Ms. Cummings also mentioned to the Board that regarding Christie's report and the amount seeming so low is because the way we pay rent for our rent is quarterly.

### **Old Business**

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

### **New Business**

Vice Chair McCastlain said she would like to get the Attorney General's opinion on the voting change.

### **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 Shock seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

### **Drug & Alcohol Program Changes**

Dr. Bob Parker, ADC Mental Health Service Administrator, DOC, discussed changes with the Drug and Alcohol programs. The SATP and TC programs will be leaving. The new program that the Board will stipulate is SURS (Substance Use Rehabilitation Services). They have designed three modules. It will be a 2 or 6-month program. Classes will be 4 hours long each day. Inmates will go to class 4 days a week. They will be doing a 30-day pilot at Grimes and McPherson. SURS will be in Benton, Cummins, RLW, Tucker, Wrightsville, McPherson, and Grimes.

### **Other Discussion**

Ms. Lindsay Wallace, Chief of Staff, DOC, said she has addressed the incorrect bill codes being used. She said it should not happen again.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

***Signature on file***

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**John Felts**  
**Chairman**

***Signature on file***

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**Wendy Ryals**  
**Secretary**

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

**AUGUST 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 Shock**

**Ratification Date: August 26, 2021**