



MINUTES OF THE ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD

July 30, 2015

8:00 A.M.

APB BOARDROOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Felts, Chairman
Richard Brown, Jr., Vice-Chairman /Commissioner
Dawne Vandiver, Secretary/Commissioner
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner
James Wallace, Commissioner
John Belken, Commissioner

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Cara Boyd-Connors, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Jim Williams, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Ashley Vailes, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Meredith Rebsamen, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office

OTHERS PRESENT:

Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, APB
Mahogany Franklin, Business Manager, APB
Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC
Kevin Murphy, Chief Deputy Director, ACC

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Kelly Knuckles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 8:06 am. A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 16, 2015

Commissioner Wallace moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

REPORT UPDATES

Chairman Felts reported that there are 18,844 inmates incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction. There are currently 2,535 men and women on the ADC County Jail Back-up list. Last month we had 2,738 men in women on that list. The Board of Correction approved the opening of the Ester Unit in Pine Bluff earlier this week. The Governor also approved additional monies to open 200 more beds.

In review of the ACC Center Jurisdictional population there are a total 1,684 offenders in ACC Centers. This includes those in ACC Centers, Omega and SE ARK TVP, and on ACC's back-up list. The total ACC's capacity is 1,603. Their statewide field report reflects 27,173 on probation, 2,352 out to drug court, 284 boot camp releases and 21,779 on parole, for a combined total of 51,552.

In review of the APB monthly report, Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, stated that the Board had a total of 1,452 board actions in June 2015, including parole and clemency actions. Mr. Graves updated the Board regarding the APB report that is being formatted to generate from eOMIS. He stated that the Board should have report by the August full Board meeting.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

There were no reports from the Attorney General's office to be discussed.

FISCAL REPORT

Mahoganey Franklin, Business Manager, reported that the Board expended 99% of its annual travel, maintenance, and operations budget. The report was included in the meeting packet for the Board's review and further details of the FY'15 close-out were discussed.

Mrs. Franklin reminded the Board to enter their odometer reading when purchasing their fuel.

There were no questions regarding the fiscal report.

HEARING JUDGE'S REPORT

The Hearing Judge Activity Report was available for the Board's review. Chairman Felts stated that a total of 148 offenders were revoked by a Hearing Judge and sent back to custody in ADC or ACC. There were a total of 767 actions for the month of May. There were a total of 449 waivers for the month July.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the hearing judge report.

AGENCY UPDATES

Mr. Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, discussed Act 1258 which implements Issue 1 giving the General Assembly approval authority over rules made by the Board. There is a section in the Act that requires the Administrative Directives issued by the Board after July 22nd to be reported every quarter going forward. The first report will be due on September 30th. This rule applies to ADC and ACC as well as the Parole Board.

Mr. Graves also updated the Board on continual progress toward implementing Act 1265.

Mr. Graves reminded the Board of training with Dr. Jim Austin on Friday, July 31, 2015, regarding the ARORA Risk Assessment System. Finalization should be coming up within the next 60 days.

Mr. Graves showed his appreciation for the Revocation Support Staff for going above and beyond in their duties. He recognized Ms. Lois Hansberry for their hard work in the last few weeks with implementing Act 1239. They should all be acknowledged for their hard work. Mr. Graves also acknowledged the hard work of the Hearing Judges.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kevin Murphy, ACC Chief Deputy Director, discussed the Governor's Faith Based Conference coming up on August 25th and 26th, 2015 and invited the Board to attend.

Mr. Murphy also mentioned to the Board that the correctional benefit association, AACET is looking for new members. Interested employees were directed to contact Mrs. Franklin.

The Arkansas Parole Board hearing schedule and calendar for August 2015 was provided to the Board. The Board was asked to notify Ms. Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, of any scheduling conflicts.

The Board heard a presentation from Dorothy Holloway regarding her support for inmate James Murphy ADC# 123064. Mr. Murphy has applied for Executive Clemency and will be coming up before the Board in December 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

FILES FOR REVIEW

There are no questions regarding the files for review.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Vandiver, Secretary of the Board, moved to adopt the recommendations. Commissioner Wallace seconded. The motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, August 13th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Arkansas Parole Board.

Signature on File

**John Felts
Chairman**

Signature on File

**Dawne Vandiver
Secretary**

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

July 2015

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. WILLIAMS



PINE BLUFF/SE



GRIMES



EAST ARKANSAS



MISS CO/NEC



VARNER



OUACHITA



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



MOTION BY: Secretary Vandiver

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Wallace

RATIFICATION DATE: July 30, 2015