



**MINUTES OF THE
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD
August 27, 2015
9:00 A.M.
APB BOARDROOM**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

EXCUSED WITH VALID REASONS:

Dawne Vandiver, Secretary/Commissioner
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Jim Williams, Hearing Judge/Attorney
Ashley Vailes, Hearing Judge/Attorney

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
Lois Hansberry, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB
Cara Boyd-Connors, Hearing Judge/Attorney, APB
Nga Mahfouz, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Sheila Sharp, Director, ACC
Dan Roberts, Deputy Director Parole/Probation Services, ACC
Elizabeth Taylor, Assistant Director Parole/Probation Services, ACC
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, ACC

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Felts called the board meeting to order at 9:03 am. A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 13, 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 18,890 inmates incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction. There are currently 2,453 men and women on the ADC County Jail Back-up list. Last month there were 2,535 men in women on that list. As of today, 305 were released on EPA.

In review of the ACC Center Jurisdictional Population there are a total 1,703 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 27,228 on probation, 2,357 out to specialty court, 297 boot camp releases and 21,718 on parole, for a combined total of 51,600.

In review of the APB monthly report, Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, stated that the Board had a total of 1,364 board actions in July 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 September full Board meeting.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

There were no reports from the Attorney General's office to be discussed. Ms. Nga Mahfouz introduced herself to the Board, she has replaced Meredith Rebsamen as the Board's liaison. Ms. Mahfouz reminded the Board that if there are any questions please contact her office.

FISCAL REPORT

Mahogany Franklin, Business Manager, reported that the Board expended 10% of its annual travel, maintenance, and operations budget. Ms. Franklin included a schedule for Commissioner Andy Shock's training in the Board's packet. Mr. Shock will start on September 1st, 2015. He has to complete 40 hours within his first week.

Mrs. Franklin mentioned to the Board that there will be training for all Board staff on September 28th, 2015 on offender/staff relations. The Chairman mentioned a training coming up in October with Richard Stroker. That training will focus on how the Board handles violations and the Board's request to explore a decision making guide for the Parole Board.

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 if there were in questions regarding the report to call the hearing judges and they could give you a summary of their actions. Chairman Felts stated the waivers to ADC were down for the month.

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

AGENCY UPDATES

Mr. Solomon Graves, Board Administrator, gave an update on in the IT Department regarding the disaster recovery protocol along with pending website updates. Beginning September 1st, 2015, special conditions memos will move from Revocation Services to Parole Services.

In addition to that, any memo for a sex offender will go to a Board member.

Mr. Graves updated the Board on compliance status with Act 1239.

Mr. Graves updated the Board on where ACC was on moving inmates to the reentry centers. Chairman Felts stated that we are giving a preapproval once these offenders complete the program. These offenders once completing this process will have a home, a job and a mentor.

Mr. Graves updated the Board on the board policy changes put out on May 29th and July 13th, 2015.

Mr. Graves presented a proposal to the Board regarding the review of violation reports by the Board. The Board would automatically issue a warrant for offenders accused of committing an offense covered under the provisions of Act 1029, as amended, any violent or sex-related misdemeanors, any offense involving the use of a weapon, or absconding. Mr. Graves stated that this process would be fully documented in eOMIS.

After the discussion of the proposal by the Board, Commissioner Wallace moved to adopt the proposed process. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The new process was adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Elizabeth Taylor, Assistant Director of Parole/ Probation Services, spoke regarding Offender Violation Guide that was recently passed by the Board of Correction. Ms. Taylor updated the Board on the changes of the Offender Violation Guide.

Commissioner Wallace moved to retroactively apply the revised OVG to offenders already revoked. Vice-Chairman Brown seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

FILES FOR REVIEW

There are no questions regarding the files for review.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Brown, Vice-Chairman, moved to adopt the recommendations. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. The motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24th, 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**

August 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: Vice Chairman Brown SECONDED BY: Commissioner Carpenter

RATIFICATION DATE: August 27, 2015