



State of Oklahoma
PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD

PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD
Business Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 10, 2022
9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Williams, Edward Konieczny, Cathy Stocker, Larry Morris and Richard Smothermon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF: Tom Bates, Melinda Romero, Kyle Counts and Leroy Long

GUESTS: Kristy McCarthy, Parole Investigator
Brett Hayes, Director of Hope Transformation
Tammy Williams, Hope Ambassador

I. Call To Order – Scott Williams - Chairman

The Business Meeting of the Pardon and Parole Board (PPB) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Scott Williams on Monday, October 10, 2022.

A. Roll Call

The members attending were Scott Williams, Edward Konieczny, Cathy Stocker, Larry Morris and Richard Smothermon. The voting order was announced as Scott Williams, Edward Konieczny, Richard Smothermon, Cathy Stocker, and Larry Morris.

B. Assurance of Compliance with Open Meeting Act

General Counsel Kyle Counts provided assurance of compliance with the Open Meeting Act. The business meeting of the Pardon and Parole Board was convened in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. This meeting was preceded by an advance notice of the date, time, and place filed with the Oklahoma Secretary of State on November 16, 2021. Notice of this meeting was also given at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting by posting notice of the date, time, virtual meeting place, and agenda of the meeting on October 6, 2022, on the Pardon and Parole Board's website, www.ok.gov/ppb. The meeting is in compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

C. Reading of Pardon and Parole Board Mission Statement

Scott Williams recited the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Mission Vision and Values Statement.

II. Business Meeting –Tom Bates, Executive Director, Melinda Romero, Deputy Director, Leroy Long, Field Director, and Kyle Counts, General Counsel

A. Discussion and Possible Action on September Business Meeting Minutes

The September business meeting minutes were provided to the Board for review. Richard Smothermon made a motion to approve the September business meeting minutes, Larry Morris seconded. The Board carried the motion 4-0.

B. Discussion and Possible Action on September Parole Meeting Minutes

The September parole minutes were provided to the Board for review. Richard Smothermon made a motion to approve the September parole meeting minutes, Larry Morris seconded. The Board carried the motion 4-0.

C. Discussion and Possible Action on September 27 Special Meeting Minutes

The September special meeting minutes were provided to the Board for review. Richard Smothermon made a motion to approve the September parole meeting minutes, Larry Morris seconded. The Board carried the motion 5-0.

D. Discussion and Possible Action on Agency Updates:

1. Personnel Updates – New Hires and Separations

Deputy Director Melinda Romero reported one separation of investigator Jeffrey Buckner.

2. Field Updates

Field Director Leroy Long reports the November Docket is now complete and currently working on December Docket. Mr. Long states that investigator Kristy McCarthy – North Fork will accompany him to answer any questions to the Board.

3. Legal Updates

General Counsel Kyle Counts gave a brief update on revocations, the number significantly dropped down to ten. Mr. Counts provided information regarding rulemaking and the legislative session for calendar year 2023. Mr. Counts states the rulemaking filing will need to be made in December to be published in January. Additionally, Mr. Counts stated there will be a 30-day comment period, and then potentially the Board will adopt new rules in March with the deadline of April 1.

Mr. Counts gave an update regarding the House Bill 4369. There will be an expansion of the Administrative Parole Docker to inmates who are six months from their discharge date.

Lastly, Mr. Counts gave an update regarding the pardons issued by President Biden for all simple marijuana possessions at Federal Level. Mr. Counts stated that Oklahoma systems are different from the Federal system as Oklahoma requires a recommendation from this Board before the Governor can grant

pardons. Under Oklahoma statutes, any consideration for pardon shall be made only after application is made to the Pardon and Parole Board. Under, law the Pardon and Parole Board is not able to do a mass recommendation of pardons on its own initiative.

4. Director's Update

Executive Director Tom Bates briefly reiterated the House Bill 4369 and stated that he looks forward to answering any questions as the Board begins to implement the new statute.

III. Training: "Hope and the Pardon and Parole Board" – Brett Hayes, Director of Hope Transformation; Tammy Williams, Hope Ambassador

Brett Hayes the Director of Hope Transformation and Tammy Williams Hope Ambassador presented a training regarding "Hope and the Pardon and Parole Board".

IV. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the 2023 Regular Meeting Schedule – Melinda Romero

The Board went over the proposed 2023 Regular Meeting Schedules. Director Bates asked that Board members contact him or Melinda with any scheduling conflict before the schedule is approved in November.

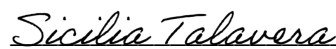
V. New Business Not Known or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Before the Posting of the Agenda New Business Not Known or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Before the Posting of the Agenda

None.

VI. Adjournment of the Business Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sicilia Talavera
Executive Assistant

The minutes for the October 2022 Pardon and Parole Board Business Meeting were approved by a majority vote on the 7th day of November 2022.