



State of Oklahoma
PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD

PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD
Special Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 17, 2024
9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edward Konieczny, Calvin Prince, Robert Reavis, Richard Miller, Kevin Buchanan

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

GUESTS: Attorneys for Richard Rojem, Jack Fisher and Paul McCausland
Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond, Assistant Attorney
General Jennifer Crabb, Washita County District Attorney Angela
Marsee.
Vicki Cummings (Jurka), Miguel Mojica for Mindy Cummings

I. Call To Order – Edward Konieczny, Chairman

The Special Meeting of the Pardon and Parole Board (PPB) was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman Edward Konieczny on Monday, June 17, 2024.

A. Roll Call

The members present were Edward Konieczny, Calvin Prince, Robert Reavis, Richard Miller, and Kevin Buchanan. The voting order was announced as Calvin Prince, Kevin Buchanan, Ed Konieczny, Richard Miller, and Robert Reavis.

B. Assurance of Compliance with Open Meeting Act

General Counsel Kyle Counts provided assurance of compliance with the Open Meeting Act. The special 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 May 17, 2024. 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 June 12, 2024, on the Pardon and Parole Board's website, www.ok.gov/ppb. The meeting is in compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

II. Action Item: Clemency Hearing for Richard N. Rojem, Jr., DOC #146688 (Richard Rojem will make personal appearance via videoconference)

Chairman Edward Konieczny explained that the purpose of the special meeting was to hold a clemency hearing for Richard N. Rojem, Jr., DOC #146688

Chairman Edward Konieczny went over the order of events for the hearing.

Attorneys Jack Fisher and Paul McCausland presented on behalf of Mr. Rojem for 35 minutes, having reserved five minutes for rebuttal. Mr. Rojem's counsel answered questions from the Board following the hearing.

Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond, Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Crabb, and Washita County District Attorney Angela Marsee made a 40-minute presentation to the Board in opposition to clemency for Mr. Smith.

The meeting recessed at 10:19 A.M. and reconvened at 10:30 A.M.

After the recess, Vicky Cummings (Jurka) presented to the Board for 20 minutes as a representative for victim Layla Dawn Cummings, in opposition of clemency for Mr. Rojem. Mr. Miguel Mojica read a Victim Impact Statement on Behalf of Mindy Cummings, the mother of Layla Cummings.

The Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General waived its 5-minute summation.

Attorney Jack Fisher, legal representative for Richard N. Rojem, provided a five-minute rebuttal.

Richard N. Rojem, Jr. elected to briefly appear before the Board. The Board did not have any questions following Mr. Rojem's statements.

The meeting recessed at 10:58 A.M. and reconvened at 11:03 A.M.

Chairman Edward Konieczny called for a vote on clemency for Richard N. Rojem, and the vote was 0-5 on the question of recommending clemency.

The final action of the Board was to deny a clemency recommendation for Richard N. Rojem.

III. Adjournment of the Business Meeting

The special meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Counts", written over a horizontal line.

Kyle Counts
General Counsel

The minutes for the June 17, 2024 Pardon and Parole Board Special Meeting were approved by a majority vote on the 8th day of July 2024.