



State of Oklahoma
PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD

PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD
Business Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 12, 2022
9:00 a.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Edward Konieczny

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

GUESTS: Dr. David McLeod –The University of Oklahoma
Glen Blake, Stephanie Horten, Morgan Hale, Madison Boone, Shannon Brown, Kelly Austin- Project Commutation
Tom Hird- Attorney representing Benjamin Cole

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, September 12, 2022.

A. Roll Call

The members attending were Cathy Stocker, Richard Smothermon, Scott Williams, and Larry Morris. The voting order was announced as Cathy Stocker, Richard Smothermon, Scott Williams, 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 September 8, 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 August Business Meeting Minutes

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

B. Discussion and Possible Action on August Parole Meeting Minutes

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

C. Discussion and Possible Action on Agency Updates:

1. Personnel Updates – New Hires and Separations

Deputy Director Melinda Romero reported two new Parole Investigators. Krisy McCarthy and Jeffrey Buckner

2. Field Updates

Field Director Leroy Long reports the October Docket is now complete and the team is currently working on the November Docket.

3. Legal Updates

General Counsel Kyle Counts gave a brief update on revocations, 31 revocations total were sent over to the Governor's office. Additionally, an update on commutations. The old applications will be mixed in with the newer applications on the upcoming commutation docket. The applicants were given 90 days to respond back with the newer application. After the 90 days the old applications will be docketed as is in the order they were received. After docketing the old applications that were complete prior to May 2022, the Pardon and Parole Board will only be docketing with the new application form.

4. Director's Update

Executive Director Tom Bates thanks the Pardon and Parole staff members for all their work, Mr. Bates hopes to add additional staff members with the budget increase.

III. Discussion and Possible Action on Pardon and Parole Board Annual Reports – Dr. David McLeod, Associate Director & Associate Professor at Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, University of Oklahoma

Dr. David McLeod presented information regarding Annual Reports. Richard Smothermon made a motion to approve the Pardon and Parole Board Annual Reports, Larry Morris seconded. The Board carried the motion 4-0.

IV. Training and Presentation from Project Commutation – Glen Blake, Executive Director;

Stephanie Horten, Deputy Director; Morgan Hale, Parole Attorney; Madison Boone, Parole Attorney; Shannon Brown, Legal Reentry Attorney; Kelly Austin, Reentry Supervisor Project Commutation presented a summary of services and resources they provide and fielded questions from the Board members.

V. Discussion and Possible Action on Scheduling of Clemency Hearing for Richard Glossip – Tom Bates

Dir. Bates stated the Richard Glossip clemency hearing was scheduled August 23, 2022, but was stricken due to the Governor granting a 60-day stay to allow the Court of Criminal Appeals to review the pending application for post-conviction relief. The new execution date is scheduled for December 8th, 2022. The Board discussed potential dates for the clemency hearing but did not announce one at the time of the meeting. The Board confirmed that one would be selected and announced as soon as possible.

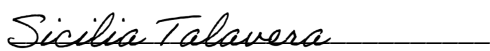
VI. New Business Not Known or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Before the Posting of the Agenda New Business Not Known or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Before the Posting of the Agenda

Tom Hird, attorney representing Benjamin Cole, requested rescheduling Cole's clemency hearing for a later date following a pending hearing on competency. The Board denied the request and left the clemency hearing scheduled for September 27.

VII. Adjournment of the Business Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sicilia Talavera
Executive Assistant

The minutes for the September 2022 Pardon and Parole Board Business Meeting were approved by a majority vote on the 10th day of October 2022.