



State of Oklahoma
PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD

Pardon and Parole Board Meeting
Clemency Hearing Minutes
November 2021 Parole Board Meeting

Monday, November 1, 2021
9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adam Luck, Larry Morris, Kelly Doyle, Scott Williams, Richard Smothermon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

GUESTS: None

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Adam Luck-** Following the Pardon and Parole Board special meeting, Chairman Luck called the Parole Meeting of the Pardon and Parole Board (PPB) to order at 9:00 a.m. on the Zoom Webinar ID# 96698976106.
 - A. Roll Call** - The members attending were Adam Luck, Larry Morris, Kelly Doyle, Scott Williams, Richard Smothermon, with the voting order being Kelly Doyle, Richard Smothermon, Scott Williams, Larry Morris and Adam Luck.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance** – Chairman Luck invited all attendees to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. 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 17, 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 28, 2021, 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 Julius D. Jones, DOC #270147 (Julius D. Jones will make a personal appearance via video conference from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester, Oklahoma)** Chairman Adam Luck explained that the purpose of the day's meeting was to hold a clemency hearing for Julius D. Jones, DOC #270147, before going over the order of events for the hearing, Board member Scott Williams had a statement to give regarding his participation in the hearing.

Mr. Williams explained that the Oklahoma County District Attorney had requested his recusal at Julius Jones' commutation hearing due to a preexisting relationship with one of his delegates, Kelli Masters. Mr. Williams explained that he met Ms. Masters at the SALT leadership class of 2010 and maintained a friendship with her since. He explains he was an advisory board member in an unpaid capacity and only attended one Zoom meeting in that role. Mr. Williams confirmed that at no time did he discuss the Julius Jones case with Ms. Masters, and that he was confident that no conflict of interest existed. Mr. Williams further confirmed that he is in complete compliance with Policy 123 and his duties under the Constitution of Oklahoma. Mr. Williams stated that despite the absence of a conflict of interest, he would voluntarily recuse on the Jones clemency hearing to ensure the solemn proceeding was viewed as beyond reproach by all the parties.

Chairman Adam Luck briefly went over the order of events for the hearing.

Attorney Amanda Bass and Licensed Professional Counselor Chrissy Shepard presented on behalf of Mr. Jones for 35 minutes, having reserved five minutes for rebuttal.

The meeting recessed at 10:06 AM and reconvened at 10:11 AM.

Following the recess, Assistant Attorneys General Jennifer Crabb and Caroline Hunt made a 40-minute presentation to the Board in opposition to clemency for Mr. Julius Jones. The meeting recessed at 11:02 AM and reconvened at 11:08 AM.

After the recess, the Howell Family presented to the Board as the victim representatives for the victim, Paul Howell, in opposition to clemency for Mr. Jones.

The meeting recessed at 11:30 AM and reconvened at 11:33 AM.

Amanda Bass and legal representatives for Julius Jones provided a five-minute rebuttal.

Julius Jones elected to appear before the Board to address the Board members for 20 minutes. The Board then asked questions.

The meeting recessed at 12:17 P.M and reconvened at 12:27 P.M.

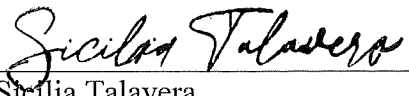
Chairman Luck called for a vote on clemency for Julius D. Jones, and the vote was 3-1, with one recusal. Chairman Luck asked Mr. Counts to explain the Board's options if clemency was recommended. Chairman Luck moved to recommend commuting to life with the possibility of parole, Larry Morris seconded, and the Board approved the motion 3-1, with one recusal.

The final action of the Board was to make a recommendation for clemency with a recommendation for commuting to life with the possibility of parole for Mr. Jones.

III. Adjournment – Chairman Adam Luck

The Clemency Hearing was adjourned at **1:15 p.m.** on **November 1, 2021.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sicilia Talavera", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Sicilia Talavera

Executive Assistant

The Julius Jones Clemency Hearing minutes for the November 1, 2021 Pardon and Parole meeting were approved by a majority vote on the 6th Day of December 2021.