



TO: Pennsylvania Parole Board Members

FROM: Farrah Conjar
Executive Secretary II to the Chairman

DATE: February 05, 2021

RE: Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2021

In compliance with *Act 175*, known as the *Sunshine Law*, effective September 17, 1976, the Office of Board Secretary provided notification to the public of the scheduled meeting on November 18, 2020, of the Pennsylvania Parole Board.

The public meeting convened at 9:00 AM at Riverfront Office Center in Harrisburg, PA with Chairman Theodore Johnson presiding. A quorum of Board Members was present.

Attendance

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairman Ted Johnson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Leo Dunn | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Tony Moscato |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Maureen Barden | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Jim Fox | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Linda Rosenberg |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Khadija Diggs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Mark Koch | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Robinson, Chief Counsel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Carpenter, Board Secretary | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Allensworth, Chief Hearing Officer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Woolf, Director – Office of Board Secretary | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neil Malady, Policy/Legislative Affairs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Treaster, Special Assistant | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Storm, Victim Advocate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meghan Dade, SOAB Executive Director | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morgan Davis, Assistant Chief Counsel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Farrah Conjar, Executive Secretary | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janaki Theivakumaran, SOAB | <input type="checkbox"/> Stacey Ginesin, SOAB | |

The Chairman recognized public guests:
Mark Bergstrom, Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission
Diane Shoop, Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Member Fox motioned to approve the Parole Board minutes. Board Member Koch seconded the motion. The Parole Board unanimously approved the minutes.

OFFICE AND STAFF REPORTS

Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) Report

Acting Victim Advocate Pennie Hockenberry

- Philadelphia Victim Assistance Coordinator was hired February 8, 2021.

Sexual Offenders Assessment Board (SOAB)

Sexual Offenders Assessment Board Executive Director Meghan Dade

- SOAB is expecting a retirement from one of our SOAB Investigators from the Western region sometime in summer. If anyone has any candidates in mind please contact Meghan or Janaki.

Communications/Media Report

Special Assistant Laura Treaster

- Assisting Scott's office with formatting editing for the business process manual.

Policy and Legislative Affairs Report

Policy and Legislative Affairs Director Neil Malady

- Budget hearings we do not have to appear at the house budget meeting February 17, 2021. We do have to appear March 22, 2021 for the senate hearings.
- No bill yet on merger.
- Markie's law house bill 146 all democrats voted against it.
- Administration will advise what are position parole board takes is with different bills.

Office of Chief Counsel Report

Assistant Counsel Morgan Davis

- New administrative officer starting on March 27, 2021, his name is Jack Shope, he will support staff in our office.
- Scott case was argued last week on preliminary objections, Alan feels it went well. The Scott case was the one around parole for those convicted of felony murder.
- Cameron is the legal intern from Dickinson college, working with all attorney's on various court filings and get him to sit in on interviews with BM and HE.

Office of Hearing Examiners Report

Chief Hearing Examiner Chad Allensworth

- Personnel new hearing examiners will be starting training next week.
- HE Duda will be retiring March 13, 2021.

Board Secretary Report

Board Secretary Deb Carpenter

- Assessment update: no further then when we met with them; as far as doing any type of analysis or validation on the assessment tool having a problem getting sample data set. That has been resolved. They are now working on sample set but still not completed, planning on collecting from rap sheets and information from AOPC. Not real comfortable with the data received from AOPC. This is not the only issue with the assessment issue having issues with PSP will keep updated as information comes in to me. Update every two weeks
- Update on SCI Smithfield taking back the new commitments and parole violators, I sat in on a couple of hearings with HE Ciafre seems to running fairly smooth. There are some issues with scheduling with hearing agents. Kay Longenberger will be working the scheduling issue.
- Will stay there for 21 days, if don't have board action will transfer out to other institutions, if it is a TPV will transfer to Coal and Greene to continue TPV programming.
- TPV programming starts immediately upon arrival at DOC they don't sit there without any treatment or programming, will continue at another SCI.
- Anyone with board actions on to go to a PVC will go to PVC on the 22nd day.
- Budget update have a meeting at 11:30 a.m. this morning we do not have any major concerns with the Governor's budget. It is about \$200, 000 less then we asked for but it is \$500,000 more then what we had this year.
- Homicide review committee it came up about information sharing between DOC and the Parole Board via the DC46 vote sheet. Kelly and I had first work group meeting with the superintendent and some of the committee members who worked on some information previously and basically, they look at the same thing you look at which is the behavior and character of the inmate while incarcerated. Agreed on the vote sheet is not consistent and complete. Focus updating the DC46 sheet.
- Chairman wants to meet quarterly for the homicide review cases so that he is prepared for the annual meetings. First quarterly meeting in April 2021 internally. Marcie and Dave have put together a spreadsheet together.

Office of Board Secretary Report

Office of Board Secretary Director Scott Woolf

- The newly developed application process will be monitored over the next 6 months for parole review dates that exceed 2 years. The Board will decide if the process needs tweaked based on the findings of the review.

OLD BUSINESS**ADDITIONAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

Deputy Secretary Kelly Evans and her staff updated the Board on Reentry initiatives within the Department of Corrections.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:14 AM Board Member Fox made a motion to adjourn the public session. The motion was seconded by Board Member Diggs. The Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the public session.

SAW/FC