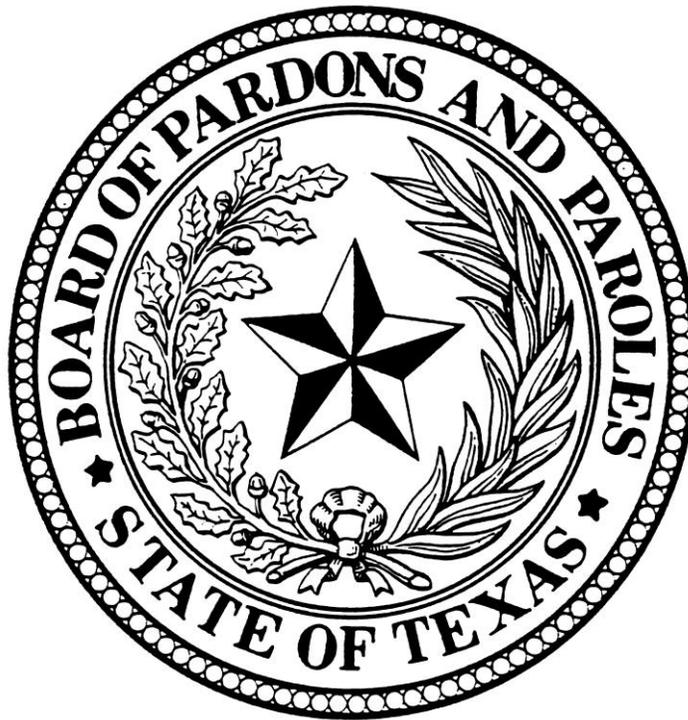


TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

MINUTES

Board Workshop No. 21-0715



July 15, 2021

Austin, Texas

TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

WORKSHOP

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Holiday Inn Austin Midtown
(Hill Country AB Room)
6000 Middle Fiskville Road
Austin, Texas

8:30 AM

Order of Business

1. Call Workshop to Order
2. Individualized Treatment Plan
3. Special Conditions
 - A. T – Electronic Monitoring Program
 - B. 0.58 Global Positioning System Monitoring
 - C. O.59 – Medication-assisted Treatment Evaluation
 - D. O.60 – Veterans Re-employment Program
 - E. O.19 – Anger Control Training/Counseling
 - F. O.20 – BIPP or DV Counseling
4. Legislative Update
5. Association of Paroling Authorities International (APAI) Overview
6. Adjourn



**MINUTES OF THE
TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
BOARD WORKSHOP
THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021**

REGULAR SESSION

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles (Board) met in open session on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 8:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

David Gutiérrez
D'Wayne Jernigan
Carmella Jones
James LaFavers
Brian Long
Linda Molina
Ed Robertson

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Elodia Brito
Lee Ann Eck-Massingill
Ira Evans
Mary Farley
Troy Fox
Raymond Gonzales
Paul Kiel
Tracy Long
Jeffrey Marton
Marsha Moberly
Anthony Ramirez
Wanda Saliagas
Charles Speier
Roel Tejada

OTHERS PRESENT

Bettie Wells, General Counsel
Tim McDonnell, Chief of Staff
Jessica Dillard, Board Administrator
Rachel Alderete, Director, Support Operations
Kyle Britt, Budget Director
Michael Adams, Director of Hearing Operations
Libby Hamilton, Victim Liaison
Pamela Thielke, Governmental Affairs
Terence Hall, Systems Analyst
Estela DeHoyos, Program Supervisor

CONVENED – TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Presiding Officer (Chairman) David Gutiérrez convened the Board Workshop of Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Open Meetings Act. After roll call, the Chairman stated a quorum was present and declared the meeting open.

INDIVIDUALIZED TREATMENT PLAN (ATTACHMENT A)

Chairman Gutiérrez introduced Chris Carter, Director of Rehabilitation Programs Division and Jaquelyn Garrison, Individualized Treatment Plan Administrator.

Mr. Carter provided a brief history of the administrative placement process, explaining how the participants are selected and identified. He clarified administrative placement does not require a parole vote to be placed into the program. The administrative program placement goal is to create a better environment by getting individuals into the programs so they can take advantage of the institutional opportunities they have available.

Ms. Garrison discussed the Individualized Treatment Plan and Input System Changes, the Substance Abuse Master System (SM00) Navigation and Updates, Offender Program Tracking System (PT00) Navigation and Updates, and the ITP Form Changes and Functions.

Chairman Gutiérrez thanked Mr. Carter and Ms. Garrison for their presentations.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS (ATTACHMENT B)

Chairman Gutiérrez introduced Jennifer Robinson, Deputy Director of Support Operations for TDCJ Parole Division to present on Special Condition “T” and Special Condition O.58.

- ***Special Condition “T” – Electronic Monitoring Program***

Ms. Robinson stated clients with special condition “T” are supervised with radio frequency equipment which provides curfew monitoring. The program is designed to provide structure and accountability. Clients are allowed to be away from their residences for approved activities. EM program hours are Monday- Friday, 6 a.m. – 8p.m.; any activity outside program hours requires parole supervision approval. Ms. Robinson discussed the parole officer

requirements, contact standards for the EM program and the Special Condition “T” withdrawal requirements.

- ***Special Condition O.58 - Global Positioning System Monitoring***

Ms. Robinson indicated Special Condition O.58 was originally mandated in August 2010, by a governor’s grant to monitor travel of high-risk sex offenders who did not already have a special condition for GPS monitoring. Clients are supervised with a one-piece (GPS) monitor worn on the client’s ankle; GPS points are downloaded every hour. Clients are not required to follow a GPS daily activity schedule. Parole officers monitor the GPS points to determine if the client is displaying any high-risk behaviors. Ms. Robinson discussed the contact standards for O.58, and parole officer requirements. Clients with Special Condition O.58 imposed upon release may be reviewed annually.

Chairman Gutiérrez thanked Ms. Robinson for her presentation and yielded the floor to Bettie Wells, General Counsel to present on Special Conditions O.59 and O.60.

- ***Special Condition O.59 – Medication-assisted Treatment Evaluation***

Ms. Wells stated at the last legislative session, Senate Bill 1147 authorized a court to impose medication assisted treatment evaluation. She noted the bill specifically indicates it requires as a condition of community supervision the defendant submit to an evaluation by a licensed physician to determine whether the defendant would benefit from the medication assisted treatment. A recommendation to the parole panel is needed for the panel to impose Special Condition O.59 for the offender to be evaluated for this type of treatment.

- ***Special Condition O.60 – Veterans Re-employment Program***

Special Condition O.60 – Veterans Re-employment Program is another condition as a result of the last legislative session. House Bill 714 authorizes a judge to impose this condition to provide education and training to veterans who are placed on community supervision or deferred adjudication after being convicted of a misdemeanor offense. Panel members have the opportunity to impose a condition for a veteran to require them to participate in a Texas Workforce Commission Program and education and training.

Chairman Gutiérrez thanked Ms. Wells for her presentation and introduced Jennifer Santana, the Director of Field Services for Community Justice Assistance Division (CJAD) to present on Special Condition O.19 and O.20.

- ***Special Condition O.19 – Anger Control Training/Counseling and Special Condition O.20 – Participate in BIPP or Domestic Violence Counseling***

Ms. Santana provided background information on how CJAD associated with the Batterer Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP). She discussed the differences between BIP Programs versus Anger Management Program, stating with anger management, the problem is the person has trouble managing and expressing their anger. The victim can be anyone. The goal is to deescalate. You want that person to deescalate to be able to modify that behavior internally, and externally, and more appropriately express that anger. The means to do that with anger management is increase self-awareness.

With the Violence Intervention Program or BIPP, the problem is that person is displaying abusive behavior. The intimate partner is the victim. The person does not have an anger

problem. The goal with the BIPP is to stop the abusive behavior, to identify those patterns, that thinking that underlies the abusive behavior. There is an emphasis on victim safety with BIPP you won't see in an anger management program. A person is inappropriate for BIPP when he has untreated psychiatric disorders, needs primary treatment for sexual abuse of a child, and has untreated substance abuse issues. In these instances, BIPP will send the individual back to the referral source and can make recommendations for additional services.

Ms. Santana stated many of their accredited programs utilize the Duluth curriculum in their program. The accredited BIPP's receive oversight through TDCJ CJAD. If a program fails to comply with any of the guidelines, CJAD can revoke that program's accreditation.

Chairman Gutiérrez thanked Ms. Santana for her presentation.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chairman Gutiérrez, Tim McDonnell, Bettie Wells, and Kyle Britt provided an update on the 87th Legislative Session, stating it was a very successful session. They had very good working relationships with the legislators, and believe they established great credibility for being open, and transparent.

The Chairman stated there were 9,900 bills filed this session. Out of those bills, 268 bills were tracked and marked as having a potential impact on agency operations; 63 of the bills were marked priority bills. Seventeen marginal bills were also tracked. Twenty-four of the priority bills were sent to the governor and 22 bills were signed by the governor.

Mr. Britt provided an update on the financial aspect of the LAR, and briefly stated in 2020 the Office of the Governor directed Texas state agencies to do a 5% reduction in budget plans for the 2020-21 biennium. Through agency leadership, the agency was able to meet both 5% reductions. He stated the Board is very good for the next two fiscal years, as one of the items submitted in the LAR was to get the 5% back and we did. Also, the agency received approximately 30 million dollars for Fiscal Year 2022, which is what is needed to operate. The agency also received all the capital.

Ms. Wells briefly discussed the bills that did not require the agency to make any changes to the policies, as well as the bills that did have an impact on agency operations, including House Bill 385, House Bill 721, Senate Bill 22, and Senate Bill 48.

The Chairman thanked his Executive, Management, and Budget Teams, along with Beth Like and Jessica Guerrero for all their hard work and support during the session.

ASSOCIATION OF PAROLING AUTHORITIES (APAI)

Chairman Gutiérrez stated Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles are a member of the Association of Paroling Authorities International (APAI). This association is an international paroling authority, paroling members, Board members from across the United States and other countries. For the past several years members met in conference meetings, but due to COVID, that stopped last year. This year Texas had the pleasure of hosting the APAI Conference in Arlington.

Conference participants, Clint Gunnels, Tracy Long, and Linda Molina, reported their positive experience, stating the Texas host committee did an outstanding job in coordinating the venue, the speakers, and presentations. The conference was informative and the opportunity to network with other parole officials was invaluable.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all posted items on the agenda, Chairman Gutiérrez adjourned the Board Workshop at 10:47 a.m.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THE BOARD ON THE 21ST DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David A. Gutierrez", is written over a horizontal line.

DAVID GUTIÉRREZ, PRESIDING OFFICER (CHAIR)