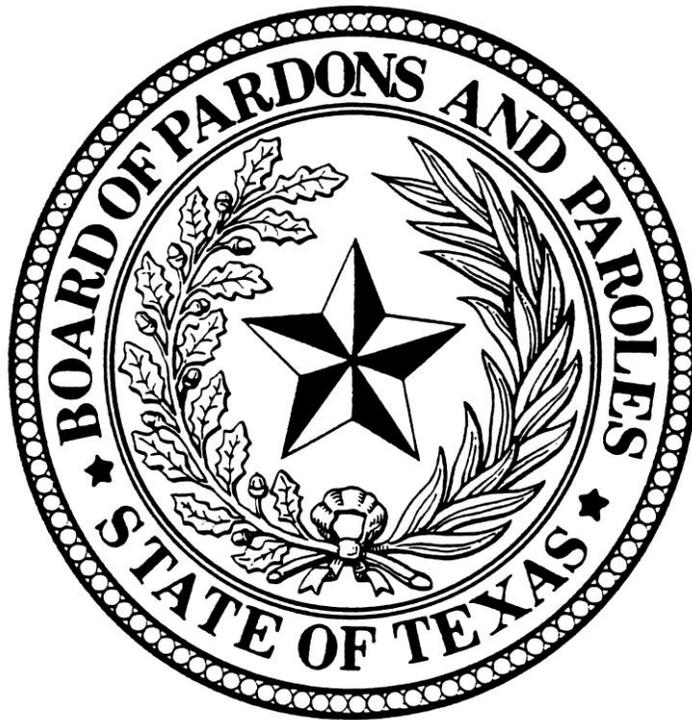


TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

MINUTES

Board Meeting No. 25-0724



July 24, 2025

Austin, Texas

TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Board Meeting

Thursday, July 24, 2025

Cambria Hotel Austin Uptown

(Uptown AB Room)

13205 Burnet Road

Austin, Texas

9:00 AM

Order of Business

1. Call to Order
2. Convene Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles Open Meeting
3. Recognitions
4. Consent Item – Minutes for the April 24, 2025 Board Meeting
5. Discussion and Consideration Regarding the Salary for the Board of Pardons and Paroles Presiding Officer and Board Members in accordance with the General Appropriations Act as passed by the 89th Texas Legislature – Kyle Britt, Budget Director
6. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.251 Special Condition “D” (Release to Detainer)
7. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.252 Special Condition “E” (Educational Skill Level and Vocational Training)
8. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.254 Special Condition “I” (Employer Notification)
9. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.256 Special Condition “M” (Sex Offender Registration Condition and DNA Submission)
10. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.200 Board of Pardons and Paroles Mission Statement
11. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.201 Policy Statement on Internal Audit Procedures
12. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.203 Use of Technology
13. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.300 Handgun Policy
14. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.201 Action Upon Review-Release Denied
15. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.204 Medically Recommended Intensive Supervision
16. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.205 Designation of Standardized Distance for Child Safety Zones
17. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.260 Special Condition SISF (Super Intensive Supervision Program)
18. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.261 Special Condition “T” (Electronic Monitoring)

19. Discussion and Consideration of Board Policy, BPP-POL.145.266 Gang Renouncement and Disassociation
20. Initial Readoption without Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter E. Commutation of Sentence
 - A. §143.51 Commutation of Sentence
21. Initial Repeal in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter C. Reprieve
 - A. §143.33 Emergency Reprieve to Attend Civil Court Proceedings
 - B. §143.34 Emergency Medical Reprieve
22. Initial Repeal in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter E. Commutation of Sentence
 - A. §143.55 Commutation of Sentence for Time Out of Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Correctional Institutions Division on Reprieve
23. Initial Readoption with Non-Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter A. Full Pardon and Restoration of Rights of Citizenship
 - A. §143.11 Request of the Governor
24. Initial Readoption with Non-Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter B. Conditional Pardon
 - A. §143.24 Request of the Governor
25. Initial Readoption with Non-Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter D. Reprieve from Execution
 - A. §143.42 Reprieve Recommended by the Board
26. Initial Readoption with Non-Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter E. Commutation of Sentence
 - A. §143.53 Commutation of Remainder of Jail Sentence and/or Fine after Reprieve
 - B. §143.54 Commutation for Jail Time Served before Sentence for Felony Conviction
 - C. §143.58 Request of the Governor
27. Initial Readoption with Non-Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter F. Remission of Fines and Forfeitures
 - A. §143.72 Remission of Fine after Reprieve
 - B. §143.74 Request of the Governor
28. Initial Readoption with Non-Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 143, Subchapter G. Restoration of Driver's License
 - A. §143.81 Preliminary Requirements
29. Initial Adoption with Substantive Amendments in 37 TAC, Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole Process
 - A. §145.3 Policy Statements Relating to Parole Release Decisions by the Board of Pardons and Paroles
 - B. §145.12 Action Upon Review
 - C. §145.13 Action Upon Review; Consecutive (Cumulative) Felony Sentencing
 - D. §145.15 Action Upon Review; Extraordinary Vote (SB 45)
 - E. §145.18 Action Upon Review; Extraordinary Vote (HB 1914)
30. Public Comments and Public Presentations
31. Convene Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles Closed Meeting – Executive Session

- A. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers; to Receive Legal Advice on Items Posted on this Agenda (Closed in accordance with Section 551.071, Government Code).
- B. Consultation with Legal Counsel on Matters Where the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles Seeks the Advice of its Attorney as Privileged Communications under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas (Closed in accordance with Section 551.071, Government Code).

32. Reconvene Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles Open Meeting

33. Adjourn



**MINUTES OF THE
TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025**

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles (Board) met in open session on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., Cambria Hotel Austin Uptown, 13205 Burnet Road, Austin, Texas.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Marsha Moberley
Elodia Brito
Sandra Fletcher
Carmella Jones
Brian Long
Linda Molina
Ed Robertson

PAROLE COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Michael Adams
Richard Aiello
Jacqueline Bishop
Joel Butler
Edward Davila
Mary Farley
Troy Fox
Raymond Gonzalez
Jimmy (JP) Guyton
Michael Hardges
James Kiel
Jeffrey Marton
Julie Phillips
Roel Tejada

BOARD STAFF PRESENT

Bettie Wells, General Counsel
Timothy McDonnell, Chief Operating Officer
Jessica Dillard, Board Administrator
Rachel Alderete, Director, Support Operations
Kyle Britt, Director, Budget
Wadella Murphy, Director, Hearing Operations
Erica Montalvan, Director, Institutional Parole Operations
Clint Adams, Deputy Director, Institutional Parole Operations
Libby Hamilton, Director, Victim Liaison Program
Kesley Stratton, Director, Human Resources
Fernando Fernandez-Rodriguez, Director, Clemency
Jeremy Botello, Director, Staff Development
Pamela Pacher, Director, Special Projects
Terence Hall, Director, Information Technology
Heather Penick, Manager, Business Operations
Jessica Guerrero, Manager, Administration
Cyndi Warren, Manager, HR
Heather Clark, Regional Operations Supervisor
Lisa Arterberry-Gaines, Regional Operations Supervisor
Robert Detjen, Systems Analyst
Richard Gamboa, Technical Writer
Sam Garcia, Assistant Regional Operations Supervisor
Estela DeHoyos, Program Supervisor, Board Support
Prisma Hernandez, HR Specialist
Mayra Arellano, Executive Assistant
Elizeth Willaker, Executive Assistant
Matthew Schlosser, Multimedia Technician

TDCJ STAFF PRESENT

Rene Hinojosa, Parole Division Director
Monica DeVelasco, Parole Division Deputy Director
Jenny Brantley, Manager, Victim Services
Emily Eisenman, Deputy Director, TCOOMMI
Cheryl Foreman, Project Manager, Internal Audit
Chris James, OIG

CONVENED – TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Presiding Officer (Chair) Marsha Moberley convened the meeting of July 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Open Meetings Act. After roll call, the Chair stated a quorum was present and declared the meeting open.

Chair Moberley stated the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles is committed to providing an opportunity for public comments and public presentations on issues within its jurisdiction as provided by the Texas Government Code Section 508.036, and Board Policy BPP-POL.141.202 Public Comments and Public Presentations to the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. Persons interested in speaking at today's Board Meeting No. 25-0724

meeting were required to submit their registration in advance at least ten (10) minutes prior to the meeting's posted start time. Seven speaker registrations were received for the public comment and public presentation period. The procedures for public comments will be reviewed after formal action is taken on the agenda topics.

RECOGNITIONS

Chair Moberley recognized the Board Members and Parole Commissioners present. She introduced new Parole Commissioner for the Amarillo Board Office, Julie Phillips and new Parole Commissioner for the Huntsville Board Office, Jimmy (JP) Guyton. She highlighted their careers and welcomed them to the Board.

Chair Moberley introduced Wadella Murphy, highlighting her career and current role as Director of Hearing Operations. Ms. Murphy introduced her hearing operations management team, including Heather Clark, Regional Operations Supervisor for Region I, located in Austin, Lisa Arterberry-Gaines, Regional Operations Supervisor for Region II, located in Houston, and Sam Garcia, Assistant Regional Operations Supervisor, located in Corpus Christi.

BOARD RETIREES (*ATTACHMENT A*)

Chair Moberley recognized the employees that retired and stated the names of the retirees will be included as part of the official minutes of the meeting. She formerly announced the retirement of Clinton Gunnels, effective May 31st; 32 years, 11 months of service, Anthony Ramirez, effective June 30th; 36 years, 11 months of state service, Lee Ann Massingill, effective July 31st, 35 years, 10 months of state service, Troy Fox, effective August 15th; 52 years, 4 months of state service and Kyle Britt, effective August 31st with 33 years, 10 months of state service. She thanked all retirees for their invaluable knowledge, expertise, and contributions, wishing them a happy, fulfilled retirement.

NAMES OF SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS (*ATTACHMENT B*)

Chair Moberley recognized the Board staff who received service awards. She expressed her deepest appreciation for their dedicated service and stated the names of the service award recipients will be included as part of the official minutes of the meeting.

Jessica Dillard, Board Administrator, recognized Terence Hall for 10 years of state service. She highlighted his career and thanked him for a decade of outstanding service and his role in shaping the technological foundation for our agency's future.

Kesley Stratton, Director of Human Resources, recognized Prisma Hernandez for 20 years of state service. She highlighted her career and stated her knowledge of policy and procedures is extensive and she's a true team player, her dependability and work ethic are remarkable, and her positive attitude is much appreciated. She thanked her for everything she does.

NEW STAFF

Timothy McDonnell, Chief Operating Officer, introduced Kelsey Stratton, the new Human Resources Director for the Board. He highlighted her career and noted Kelsey has over 12 years of criminal justice experience in several different areas. Anybody that knows Kelsey knows that she is meticulous when

looking at policies and procedures in detail. Kelsey has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Colby College and a master's in criminal justice policy from the London School of Economics.

Timothy McDonnell, Chief Operating Officer, introduced Jeremy Botello, the new Director of Staff Development. He highlighted his career, stating he started as System Administrator within the IT Department. He is an Airforce veteran who served two tours in Afghanistan, and he brings a plethora of experience when it comes to training both within the agency and in the military in active situations, and high-pressure situations. He's currently pursuing a master's degree in management information systems. Mr. Botello brings a lot of new ideas to the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Jessica Dillard, Board Administrator, recognized Erica Montalvan for being selected as the new Director for Institutional Operations. Ms. Dillard highlighted her career, stating Ms. Montalvan has demonstrated outstanding leadership, dedication and a deep commitment to our mission throughout her career. Her experience and collaborative approach make her exceptionally well suited to lead us into the next chapter within the IPO.

Erica Montalvan, Director of Institutional Parole Operations, introduced Clint Adams, the new Deputy Director of Institutional Parole Operations. She highlighted his career, and stated Clint has 16 years of state service, in various capacities, all with IPO. When he's not at work, Clint is a volunteer firefighter with the Centerville Fire Department. He's served in that capacity for the past 21 years and is currently the department's lieutenant. Also, Clint served on the executive board for 18 years, currently holding the position of vice-chair.

CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Moberley asked if the Board had any objections to the Consent Item listed on the agenda. Hearing no objections, the Board approved the minutes for the April 24, 2025 Board Meeting.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION REGARDING THE SALARY FOR THE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES PRESIDING OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT AS PASSED BY THE 89TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

In accordance with the General Appropriations Act enacted by the 89th Texas Legislature, Mr. Britt asked for the Board's approval for the exempt salaries of \$220,000 for the Presiding Officer and \$155,000 for each Board Member, as outlined in the letter submitted to the Comptroller of the State of Texas.

Motion

Mr. Robertson moved to adopt the salary for the Board of Pardons and Paroles Presiding Officer and Board Members in accordance with the General Appropriations Act as passed by the 89th Texas Legislature, as presented.

Mr. Long seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

BOARD POLICIES (ATTACHMENT C)

Chair Moberley yielded the floor to Ed Robertson, Board Member and Chair of the Special Conditions Work Group, to present agenda items #6 - #9 and Bettie Wells, General Counsel, to present agenda items #10 - #19 for discussion and consideration.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.251 SPECIAL CONDITION “D” (RELEASE TO DETAINER)

Mr. Robertson discussed the responsibilities of the Special Condition Work Group and recognized the Work Group members, including Troy Fox, Lee Ann Eck-Massingill, Elodia Brito, Sandra Fletcher, Raymond Gonzalez, Michael Adams, and Paul Kiel. He thanked the Work Group members for their participation, suggestions, and recommendations, as well as Ms. Bettie Wells, and her staff.

Regarding the first policy, the Special Condition Work Group reviewed Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.251 Special Condition “D” and in reviewing the policy the Work Group determined that revisions include grammatical changes, and substantive changes to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair.

Motion

Mr. Long moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.251 Special Condition “D” (Release to Detainer), as presented.

Ms. Molina seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.252 SPECIAL CONDITION “E” (EDUCATIONAL SKILL LEVEL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING)

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.252 Special Condition “E” (Educational Skill Level and Vocational Training) include substantive changes to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair

Motion

Ms. Brito moved to adopt the revision to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.252 Special Condition “E” (Educational Skill Level and Vocational Training), as presented.

Ms. Fletcher seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.254 SPECIAL CONDITION “I” (EMPLOYER NOTIFICATION)

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.254 Special Condition “I” (Employer Notification) include substantive changes to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair

Motion

Ms. Jones moved to adopt the revision to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.254 Special Condition “I” (Employer Notification), as presented.

Mr. Long seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.256 SPECIAL CONDITION “M” (SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION CONDITION AND DNA SUBMISSION)

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.256 Special Condition “M” (Sex Offender Registration and DNA Submission) include substantive changes to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair.

Motion

Ms. Molina moved to adopt the revision to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.256 Special Condition “M” (Sex Offender Condition and DNA Submission), as presented.

Ms. Brito seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 141.200 BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES MISSION STATEMENT

Bettie Wells discussed the recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.200 Board of Pardons and Paroles Mission Statement and stated the revisions include substantive changes to the Mission Statement on page one, and where the Board will conduct business on page 3 of 3, correcting the addresses and phone numbers for the two Board offices. Also, a change was made to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair.

Mr. McDonnell noted the Mission Statement was established approximately 30 years ago and it was last revised in 2003. Since then, legislation has changed with more emphasis on victims and allowing for victim input. In reviewing Mission Statements from various states, one commonality was they talked about public safety and victim input. The proposed Mission Statement incorporates that language. It not only shows priorities, but it shows the overall goal of successful reentry of offenders.

Motion

Mr. Long moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.200 Board of Pardons and Paroles Mission Statement, as presented.

Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 141.201 POLICY STATEMENT ON INTERNAL AUDIT PROCEDURES

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.201 Policy Statement on Internal Audit Procedures include substantive changes on page one, language received from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, now the Office of Independent Auditor Internal Audit Division. Also, there are revisions to page two related to the language the internal audit speaks to and lastly a revision to page three, being consistent with the Office of Independent Auditor.

Motion

Ms. Brito moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.201 Policy Statement on Internal Audit Procedures, as presented.

Ms. Fletcher seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL.141.203 USE OF TECHNOLOGY

The recommended amendments to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.203 Use of Technology include non-substantive revisions on page four, two sections were added due to House Bill 12 and House Bill 1522, which require the Board to publish the Sunset reviews as well as the budget on the website.

Motion

Ms. Molina moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.203 Use of Technology, as presented.

Mr. Long seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL.141.300 HANDGUN POLICY

The recommended amendments to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.300 Handgun Policy include non-substantive revisions on page one. Also, a change was made to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair.

Motion

Mr. Long moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 141.300 Handgun Policy, as presented.

Mr. Robertson seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.201 ACTION UPON REVIEW-RELEASE DENIED

The recommended revisions to Board Policy 145.201 Action Upon Review-Release Denied include substantive changes based on Senate Bill 1506, relating to added language regarding denial of parole for those persons who may have an opportunity to receive a one-year setoff. The exception to the one-to-five-year setoff that the new law authorizes, is for persons who are convicted of Health and Safety Code, Section 481.115 or an offense under 481.1151, 481.116, 481.1161, 481.117, and 481.121.

Motion

Ms. Fletcher moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.201 Action Upon Review-Release denied, as presented.

Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL.145.204 MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED INTENSIVE SUPERVISION

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.204 Medically Recommended Intensive Supervision (MRIS), include substantive changes. The substantive amendments are on page two and three, resulting from Senate Bill 2405, which requires the parole panel to review and consider cases based upon a determination and factors that are identified in the policy. Also, page two, the MRIS panel is required to be composed of Board Members and Parole Commissioners, as designated by the Presiding Officer.

Motion

Mr. Robertson moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.204 Medically Recommended Intensive Supervision, as presented.

Ms. Molina seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.205 DESIGNATION OF STANDARDIZED DISTANCE FOR CHILD SAFETY ZONES

The recommended revision to Board Policy 145.205 Designation of Standardized Distance for Child Safety Zones includes changes to the name reflecting the new presiding officer.

Motion

Ms. Brito moved to adopt the revision to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.205 Designation of Standardized Distance for Child Safety Zones, as presented.

Mr. Long seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.260 SPECIAL CONDITION SISP (SUPER INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM)

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.260 Special Condition SISP (Super Intensive Supervision Program) include substantive changes on page three, added language “general hospital restrictions”, and on page five, added a new section, “Additional Condition Component – General Hospital Restrictions” in compliance to House Bill 2854.

Motion

Ms. Molina moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.260 Special Condition SISP (Super Intensive Supervision Program), as presented.

Ms. Fletcher seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.261 SPECIAL CONDITION “T” (ELECTRONIC MONITORING)

Pursuant to House Bill 2854, the recommended changes to Board Policy 145.261 Special Condition “T” (Electronic Monitoring) include an added section “Additional Condition Component – General Hospital Restrictions” found on page three of the policy.

Motion

Mr. Long moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.261 Special Condition “T” (Electronic Monitoring), as presented.

Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY, BPP-POL. 145.266 GANG RENOUNCEMENT AND DISASSOCIATION

The recommended revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.266 Gang Renouncement and Disassociation include substantive changes to the definition “Security threat group” and changes to the signature reflecting the new presiding officer, chair.

Motion

Ms. Molina moved to adopt the revisions to Board Policy, BPP-POL. 145.266 Gang Renouncement and Disassociation, as presented.

Ms. Fletcher seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

BOARD RULES (ATTACHMENT D)

Chair Moberley stated agenda items #20 - #28 will not be considered at this Board meeting. She yielded the floor to Linda Molina, Chair of the Rules Committee, to present the rules listed in agenda item #29.

INITIAL READOPTION WITH SUBSTANTIVE AMENDMENTS IN 37 TAC, CHAPTER 145, SUBCHAPTER A. PAROLE PROCESS

Ms. Molina presented the rules in agenda item #29, stating the Rules Committee by unanimous vote recommended the adoption of Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole Process with substantive amendments of the rules listed in agenda item #29. The substantive amendments include edits for accuracy, uniformity and consistency throughout the rules.

Motion

Mr. Long moved for the Initial Adoption With Substantive Amendments in Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole process, §145.3 Policy Statements Relating to Parole Release Decisions by the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Ms. Brito seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

Motion

Mr. Long moved for the Initial Adoption With Substantive Amendments in Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole process, §145.12 Action Upon Review.

Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

Motion

Mr. Long moved for the Initial Adoption With Substantive Amendments in Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole process, §145.13 Action Upon Review; Consecutive (Cumulative) Felony Sentencing.

Ms. Brito seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

Motion

Mr. Long moved for the Initial Adoption With Substantive Amendments in Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole process, §145.15 Action Upon Review; Extraordinary Vote (SB 45).

Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

Motion

Mr. Long moved for the Initial Adoption With Substantive Amendments in Chapter 145, Subchapter A. Parole process, §145.18 Action Upon Review; Extraordinary Vote (HB 1914).

Ms. Brito seconded the motion, which prevailed when called for a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Chair Moberley went over the policies for public comments and public presentations and stated the time allotted for public comments would be four minutes per presenter. She called the first presenter, Mr. Justin Martinez.

Mr. Martinez stated he serves as the Justice Advocate Coordinator for the Southwest Region with Latino Justice and co-leads the Parole Advocacy Coalition of Texas (PACT). As it relates to the Board, he stated making release determinations is one of the most important functions this body engages in. Along with that, determining a person's potential threat to public safety is a critical component of those determinations, particularly as it relates to the Medically Recommended Intensive Supervision (MRIS) Program and the recent guidance resulting from the current Sunset Bill, which asks for the Board to adopt some new rules. He discussed Sunset's findings that there's a general decline in MRIS approvals based on data from 2013 to 2023 and from 2016 to 2023. He pointed out that there was a report by the Legislative Budget Board in the 83rd Legislative Session that reported more than half or 63% of all MRIS cases presented to the Board were denied consideration primarily because of the perceived threat to public safety. Mr. Martinez stated that from his standpoint, the phrase as it constitutes to public safety lacks a lot of clarity, objective standard and prone to individual biases. There are some important questions to consider like "Are you evaluating risk based on who someone was or who they are now and their current situation?" "How are factors like age, physical capacity, cognitive decline and access to medical care considered in the determinations?" "Are medical assessments adequately weighed against static factors such as a person's conviction or criminal history, which are things they can't change?" He noted there are other states that use different criteria that Texas doesn't use in their determination. He hopes the Board will consider some clearer determinations and a process, which can open more dialogue on some of these important aspects that are being considered.

Chair Moberley thanked Mr. Martinez for his presentation and called the next speaker, Cassie Geiken.

Ms. Geiken stated she is a parole attorney with Texas Defender Service in Austin and a member of the PACT, along with Mr. Martinez. She thanked the Board for continuing to allow attorneys to have interviews and conversations with lead voters for parole clients. The information the IPO gathers is highly useful to the Board, but there is information missing. It's difficult to know what is covered or investigated because attorneys cannot see their case summary reports. It would be very helpful for the person under review and their attorney if they can review the report to check for accuracy. Also, the

Texas Defender Service has created a public website with resources to assist people who are in TDCJ, and their families share some of that information with the Board, like their reentry plan, housing plan, job opportunities, transportation, financial and emotional support. It's important for people in TDCJ to have access to those materials so they can better share information with the Board, and so that lead voters and subsequent voters can have the full story of the person and their plans coming out. She is happy to discuss potential changes.

Chair Moberley thanked Ms. Geiken for her presentation and called the next speaker, Helen Gaebler.

Ms. Gaebler stated she is with the University of Texas School of Law and supervises the Mithoff Pro Bono Parole Project, where they represent women who are incarcerated in central Texas. She is also a member of PACT. She briefly discussed several topics, including:

- **Transparency of the review process:** Ms. Gaebler emphasized the educational aspect and encouraged TDCJ and the Board to work collaboratively to try to get as much information inside the facilities so that individuals who are incarcerated understand the process, where and how they can provide input into the process in meaningful ways. The goal is to get information from TDS website on to the tablets. Complications arise because people don't understand the process.
- **Risk assessment and the need for greater focus on forward-looking factors:** The term "early release" is somewhat misleading. Release isn't early, it's a date that has been deemed timely by the legislature borrowing other concerns. When determining decisions for parole release, the Board should focus on, one, whether the person can live safely in the community and two determine whether the person is ready to succeed on parole and distance from future crime. The current matrix takes too many static factors into consideration, and nature of the offense is often weighed too much. She urged the Board to revisit its matrix and risk assessment to make it more forward-looking and focused.
- **Victim services:** Create an opportunity for individuals who have been the victim of an offense to find ways to connect with the person their assailant was today versus who they were previously.

Chair Moberley thanked Ms. Gaebler for her presentation and called the next speaker, Jennifer Beauford.

Ms. Beauford stated she has a friend whose case is pending. She began doing some research when she learned his story, and in doing so found that criminal defense attorneys have no idea what the process is. They have no idea how to obtain a successful pardon or parole for a client. What they discovered is that the process is not transparent and extremely cost-prohibitive. Her plea is for the Board to strive to make the process more transparent, less ambiguous, and less cumbersome for the average person. Try to make the process less stressful and hard for the people who are truly deserving.

Chair Moberley thanked Ms. Beauford for her presentation and called the next speaker, Travis Hill.

Mr. Hill respectfully requested the Board to consider a full pardon for his friend. He stated his friend is a valued member of the community. He has demonstrated exceptional rehabilitation and commitment to public service. Mr. Hill noted he himself has dedicated 30 years of his life to public safety, as a firefighter, emergency medical technician and since 2002, as a police officer, deputy sheriff, detective, sergeant and now an ISD police officer in this state. His career has been driven by justice, accountability

and fostering safe communities. In his professional experience, the stories of true redemption and rehabilitation are rare but profoundly significant. He firmly believes his friend exemplifies this rare success and merits consideration for a full pardon. Granting him a full pardon would not only acknowledge his transformation but also reinforce the value of second chances for those who earn them through their actions.

Chair Moberley thanked Mr. Hill for his presentation and called the next speaker, Lyndsi Montgomery.

Ms. Montgomery appreciated the Board's consideration for the newly adopted Mission Statement. She stated it's not just policy, but a pathway. She noted her reason for being here is to better understand what that pathway looks like, especially for those individuals who are already living the kind of restoration the mission now celebrates. How do leaders in the communities align with that? How can stories that reflect true rehabilitation and redemption without compromising the process or protocol be uplifted? The impact individuals are having is real. They show up when no one is watching and in doing so, they uphold public safety and public trust in ways no one mandated, but in ways everyone benefits from. She asked for clarity so that community advocates can better support and reinforce the work the Board is leading.

Chair Moberley thanked Ms. Montgomery for her presentation and called the next speaker, Morgan Gordan.

Ms. Gordan stated she was here to represent the voices of people that have seen what real transformation looks like, not just on paper, but in the real world in the reliability bill, in the legacy's redefined, in second chances. Even though less than 2% of pardons in Texas are granted, she is very grateful for the process. The belief that the Board looks at each one with integrity, objective eyes, and a willingness to see that not everyone should be held hostage by their past is the reason she is here. She asked for fairness, for perspective, and for the kind of courage it takes to say, "we see who you are now."

Chair Moberley thanked Ms. Gordon for her presentation and called the next speaker, Jerah Turner.

Ms. Turner stated she was here for the same person the previous people testified for. She is a firearms instructor and a sergeant in the Texas State Guard, which is how she knows her friend. They served together. She noted that her friend would have loved to be here, but he chose to be with his daughter on her birthday. Ms. Turner expressed her reasons why she supports and advocates for her friend, stating that he's built a whole life to be a better person and to learn from past mistakes. She has watched him serve his community and redeem himself of his past errors.

Chair Moberley expressed her gratitude to all the speakers that are serving others and their energy toward the participants in their community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Moberley recessed the Regular Session at 10:52 a.m. and convened the Board into Executive Session (closed under Section 551.071, Government Code).

RECONVENE TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Chair Moberley convened the Board back into Regular Session at 11:42 a.m. and proceeded with the order of business.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all posted items on the agenda, Chair Moberley adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:42 a.m.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THE BOARD ON THE 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2025.



MARSHA MOBERLEY, PRESIDING OFFICER (CHAIR)