

Nebraska Board of Parole  
Business Meeting Minutes  
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services Central Office  
Folsom & West Prospector Place, Bldg. 1  
Lincoln, NE 68509

February 12, 2019  
2: 30pm

The business meeting convened at 2:33 p.m. on February 12, 2019. The following persons were present: Rosalyn Cotton, Chair; Teresa Bittinger, Member; Layne Gissler, Vice Chair; Virgil Patlan, Member; Robert Twiss, Member; Nicole Miller, Legal Counsel; Julie Micek, Director of Supervision and Services; Habib Olomi, PIC; Diane Sabatka-Rine, Dawn Renee Smith, NDCS; and Sue Olson, Administrative Assistant II – Parole Supervision..

I. The business meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m. by Chair Rosalyn Cotton.

II. Roll Call:

Chair Rosalyn Cotton	Present
Vice Chair Layne Gissler	Present
Member Teresa Bittinger	Present
Member Virgil Patlan	Present
Member Bob Twiss	Present

- a. Chair Cotton announced the notice of this public meeting was placed on the Board of Parole website on February 4, 2019; and notice of publication was placed in the Lincoln Journal Star on February 2, 2019.
- b. Chair Cotton announced the Open Meeting Act information is available in the room.

III. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

A motion was made by Board Member Teresa Bittinger and seconded by Vice Chair Layne Gissler to approve the agenda and the business meeting minutes from January 29, 2019. Motion Carried - Vote: 5 - 0 Voting -

Chair Rosalyn Cotton	Yes
Vice Chair Layne Gissler	Yes
Member Teresa Bittinger	Yes
Member Virgil Patlan	Yes
Member Robert Twiss	Yes

IV. Public Comment Period

The floor was opened for public comments on items listed on the agenda. No public comments were posed.

V. Nebraska Department of Correctional Services: Diane Sabatka-Rine, Dawn Renee Smith

- a. NDCS wanted to acknowledge that they value their relationship with the Board of Parole and Parole is an integral part of what NDCS does to keep people safe. Recently the Board of Parole was called upon to help with some forms on a quick deadline and NDCS wants to pass along their appreciation and thanks for the help.

VI. PIC Presentation – PIC Numbers: Habib Olomi, DAS Center of Operations Excellence (Handout provided)

Forty-three percentage of Habib's work is based with Board of Parole and Parole Supervision with the remainder shared by other agencies, Crime Commission and the State Fire Marshall.

Projects for 2018 selected were undertaken and completed. The process itself has improved regarding time loss for involved staff. Mr. Olomi's responsibility is to implement change and improvement. Positive connections with agencies have developed.

Goal was set to train everyone for yellow belt. That program is progressing well and other goals, such as the green and other level, belt training is moving forward.

There are three proposed 2019 Goals with intent to complete two additional goals in addition. Habib will continue to work with agencies on Huddles, training, and overall savings on time and budget.

Mr. Olomi stated that he was proud of this agencies accomplishments and looks forward to continued work in the coming year.

A question was presented from the Vice Chair Board member Layne Gissler regarding how we are doing statewide in comparison to other State Agencies. The response was that of the 26 PICs, Mr. Olomi was one of two that made their 2018 goals. Agency wise, Parole is ahead of the curve. The reports on the progress regarding soft savings and goals are shared with the Governor's office.

VII. Director of Supervision and Services Update: Julie Micek  
a. Participation in Discussion with Senator Lathrop

Parole Supervision received a request to be a part of a discussion in regards to overcrowding. Low risk with non-violent crimes would be an example of some thinking outside the box. Julie, Nicole, Jennifer from Parole, joining with the Inspector General, Ombudsman, Probation representatives and Judiciary committee staff were the group that met. Discussion was very informal exchange of ideas.

b. Custodial Sanctions Overview of DPS process

Ms. Micek just wanted to mention that if Supervision to proposing a custodial sanction, it would be very rare for all other options not to already been attempted. Clients may present this differently and try to challenge, and refused to sign the sanction but please reach out before deciding no to a custodial sanction for an individual. Board Chair Rosalyn Cotton expressed the opinion that if a packet was provided or the Parole Officer was present, then there would be better information to process a better decision for the Board. Board member, Teresa Bittinger, expressed the opinion that there should be a review of the custodial sanctions process to clarify. Ms. Micek said she would see that more information is provided.

VIII. Legislative Update: Nicole Miller

Nicole presented a review some bills that could potentially have an impact on parole. Bills are in judiciary committee. Nicole will provide a handout.

LB131 change provision related to minimum sentence

LB133 change provision regarding structured programming and defer of parole

LB176 eliminate certain mandatory minimum penalties

LB216 prohibit releasing a person to release medical costs

LB277 change membership provision for Board of Parole

LB286 Counsel and ReEntry Council to submit plan for statewide operations

LB331 Post release supervision to Board of Parole, fiscal notes would be attached.

LB479 Prohibit detainee in change of provisions for sexual abuse

LB484 Add parole officer to definition of a peace officer

LB686 Change provisions regarding correctional system emergencies, step down the threshold

IX. Board Member Round Table

Member Virgil Patlan requested Board show support for LB484

Comment from Member Twiss - Legislation from Senator Bolz LB331, was a meeting requested for the Board but there has been no contact.

Confirmation for Member Robert Twiss is to be 2/22/19. Input to provide to Member Twiss from others would be appreciated.

The next Parole Board Business meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2019 at 2:30 pm in the Conference room C.

X. Adjourn:

XI. Chair Rosalyn Cotton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:42pm and was seconded by Vice Chair Layne Gissler. Motion carried 5 - 0 Voting -

Chair Rosalyn Cotton	Yes
Vice Chair Layne Gissler	Yes
Member Teresa Bittinger	Yes
Member Virgil Patlan	Yes
Member Robert Twiss	Yes

Minutes prepared by Reporter / Assistant on 2 - 19 - 2019.