



## VIRGINIA PAROLE BOARD

### MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING: January 14, 2026

LOCATION: Meeting conducted electronically and in person with Board Members and designated staff, assembled at 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

PRESIDING: The Honorable Patricia West, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia West, Chair  
Lloyd Banks, Vice Chairman  
Michelle Dermyer, Board Member  
Samuel Boone, Board Member  
C. Phillips Ferguson, Board Member

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Tina Bowen, Chief Parole Examiner  
Ashley Riggle, Parole Examiner  
Colleen Maxwell, Executive Director  
Shirley Smith, Victim Input Staff  
Cindy Yadav, Victim Input Coordinator

DOC STAFF PRESENT: Vanessa Carter-West, Video Coordinator

GUESTS PRESENT: Alfonzo Bailey  
Robert Saunders  
James Gibson  
Derwin Jackson  
James Clark  
Kevin Dickerson

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair West called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF MAJORITY

Chair West determined that all members of the Board were present.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Ms. Dermyer, with a second by Mr. Boone, the agenda was approved.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon motion by Ms. Dermyer, with a second by Mr. Ferguson, the minutes of the January 7, 2026 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

### PAROLE CONSIDERATIONS

Chair West provided an explanation of the change to § 53.1-136 of the *Code of Virginia* effective July 1, 2024, which requires a public meeting be convened to conduct the final deliberation and vote regarding whether the Board will grant parole to a prisoner.

#### Alfonzo Bailey, 1064201

Mr. Bailey was considered discretionary.

Chair West provided an overview of Mr. Bailey's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members with an opportunity to ask Mr. Bailey questions.

Chair West provided Mr. Bailey with the opportunity to make a statement to the Board.

Chair West then called upon each member to give their vote and reason(s) for their vote.

**Board Member Boone – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, release is compatible with public safety and a stable release plan.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Grant**, based on excellent institutional adjustment and a stable release plan.

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, demonstrated rehabilitation, excellent institutional adjustment, infraction for at least last 24 months, no victim opposition, release is compatible with public safety, significant community support, stable release plan, successful participation in correctional and vocational programs, and the prosecuting attorney supports release.

**Board Member Dermyer – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, excellent institutional adjustment, successful participation in correctional and vocational programs, stable release plan, release is compatible with public safety, and significant community support.

**Chair West – Recuse.**

**Final votes: 4 grant and 1 recusal.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Bailey, the majority voted to grant parole. She then reminded him that he must continue to remain of good behavior throughout the re-entry process, as any infraction could put his release in jeopardy. Chair West also explained that Mr. Bailey will be given conditions of parole upon his release.

Robert Saunders, 1141412

Mr. Saunders was considered for discretionary parole and geriatric conditional release.

Chair West provided an overview of Mr. Saunders's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members an opportunity to ask questions of Mr. Saunders.

Chair West provided Mr. Saunders with an opportunity to make a statement to the Board.

Chair West then called upon each member to give their vote and reason(s) for their vote.

**Board Member Boone –Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation and Board member believes he has served enough time.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Grant**, excellent institutional adjustment and a stable release plan.

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based age at the time of the offense, demonstrated rehabilitation, infraction free for at least 24 months, medical condition, release is compatible with public safety, low risk assessment score, stable release plan, and Board member believes he has served enough time.

**Board Member Dermyer – Not Grant**, as the Board member considers Mr. Saunders' prior failure under community supervision as an indicator of future issues and the Board member concludes he should serve more of his sentence prior to release.

**Chair West – Not Grant**, as release at this time would diminish the seriousness of the crime, the seriousness of the crime and the Board member considers Mr. Saunders' prior failure under community supervision as an indicator of public safety risk.

**Final votes were 3 in favor of granting grant discretionary parole and 2 opposed.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Saunders, as the majority members voted to grant parole/conditional release. She then reminded him that he must continue to remain of good behavior throughout the re-entry process, as any infraction could put his release in jeopardy. Chair West also explained that, in addition to having no contact with the victim's friends and family, Mr. Saunders will be given additional conditions of parole upon his release.

James Gibson, 1172338

Mr. Gibson was considered for discretionary parole under § 53.1-165.1 (juvenile at time of offense).

Chair West provided an overview of Mr. Gibson's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members with an opportunity to ask Mr. Gibson questions.

Chair West provided Mr. Gibson with the opportunity to make a statement to the Board.

Chair West then called upon each member to give their vote and reason(s) for their vote.

**Board Member Boone – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, age at the time of the offense, and release is compatible with public safety.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Abstain**

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based on age at the time of the offense, demonstrated rehabilitation, release is compatible with public safety, significant community support, stable release plan, successful participation in correctional and vocational programming, and the prosecuting attorney supports release.

**Board Member Dermyer – Grant**, based on age at the time of the offense, demonstrated rehabilitation, successful participation in correctional and vocational programs, significant community support, and release is compatible with public safety.

**Chair West – Not Grant**, as the Board member believes he should serve additional time, severity of the crime, and prior failure in juvenile programs.

**Final votes: 3 Grant, 1 Not Grant, and 1 Abstention.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Gibson, as the majority of members present voted to grant parole. She then reminded him that he must continue to remain of good behavior throughout the re-entry process, as any infraction could put his release in jeopardy. Chair West also explained that Mr. Gibson will be given conditions of parole upon his release.

Derwin Jackson, 1168581

Mr. Jackson was considered for discretionary parole and geriatric conditional release.

Chair West provided an overview of Mr. Jackson's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members with an opportunity to ask Mr. Jackson questions.

Chair West provided Mr. Jackson with the opportunity to make a statement to the Board.

Chair West then called upon each member to give their vote and reason(s) for their vote.

**Board Member Boone – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, release is compatible with public safety, the Board member concludes the individual has served enough time.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, stable release plan, and release is compatible with public safety.

**Board Member Ferguson – Not Grant**, due to convictions of a new crime while incarcerated, release at this time would diminish seriousness of crime, crimes committed, extensive criminal record, record of institutional infractions, serious nature and circumstances of your offense, you need to show a longer period of adjustment, history of substance abuse, and the Board member concludes that you should serve more of your sentence prior to release.

**Board Member Dermeyer – Abstain**

**Chair West – Grant**, as he will be released to a detainer, he has significant community support, release is compatible with public safety, stable release plan, infraction free for at least the last 24 months, demonstrated rehabilitation, successful participation in correctional and vocational programs.

**Final votes: 3 Grant, 1 Not Grant, and 1 Abstention.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Jackson, as the majority of members present voted to grant parole. She then reminded him that he must continue to remain of good behavior throughout the re-entry process, as any infraction could put his release in jeopardy. Chair West also explained that Mr. Jackson will be given conditions of parole upon his release.

James Clark, 1142801

Mr. Clark was considered for both discretionary parole and geriatric conditional release.

Chair West provided an overview of Mr. Clark's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members with an opportunity to ask Mr. Clark questions.

After lengthy discussion, Board Member Ferguson made a motion to continue the case for at least a week. Board Member Dermeyer seconded the motion. All members were in favor of continuing Mr. Clark's case.

Kevin Dickerson, 1154870

Mr. Dickerson was considered for both discretionary parole.

Chair West provided an overview of Mr. Dickerson's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members with an opportunity to ask Mr. Dickerson questions.

Chair West provided Mr. Dickerson with the opportunity to make a statement to the Board.

Chair West then called upon each member to give their vote and reason(s) for their vote.

**Board Member Boone – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation and release is compatible with public safety.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Abstain.**

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, age at the time of the offense, excellent institutional adjustment, release is compatible with public safety, no victim opposition, significant community support, stable release plan, demonstrated rehabilitation, and the prosecutor supports release if he leaves the Commonwealth of Virginia as planned.

**Board Member Dermyer – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, release is compatible with public safety, successful participation in correctional and vocational programs, stable release plan, and significant community support.

**Chair West – Abstain.**

**Final votes: 3 Grant and 2 Abstentions.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Dickerson, as the majority of members present voted to grant parole. She then reminded him that he must continue to remain of good behavior throughout the re-entry process, as any infraction could put his release in jeopardy. Chair West also explained that he will be given conditions of parole upon his release.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**NEXT MEETING**

To be determined at a later date.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion made by Ms. Dermyer, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:29 PM.