



VIRGINIA PAROLE BOARD

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**APPROVED 12/17/2025**

REGULAR MEETING: November 12, 2025

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 Dermeyer, Board Member  
Samuel Boone, Board Member  
C. Phillips Ferguson, Board Member

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Tina Bowen, Chief Parole Examiner  
Colleen Maxwell, Legal Compliance Manager  
Shirley Smith, Victim Input Staff  
Cindy Yadav, Victim Input Coordinator  
Howard Taylor, Parole Examiner

DOC STAFF PRESENT: Vanessa Carter-West, Video Coordinator

GUESTS PRESENT: James Daniels  
Lee Knowlin  
Clarence Barkley  
Teena Smith  
Jonathan Hairston

CALL TO ORDER

Chair West called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MAJORITY

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Ms. Dermeyer, with a second by Mr. Banks the agenda was approved.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon motion by Ms. Dermyer, with a second by Mr. Ferguson, the minutes of the October 29, 2025 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.

James Daniels, #1005439

Mr. Daniels was considered for discretionary parole.

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

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

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

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

**Vice Chairman Banks – Abstain.**

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, institutional adjustment, infraction free, release being compatible with public safety, significant community support, a stable release plan, and successful participation in correctional and vocational programs.

**Ms. Dermyer – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, release being compatible with public safety, stable release plan, and significant community support.

**Chair West – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, excellent institutional adjustment, release being compatible with public safety, significant community support, stable release plan, no victim opposition, and that Mr. Daniels has been doing very well since 2016, well before Fishback ruling determined him to be eligible.

**Final votes were 4 in favor of granting discretionary parole with 1 abstention.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Daniels, 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. Daniels will be given conditions of parole upon his release.

Lee Knowlin, #1169171

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

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

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

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, stable release plan and a medical condition.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Grant**, based on a medical condition, a stable release plan, and no victim opposition.

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based on demonstrated rehabilitation, excellent institutional adjustment, infraction free since incarceration, medical condition, no prior felonies, low risk, stable release plan, successful participation in correctional and vocational programs, and believes he has served enough time.

**Ms. Dermeyer – Not Grant**, due to the seriousness crimes committed and belief that release would diminish the seriousness of the crimes.

**Chair West – Not Grant**, due to the serious nature of the crimes committed.

**Final votes were 3 grant and 2 not grant discretionary parole/geriatric conditional release.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Knowlin, the majority of 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 Mr. Knowlin will be given conditions of his parole upon his release.

Clarence Barkley, #1140328

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

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

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

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

**Board Member Boone – Grant**, based on medical condition and length of time served.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Grant**, based on medical condition and demonstrated rehabilitation.

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based age at the time of the offense, demonstrated rehabilitation, infraction free for last 24 months, and medical condition.

**Board Member Dermeyer – Grant**, based on medical condition and infraction free.

**Chair West – Not Grant**, based on an exposure in the last two years.

**Final votes were 4 grant and 1 not grant discretionary parole/geriatric conditional release.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Barkley, 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 Mr. Barkley will be given conditions of his parole upon his release.

Tina Smith, #1079180

Ms. Smith was considered for geriatric conditional release.

Chair West provided an overview of Ms. Smith's circumstances and period of incarceration.

Chair West provided the Board members an opportunity to ask questions of Ms. Smith.

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 a stable release plan.

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

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based on, demonstrated rehabilitation, institutional adjustment, medical condition, significant community support, a stable release plan, and successful participation in programs.

**Ms. Dermeyer – Not Grant**, due to past failure on supervision, history of substance abuse, and release would diminish the seriousness of the crime.

**Chair West – Not Grant**, due to an infraction earlier this year and failure on prior supervision.

**Final votes were 3 grant and 2 not grant for geriatric conditional release.**

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

Jonathan Hairston, #1103237

Mr. Hairston was considered for discretionary parole.

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

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

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, stable release plan, and release being compatible with public safety.

**Vice Chairman Banks – Abstain.**

**Board Member Ferguson – Grant**, based on age at the time of the offense, demonstrated rehabilitation, infraction free, release is compatible with public safety, community support, and stable release plan.

**Ms. Dermeyer – Grant**, based on age at the time of the offense, demonstrated rehabilitation, successful participation in programs, release being compatible with public safety, and a stable release plan.

**Chair West – Abstain.**

**Final votes were 3 grant and 2 abstentions to grant discretionary parole.**

Chair West congratulated Mr. Hairston, as the majority of members voted to grant discretionary 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

Next meeting is to be determined at a later date.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by Vice Chairman Banks and seconded by Ms. Dermeyer, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:04 PM.