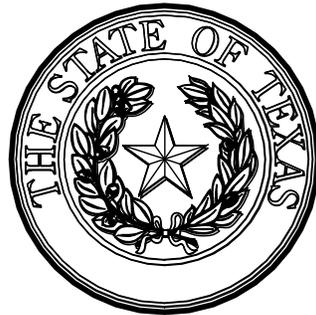


**Texas Board of Criminal Justice
184th Meeting**



Minutes

**April 15, 2016
Austin, Texas**

TEXAS BOARD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Crowne Plaza Hotel – Salons E-H, Austin Room
6121 North IH-35
Austin, Texas 78752

April 15, 2016
1:15 – 1:45 PM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Reconvene Texas Board of Criminal Justice (TBCJ)

I. Regular Session – Salons E-H

A. Recognitions

B. Consideration of Approval of Consent Items

1. Hazardous Duty Pay Authorization Requests
2. Personal Property Donations
3. Sale or Disposal of Surplus Agricultural Goods and Agricultural Personal Property
4. 183rd TBCJ Meeting Minutes
5. Excused Absences

C. Report from the Executive Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)

D. Report from the Chairman, TBCJ

E. Internal Audit Status Report for Fiscal Years 2015 – 2016

F. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Purchases and Contracts Over \$1 Million

G. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Revisions to Administrative Directives

1. AD-04.80, Good Time Policy
2. AD-04.81, Review Process for Promotion in Time-Earning Class

H. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Revisions to Board Policy BP-01.01, “Texas Board of Criminal Justice Responsibilities”

I. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Adoption of Amendments to Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 151.55, Disposal of Surplus Agricultural Goods and Agricultural Personal Property

J. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Amendments to Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 155.41, Procedures for Resolving Vendor Protests

- K. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Land Transactions – Request for Electrical Easement at the Bradshaw Unit in Rusk County, Henderson, Texas
- L. Public Comments

II. Executive Session – Austin Room

- A. The TBCJ may convene into Executive Session.
- B. Discussion of Personnel Matters Relating to the Executive Director, the Inspector General, the Director of the Internal Audit Division, the Director of the State Counsel for Offenders, and the Prison Rape Elimination Act Ombudsman (Closed in accordance with Section 551.074, Government Code).
- C. Discussion Regarding Deployment of Security Personnel, Devices, or Security Audits (Closed in accordance with Section 551.076, Government Code).
- D. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers; to Receive Legal Advice on Items Posted on this Agenda; or Consultation on a Matter Where the TBCJ 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).

Adjourn

The TBCJ may discuss and/or take action on any of the items posted on this meeting agenda.

Convene Texas Board of Criminal Justice

Chairman Dale Wainwright convened the 184th meeting of the TBCJ on Friday, April 15, 2016, at 11:02 a.m. He noted that a quorum was present and declared the meeting open in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the *Open Meetings Act*. He stated that during the regular session, the TBCJ would conduct business from the agenda posted in the *Texas Register*.

21st Annual Governor's Criminal Justice Volunteer Service Awards Ceremony

Chairman Wainwright welcomed all honored guests joining the TBCJ for the 21st Annual Governor's Criminal Justice Volunteer Service Awards Ceremony. He recognized the importance of criminal justice volunteers and their positive role within the criminal justice system. A video greeting followed, from the Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas. He thanked the volunteers for their dedication, kindness, and life transforming work.

Vice Chairman Terrell McCombs echoed Governor Abbott's message, and commended TDCJ volunteers, on behalf of the TBCJ for their selfless compassion and common commitment to help offenders obtain a better life.

Chairman Wainwright introduced the program speaker, Brad Livingston, Executive Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). Mr. Livingston, in recognition of National Volunteers Week, voiced appreciation to TDCJ volunteers for their immense contribution to the lives of offenders, and by extension, to the state of Texas. He acknowledged their significant role, which he described as permanently woven into the fabric of the TDCJ, and offered the following statistics: During 2015, approximately 22,000 volunteers donated more than 362,000 hours of service. Texas experienced a 25% decrease in crime rates over the last decade, with one of the lowest recidivism rates in the nation. He also illustrated the lasting impact of volunteers through inspiring successes from several innovative initiatives, and thanked all volunteers, including TBCJ members, past and present, for their time generously spent, calling it the most valuable gift which can never be regained.

Chairman Wainwright welcomed Pastor Larry Miles as the master of the ceremony. Pastor Miles announced awards to the following individuals and organizations:

Gordon Lindley, *Religious Service*
Texas Baptist Men Retiree Builders, *Correctional Institutions Division*
One Man's Treasure, *Reentry and Integration Division*
Rickie Bradshaw, *Nancy Hees Award-Parole Division*
James Duncan, *Private Facility Contract Monitoring/Oversight Division*
Marleah Baird, *Religious Service*
Deborah Hartman, *Chaplaincy Department*
Michael Lynn Selzer, *Health Services Division*
James S., *Substance Abuse Treatment Program*
Jennifer Gilbert, *Pathfinder Award-Victim Services Division*
Garrett Stanley, *Judy Burd Award-Windham School District*

Welcome Back Tarrant County, *Restorative Justice*
Trae Kendrick, *Susan Cranford Award-Female Offender Program*
Alcohol Chemical Treatment Series (A.C.T.S.), *Most Innovative Program*
Freedom in Jesus Ministry, *Community Service*
Central Texas Hospitality House, *Best Family Program*
Thomas Crouch, *Leonard Davis Award for Most Hours Served*
Robert Harcrow, *Extensive Travel*
Travis Morris, *TDCJ Employee Volunteer*
Tommie Haynes, *Criminal Justice Administrator*
Bill Shehee, *Carol S. Vance Volunteer of the Year*

Chairman Wainwright and Mr. Livingston presented the awards to each recipient.

Pastor Miles introduced Carol Vance, former TBCJ Chairman and strong advocate for volunteers in the TDCJ, who presented the last award. Mr. Vance commended the progress of TDCJ volunteer services, and explained how volunteers create a positive force in society, saving taxpayers millions of dollars. By restoring offenders and rebuilding their families, volunteers prevent returns to prison, further crimes, and immeasurable emotional damage.

Pastor Miles thanked Mr. Vance for his continued support to the betterment of the TDCJ. He called for one final round of applause for all the award recipients, and the thousands of dedicated volunteers throughout the TDCJ.

Chairman Wainwright expressed appreciation for all who attended, and for all volunteers and staff serving all year. There being no further business, Chairman Wainwright recessed the 184th meeting of the TBCJ. He advised the TBCJ would reconvene in committee meetings and continue with regular business beginning at 1:15 p.m. The time was 12:08 p.m.

(Attachment A – Program for 21st Annual Governor’s Criminal Justice Volunteer Service Awards)

MINUTES OF THE TEXAS BOARD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Meeting No. 184

The TBCJ reconvened in regular session at 1:15 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Austin, Texas, and adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

TBCJ MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon. Dale Wainwright, Chairman
Terrell McCombs, Vice Chairman
Leopoldo (Leo) Vasquez, III, Secretary
Tom Fordyce
Larry Gist
Larry Miles
Derrelynn Perryman
Thomas P. Wingate

TBCJ MEMBERS ABSENT:

Eric Gambrell

TDCJ STAFF PRESENT:

Brad Livingston, Executive Director
Bryan Collier, Deputy Executive Director
Mike Bell
Rudolph Brothers
Christopher Cirrito
Jason Clark
Matt Demny
Marie Freeland
Patty Garcia
Sharon Howell
Frank Inmon
Stuart Jenkins
Sherry Koenig
Dr. Lannette Linthicum
Angie McCown
Jerry McGinty
Oscar Mendoza
Paul Morales
Ron Steffa
William Stephens
Carey Welebob
April Zamora

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mike Goldman, Office of the Governor; The Honorable Judge Dale Spurgin, Jones County; and members of the media.

Reconvene Texas Board of Criminal Justice

Chairman Wainwright reconvened the regular session of the 184th meeting of the TBCJ on Friday, April 15, 2016, at 1:15 p.m., noted that a quorum was present, and declared the meeting open in accordance with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, the *Open Meetings Act*. He stated the TBCJ would be conducting business from the agenda posted in the *Texas Register*.

Chairman Wainwright recognized Mike Goldman, Office of the Governor; The Honorable Judge Dale Spurgin, Jones County; and members of the media.

Consideration of Approval of Consent Items

1. Hazardous Duty Pay Authorization Requests
2. Personal Property Donations
3. Sale or Disposal of Surplus Agricultural Goods and Agricultural Personal Property
4. 183rd TBCJ Meeting Minutes
5. Excused Absences

Chairman Wainwright announced the excused absence of Judge Larry Gist from the December 10th TBCJ meeting, due to personal business, and asked if there were any amendments or objections to the proposed consent items. Hearing no further concerns, the consent items were approved as presented, noting for the record, Mr. Eric Gambrell was absent and did not participate, and would formally abstain from this item.

Recognitions

Chairman Wainwright recognized the TDCJ employees who achieved 25, 30, and 35 plus years of service with the state of Texas during the months of February and March 2016. The TBCJ, along with Mr. Livingston, expressed their deepest gratitude for the continued service of these employees.

(Attachment B – Employee Names)

Report from the Chairman, TBCJ

Tour of McConnell Unit in Beeville

Chairman Wainwright described his experience visiting the McConnell Unit in Beeville. Although arriving unannounced, he was quickly met outside by two security officers who treated him with courtesy, and after brief questioning, escorted him to the warden's office for his tour. Chairman Wainwright commended the officers, the warden, and the unit for excellence and professionalism.

Chairman's Fitness Challenge – 2nd Quarter Results

Chairman Wainwright reported the second quarter challenge, “One Step at a Time, Stay Focused,” was a great success, with a total of 6,884 participants collectively earning 22,356,317 points, by participating in a physical activity over a duration of time. He named the winners and encouraged everyone to continue with the third quarter challenge, “Too Fit to Quit,” designed to encourage employees to pursue a healthy, active life style. Chairman Wainwright emphasized the value of fitness, because it benefits employees, their departments, and the state.

National Crime Victim Rights Week – April 10-16, 2016

In recognition of National Crime Victim Rights Week, Chairman Wainwright traced the history of crime victims' rights. He explained in the early 1970s, most victim support groups were initiated by victims and survivors of crime. The criminal justice system focused on offenders, and victims had few rights. As the crime victims' movement, now called the Victim Services field, gained momentum nationally, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), 1984, initiated funding of victim services, using offender fines, fees, and penalties. Texas followed by passing laws establishing laws for crime victims' rights, such as the Victim Bill of Rights, which assured victims the right to restitution; information about the conviction, sentence, imprisonment, and release of the accused; reasonable protection; and the right to be treated with fairness, respect, dignity, and privacy. Chairman Wainwright commended the progress of victim services in Texas.

Internal Audit Status Report for Fiscal Years 2015 – 2016

Christopher Cirrito, Director for Internal Audit, provided the following revision to the handout of the April 10, 2016, Internal Audit Status Report for the Fiscal Years 2015 - 2016:

- **1615 - Office of the Inspector General, Evidence Control Follow-up:** The status has moved from unassigned to background.
- **1617 - Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Internal Audit Division – Self Study:** The status has moved from field work to peer review preparation.
- **1619 - Walk Throughs, Various Divisions, Information Technology Division – Business Continuity:** The status has moved from on-going to complete.

Chairman Wainwright thanked Mr. Cirrito for the update and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

(Attachment C – Internal Audit Status Report, Fiscal Years 2015-2016)

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Purchases and Contracts Over \$1 Million

Chairman Wainwright passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Terrell McCombs, stating he must abstain from taking action on the next item as his firm represents one of the entities listed. Jerry McGinty, Chief Financial Officer, presented the list of purchases and contracts, and stated that

many of the procurements are for the upcoming fiscal year. He reviewed increases to FY 2016 contracts, FY 2017 contract renewals, and new FY 2017 contracts. The first two items represent an increase to a current contract for raw materials to produce highway signs, in response to an increase in quantity ordered.

FY 2017 contract renewals include: Texas Department of State Health Services, for offender birth certificates prior to release; a food contract for the Hamilton Unit; agribusiness contracts, such as John Deere tractor parts for maintenance and repair of TDCJ farm equipment, isolated soy protein for processing beef and pork products for offender consumption, and supplies for canning of agribusiness-produced vegetables for offender consumption; modular panel systems parts and components, for Texas Correctional Industry manufacturing of office panel systems for resale; and reflective specialty sheeting and equipment for manufacturing of license plates. Security surveillance systems will be installed at Clements, Ferguson, and Hughes units, pursuant to legislatively appropriated funds for FY 2016. The list also includes one FY 2016-2017 contract, to install network cabling for Information Technology.

FY 2017 contracts include: agribusiness contracts, for soybean meal to produce feed for the TDCJ's livestock, beef and pork trimmings to produce meat products for offender consumption, and ammonia nitrate to fertilize field and vegetable crops to maximize production; contracts for raw materials such as reflective sheeting and aluminum sign blanks for the manufacturing of traffic signs, reflective specialty sheeting and equipment and metal aluminum coils for manufacturing of license plates; a food contract for services to offenders and staff at Kegans State Jail; an Information Technology contract for copier equipment, maintenance, and supplies; and a contract for the cloth used to manufacture offender sheets, pillowcases, and clothing undergarments. Mr. McGinty noted some contracts, usually related to food, contain a 10% variance to allow for fluctuation in the market, which also allows for menu flexibility in response to changing prices.

Mr. McCombs asked if there were questions. Hearing none, Mr. McCombs called for a motion and a second.

Leo Vasquez moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve the purchases and contracts over \$1 million, as presented.

Tom Fordyce seconded the motion which prevailed when called to a vote, with the abstention of Chairman Wainwright and the absence of Eric Gambrell.

Mr. McCombs confirmed that Chairman Wainwright and Eric Gambrell took no action on the item, and returned the chairman's gavel.

Chairman Wainwright acknowledged 16 individuals signed up to address the TBCJ during the public comment period. Due to the unusually large number, and since multiple speakers chose the same topic, Chairman Wainwright requested groups sharing the same topic to elect a spokesperson for their topic, in the interest of efficiency and effectiveness. He suspended discussion of the rules for speakers until reaching that item on the agenda.

**Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding
Proposed Revisions to Administrative Directives**

1. AD-04.80, Good Time Policy
2. AD-04.81, Review Process for Promotion in Time-Earning Class

Sharon Howell, TDCJ General Counsel, stated both AD-04.80 and AD-04.81 revisions were presented to the TBCJ for annual review, as required by Texas Code 498.005; however, she explained no TBCJ action was required. Both policies relate to the manner in which offenders are classified and reclassified, the manner in which good conduct time is awarded, and the manner in which good conduct time is awarded retroactively to offenders who have been reclassified. In the past, calculation of good conduct time was driven by population management protocols; however, by legislative direction and TBCJ vote, offender population issues are no longer addressed through offender classification. The policies were restructured to clarify references to related historical legislation, but the revisions had no impact on the last 15 years of offender classification practice regarding processing of good conduct time and promotion in time earning class.

**Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Revisions
to Board Policy BP-01.01, “Texas Board of Criminal Justice Responsibilities”**

Ms. Howell presented the proposed revisions to BP-01.01, noting that changes were pursuant to Senate Bill 20, during the 84th Legislature. The bill requires any presentation to the TBCJ on a contract over \$1 million to include information on potential issues that may arise in the solicitation, purchasing, or contractor selection process. Although Mr. McGinty, Chief Financial Officer, already informs the TBCJ of all contracts over \$1 million, the statement was added to the policy as ongoing notice of the statutory requirement. Minor adjustments include moving the “Sale or Disposal of Surplus Agricultural Goods and Agricultural Personal Property” from the consent portion to the review portion of the meeting agenda.

Chairman Wainwright asked if there were questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second.

Tom Wingate moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve the revisions to Board Policy 01.01, “Texas Board of Criminal Justice Responsibilities,” as presented.

Derrelyn Perryman seconded the motion which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

**Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Adoption
of Amendments to Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code
Section 151.55, Disposal of Surplus Agricultural Goods
and Agricultural Personal Property**

Ms. Howell reported the amended rule, previously approved by the TBCJ, appeared in the March 4, 2016 publication of the *Texas Register*, and 30 days passed with no public comments received. She recommended adoption of the rule.

Chairman Wainwright asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second.

Larry Miles moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice adopt Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 151.55, regarding Disposal of Surplus Agricultural Goods and Agricultural Personal Property, as published in the Texas Register, and that the chairman sign the order to this effect.

Larry Gist seconded the motion which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

**Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed
Amendments to Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code
Section 155.41, Procedures for Resolving Vendor Protests**

Ms. Howell presented the proposed amendments to BR-155.41, Procedures for Resolving Vendor Protests. She noted the rule serves as the TDCJ's internal form of alternative dispute resolution for resolving vendor protests regarding contracts. Only grammatical and formatting updates were made. Ms. Howell recommended publication in the *Texas Register* for public comment.

Chairman Wainwright asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second.

Tom Fordyce moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve for publication in the Texas Register, the proposed amendments to Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 155.41, regarding Procedures for Resolving Vendor Protests, to receive public comment, as presented.

Terrell McCombs seconded the motion which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

Chairman Wainwright thanked Ms. Howell for her presentations.

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding a Proposed Land Transaction Request for an Electrical Easement at the Bradshaw Unit in Rusk County, Henderson, Texas

Chairman Wainwright passed the gavel to Vice Chairman McCombs and stated he must abstain from taking action due to his firm representing Southwestern Electric Power Company.

Matt Demny, TDCJ Director of the Agribusiness, Land and Minerals Department, reviewed the request by Southwestern Electric Power Company, for a permanent electrical easement at the Bradshaw Unit. As discussed in the Business and Financial Operations Committee, the easement would allow electric lines to be rerouted around the newly built chapel, to provide electrical service to the unit, for the sole benefit of the TDCJ. Mr. Demny recommended approval of the grant, to be made without compensation, in accordance with §496.004(b), Government Code.

Mr. McCombs asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second.

Derrelynn Perryman moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve the request for an electrical easement at the Bradshaw Unit in Rusk County, Henderson, Texas.

Leo Vasquez seconded the motion which prevailed when called to a vote.

Mr. McCombs confirmed that Chairman Wainwright took no action on the item, and returned the gavel.

Public Comments

Chairman Wainwright stated that the TBCJ is committed to providing the opportunity for public comments in accordance with Board Rule 151.4, "Public Presentations and Comments to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice." He reviewed the requirements for speaker registration in accordance with the *Open Meetings Act*. He referred to the earlier arrangement regarding speakers and invited the spokesperson to address the TBCJ regarding solitary confinement.

Freddy Porras read a portion from the book, "Hell is a Very Small Place, Voices from Solitary Confinement," and offered a copy to each TBCJ member. The book cited the first use of solitary confinement was in Philadelphia, in 1790, as a compassionate alternative to humiliating punishments such as public flogging, giving the offender the humane opportunity to contemplate the crime committed and become penitent. He called for the cessation of solitary confinement. Chairman Wainwright thanked him for his comments.

Jane Nguyen spoke regarding the TDCJ social media policy. She stated that information from offenders is communicated on the internet, websites are advocating for offenders, and friends and family are posting related comments on their social media accounts; therefore, offenders should not be forbidden to have social media accounts, unless they were found to be selling

products or posed a physical threat. She said it infringes on the rights of persons who are not incarcerated. Chairman Wainwright thanked Ms. Nguyen for her comments.

Pat Hartwell stated she sent 15 questions to the TDCJ about rule number four, regarding social media, but felt the response she received from the Ombudsman was incomplete. She quoted Jason Clark, Public Information Officer, as saying the rule was specific to active social media accounts such as FaceBook, Twitter, and Instagram; however, private websites do not have a mechanism to request they be taken down and could not be forced to comply. She asked if websites, pen pal sites, and traditional blog sites were included as social media, and asked what could happen to offenders who contribute to websites that advocate for them. She gave examples of offenders exonerated as a result of websites set up on their behalf, and asked the TBCJ to respond to her 15 questions. Chairman Wainwright thanked Ms. Hartwell for her comments.

Angie Agapedus spoke on behalf of death row offenders receiving phone privileges, as they have families, and should be able to communicate with them. She mentioned the copies of the book, "Hell is a Very Small Place," and stated nine copies were brought, one for each TBCJ member. She cited the Association of State Correctional Administrators as promoting the reduction of solitary confinement and quoted a 2011 article in the Houston Chronicle stating there are 9,000 offenders in solitary confinement at any given time, 97% of which will be released, and 5,000 offenders in long term solitary confinement, 97% of which will be released. Chairman Wainwright thanked her for her comments.

Cathy Habermas voiced concern about the 20 day lockdown on death row. She explained adequate food was not provided during the lockdown and there are offenders who cannot afford commissary and did not receive any outside help. She listed the food provided and stated the meals did not meet the state and federal guidelines of 2,400-2,700 total calories per day. She said the typical breakfast consisted of one or two biscuits with peanut butter and no drink, lunch was two peanut butter sandwiches on white bread with one dried prune and no drink, and dinner was one peanut butter sandwich and one meatloaf sandwich, on white bread, with one dried prune, and no drink. She stated the sandwiches were kept in the refrigerator and some had mold. Ms. Habermas requested the meals meet caloric guidelines and health standards. Chairman Wainwright thanked Ms. Habermas for her comments.

Gloria Rubac explained the inconvenience of having to return to her vehicle between visits of two offenders, as she was not allowed to bring \$50 at a time into the facility. She also discussed offenders in solitary confinement, and defined it as a violation of the eighth amendment, giving examples of offender reactions, such as a high rate of suicide and self-torture. Furthermore, Ms. Rubac spoke against the policy of punishing a whole group for the actions of a few, and requested that social media accounts be allowed for those who did not abuse the privilege. Chairman Wainwright thanked Ms. Rubac for her comments.

Danielle Allen reported the warden at the Hightower Unit systematically set up her loved one to fail and provided a list of actions by the warden, to be investigated by the TBCJ. She requested a response in writing. Chairman Wainwright thanked her for her comments.

Alison Dieter stated she has been visiting offenders on death row for eight years. She listed the following risk factors and safety violations: water running down the walls of a cell for one year, recreation time was cut to two or three days a week, instead of the one hour out of every 24, offenders must put on their shoes with their hands in handcuffs, which has caused one offender to break his ankle and be permanently disabled, and no seat belts on the transportation vans, to protect from sudden starts and stops. Finally, Ms. Dieter asked that, for prisoners who leave a facility or come to the end of their parole or probation, the TDCJ inform them when their right to vote is restored. She submitted a handout on medical issues for an offender, and asked for help. Chairman Wainwright thanked Ms. Hartwell for her comments.

Laura Jenkins asked for clarity on the TDCJ website, as she was trying to address the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. Her concern was for her son, who was denied parole on March 31. The rationale on his denial didn't match who he was as a person, and she was concerned about his safety, but not from the Roach Unit staff, who were supportive. Chairman Wainwright thanked her for her comments.

Rhett Smith discussed the issue of minors in custody. He suggested the transition between childhood and adulthood should be extended, to give time for minors to gain skills in interacting with public officials acting under authority of the state. Mr. Smith stated he wishes to build a better world, and would like everyone to consider ways to implement a more peaceful society. Chairman Wainwright thanked him for his comments.

Chief Two Bears expressed his concern about the state of Texas chemically altering children's minds with psychotropic drugs in the Texas foster care system. He stated this is the cause for mass incarceration in America. He called for the end of altering the minds of children under the umbrella of the state. Chairman Wainwright thanked him for his comments.

Sarah Garcia spoke on behalf of her son, who has had multiple mental issues as a child. He spent two and a half years in a juvenile facility, where he was given psychotropic medication. Once sentenced, he was transferred to the TDCJ. Six months after arriving, he was placed in solitary confinement for not returning to his cell, where he spent two more years. In July, he returned home, but after only four months, he was returned to the TDCJ for 15 years. She asked for him to receive help for his mental issues, so he wouldn't become another statistic. She submitted a medical record of all the mental health treatments he received prior to incarceration. Chairman Wainwright thanked her for her poignant comments.

Kenneth Koym stated he was a psychotherapist and certified mediator, and reported that some of the visitors today called him to come together to remove the problem in the TDCJ of the chemical freezing of minds through wrong medication. He urged everyone to work together. Chairman Wainwright thanked Mr. Koym for his comments.

Chairman Wainwright thanked all speakers for their comments in writing and assured them their concerns would be addressed. He asked them to leave their contact information in order to receive a written response from the TBCJ.

Chairman Wainwright thanked everyone for coming, and announced that the next meeting of the TBCJ will be Friday, June 24, 2016, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Austin at IH-35 and Highway 290.

Adjournment

There being no further business for the regular session, Chairman Wainwright adjourned the 184th meeting of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice at 2:15 p.m.

Chairman*

Secretary*

*Signature on file

Note: Attachments to the minutes can be obtained by contacting the Office of Record, Executive Services.