

**Texas Board of Criminal Justice**  
***200th Meeting***



**Minutes**

**August 24, 2018**  
**Austin, Texas**

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**TEXAS BOARD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**Omni Hotel at Southpark – Ballrooms D, E, F, Omni C  
4140 Governor’s Row  
Austin, Texas 78744**

**August 24, 2018  
11:15 AM – 2:15 PM**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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*Call to Order*

*Convene Texas Board of Criminal Justice (TBCJ)*

I. Executive Session – Omni C

- 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).

*Reconvene Texas Board of Criminal Justice (TBCJ)*

II. Regular Session – Ballrooms D, E, F

- A. Recognitions
- B. Consideration of Approval of Consent Items
  - 1. Hazardous Duty Pay Authorization Requests
  - 2. Personal Property Donations
  - 3. 199th TBCJ Meeting Minutes
  - 4. Excused Absences
- C. Report from the Executive Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)

- D. Report from the Chairman, TBCJ
- E. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding a Selection of the Division Director, State Counsel for Offenders
- F. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding the Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Audit Plan
- G. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Purchases and Contracts Over \$1 Million
- H. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding the TDCJ Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Operating Budget and Fiscal Years 2020-2021 Legislative Appropriations Request
- I. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Adoption of Amendments to Board Rules Title 37 Texas Administrative Code
  - 1. 163.3, Objectives
  - 2. 163.38, Sex Offender Supervision
- J. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Amendments to Board Rule Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 159.15, GO KIDS Initiative
- K. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Facilities Division Construction Projects
  - 1. Request to Replace Parking Lot and Perimeter Road at the Choice Moore Unit in Fannin County, Bonham, Texas
  - 2. Request to Replace the Roof on the Psychiatric Facility at the Jester IV Unit in Fort Bend County, Richmond, Texas
  - 3. Request to Replace Water Distribution Lines at the Mountain View Unit in Coryell County, Gatesville, Texas
  - 4. Request to Replace the Roof on the Box Beef Plant at the Neal Unit in Potter County, Amarillo, Texas
- L. Public Comments

*Adjourn*

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

**MINUTES OF THE  
TEXAS BOARD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
Meeting No. 200**

The Texas Board of Criminal Justice (TBCJ) reconvened on Friday, August 24, 2018, in regular session at 1:12 p.m. in Ballroom D, E, F at the Omni Hotel at Southpark, Austin, Texas, and adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

**TBCJ MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Hon. Dale Wainwright, Chairman  
Terrell McCombs, Vice-Chairman  
Eric Gambrell, Secretary  
E.F. “Mano” DeAyala  
Tom Fordyce  
Larry Miles  
Patrick O’Daniel  
Derrellynn Perryman  
Hon. Thomas P. Wingate

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE (TDCJ)  
STAFF PRESENT:**

Bryan Collier, Executive Director  
Oscar Mendoza, Deputy Executive Director  
Jason Clark, Chief of Staff    Frank Inmon  
Rudolph Brothers                Sherry Koenig  
Christopher Cirrito                Cris Love  
Lorie Davis                         Dr. Lannette Linthicum  
Jeremy Desel                         Bobby Lumpkin  
Marie Freeland                     Angie McCown  
Patty Garcia                         Jerry McGinty  
Cody Ginsel                         Melvin Neely  
Carey Green                         Kelvin Scott  
Rene Hinojosa                        Ron Steffa  
Sharon Howell                       Pam Thielke  
    April Zamora

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

David Gutierrez, Board of Pardons and Paroles Presiding Officer; and Honorable Judge Dale Spurgin, Jones County.

## **Convene the Texas Board of Criminal Justice**

Chairman Dale Wainwright reconvened the 200th meeting of the TBCJ on Friday, August 24, 2018, at 1:12 a.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 stated that the TBCJ is committed to providing the opportunity for public presentations on posted agenda topics as well as public comments on issues within its jurisdiction as provided in accordance with Board Rule 151.4, "Public Presentations and Comments to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice." Two speaker registration cards were received for public comments prior to the deadline. The presentations were heard later in the meeting.

## **Report from the Chairman, TBCJ**

### **200th meeting of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice**

Chairman Wainwright discussed the historical significance of this meeting as the 200th meeting of the TBCJ. As a result of landmark legislation, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice was created in 1989 to consolidate under one umbrella the state's prison, parole, and probation systems. With the establishment of the TDCJ, also came the evolution of the Texas Board of Corrections into the Texas Board of Criminal Justice. This month, with nearly 30 years in existence, the TBCJ is holding its 200th meeting.

On September 12, 1989, the TBCJ first met in Austin in the Senate Chambers of the State Capitol. Led by Chairman Charles T. Terrell, the meeting was held concurrently with the Legislative Criminal Justice Board. The central theme on the agenda was site selection for new prison facilities. Forty-six site proposals had been submitted for board consideration and only six facilities were to be built. Community delegations from across the state were in attendance to show their support or opposition for the proposals. In addition to the site selection, the TBCJ reviewed the agency's Furlough Program and took action to revise eligibility requirements to remove murder from the guidelines of offenders suitable for furlough.

Much has changed since that first meeting 30 years ago. The TBCJ and its efforts throughout history have been the foundation on which the staff has built to be one of the finest criminal justice systems in the world. To commemorate this meeting, Texas Correctional Industries prepared mementos, which included a plaque showing the meeting date and the TBCJ's membership, and leather coasters displaying the TBCJ 200th meeting.

## Recognitions

Terrell McCombs, TBCJ Vice-Chairman, spoke regarding the recent passing of former TBCJ member J. David Nelson, who was appointed by Governor Rick Perry in 2008 and served one term until May 2013. Mr. Nelson served as the chair on the Health Care Committee and the Management Information Committee. He also served as a member of the Community Corrections Committee, Education Committee, and Legal Committee.

Mr. McCombs stated David Nelson was an advocate for the criminal justice system and was a wonderful board member, whom was respected by many. Mr. Nelson had a keen intellect, wry sense of humor, and excellent memory. Recently he was in a traffic accident while riding his motorcycle and, unfortunately, passed away on the way to the hospital. Mr. McCombs called for a moment of silence in remembrance of J. David Nelson.

Chairman Wainwright recognized Bruce Toney, former Inspector General, for 24 years of service to the state of Texas, noted his integrity and commitment to public service, and outlined his education and incredible career. He congratulated Mr. Toney for a remarkable career and stated his contributions will have a long lasting impact on the TDCJ. On behalf of the TBCJ, Chairman Wainwright thanked him for his commitment to promoting excellence, adhering to professional standards as Inspector General, and dedication to serving the great state of Texas.

Bryan Collier, TDCJ Executive Director, recognized Dr. Lannette Linthicum for 20 years of service as a division director with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He highlighted her career and thanked her for her dedication.

Mr. Collier recognized Carey Green, Community Justice Assistance Division Director, for 30 years of service with the state of Texas. He highlighted her career and thanked her for her commitment.

Jason Clark, TDCJ Chief of Staff, introduced Karen Hall as the new Deputy Chief of Staff, and highlighted her education and career.

Mr. Clark introduced Malika Te as the new Director of Governmental Affairs, and highlighted her education and career.

Cris Love, Inspector General, introduced Joseph Buttitta as the new Deputy Inspector General, and highlighted his education and career.

Chris Cirrito, Director of Internal Audit Division, introduced Renee Russell as the new Deputy Director of Audit Services, and highlighted her education and career.

Pam Thielke, Parole Division Director, introduced Alethea Robinson as the new Region II Director, and highlighted her education and career.

Chairman Wainwright recognized the TDCJ employees who have dedicated 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service to the state of Texas during the months of July and August 2018. During

this time, 56 employees attained 25 years of service, 23 employees attained 30 years of service, eight employees attained 35 years of service, two employee attained 40 years of service, one employee attained 45 years of service, and one employee attained 50 years of service. He stated these individuals represent the strong commitment of the TDCJ staff systemwide. On behalf of the TBCJ and Mr. Collier, he expressed deepest gratitude for the continued service of these employees.

*(Attachment A – Employee Names)*

## **Consideration of Approval of Consent Items**

- 1. Hazardous Duty Pay Authorization Requests**
- 2. Personal Property Donations**
- 3. 199th TBCJ Meeting Minutes**
- 4. Excused Absences**

Chairman Wainwright stated there is an excused absence for Eric Gambrell from the April meeting due to personal business. He asked if there were any amendments, abstentions, or objections to the proposed consent items. Board Member Eric Gambrell abstained from taking action due to his firm representing the San Antonio Food Bank listed on the personal property donations list. Chairman Wainwright acknowledged the abstention and, hearing no further questions, the consent items were approved.

### **Report from the Executive Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice**

#### **Legislative Appropriations Request Process**

Mr. Collier thanked each TBCJ member, Jerry McGinty, Ron Steffa, Sherry Koenig, Rebecca Waltz, and all staff for all the time and effort expended on the 2019 budget, and the 2020 and 2021 legislative appropriations request. He stated the request seeks additional funding for TDCJ in several key areas such as correctional and parole officer pay, additional specialized caseloads and services for probation, information technology system upgrades, and additional services to address our mental health and aging populations. He stated this is the beginning phase of a long process that begins in January and will not end until next May. The TDCJ is looking forward to working with the legislature and leadership throughout this process and will continue to keep the TBCJ updated.

#### **American Correctional Association Accreditation**

Mr. Collier stated the TDCJ is one of the few correctional agencies in the country that have attained full accreditation from the American Correctional Association (ACA). This indicates the TDCJ is in compliance with over 1,000 standards agency-wide. To maintain this accreditation, the TDCJ must undergo regular audits by the ACA with each unit or operational area being audited every three years. Recently at the ACA's Congress of Correction Conference, the TDCJ had 17 facilities that were up for reaccreditation. That process involved each facility to be audited by the ACA audit team and each of the wardens of these facilities had to appear before the accreditation panel at the summer conference. The wardens did an outstanding job presenting before the accreditation panels and each unit was granted reaccreditation. One of those units was the Terrell unit, which was audited only 84 days after Hurricane Harvey. Accreditation is not easy to attain or maintain, and requires a lot of hard work by countless staff. The dedication and attention paid to this process is evident by the high scores on each audit. Mr. Collier expressed gratitude to all staff involved, and thanked Lorie Davis, Cody Ginsel, and Kelvin Scott for all their hard work.

## **Report from the Chairman, TBCJ**

### **Art Therapy in Rehabilitation with Offenders**

Chairman Wainwright discussed the Creative Therapy Program at the Clements Unit in Amarillo, Texas. The program aims to rehabilitate offenders with mental illness. The program was the brainchild of Texas Tech employee Linda Podzemny, who is passionate about art. She is a professional artist who left her job as a high school teacher to become a counselor at the Clements unit. Soon after she began working at the Clements unit, she witnessed firsthand the creativity and artistic impression shown by some offenders. While making rounds cell side, they shared their works of art on handkerchiefs, boards, and paper products. Many days she found herself back in a teaching role, providing feedback and encouragement. The lifelong educator began to think about how she could utilize her love of art and make a difference at the prison. She presented a proposal to her supervisor, Kirby Sutterfield. Impressed with her ingenuity, they teamed up and the Creative Therapy Program was born. It is a simple idea that provides an outlet for creative self-expression for offenders who are progressing through the program. Throughout the week, offenders are gathered into small groups and use an array of art supplies like watercolors, pastels, and pencils to produce artwork. Only in operation since April 2018, the program is making a notable difference for the offenders and staff. Clinicians say it has improved morale and social interactions. Staff has noticed fewer behavior issues. Linda describes the program this way, "The process of making art enables the person to release emotions through the colors, lines, forms, and images of his work. The consequences of releasing emotions through making art are far more rewarding than the consequences of violence or emotional collapse." The Creative Therapy Program is tapping into the potential that exists and providing an outlet and therapy for those with mental illness. Chairman Wainwright thanked Linda, Kirby, the Texas Tech Team, and the TDCJ for continuing to effect new and creative ways to positively affect the lives of those with mental illness.

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding a Selection of the Division Director, State Counsel for Offenders**

Chairman Wainwright stated the mission of the State Counsel for Offenders is to provide attorneys and legal staff, independent of the TDCJ, to represent or assist indigent offenders with legal problems. The current division director, Rudolph Brothers, announced plans to retire effective November 1, 2018. During the June TBCJ meeting, the Chairman appointed a State Counsel for Offenders search committee composed of Chair Thomas Wingate and members Patrick O'Daniel, Derrelynn Perryman, and Terrell McCombs. The position was posted for 15 days and the committee selected qualified candidates to interview. Interviews were held on Monday, August 6, 2018, and earlier today the committee presented its recommendation to the full TBCJ for discussion in executive session as a personnel matter. Thomas Wingate emphasized the selection of the new state counsel for offenders division director would not occur until the regular session of the meeting today. Chairman Wainwright asked if there are any questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second.

*Thomas Wingate moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve the selection of Giustina Persich as the Division Director for State Counsel for Offenders to be effective October 1, 2018.*

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

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding the Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Audit Plan**

Christopher Cirrito, Internal Audit Division Director, referred to his committee presentation of the proposed FY 2019 Annual Audit Plan. He asked the board if they had any questions or concerns, and if none, he recommended board approval.

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

*Patrick O'Daniel moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve the Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2019 and authorize the Internal Audit Director to perform audit work outside of the audit plan if the director deems deviations are warranted, documented as required by the Texas Internal Auditing Act, and presented to the board at its next scheduled meeting.*

*Tom Fordyce seconded the motion which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.*

*(Attachment B – Texas Department of Criminal Justice Internal Audit Division Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Audit Plan)*

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Purchases and Contracts over \$1 Million**

Jerry McGinty, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the purchases and contracts over \$1 million. Item 1 is a \$6 million contract for modular panel parts and components. It's an annual contract in place for Texas Correctional Industries to buy the parts and components, and resell them to other agencies as they install them. Item 2 is a contract for the offender telephone system. It is a revenue generating contract, however, none of the proceeds come to TDCJ. Instead the proceeds go towards the state. Specifically state law dictates many of the components within our offender telephone system such as a 7-year base contract with additional 2-year renewal options, a number of security features, and dictates that the first \$10 million from profits go into the Crime Victims Compensation and the remaining profits are split evenly into the fund and the state's general revenue fund. The previous contract has an average rate of about 26 cents per minute. All statutory components were included, as well as the requirement to refresh the current system and equipment. The recommendation is for the new contract to be awarded to CenturyLink starting September 1, 2018, with a rate of 6 cents per minute.

Chairman Wainwright and Patrick O'Daniel abstained from voting on this item as their firms represent entities listed.

Chairman Wainwright asked for any questions, comments, or other abstentions. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second.

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

*Derrellynn Perryman seconded the motion, which prevailed by a majority when called to a vote.*

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding the TDCJ Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Operating Budget and Fiscal Years 2020-2021 Legislative Appropriations Request**

Jerry McGinty, Chief Financial Officer, requested the approval of the TDCJ Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Operating Budget totaling \$3,258.3 billion and Fiscal Years 2020-2021 Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) with \$725.7 million in exceptional items as presented in committee.

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

*Eric Gambrell moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Fiscal Year 2019 Operating Budget and Fiscal Years 2020-2021 Legislative Appropriations Request as presented, and authorize the executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to make transfers as necessary and as authorized through the General Appropriations Act and other applicable laws.*

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

*(Attachment C – Texas Department of Criminal Justice Fiscal Year 2019 Operating Budget, Fiscal Years 2020-2021 Legislative Appropriations Request, August 24, 2018)*

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Adoption of Amendments to Board Rules Title 37 Texas Administrative Code**

#### **1. Section 163.3, “Objectives”**

Sharon Howell, TDCJ General Counsel, requested the adoption of amendments to Board Rule 163.3, “Objectives,” as proposed and authorized at the June 2018 TBCJ meeting. She explained the amendments appeared in the July 13, 2018, issue of the *Texas Register*. Thirty days passed

and no public comments were received. Ms. Howell asked the board to move forward with final adoption of the rule.

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

*Derrelynn Perryman moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice adopt amendments to Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 163.3, regarding Objectives, as published in the Texas Register, and that the chairman sign the order to this effect.*

*E.F. “Mano” DeAyala seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.*

## **2. Section 163.38, “Sex Offender Supervision”**

Ms. Howell requested the adoption of amendments to Board Rule 163.38, “Sex Offender Supervision,” as proposed and authorized at the June 2018 TBCJ meeting. She explained the amendments appeared in the July 13, 2018, issue of the *Texas Register*. Thirty days passed and no public comments were received. Ms. Howell asked the board to move forward with final adoption of the rule.

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

*Larry Miles moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice adopt amendments to Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Section 163.38, regarding Sex Offender Supervision, as published in the Texas Register, and that the chairman sign the order to this effect.*

*Tom Fordyce 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 159.15, “GO KIDS Initiative”**

Ms. Howell presented the proposed amendments to Board Rule 159.26, “GO KIDS Initiative.” She stated this rule is being reviewed pursuant to the state law requirement that rules be reviewed every four years. The proposed changes are minor and provide more specific information regarding the location on the webpage to find links for the programs. Ms. Howell requested the TBCJ approve the amended rule for publication in the *Texas Register*.

Chairman Wainwright asked if there were questions. 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 159.15, regarding GO KIDS Initiative, to receive public comment, as presented.*

*Thomas Wingate seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.*

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action** **Regarding Facilities Division Construction Projects**

#### **1. Request to Replace Parking Lot and Perimeter Road at the Choice Moore Unit in Fannin County, Bonham, Texas**

Frank Inmon, Director of the Facilities Division, presented a new project for board consideration to replace the parking lot and perimeter road at the Choice Moore Unit located in Fannin County, Bonham, Texas. The work will consist of sealing all cracks, leveling and compacting potholes, installation of a prime coat and 2-inch layer of asphalt, removing gravel from the perimeter road and regrading it as needed. One bid was received for this project in June. If approved, the work will be performed by Richard Drake Construction CO. L.P., with a total cost of \$1,318,100. Mr. Inmon recommended the TBCJ approve the request.

Mr. McCombs commented that in this booming economy it is challenging to find vendors to bid on prison work.

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

*E.F. “Mano” DeAyala moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve a not-to-exceed budget of \$1,318,100 to replace the parking lot and perimeter road at the Choice Moore Unit located in Fannin County, Bonham, Texas, as presented.*

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

#### **2. Request to Replace Roof on the Psychiatric Facility at the Jester IV Unit in Fort Bend County, Richmond, Texas**

Mr. Inmon presented a new project for board consideration requesting to replace the roof on the psychiatric facility at the Jester IV Unit located in Fort Bend County, Richmond, Texas. The work will consist of removing the existing roofing system, insulation, and flashing. Installation includes a new PVC roofing system over insulation board. Bids were received for this project in June. If approved, the work will be performed by Texas Liqua Tech Services, Inc., with a total cost of \$8,908,800. Mr. Inmon recommended the TBCJ approve the request.

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

*Thomas Wingate moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve a not-to-exceed budget of \$8,908,800 to replace the roof on psychiatric facility at the Jester IV Unit located in Fort Bend County, Richmond, Texas, as presented.*

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

### **3. Request to Replace Water Distribution Lines at the Mountain View Unit in Coryell County, Gatesville, Texas**

Mr. Inmon presented a new project for board consideration requesting to replace the water distribution lines at the Mountain View Unit located in Coryell County, Gatesville, Texas. The work will consist of installing 34,406 linear feet of new PVC and iron pipe. Bids were received for this project in July. If approved, the work will be performed by B-Corp Utilities Inc., with a total cost of \$7,655,863. Mr. Inmon recommended the TBCJ approve the request.

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

*E.F. "Mano" DeAyala moved that the Texas Board of Criminal Justice approve a not-to-exceed budget of \$7,655,863 to replace the water distribution lines at the Mountain View Unit located in Coryell County, Gatesville, Texas, as presented.*

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

### **4. Request to Replace the Roof on the Box Beef Plant at the Neal Unit in Potter County, Amarillo, Texas**

Mr. Inmon presented a new project for board consideration requesting to replace the roof on the box beef plant at the Neal Unit located in Potter County, Amarillo, Texas. The work will consist of removing the existing roofing system and insulation. Installation of a new roof includes a new Ballasted Kee and insulation board. Bids were received for this project in June. If approved, the work will also be performed by Texas Liqua Tech Services, Inc., with a total cost of \$4,857,900. Mr. Inmon recommended the TBCJ approve the request.

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 a not-to-exceed budget of \$4,857,900 to replace the roof on the box beef plant at the Neal Unit located in Potter County, Amarillo, Texas, as presented.*

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

## **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*. There were two registration cards received prior to the established deadline for public comment within the jurisdiction of the TBCJ but not items posted on the agenda. The time limit set was three minutes per individual.

Jennifer Erschbek with the Texas Inmate Families Association spoke regarding heat, tablets, and telephones. She thanked the Chairman, TBCJ members, and Mr. Collier for their time. She expressed gratitude for the reduction in the rates for the offender telephone system. She stated the reduction from 26 cents per minute to 6 cents per minute is fabulous and will help offender families greatly. She expressed the desire to open the door to introduce tablets into the units for rehabilitation and educational purposes. She thanked the TDCJ for the progress made regarding the heat-related issues that has been going on over the past couple years. She stated there is still a long way to go and many areas that can be further improved.

Charles McMurray spoke regarding community supervision and parole issues. He thanked the TBCJ for their time. He proposed four recommendations to address the issues community supervision officers and parole officers face to complete their job of ensuring public safety and rehabilitation of the offenders. First, training needs to be substantially increased. Second, a work measurement study needs to be conducted to establish evidence-based practices. Third, enhance technical resources and technical expertise to develop operational procedures such as how to conduct drug tests and resources for counseling specific to offender needs. Fourth, review and determine what it will take to recruit and retain community supervision officers and parole officers long-term.

Chairman Wainwright thanked everyone for coming, and announced that the next meeting of the TBCJ will be Thursday, October 18, 2018, at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Austin.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairman Wainwright adjourned the 200th meeting of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice at 2:34 p.m.

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Chairman\*

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Secretary\*

\*Signature on File