

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ADULT PAROLE BOARD

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor

Members

Caryn Apodaca
Dorothy Pouges
Amy Lopez
Roberta Lucero-Ortega
Kristine Ring
Colleen McCarney



Roberta Cohen, Executive Director

Abram Anaya, Chair

Members

Janet Chandler
Anne Murray
Mary Jaramillo-Barraza
Carol Slavens
Whitney Steinmetz
Charles Tully

NEW MEXICO ADULT PAROLE BOARD QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 30, 2026

Call to Order

Chairman Abram Anaya Called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and confirmed the meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open meetings Act. The meeting was recorded in its entirety.

Roll Call

Executive Director Roberta Cohen called Roll.

Members Present:

- Chairman Abram Anaya
- Janet Chandler
- Amy Lopez (Zoom)
- Caryn Apodaca (Zoom)
- Ann Murray
- Carol Slavens
- Colleen McCarney
- Whitney Steinmetz (Zoom)

Not Present:

- Dorothy Pouges
- Mary Jaramillo-Barraza
- Roberta Lucero Ortega
- Kristine Ring
- Charles Tully

A quorum was established.

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Also Present:

- Roberta Cohen, Executive Director
- Lola Rael, Office Manager
- Douglas Wilber, Board Legal Counsel

Guest Present:

- Stephen Taylor
- Denali Wilson

Approval of Minutes

- The agenda for June 30, 2026, was approved.
 - Motion: To adopt the agenda as presented, and motion approved by Chairman Anaya.
 - Second: Motion Seconded by Member Murray.
 - Vote: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Chair Report

Certificate of Parole – Consecutive/Concurrent Sentence Transitions

Chairman Anaya reviewed confusion caused by the current Certificate of Parole issued to inmates transitioning from one cause number or count to another. The proposed new form:

- Clearly identifies movement from one sentence to the next.

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- Prevents confusion between “parole to street” and “parole to next number.”
- Requires no changes to Board members’ minutes form.
- Only changes the certificate produced by Office Manager Rael, Lola, APB.

Additional clarifications:

- Multiple boxes may be needed when inmates move across multiple consecutive numbers.
- Count-to-count movement should be documented (e.g., count 1 → count 2).
- If consecutive sentence is within six months of parole eligibility, the standard conditions form is used instead.
- Members must now enter “per NMCD audit” instead of an effective date.
- NMCD Offender Management Services calculates all parole eligibility dates.

Motion to Adopt Updated Certificate of Parole

- Motion: Chairman Anaya motion to approve new certificate of parole
- Second: Motion second by member McCarney
- Vote: Motion adopted and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Sex Offender APB Evidentiary Hearings Update

Chairman Anaya reported:

- ABS hearings are under high judicial scrutiny.

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- Board members must thoroughly review SL-1 conditions with offenders at release.
- PPOs consistently review SO-1 conditions at first contact.
- Backlog caused by time-calculation changes (Thompson) resolved in Spring 2025.
- Only one adverse appeal has occurred against Board determinations.
- Document every infraction individually.
- Courts now assess violations in “time chunks,” requiring detailed documentation.
- Board decisions must reflect clear and convincing evidence.

Tooker Case Update – Serious Youthful Offenders

Chairman Anaya outlined legislative intent and the Tooker ruling:

- Serious youthful offenders become eligible for parole at 15, 20, or 25 years, depending on offense.
- If multiple charges arise from one CR number, consecutive sentences are rolled together for initial parole eligibility.
- Separate CR numbers requires separate service.
- Approximately 32 individuals statewide fall under this statute.

Advocates requested Board memorialization of procedures for documenting minutes on consecutive sentences within the same juvenile case. Discussion deferred due to ongoing litigation.

Directors Report

SO-1 Form Clarifications

- Only SO-1 parole conditions can be used for violations.

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- Behavioral contract conditions from Probation & Parole are not enforceable for parole violation proceedings.
- Staff will screen violation packets for improper behavioral-contract conditions.
- Board members requested to initial SO-1 forms upon completion for accountability.

Staffing & Operations

- Office remains fully staffed.
- Office Manager Rael, Lola, APB commended for strong training.
- Electronic file scanning project begins soon.
- NMCD will provide OMNI system orientation for Board members.

Budget & Training

- FY2027 budget approved; tight year anticipated.
- Liability insurance and longevity pay costs increasing.
- APAI training opportunities in July and upcoming NIC conferences.
- Director encourages Board member participation in national training.

New Business

Administrative Rule – NMAC Title 22, Chapter 510 Part 3

Board reviewed proposed amendments please see attached draft amendment changes. No changes were required other than spelling errors.

Motion to Accept for Public Review: By member Murray

Second: Motion second by member Chandler

Vote: Motion Passed (roll-call).

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Updated Life Imprisonment Vote Sheet

Board reviewed expanded, statutory-aligned vote sheet including:

- Not schedule on Victims on birthday or death anniversary
- Risk and readiness analysis
- Rehabilitation evidence
- Institutional conduct
- Programming participation
- Reentry planning (housing, employment, mental/physical needs)

Motion to Adopt: Member McCartney motion to accept

Second: Second by member Murray

Result: Motion has been adopted by (roll-call).

Reasons for Denial Lifer Form – Updated

Board reviewed major revisions including:

- Simplified, statutory-aligned categories
- Updated mental health evaluation language
- Clear roadmap items (substance abuse treatment, education, anger management, SO treatment)
- Additional notation lines for individualized requirements

Motion to Adopt: Chandler

Second: McCartney

Result: Motion Passed (roll-call).

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Executive Session

- Board entered Executive Session at **10:30 a.m.** to discuss pending litigation and limited personnel matters, pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section 10-15-1(H)(2) and (7) NMSA 1978.
- Session adjourned; public meeting resumed at 11:15 a.m. No final action was taken in Executive Session.

Board Member Comments and Concerns

- Members discussed medical terminology in packets and communication. Member Steinmetz offered assistance and clarification support due to her medical background.

Public Comments

- Public participant Mr. Tooker addressed the Board, expressing gratitude and discussing personal reentry experiences.
- Board members engaged with Mr. Tooker regarding challenges, successes, and reintegration experiences.

Next Meeting

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- Director Cohen will coordinate the September 2026 quarterly meeting in Albuquerque, with planned visits to Grants facilities and a future presentation by a national decision-making tool specialist.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to Adjourn by member Murray
Second: Second by member Chandler
Result: Motion Passed (roll-call vote)

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Approved by the New Mexico Adult Parole Board on: _____

Chairman Abram Anaya