

CENTRAL OFFICE

1677 Old Hot Springs Rd., Ste. A
Carson City, Nevada 89706
<http://parole.nv.gov>
(775) 687-5049
Fax (775) 687-6736

CHRISTOPHER P. DERICCO, *Chairman*
SUSAN JACKSON, *Member*
TONY CORDA, *Member*
MARY K. BAKER, *Member*

DARLA FOLEY, *Executive Secretary*

STATE OF NEVADA
STEVE SISOLAK
Governor



LAS VEGAS OFFICE

4000 S. Eastern Ave., Ste.130
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
<http://parole.nv.gov>
(702) 486-4370
Fax (702) 486-4376

CHRISTOPHER P. DERICCO, *Chairman*
ERIC CHRISTIANSEN, *Member*
DONNA VERCHIO, *Member*
LAMICIA BAILEY, *Member*

NEVADA BOARD OF PAROLE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES

**Meeting of the
Board of Parole Commissioners**

October 29, 2020

NOTE: The following minutes have not been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting of the Board.

The Board of Parole Commissioners held a public meeting on October 29, 2020 beginning at 9:00 AM at the following locations:

Conference room at the central office of the Board of Parole Commissioners, located at 1677 Old Hot Springs Road, Ste. A, Carson City, NV and video conference at the Parole Board Office, 4000 S. Eastern Avenue, Ste. 130, Las Vegas, NV.

I. Open Meeting, call to order, roll call 9:05 AM.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman DeRicco. Present in Carson City were Chairman DeRicco, Commissioner Jackson, Commissioner Corda and Commissioner Baker. Present in the Las Vegas office were Commissioner Christiansen, and Commissioner Verchio.

Support staff in attendance:

Darla Foley, Executive Secretary
Mary Flores, Administrative Assistant III

Deputy Attorney General Nathaniel Hastings was present telephonically.

Members of the public present in Carson City included:

None.

Members of the public present in Las Vegas included:

None.

II. Public Comment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken pursuant to subparagraph (2) of NRS 241.020.

Public comment – Carson City, NV
No public comment.

Public comment – Las Vegas, NV
No public comment.

III. For possible action: Review/Approval of minutes from the September 30, 2020, Board meeting.

Motion:	Approve the minutes from the September 30, 2020, meeting.
Made:	Commissioner Corda
Seconded By:	Commissioner Baker
Votes in Favor:	DeRicco, Jackson, Corda, Baker, Christiansen, Verchio.
Votes Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion passed.

IV. For possible action: The Board shall comprehensively review the standards adopted by the Board pursuant to NRS 213.10885 in Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 213 and may act on determining whether the standards are effective in predicting the probability that a convicted person will live and remain in liberty without violating the law if parole is granted or continued. If a standard is found to be ineffective, the Board shall not use that standard in its decisions regarding parole and shall adopt revised standards as soon as practicable after the review.

Chairman DeRicco gave the background stating that the Board held a meeting on August 28, 2017, where Dr. Austin of JFA Institute, presented the revalidation of the Nevada Parole Board risk assessment. Dr. Austin stated that the risk assessment continued to be a valid predictor of recidivism as measured by an inmate being returned to the prison within three years. At that time, Dr. Austin recommended that the Board modify the level factors of prior employment, current age, and prison custody. The Board passed a motion that the certified standards were effective and that the recommended changes would be implemented as soon as possible. Due to the changes within the Nevada Offender Tracking Information System (NOTIS), the changes to the Nevada Parole Risk Assessment were delayed.

A Board meeting was held on November 7, 2018, and the Board reaffirmed its action to continue with the changes approved from the August 28, 2017, meeting. The Board took immediate action to adopt the changes, however, those changes were not implemented until March 2019 due to technical integration errors with NOTIS. Additionally, the 2017 Legislature appropriated funding to revalidate the parole risk assessment tool, these funds were reverted back to the general funds in fiscal year 2018 since the revalidation was just completed in 2017 and the recommended changes had not been implemented. In addition, the Board submitted a Bill Draft Request (BDR) requesting NRS 213.10885 be changed to read “at least once every four years” within the limits of legislative appropriation. This would have allowed the Board to change the two-year requirement to fall more in line with industry practice on revalidation and have three years of data to review recidivism statistics, but the bill did not proceed.

The Board is again requesting that the Legislature alter the requirement for revalidation of the risk assessment. The Board is now requesting a change from every two years to every five years. This request is due to a need for a larger data set to determine efficacy.

NRS 213.10885(6) states that on or before January 1st of each odd-numbered year, the Board shall review comprehensively the standards adopted by the Board. Chairman DeRicco indicated that the Board needed to determine whether the standards that the Board currently have in place are effective.

Chairman DeRicco opened it up for discussion.

Chairman Baker stated that because the new factors were not placed into practice until March 2019, the Board has only had approximately 18 months of using the current assessment. She feels the Board should wait until 2022 so there will be an appropriate amount of data to include data from the implementation of AB236.

Chairman DeRicco agreed but stated that the current statute requires the Board to review every two years and the Board needs to determine whether or not the standards currently in place are still effective.

Commissioner Jackson stated she believes that the current standards are valid and effective.

Commissioner Corda stated that he concurs with Commissioner Baker concerning the time constraints for compiling statistics prior to 2022. Based upon the previously approved assessment of 2017, he would recommend that the Board maintain the current assessment until at least 2022 to allow time to gather new information.

Motion:	That the Parole Board find that the current standards are effective in predicting the probability that a convicted person will live and remain in liberty without violating the law if parole is granted or continued
Made:	Chairman DeRicco
Seconded By:	Commissioner Baker
Votes in Favor:	DeRicco, Jackson, Corda, Baker, Christiansen, Verchio
Votes Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Passed

- V. **Public Comment.** No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken pursuant to subparagraph (2) of NRS 241.020.

Public comment – Carson City, NV

No public comment.

Public comment – Las Vegas, NV

No public comment.

- VI. **For possible action:** The Board may act to adjourn the meeting.

Motion:	To adjourn the October 29, 2020 meeting of the Nevada Board of Parole Commissioners
Made:	Chairman DeRicco
Seconded By:	Commissioner Jackson
Votes in Favor:	DeRicco, Jackson, Corda, Baker, Christiansen, Verchio
Votes Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion passed