

**Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
MEETING OF January 30, 2014**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

C15668 MICHAEL HAYDEN
C10727 RUBEN TAYLOR
C70634 GEORGE WORMLEY
C01469 JAMES WILLIAMS
C01521 CLEVE HEIDELBERG
C81085 CASPER ROSARIO

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Monreal
Roll call was taken by the Recording Secretary: Kelly Knappmeyer

MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Angela Blackman-Donovan	X	
Edith Crigler	X	
Ed Bowers	X	
Salvador Diaz	X	
Eric Gregg	X	
Craig Findley	X	
Tom Johnson	X	
Jesse Madison		X
William Norton	X	
Jennifer Parrack	X	
Vonetta Rush	X	
Donald Shelton	X	
William Simmons	X	
Geraldine Tyler		X
Adam Monreal	X	

15 Present

The Recording Secretary presented the following minutes for approval:
Open Session Minutes November 2013. (ADM – CF) Leave

Meeting was adjourned (ADM – CF). Leave.
Submitted by: Kelly R. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION January 30, 2014

Inmate Name: Cleve Heidelberg

IDOC Number & Institution: C01521

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, and W. Simmons.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Findley presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

43 years ago Mr. Cleve Heidelberg Jr., murdered Peoria Deputy Sheriff Raymond Espinoza in the course of an armed robbery.

Several factors have remained consistent over the years. Petitioner has never received a vote for parole. Police agencies, from local law enforcement to Gold Star Families and Chicago FOP, and the victim's family have always requested that he not be released. Peoria County State's Attorney Jerry Brady and his predecessors have always offered vigorous and detailed protest. And for 43 years, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, Mr. Heidelberg has maintained his innocence.

Petitioner is a study in contrasts--intelligent and violent; he has earned college degrees and was once employed as a technician at CAT. He has written well-reasoned proposals to current and former governors calling for structured release of elderly and seriously ill inmates. And he is a US Army veteran. Yet his institutional adjustment is peppered with acts of violence and his history of arrests begins as a juvenile offender in Peoria.

Although not referred for MH counseling, providers in 1971 considered him to be a sociopathic oriented person with doubtful prognosis.

Now 70 years old, and not assigned a job due to medical issues, he asks for a fair hearing not prejudiced by the offense of police murder. He cites the low recidivism rate for elderly offenders, his assertion that PRB has paroled sex offenders and multiple murderers--- individuals with greater offenses than his, as justification for his release. And he says it would be cheaper to parole an individual like himself. Give me the benefit of the doubt, he says, observing that his is not a bad prison record with not a lot of violence-- his words, not mine.

He says it is not in his heart and soul to commit a crime.

If released he would apply for SSI and VA benefits and seek to reside in a halfway house away from Peoria until he can afford housing. His degrees--from Roosevelt University, BA with honors in general studies, an AA from city colleges and coursework at SIU and NIU have led him, he

says, to work with community organizations and write grants. He would seek to continue this work upon release.

His criminal history prior to the instant offense and institutional adjustment merit the board's consideration. While incarcerated, the list of IDRs and punishment include 1979 deviant sexual assault -one year, 2000 drugs and para-6 mos, 2001 inmate assault and solicitation of a dangerous disturbance-1 year, 2008 fight- no GCC, 2010 inmate assault-3 mos and 2012 fight-no gcc.

His criminal history includes two juvenile confinements, followed by a 1964 conviction and 1-2 year sentence for attempt burglary, arrests for battery, armed robbery and rape (never prosecuted) and a 1967 armed robbery conviction where he and a co-defendant armed with handguns stole cash from a Peoria pharmacy.

It was while on parole from that armed robbery sentence of 4-6 years, that Deputy Espinoza was murdered.

Petitioner has long maintained that the court conspired to conceal evidence of his innocence. This is what he told a counselor in 1971: "I was accused to killing a county policeman, but I wasn't involved. My automobile was used. I lent it to another individual and he later picked me up. I would not even have been brought back if I'd had a competent attorney. Someone else has confessed to it but the judge suppressed the evidence."

His claim of innocence is also based on the assertion that fingerprints from the murder weapon would exclude him. However, the weapon was apparently not introduced into evidence and the conviction was based on the testimony of two eyewitnesses to the murder, one of whom had known him for many years, a witness to the related armed robbery, and the police officers who pursued and arrested him.

PRB's file contains police reports and SA letters that describe the crime.

On the late evening of May 26, 1970 drove to a drive-in theater in rural Peoria County. He approached the projection booth using the ruse that he needed to page a patron. Once inside he announced a robbery, tied up the 70-year old manager and instructed the 20 year old projectionist to take him the office and hand over the night's proceeds. The employees were able to persuade him delay the robbery until patrons left the area. The restrained employee was able to free himself and call for assistance.

Raymond Espinoza, a 20 year veteran of the US Navy and Peoria deputy was sent to the scene of a reported robbery. Within minutes the robbery became a murder and the 43-year-old deputy was dead. Heidelberg saw a squad car approach and before the deputy could unholster his weapon he fired into the vehicle. Heidelberg's vehicle was described by witnesses and after a pursuit he was taken into custody. He was convicted at a jury trial and sentenced to consecutive sentences of 10-14 years for armed robbery and 99-175 years for murder. The conviction was affirmed on appeal and two executive clemency petitions were denied.

One of the witnesses, an ex-offender assisting Espinoza as a drug informant, was in the squad car. He had known the offender for many years and witnessed the crime from a distance of several yards. The drive-in workers were also able to identify him.

I find no evidence to support the claim of innocence. But even if petitioner should admit his guilt, a history of criminal behavior both in and out of custody, an imperfect parole plan and the offense of murdering a public safety officer in the line of duty are sufficient cause to require that custody must continue. To parole Mr. Heidelberg would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Peoria County State's Attorney Brady noted Inmate Heidelberg's violent institutional record. He stabbed another inmate with a pencil. He also noted that witnesses identified Heidelberg and testified that he charged Deputy Espinoza's squad car and shot him in the head. He was killed immediately.

Motion to deny. (CF – ABD). Motion carries 13-0.

Motion for a three-year set. (CF – ABD). Motion carries 13-0.

Parole is denied for three years.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION January 30, 2014

Inmate Name: Ruben Taylor IDOC Number & Institution: C10727

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, and W. Simmons.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Johnson presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Rubin Taylor was interviewed on December 2, 2013 at the Dixon correctional center for parole consideration. Present at the hearing were Stella Taylor (mother), Celestine Wyatt (aunt), Andrew Wang and Michael Work (both from Northwestern law school). Factors considered for parole include, but are not limited to, the nature of the crime, inmate's testimony, institutional adjustment, a review of the file and parole plans.

Mr. Taylor is now 63 years old having served 39 years in the Department of Corrections and 41 years total for a crime committed on August 4, 1972. Mr. Taylor along with three co-offenders went to a largely white suburb, Barrington, Illinois, and randomly selected a home to rob which resulted in Mr. Taylor and his co-offenders fatally shooting and killing 4 individuals who were in the home. Mr. Taylor readily admits he shot the first victim after which he states Donald Taylor his brother executed the other three. Mr. Taylor recognizes he is morally and legally responsible for the 4 brutal murders of innocent victims. Mr. Taylor was convicted of 4 counts of murder for which he received 4 concurrent sentences of 100-150 years and one count of armed robbery for which he received 20-60 years to run concurrent with the murder sentences. Mr. Taylor and his co-defendants were part of a gang. They were a group of individuals who came out of the military very disenchanting. At that time in history, African American soldiers were treated very poorly in Vietnam. The gang was against Whites.

Mr. Taylor has had an excellent institutional record and expresses deep remorse for the murders. He continues to work in the optical industry at Dixon and has stayed current in new technologies. Mr. Taylor's health is excellent except for his teeth. He has an associate's and a bachelor's degree and many certifications. He is active in many things in the institution. Were he to be paroled, he would go to St. Leonard's house and then to his mother's home where she has kept a space available for Mr. Taylor. He has tremendous support from family and friends.

Motion to enter Executive Session. (TJ – ADM). Leave.

Motion to return to Open Session. (ADM – ABD). Leave.

Mr. Taylor has filed post-conviction motions and has appealed. The appellate court's decision noted a series of murders and robberies.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Robert Heilingoetter: There are many protest letters on file from the victims' family. The sentencing judge meant for the defendant to be in custody for the rest of his life. These victims were randomly selected and the murders unfolded in a horrific way. They executed this family in front of one another.

Chairman Monreal advised counsel that his statements should be limited to clarifications and corrections and he is not permitted to make a closing argument.

The petitioner's attorney Andrew Wang stated one of the petitioner's co-defendants was paroled several years ago. They asked that the Board focus on the case he was convicted of and not the others for which he was implicated but not charged.

Member Johnson noted the excellent packet prepared by the attorneys. Mr. Taylor has come a long way since the time of the offense and has great remorse, but there are certain crimes that to release an individual would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law. This is one of those cases.

Motion to deny. (TJ – JP). Motion carries 12 – 1. Member Crigler dissented.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION January 30, 2014

Inmate Name: James Williams IDOC Number & Institution: C01469

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, and W. Simmons.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Williams presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

James Williams was interviewed for parole consideration at Hill Correctional Center on December 4, 2013. During the interview his instant offense, criminal record, institutional adjustment and parole plan were discussed.

Inmate Williams was one of four offenders who took part in the robbery of multiple occupants of a Chicago Transit Authority bus. A female passenger was shot and killed when she refused to surrender her purse. Inmate Williams was armed with a sawed-off rifle but he was not the shooter. His sentence was reduced by the Appellate Court of Illinois to 30 – 100 years for murder, 30 – 100 years for three counts of armed robbery, and 5 – 10 years for attempt armed robbery. The latter sentence has been served.

Inmate Williams escaped from custody in 1980 and remained at large for 17 years. He was living in Georgia under an alias. He was paroled 2 ½ years after being re-incarcerated but he has been the subject of multiple parole violation reports. He was not charged for the escape.

Inmate Williams has been back in continued custody for 10 years and his institutional adjustment since that time has been good. He has received only two minor tickets.

If paroled, Inmate Williams would live with his sister. He has a lot of family support. He is in good health and capable of working.

Inmate Williams takes no accountability for his involvement in the instant offense. He has given conflicting accounts of his connection to the crime scene and the other offenders and the Board takes note of the 1971 Appellate Court decision, which states in part, "Of the eight eye-witnesses to the incident, five positively and unequivocally identified the defendant as the man standing in the front of the bus holding the rifle and who announced the hold-up." Inmate Williams version of the events is that he just happened to be on the bus at the time of the crime and knew the offenders. He said he wrestled the gun away from one of the offenders and that's why he had it when he was stopped by the police. In 2010 he told a different story in a letter he wrote to the Board. His multiple stories destroy his credibility.

Chairman Monreal noted he interviewed Inmate Williams last year and he is very passionate in maintaining his innocence.

Member Shelton also noted that even after the murder, Inmate Williams and his co-offenders continued to rob people. Even if he did not pull the trigger, he is accountable.

Member Blackman-Donovan stated that part of proof of rehabilitation is the inmate taking responsibility and showing remorse. Inmate Williams has not done that, so she cannot support parole.

Member Shelton stated he could recommend Mr. Williams if he did not tell so many stories.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney stated he had no clarifications or corrections to make.

Lilya Nitelman, attorney for Inmate Williams, stated they have filled out the paperwork for St. Leonard's house and they are considering him. Some of his parole violations were actually clerical errors. If he were to be paroled, he is 100% committed to conforming to the rules. He is deeply remorseful about his escape. He did not commit any new offenses while out.

In light of the escape, the parole violations, and refusal to acknowledge his role in the crime, parole cannot be recommended and would be inappropriate.

Motion to deny. (DS – JP). Motion carries 10 – 3. Voting in favor were Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Diaz, Gregg, Johnson, Norton, Parrack, Shelton, Simmons and Chairman Monreal. Members Crigler, Findley and Harris dissented.

Parole is denied.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION January 30, 2014

Inmate Name: Casper Rosario IDOC Number & Institution: C81085

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, and W. Simmons.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Rosario presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Interview: 30Oct2013, Tele-Conference , Office of the PRB Chairman
Present: In PRB office: Att. Jean Snyder, Rory Guerra, S. Diaz
In Red Onion Virginia State Prison: Ignacio Rosario, Mr. Turnbill (counselor)

This is the 19th Time before the PRB

Mr. Rosario's Case History:

20-20 yrs. for the December 1975 Murder of Benjamin Llanas during a gang related shooting. Llanas was a rival Disciple gang member who was shot during typical gang related nonsense. Mr. Rosario denies being the shooter, admits arriving at the scene after the shooting, adding that a subject named Eddie who had fled to Puerto Rico was the shooter. The State puts forth that Benjamin Llanas identified Mr. Rosario as the shooter before he died and that eye witnesses at the scene also identified Casper as the shooter. Of surprise and interest is that Caspar was allowed to bond out on a \$1000 bond for this case. Mr. Rosario continues to deny the shooting.

While on Bond for the Llanas shooting, Rosario picked up the second murder case: that of Donald Walls.

Sentenced to 20-50yrs for the 1976 Murder of Donald Walls and 4-12 yrs for the attempt armed robbery of the Trackside Lounge in the same event.

In essence, during the evening hours of February 1976, Caspar Rosario and four other friends all residents of the Humboldt Park community, planned a robbery of the Trackside Lounge, 1758 N. Washtenaw. They entered the lounge announced a robbery with Caspar's brother holding a rifle. Patron Walls walked towards the groups and they backed away, shutting the business door on the group. Rafael Rosario shot . the door fatally striking Walls. Caspar was accused of urging his brother to fire the weapon.

Both 20-50 year sentences to run Consecutive.

Motion to enter Executive Session. (SD – JP). Leave.

Motion to return to Open Session. (SD – ADM). Leave.

Institutional Information: Incarcerated in 1978 this is Rosario's 36th Year of incarceration. He has been housed in approx. 21 institutions during his incarceration. This type of prisoner movement is known as "riding the circuit" and has as its goal keeping the inmate in a state of flux so as to prevent a number of unwanted negative behaviors and relationships within the institutions.

Admittedly, Mr. Rosario related that his has been a violent and many times senseless history. The gang has apparently been a central part of Mr. Rosario's identity and continued into the institutions. His first transfer to an out of state prison occurred in 1982 when he was moved from Pontiac to the Federal Prison in Alabama due to his involvement in the Pontiac Riots. Mr. Rosario related that because of his perceived rank within the LK's he was asked to intervene in the riots which he refused, he was transferred. This started his "circuit ride". The first ten years of incarceration Mr. Rosario accumulated a large amount of tickets; Mrs. Parrack identified approx. 70 IDR's over the first ten years. As time went on his negative contacts began to diminish. He was a high ranking LK holding the rank of Inca while at Stateville in 1989 and 1993. He related that left the gang in 1995. He refused to DEBRIEF with the IDOC so the renouncement was not recognized. Never-the-less, he holds that he left the gang in 1995. There have been security issues while in Minnesota and New Mexico. In the Virginia State Prison system since 2002. Rosario is presently housed at the Red Onion State Prison (level 5 more secure) having been transferred from Keen Mountain State prison (level 4) due to a weapon charge (radio antenna).

He has received a Certificate of Commendation for completing 21 months infraction free. He has also completed two Certificate Programs. Has an assigned job as a unit assistant, apparently a job not easy to get.

He now has 7 points, 32 points to remain in level five facility (Red Onion), everyone comes in w/ 20 points. The fewer points you accumulate the better. He awaits a transfer to Keen Mountain. Assessment: No way to look at Caspar and see him as a victim. He was and is a product of a violent environment. By his own admission, he was wild, the gang life was about constant fighting, shooting. He points to being young, stupid, clearly with no future orientation. In essence an illiterate, a Montfiore kid with violence as a way of life.

Into the IDOC: saw gang membership as essential given the perceived violent nature of the institution. Eventually, began to diminish the gang life and simply picked up infractions as other inmates.

Positives: the work at Red Onion, the program completions, the job assignment. The remorse: expressed much regret over having caused hurt and pain to the families of Mr. Walls, Ben Llanas and his close friend Coslollo.

Parole plan: weak, at this point it appears there is no strong, articulated plan which would provide Caspar Rosario with the needed support necessary to help him re-enter the community. My want and recommendation is that the IDOC consider bringing Mr. Rosario back to the Illinois system as it now appears that Caspar is capable of conforming to the rules and regs of the institution. Given that his family is a strong motivator that is acting as an emotional bench for the inmate it would stand to reason that Mr. Rosario would do even better. Giving him the

opportunity to do well in Illinois may increase his chances of developing the type of parole plan that would fit him. Also, it would benefit the Board to interview Casper face to face.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney stated Inmate Rosario needs more structure with his parole plan.

Jean Snyder stated she is joined by Casper's family here today. They are very, very supportive of him. The Unit Manager at Red Onion says he is a trustworthy inmate. Casper is essentially a ghost now because he is so far away. They would like for him to come back to Illinois so his family could visit him and support him even more.

Motion to grant parole. (SD – CF). Motion does not carry 5 – 8. Voting in favor of parole were Members Crigler, Diaz, Findley, Harris and Shelton. Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Gregg, Johnson, Norton, Parrack, Simmons and Chairman Monreal.

Motion to reverse vote to match Board Order. (CF – ADM). Leave.

Parole is denied 8 – 5.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION January 30, 2014

Inmate Name: Michael Hayden IDOC Number & Institution: C15668

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, and W. Simmons.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Crigler presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

On December 2, 2013 board member Edith L. Crigler interview inmate Michael Hayden at the Dixon Correctional Center. Present was inmate Hayden and member Crigler. Factors considered include, but not limited to, are his testimony, file review, parole plans and institutional adjustment.

Inmate Hayden is servicing 20 to 30 years for a murder on November 27, 1972 and 60-year sentence of each count of armed violence from 1980. On November 27, 1972, inmate Hayden who was 17 years of age, co-defendant Franklin Murphy also 17, and Gabriel Bridgman (juvenile) entered the Silver Rail Lounge located at 205 East 61, Street, Chicago, Illinois. The three offenders had met earlier the same day and planned to commit an armed robbery of the lounge and any patrons that were present.

When the three offenders entered the lounge, Chester Henderson (48) and Charles Henderson (43) were in the lounge serving the lounge's jukebox and collecting the money from it. There were two patrons and a female bartender present. The offenders announced the robbery.

Co-offender Murphy ordered the female bartender to put all of the money in a paper bag. The juvenile told the two men in the rear of the lounge to put their hands over their heads and to get up against the wall. Charles Henderson was leaning over the jukebox at the front of the lounge and the juvenile told inmate Hayden not to let him get away. Inmate Hayden turned towards Chester Henderson and shot him. The three offenders ran out of the lounge without taking any money. The bullet which inmate Hayden fired at Mr. Chester Henderson went into his chest and lodged in his back. Mr. Henderson was transported to Billings Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Mr. Henderson died as a result of the bullet lacerating his heart and liver.

On September 21, 1979, while serving his sentence at the Pontiac Correctional Facility, inmate Hayden tried to escape. Inmate Hayden and inmate Charles Mitchell were found hiding in the machine shop of the prison. Both inmates admitted that they were attempting to escape. Each were convicted and sentenced to a 4-year consecutive term in the penitentiary.

On January 21, 1980 inmate Michael Hayden tried to escape again; Inmate Hayden was being transported from the Pontiac Correctional facility along with inmate Charles Michael to the Livingston County Courthouse for a court appearance. Two Correctional Officers were injured in this attempt and the inmates were charged with attempted murder, attempted escape, aggravated battery and armed violence. On May 28, 1980 inmate Hayden succeeded in escaping from the penitentiary.

Inmate Hayden was arrested on May 5, 1981 in New Orleans and charged with a bank robbery. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to eight (8) years in Louisiana Department of Corrections.

On January 27, 1984 Judge William Caisley sentenced inmate Hayden to 60 years in the penitentiary on each count of armed violence, the sentences to be served concurrently; however Judge Caisley ordered that the 60 year sentences should be served consecutively to inmate Hayden's sentence of 20 to 30 years for the murder in 1972; and consecutively to inmate Hayden's 8 year sentence for armed robbery in Louisiana.

Inmate Hayden's institutional adjustment while at Dixon is been excellent. He only has three disciplinary reports since 1904 until he received one in 2013 for fighting with an inmate.

Inmate Hayden will reapply to St Leonard's for re-entry assistance and also has the option of living with a brother or sister. He also has the possibility of working with his brother or at a local auto body shop in Dixmore, IL.

Member Parrack asked when Inmate Hayden maxes out. 2016, but projected release is in 2015.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney noted Inmate got in a fight in 2013.

Motion to grant parole. (EC – CF). Motion does not carry 2 – 11. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Crigler and Findley. Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Diaz, Gregg, Harris, Johnson, Norton, Parrack, Shelton, Simmons and Chairman Monreal dissented.

Motion to reverse vote to match the Board Order. (ADM – CF).

Parole is denied 11 – 2.

Motion to continue to maximum out date. (ADM – JP). Motion carries 12 – 1. Member Crigler dissented.

Parole is continued to maximum out date.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION January 30, 2014

Inmate Name: George Wormley IDOC Number & Institution: C01469

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E Madison, Springfield, IL, on January 30, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, and W. Simmons.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Norton presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Inmate George Wormley was interviewed for parole consideration on November 5, 2013 by Board Member Norton. His current MSR date is in 2017. He is serving 75-100 years for Murder. He was found guilty by a jury trial and sentenced on February 25, 1977, just shy of his 18th birthday. He is been in IDOC for approximately 36 years.

Facts of the instant offense are as follows. On May 17, 1975, the petitioner and two co-offenders accosted a 14 year-old boy in their Chicago housing project. The victim was on his way to visit his mother who lived in that building. The three offenders believed he was a rival gang member. They forced him in to a laundry room and severely beat and stabbed him and mutilated his scrotum. They then placed a bag of garbage on him and set it on fire. It was a brutal crime and the trauma to the victim was so severe his father could not identify him. A witness, Patricia Freeman, identified Wormley as the individual who knocked on her door and asked for knives. All three offenders were found guilty for Murder.

When interviewed, Inmate Wormley was extremely polite and pleasant. He admits being involved in the crime, but stated is was not gang related. He indicated it was a building / turf issue. He said he threw a few punches and left when things went bad. He said he didn't do anything to try to stop it.

Inmate Wormley's criminal history was reviewed and includes previous violence.

Institutional adjustment is overall good. He hasn't received many tickets considering how long he has been incarcerated. Since 2010, he has received one major and three minor IDRs. He has earned his GED. He is not currently assigned, but has been most of the time in the past. His health is decent and he was attentative and polite.

If paroled, Inmate Wormley's family would provide housing and financial support. He would live with his mother.

There is a detailed protest letter on file from Cook County, as well as many other protest letters. Inmate Wormley has been extremely inconsistent with his version of the offense over the years.

He still denied primary involvement. He used to claim complete innocence. His story still changes. This is his 28th time up for parole. Past votes were reviewed. A lot of time was spent on this case and important factors were considered. Wormley was 17 years old at the time of the instant offense and has served a lengthy incarceration. He has an overall decent Institutional Adjustment and a lot of family support. His current MSR date is in 2017. There are still a lot of concerns. This was an absolutely brutal, senseless, horrendous crime. There continues to be strong protest from Cook County and the victim's family. There is also the inconsistency with Inmate Wormley's story.

To grant parole at this time with deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Member Johnson noted he took the protest in this case. The Cook County State's Attorney's Office stated Inmate Wormley does not take responsibility for his involvement in the offense.

Member Findley noted Inmate Wormley was a very young man when this happened. This isn't a matter of if he will be released from prison, it is a matter of when. This is as heinous of a crime we see, but the judge gave Wormley a sentence knowing one day he would go home. Will he be more prepared for parole in three years than he is right now? No.

Member Blackman-Donovan noted that the co-defendants also do the same thing, meaning point the finger at one another as the main aggressors in the offense. Inmate Wormley will not own up to his responsibility and that means to her he is not rehabilitated. This victim was a young boy and was tortured. The mutilation of the scrotum is a savage act. She will not support parole.

Member Bowers asked about the major ticket since the last interview. Member Norton confirmed that Inmate Wormley had a recent major.

Member Diaz noted that the nature of this murder is important. This was a step beyond killing with the torture and mutilation. The offenders had a lot of time to think while they were committing these brutal acts and they continued. Maybe in the next three years he will have a revelation and admit to what he did and want to tell the truth and make amends. He hasn't made it to that point yet and is still all over the board with his story. He will not support early release.

Member Findley added that this was clearly a gang related offense even though Wormley will not admit that.

Member Gregg stated he is also concerned with the non-admission of full accountability by the co-offenders. Someone committed these horrific acts on a little boy who was going to see his mother. The facts of this offense are horrible and no one takes ownership. It was an unthinkable crime.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney: Inmate Wormley is finally taking baby steps toward admitting his accountability to this crime, but he still isn't fully accepting responsibility.

Motion to deny parole. (WN – JP). Motion carries 11 – 2. Members Crigler and Findley dissented.

Motion to continue to maximum out date. (WN – ABD). Motion carries 7 – 6. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Diaz, Gregg, Johnson, Norton and Chairman-Monreal. Members Crigler, Findley, Harris, Parrack, Shelton and Simmons dissented.

Parole is denied to maximum out date.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."