

**KENTUCKY PERSONNEL BOARD
MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2026**

1. The regular monthly meeting of the Kentucky Personnel Board was called to order by Chair Denham on June 12, 2026, at approximately 9:30 a.m., ET, at 1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 105, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Board Personnel Present:

Mitchel Denham, Chair
Michelle Snodgrass-Deimling, Vice Chair
Larry Gillis, Member
Rick Reeves, Member
Gordon Slone, Member

Gordon A. Rowe, Jr., Executive Director and Secretary
Erritt H. Griggs, General Counsel
Gwen McDonald, Administrative Supervisor

Not Present: Lisa Haydon, Member

**** New Board Member, Gordon Slone, sworn in by Executive Director/Board Secretary Gordon A. Rowe, Jr.**

2. **READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 8, 2026.**

The minutes of the last Board meeting were previously circulated among the members. Chair Denham asked for any additions or corrections. Vice Chair Snodgrass-Deimling moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Gillis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

3. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Mr. Rowe presented a few updates for the Board's consideration. He described the problems staff have faced for some time with the ProLaw case management system the upcoming migration of the Board's case management data from ProLaw to Clio, the Board's new case management system. Mr. Rowe reviewed staff's progress implementing Clio for the Board. To migrate from ProLaw to Clio, support from the Commonwealth Office of Technology's ("COT") networking analysts and staff is required. Board staff are working to find mutual availability to schedule a call within the coming weeks with both COT and Clio regarding the case management information's migration and implementation.

The onboarding of the Board's new hearing officer is awaiting approval by the Finance and Administration Cabinet. Staff will continue to follow up on the approval of that contract. The addition of will bring another hearing officer on will allow staff to expand the Board's evidentiary hearing docket.

Lastly, Mr. Rowe confirmed that, on May 15, 2026, both he and Mr. Griggs attended an in-person Hearing Officer Training presented by the Attorney General's Office of Administrative Hearings. This was the first time since 2019 that the Attorney General's training has been conducted in person. In addition to providing required continuing education credits for them to serve as KRS 13B qualified hearing officers, Mr. Rowe and Mr. Griggs found the networking and training opportunities to be beneficial.

4. REPORT OF THE PERSONNEL CABINET

The Hon. Rosemary Holbrook, Assistant General Counsel of the Personnel Cabinet, presented for the Cabinet.

Ms. Holbrook welcomed Gordon Slone to the Board on behalf of the Cabinet. Ms. Holbrook reflected on her work with Mr. Slone on various issues over the years and stated that he will be an asset to the Board. Mr. Slone thanked Ms. Holbrook for her kind remarks.

Ms. Holbrook announced there were two (2) milestones that had been achieved on the Board. First, Mr. Griggs recently reached ten (10) years of public service and she awarded him a certificate in honor of this achievement. On behalf of Personnel Cabinet Secretary Mary Elizabeth Bailey and Deputy Secretary Robert Long, she congratulated Mr. Griggs for his service to the Commonwealth and the Board. Mr. Griggs thanked Ms. Holbrook for her gracious presentation and expressed his deep appreciation for the support both she and the Personnel Cabinet have provided him over the years while working in state government.

Secondly, Ms. Holbrook reminded the Board that this was Mr. Gillis' last Personnel Board meeting. Mr. Gillis began his service to the Board in 2009 and has served three and one-half terms for approximately twelve and a half (12 ½) years. For over a decade, Mr. Gillis brought his wisdom to the Board. Secretary Bailey, Deputy Secretary Long, and Ms. Holbrook agreed that having an employee from the Personnel Cabinet on the Board who was able to clarify Personnel Cabinet regulations, procedures, and actions, provided a great benefit to employees, the Cabinet, and the Board. Ms. Holbrook thanked Mr. Gillis for his service to both the Personnel Cabinet and the Personnel Board. She shared her appreciation for his dependability and trustworthiness as a coworker. Chair Denham also recognized Mr. Gillis for this milestone and for his service to the Board.

Ms. Holbrook stated that, on July 1, the Personnel Cabinet will process the two percent (2%) salary increase for state employees approved by the General Assembly. The salary increase will become effective July 1 and will be reflected in employees' pay on July 30, 2026.

Updating the Board on the Personnel Board election being conducted by the Personnel Cabinet via electronic voting in the KHRIS Employee Self-Service System, Ms. Holbrook reported that sixteen (16) candidates requested to run for two (2) open employee positions and were deemed eligible for the election. Voting for the two employee positions concluded on June 15, 2026, and the Cabinet will transmit the names of the winning candidates to Board staff by June 22, 2026. Ms. Holbrook thanked Deputy Commissioner Stephanie Carpenter and Personnel Cabinet staff for their hard work on the election.

Mr. Rowe, on behalf of the Board and its staff, added his thanks to the Personnel Cabinet staff and Deputy Commissioner Carpenter for their vital support with the Board's election process.

5. CLOSED SESSION/RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Vice Chair Snodgrass-Deimling moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussions and deliberations regarding individual adjudications. Chair Denham seconded. Chair Denham stated that a motion had been made and seconded for the Personnel Board to retire into closed Executive Session, passed by a majority vote of the members present, with enough members present to form a quorum.

[Pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(j), the Kentucky Open Meetings Act, the Board retired into closed Executive Session and the attendees were required to leave the video conference, pursuant to KRS 61.826. Specific justification under the Kentucky Open Meetings Act for this action were as follows, because there were deliberations regarding individual adjudications as listed on the Board's Agenda for the June 12, 2026 meeting.](9:59 a.m.)

Chair Denham moved that the Board return to open session and the motion carried by acclamation. (10:39 a.m.)

6. CASES TO BE DECIDED

A. Baraka, Nubia Lateefa v. Education and Labor Cabinet (2024-108)

Vice Chair Snodgrass-Deimling, having considered the record, including the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Order, moved to accept the recommended order dismissing the appeal. Mr. Gillis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

B. Maupin, David v. Transportation Cabinet (2023-150)

Mr. Reeves, having considered the record, including the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Order, moved to accept the recommended order dismissing the appeal. Mr. Slone seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

C. McWhorter, Kraig v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Juvenile Justice (2023-126)

Mr. Slone, having considered the record, including the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Order, moved to accept the recommended order dismissing the appeal. Vice Chair Snodgrass-Deimling seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

D. Stratton, Paul v. Energy and Environment Cabinet (2024-029 & 2024-115) (2 appeals)

--Appellant's Exceptions
(Moved to July Board)

E. Warren, Fatima v. Education and Labor Cabinet (2026-054)

Chair Denham, having considered the record, including the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Order, moved to accept the recommended order dismissing the appeal. Mr. Slone seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Show Cause Orders – No Response Filed – Appeals Dismissed

F. Lawson, Briana Ashley v. Cabinet for Health and Family Services (2024-149)

G. Leavell, LaRita v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Public Advocacy (2025-121)

H. McQuilling, Kelly v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2025-104)

I. Riggs, David v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2025-136 and 2025-145)(2 appeals)

J. Smith, Amanda v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Juvenile Justice (2025-097)

K. Wissing, Sidney v. Cabinet for Health and Family Services (2025-005)

In the cases listed above, Mr. Gillis moved to find that the Appellants had not responded to the show cause orders and that the recommended orders be accepted dismissing the appeals for failure to timely prosecute. Mr. Reeves seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 on Items "G", "H", "I", and "J", and 4-0 on Items "F" and "K"(with Chair Denham abstaining on those two items).

Show Cause Orders – No Response Filed – Appeals Dismissed

- L.** Powell, Kayce v. Cabinet for Health and Family Services (2021-105)
--Appellant's Response
--Appellant's Exceptions and Request for Oral Argument
(Moved to July Board)

Show Cause Order – No Response Filed – Dismissed as Withdrawn

- M.** Hernandez, Carol v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Juvenile Justice (2025-101)
--Appellant's Request for Oral Argument (Returned as Untimely Filed)

In the case listed above, Mr. Gillis moved to accept the recommended order and to dismiss the appeal as withdrawn. Mr. Slone seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

7. WITHDRAWALS

Mr. Slone moved to accept the following voluntary withdrawals and to dismiss the appeals. Mr. Gillis seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

- A.** Brindle, Marie v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2024-117 and 2025-057)(2 appeals)
- B.** Clark, Jason v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Kentucky State Police (2026-066)
- C.** Dziatkowski, Joshua v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2024-152)
- D.** Flannagan, Tina v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2026-024)
- E.** Taulbee, James v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Kentucky State Police (2026-047)
- F.** Wright, Jenna v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Juvenile Justice (2024-111)

8. SETTLEMENTS

Mr. Slone moved to approve and issue settlement orders and to sustain the appeals in the matters designated below, to the extent set forth in the settlements submitted by the parties. Vice Chair Snodgrass-Deimling seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 on Items "A", "B", "C", "D", "G", "H", and "I", and the motion carried 4-0 on Items "E" and "F", with Chair Denham abstaining.

- A.** Christian, Philip v. Auditor of Public Accounts (2024-135)(Mediation)

- B. Crowe, Jamie v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2026-015)
- C. Harper, Michael v. Transportation Cabinet (2026-045)
- D. Johnson, Kayla v. Department of Veterans Affairs (2026-007)
- E. Miller, Christie v. Cabinet for Health and Family Services (2024-011)
- F. Nolen, Eddie v. Cabinet for Health and Family Services (2025-148)(Mediation)
- G. Prather, Kayla v. Public Protection Cabinet (2026-037 and 2026-063)
- H. Salyers, Aaron v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections (2026-053)
- I. Totten, Janith v. Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Public Advocacy (2026-031)

9. **OTHER**

A. Case Load Reduction

1. Backlog, status of appeals, plan of action

Mr. Rowe stated that Board staff are making progress on reducing the backlog. The June 2026 Board Agenda contained twenty-eight (28) cases, including two (2) additional cases that were moved to the July Board Agenda due to the time for responses to exceptions not having yet expired.

Staff is continuing with the same backlog reduction strategy to schedule more cases for evidentiary hearing each month. This approach is generating favorable results, as shown by the number of appeals resolved on this month's Board Agenda.

Mr. Rowe further explained that, of the eight (8) cases scheduled for evidentiary hearing during May, two (2) were settled; four (4) were rescheduled; one (1) was a show cause, because the Appellant did not appear for the hearing and did not ask to reschedule prior to the date of the hearing; and one (1) evidentiary hearing was conducted.

Mr. Rowe acknowledged that staff are attempting to keep the Board's calendar and agendas full. The Board's June Agenda contained many settlements for the Board's review and approval. Mr. Rowe affirmed that, while these alternative resolutions mostly represented the work of the parties involved, this is further affirmation of Mr. Rowe and Mr. Griggs's approach in each case to continually encourage the parties to mediate appeals or settle them informally. Both Mr. Rowe and Mr. Griggs are also focused on assessing cases that are ready for the dispositive motion process if there is a jurisdictional issue. Chair Denham thanked Mr. Rowe and Mr. Griggs for their efforts.

Chair Denham asked when the Annual Report is due to the General Assembly; Mr. Rowe confirmed that the report is due in October. Chair Denham asked staff to consider thinking about adding a section that describes how Senate Bill 153 ("SB 153") has affected the Board's caseload, including any changes or trends in the Board's caseload that have been observed since prior to the passage of SB 153. This would inform the Personnel Cabinet and General Assembly about the volume of appeals filed and whether the passage of SB 153 has had a positive, neutral or negative effect on the Board's docket. Mr. Rowe proposed that the additional reporting could also discuss some specific Final Orders as examples.

C. Next Board Meeting: July 10, 2026

Chair Denham provided Mr. Gillis and Mr. Reeves an opportunity to reflect on their time on the Board.

Mr. Gillis stated that his experience has been very enjoyable and very humbling. He stated that, in December 2008, in part due to his attendance at previous Board meetings, Mr. Gillis was selected to fill the position of a resigning Board member. After that term, Mr. Gillis ran and was elected to serve on the Board for two additional terms. He departed the Board in 2017 but ran and was again elected in 2022 for another term. Mr. Gillis discussed that he had seen a lot of changes during his tenure on the Board. Mr. Gillis reminded the Board that his service began when the Personnel Board was located at 28 Fountain Place in the Capital Plaza Tower area in downtown Frankfort. He has served with several different Board members over the years. He participated in deciding over 2,000 cases during the one hundred forty-five (145) to one hundred fifty (150) meetings he attended over the years. There have been a lot of changes during his tenure including improvements in the process and upgrades to technology. He expressed gratitude to the General Assembly for appropriating money to the Board to upgrade its equipment and for hearing officers' salaries. Mr. Gillis wished the best for the Board in the future and plans to continue to watch meetings. Mr. Gillis said he was glad to have served with each of the Board members and staff.

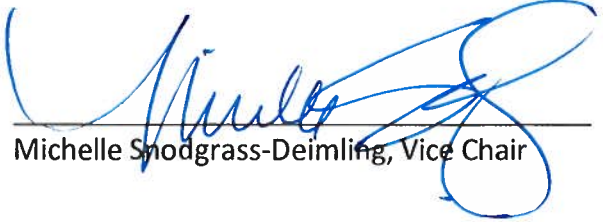
Mr. Reeves stated his time on the Board has been a learning experience. Everyone on the Board expressed their gratitude for his involvement with the Board. He said he appreciated his Board service.

Chair Denham thanked Mr. Gillis and Mr. Reeves for their service. He said each of them were wonderful Board members who brought a wealth of knowledge, both technical and common sense, to the meetings.

With no other business for the Board, Chair Denham requested that Mr. Gillis or Mr. Reeves should make the motion to adjourn the meeting, since it was their last meeting.

Mr. Gillis made a motion for the Board to adjourn. Mr. Reeves seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. (10:56 a.m.)

Mitchel Denham, Chair



Michelle Snodgrass-Deimling, Vice Chair

Larry Gillis, Member

Rick Reeves, Member



Gordon Slone, Member

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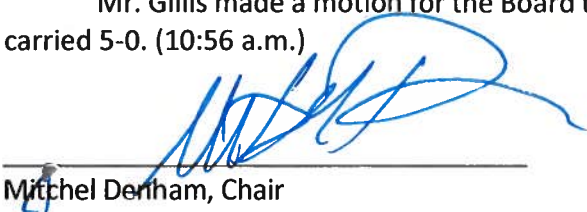
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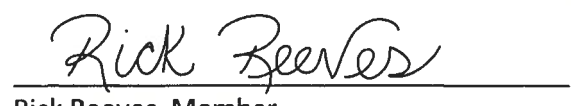
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