



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

c/o Blair County Controller, 423 Allegheny St., Ste 141, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of May 18, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. In the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Controller A.C. Stickel, Sheriff James Ott, First Assistant District Attorney Nichole Smith

Board Members not in Attendance:

Commissioner Laura Burke, Commissioner Amy Webster, District Attorney Peter Weeks, President Judge Elizabeth Doyle

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Deputy Warden Jim Eckard, Deputy Warden Jay Whitesel, Lieutenant Brian Sheesley, Angela Wagner, Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog)

Primecare Representatives in Attendance: NONE

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance: NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance: Kathy Rhodes

Media in Attendance: Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror

Call to Order: Controller Stickel called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Controller Stickel

The roll was called by Controller Stickel.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Controller Stickel called for public comment on Prison items. There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2023 Meeting: A motion was made by Commissioner Erb and seconded by Sheriff Ott to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2023 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Deputy Warden Eckard stated he wanted to recognize Lieutenant Brian Sheesley. Deputy Warden Eckard stated they are happy to have Lieutenant Sheesley on staff. He is a US Navy Veteran and worked at SCI Houtzdale for 22 years. The experience Lieutenant Sheesley brings to the Prison make him an asset to the team.

Controller Stickel welcomed Lieutenant Sheesley to the Blair County Prison.

Meeting of April 20, 2023 continued. . .

Inmate Population Report: Deputy Warden Eckard provided an updated Inmate Population Report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

Inmate Services Report: Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson stated: The Peerstar Re-entry Program had 5 participants. The Salvation Army presentation had 3 participants. Women's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 30 participants. Men's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 11 participants. Reformers Unanimous had 20 participants. Women's Parenting had 3 participants. Men's Parenting had 25 participants. The Good Will Re-entry Program had 4 participants. The GED Preparation Program has 3 female and 10 male participants. The Work Release Program has 4 participants. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) had 10 female and 17 male participants.

Warden's Report: Deputy Warden Eckard provided the Warden's Report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

Staffing Update: Deputy Warden Eckard provided a Staffing Report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

COVID-19 Update: Deputy Warden Eckard stated there were no COVID-19 issues with the staff or inmates.

Prison Sub-Committees: Commissioner Erb stated the Re-entry Coalition will a meeting in May and in June.

Financial Report: Controller Stickel provided a report for April 2023 which will be kept on file with the minutes.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, Controller Stickel adjourned the meeting at 8:47 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at the Blair County Prison.

Respectfully Submitted,


President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle
Secretary