



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of March 21, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. In the Commissioner's Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner David Kessler,
Commissioner Amy Webster, Controller
A.C. Stickel, District Attorney Peter Weeks,
President Judge Wade Kagarise, Sheriff
James Ott

Board Members not in Attendance:

Quorum: Present

Media in Attendance:

Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Cory
Yedlosky, Deputy Warden Shaun
Edmundson, Lieutenant Amanda Moore,
Lieutenant Brenda Matthews, Carol
Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community
Watchdog)

**Primecare Representatives in
Attendance:** NONE

**AFSCME Representatives in
Attendance:** NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance:

Call to Order: Commissioner Kessler called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.

Moment of Silent Reflection: Led by Commissioner Kessler

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Commissioner Kessler

The roll was called by Commissioner Kessler

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Commissioner Kessler called for public comment on Prison items. Kay Stephens of the Altoona Mirror asked if there were updates on tablets for inmates, the decrease in work release, and rollout on MAT contract.

Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2024 Meeting: A motion was made by Controller Stickel and seconded by District Attorney Peter Weeks to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2024 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate recognized Amanda Moore and Brenda Matthews both of which have taken up positions as Lieutenants in the Prison. Amanda Moore comes from the Probation office and brings a lot of knowledge from her time with the County to first shift that was truly needed. Brenda Matthews has moved into the position of second shift Lieutenant filling the vacancy left when Cory Yedlosky moved to Deputy Warden. Matthews brings with her 28 years of experience to this shift where a lot of younger and new officer come in. Warden Tate is very grateful for Matthews moving to second from first and the other needs necessary with the new position in terms of Matthews's time. With these positions filled the Prison feels they have a good team to fulfill the prison's needs at this time.

Meeting of March 21, 2024 continued. . .

The warden wanted to thank both Moore and Matthews for coming and accepting positions as Lieutenants in the prison. The boards also thanked these women for their service and continued commitment to the County.

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

Inmate Services Report: See attached. Work release has decreased mostly because of people fulfilling their sentences. Work within the prison is still happening as well. Inmates and attorneys know the process and some are seeking work release. It's just a matter of making sure inmates meet the criteria for the work release to be processed.

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

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

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

Prison Sub-Committees: No sub-committee reports presented at this time.

Tablet for Inmates: Signed contract agreement sent yesterday to Encartle. Encartle will be in contact with the Prison and help with the roll out. Not dates for completion at this time.

MAT Contract: contract was approved by the Commissioners and one more MOU to be brought to the board and then the Commissioners involving Prime Care. No cost involved for the MOU on the County's side. There has to process put in place for receiving the medication from Prime Care to the Prison. The equipment has been brought in for the area to do the medication. The physical layout has been a hurdle to make sure this is done safely for inmates and staff. They are meeting with Judy Rosser to help with Blair Drug and Alcohol's involvement as well with the process. No completion date set yet for this either but it is very much in motion.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kessler adjourned the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,



August C. Stickel IV
Chairperson