



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of October 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. In the Commissioner's Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Board Members not in Attendance:

Quorum: Present

Media in Attendance: Kay Stephens – Altoona Mirror, Carol Dannenberg-Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog

Non-Board Members in Attendance: Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Cory Yedlosky, Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Tanner Nichols, Sherry Socie

Primecare Representatives in Attendance: NONE

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance: NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance: NONE

Call to Order: Commissioner Kessler called the meeting to order at 9:02 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. No additional attendees over phone.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Commissioner Kessler called for public comment on Prison items. There were none.

Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2024 Meeting: A motion was made by Commissioner Kessler and seconded by Sheriff Ott to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2024 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate recognized Corrections Officer Tanner Nicholas. Officer Nicholas has been with the county for six years. He works in every area of the Prison including transport, flexible working anywhere we need him. He recently completed the DOC fire arms academy to become a range instructor. The courses difficult to do and he spent a lot of time practicing to make sure he was reared and ready for that course. We just finished the last qualification at the range. Officer Nicholas will join Deputy Yedlosky as a range master. Officer Nicholas has been specifically commended for taking his time, being patient with people, making sure they understand the requirements, helping, and giving extra instruction when needed. Everybody who came back from the course deputy Yedlosky reported everyone was very complimentary to Officer Nicholas and was impressed with how he handled himself on the range. Everyone who shot at the range continued their qualifications this year. The Prison would like to recognize Officer Nicholas for the hard work he's put into make that happen. Officer Nicholas is a very valuable asset to the Prison's daily operation. The board appreciates the effort Officer Nicholas put in to become a range officer and take on the added responsibilities. They also thank him for his loyalty to the County in his longevity.

Meeting of October 17, 2024 continued. . .

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

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

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.

Request to approve charging inmates a \$5.00 fee to write checks: This item was motioned to be tabled by Judge Kagarise and seconded by Commissioner Webster for further review. The motion passed four to three. Yeas: Commissioner Kessler, Commissioner Webster, Judge Kagarise, and District Attorney Weeks; Nays: Commissioner Burke, Controller Stickel, and Sheriff Ott.

Request to approve policy of not refunding inmates with a balance of less than \$10.00 for inmates who are released or transferred: this item was withdrawn at this time.

Financial Report: Controller Stickel presented to the financial report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

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

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kessler made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Sheriff Ott. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, December 19th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Blair County Prison.

Respectfully Submitted,



August C. Stickel IV
Chairperson