



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of March 17, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

At The Blair County Prison

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Commissioner Laura Burke, Controller A.C. Stickel, Commissioner Amy Webster, Sheriff James Ott, District Attorney Pete Weeks

Board Members not in Attendance:

President Judge Elizabeth Doyle

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Deputy Warden Jim Eckard, Deputy Warden Jay Whitesel, Acting Sergeant Nick Moffitt, Sergeant Chad Murray, Nicole Hemminger, Allison Senkevich, Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog)

Primecare Representatives in Attendance: NONE

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance: Dave Carey

Prison Society Members in Attendance: NONE

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 Tracy Mosel-Miller.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Controller Stickel called for public comment on Prison items.

Dave Carey, AFSCME Representative, stated he asked questions in last month's meeting and never received any answers. If possible, he would like answers to the questions. He also questioned if there would be an internal investigation of all the processes "from the top down" in light of the Rhonda Russell incident.

Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2022 Meeting: A motion was made by Commissioner Erb and seconded by Commissioner Webster to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Meeting of March 17, 2022 continued. . .

Recognition of BCP Employee: Deputy Warden Eckard introduced Sergeant Chad Murray and Acting Sergeant Nick Moffitt. He stated they both have demonstrated their dedication to the Prison. They attended two Instructor Certifications. In October, they attended a course and became Master Use of Force and Defensive Tactics Instructors. They are currently instructing all the staff in the tactics they learned. Half of the staff has already been certified in the tactics. Deputy Warden Eckard stated Warden Tate's goal is to have all staff recertified by the April 30, 2022.

In February, Sergeant Murray and Acting Sergeant Moffitt attended training from D2 Tactical Training Experts. Security and Transportation of Inmates was the topic of the training. The goal is to have everyone recertified in these tactics in May 2022.

Deputy Warden Eckard thanked Sergeant Murray and Acting Sergeant Moffitt for their willingness to give up a couple of weeks of their lives to be out of town for the training; and training the staff on their time off.

Chairman Stickel thanked Sergeant Murray and Acting Sergeant Moffitt for their dedication and improving the staff.

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 Jay Whitsel stated C-Prep Program has not restarted. The Peerstar Re-entry Program has 12 female participants and 16 male participants. Men's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 2 participants. Women's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 3 participants. Men's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 2 participants. Reformers Unanimous had 10 participants. Women's Parenting had 16 participants. Men's Parenting had 28 participants.

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

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

Commissioner Erb asked if the issue of recruitment has gotten better. Deputy Warden Eckard stated they worked with Human Resources to change the announcement on the *Workable* site. They are now offering Full-Time and Fill-In Positions. This has been attracting very good candidates.

COVID-19 Update: Deputy Warden Eckard stated there are no inmates or staff under COVID-19 protocol.

On March 8, 2022; 31 inmates and 1 staff member received COVID-19 vaccinations provided by Tyrone Pharmacy.

Meeting of March 17, 2022 continued. . .

Prison Expansion Committee: Chairman Stickel stated they continue to have meetings with R.L. Kimball, Architect. The Expansion Committee has asked R.L. Kimball, Architect to sharpen their pencils and present more options.

Chairman Stickel also stated the Commissioners applied for a grant for a feasibility study to assist with exploring additional options.

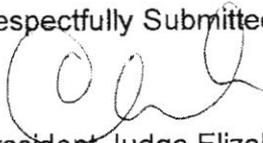
Financial Report: Controller Stickel provided a report for February which will be kept on file with the minutes.

No Executive Session was conducted at this time.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, Controller Stickel adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,



President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle
Secretary