



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of September 20, 2018 at 8:30 AM at the Blair County Prison

Board Members in Attendance:

Judge Milliron, Commissioner Beam,
Commissioner Erb, Commissioner Tomassetti
Controller Stickel, Sheriff Ott

Board Members not in Attendance: District
Attorney Consiglio

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Tate, Deputy Warden McMahan

Primecare Representatives in Attendance:

None

AFSCME: None

Prison Society Members in Attendance: Dr.
Ed Grab

Media in Attendance: Kay Stephens, Altoona
Mirror

Call to Order: Judge Milliron called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Judge Milliron.

Call for Public Comment: Judge Milliron called for public comment on Prison Board Items. Dr. Ed Grab commented that he participated in a tour of the prison on Monday and that there were very few issues.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Sheriff Ott and seconded by Commissioner Beam that the minutes from the August 16, 2018 Prison Board meeting, be approved as prepared. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employees: The board recognized 1st Shift Sergeant Sean Edmundson, 2nd shift Sergeant Joshua Cherish and 3rd shift Sergeant Brian Crawford for their efforts, their leadership and their willingness to change and help us to make the changes we need.

Update on FMLA/8-hour restrictions: Judge Milliron explained that the new FMLA policy will go into effect September 27th. In the past, the 8-hour restriction on FMLA was causing overtime and employees could not be mandated to the next shift. The policy states that sick and vacation hours must be utilized during an FMLA leave. Warden Tate explained that if you if you take FMLA and that shift would have been a mandatory overtime shift, they can take another 8 hours for that shift, so 16 hours of FMLA would be used.

Inmate Population Report: Presented by Warden Tate and will be kept on file with the minutes.

Warden Tate explained that Blair County Prison housed some Bedford Prison inmates to help them out due to their inspection.

Inmate Services Report: Presented by Deputy McMahan and will be kept on file with the minutes. It was noted that the Reformers Anonymous Program is listed as Reformers Unanimous in the report and should be corrected.

Judge Milliron asked if the volunteers for the Inmate Services programs are thanked for their participation. Warden Tate explained that they had been thanked in the past and she will assure that thanks is extended to those volunteers again.

Warden's Report: Presented by Warden Tate and will be kept on file with minutes.

Financial Report: Controller Stickel explained that only the overtime report is included in the Agenda for this month, but not a complete financial report. A complete financial report will be created by his office and distributed to the board via e-mail and kept on file with the minutes. In the future, reports will be included each month with the agenda.

Warden Tate explained that there have recently been reasons for overtime that were not anticipated including hospital coverage. Judge Milliron requested a report regarding the costs of hospital coverage with regard to overtime hours.

Update on the DOC Report: Judge Milliron explained that the DOC representative was unable to attend today's meeting because of the lockdown situation, but that if he were here, he would report on staffing, the camera implementation, and the kitchen.

Warden Tate noted that she is still waiting for a final report from the D.O.C. and that it would be sent to Commissioner Erb and Judge Milliron.

Judge Milliron asked Dr. Grab if the Prison Society had noticed a cultural change since Warden Tate became warden. His response was that he feels a very good sense of cooperation. He indicated that on their last tour, there were 2 cell blocks with zero complaints.

Kay Stephens asked when the new FMLA policy goes into effect. Warden Tate and Judge Milliron explained that they believe it is on September 27th but that she should verify that with someone in HR.

Kay Stephens asked if we should not look for any changes in overtime as a result of the policy until October and Warden Tate agreed. Controller Stickel noted that the new FMLA policy may not reduce overtime significantly, but will make the prison a safer workplace. Judge Milliron noted that Mitch Cooper and Bob Marsh found that overtime issues included eight factors and that staffing was an important one, but safety was even more important. Warden Tate noted that the staff is aware of the FMLA policy change.

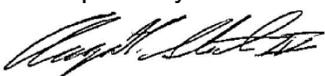
Judge Milliron noted that the collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME expires at the end of 2018 and that he and the team have been spending a lot of time and effort to reach an agreement. He asked that Warden Tate provide an update at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Executive Session: The board went into executive session for personnel and litigation issues.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 18, 2018 AT 8:30 AM AT THE BLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN CONFERENCE ROOM 2B.

Respectfully Submitted,



Secretary