



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of August 17, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. In the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Commissioner Laura Burke, Controller A.C. Stickel, Commissioner Amy Webster, President Judge Elizabeth Doyle, Chief Deputy Chris Tatar

Board Members not in Attendance:

District Attorney Peter Weeks

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Deputy Warden Jay Whitesel, Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog)

Primecare Representatives in Attendance: NONE

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance: NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance: NONE

Media in Attendance:
Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror

Call to Order: Controller Stickel called the meeting to order at 8:30 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. Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror, commented the inmate population has been holding steadily above 300; and asked for any relevant observations of why.

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

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate recognized the Deputy Wardens, Lieutenants, Controller Stickel, Judge Doyle, and the Board for all the assistance they provided during her absence. She stated everyone at the prison did a tremendous job; even taking care of projects that were in process, without missing a beat. She thanked everyone for all they did.

Controller Stickel and the Board welcomed back Warden Tate.

Meeting of August 17, 2023 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 Shaun Edmundson stated: The Peerstar Re-entry Program had 5 participants. The Salvation Army presentation had 5 participants. Women's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 16 participants. Men's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 5 participants. Reformers Unanimous had 20 participants. Women's Parenting had 13 participants. Men's Parenting had 19 participants. The Good Will Re-entry Program had 5 participants. The GED Preparation Program has 7 female and 17 male participants. The Work Release Program has 4 participants. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) had 8 female and 25 male participants.

Controller Stickel asked Deputy Warden Edmundson to provide the Board a report to indicate the effectiveness of the different programs.

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

Staffing Update: Warden Tate 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: Deputy Warden Edmundson stated the Re-entry Coalition met this month. They continue to streamline goals: including work release, housing, education, and networking with community agencies/programs.

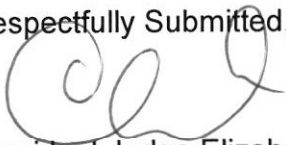
Commissioner Burke questioned activity regarding the prison expansion. Chairman Stickel and Commissioner Erb stated additional information will soon be provided to the Prison Board

Financial Report: Controller Stickel provided a report for July 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 9:10 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at the Blair County Prison.

Respectfully Submitted,



President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle
Secretary