

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

June 9, 2021

Board Members Present:

Thomas C. Chernisky, President Commissioner
William J. Smith, Commissioner
Scott W. Hunt, Commissioner
Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller
Gregory J. Neugebauer, District Attorney
Don Robertson, Acting Sheriff
Norman A. Krumenacker, III, President Judge

Others Present:

Chris Smith, Warden
William Patterson, First Deputy Warden
Craig Descavish, Second Deputy Warden
William Valko, Court Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Smith called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., at the Cambria County Prison, Manor Drive, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

Motion was made by Acting Sheriff Robertson to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on May 12, 2021.

Motion was seconded by Controller Cernic and passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Presentation and Approval of Invoices:

Controller Cernic presented the following bills and Invoice Status Report for approval:

Prison bills paid after the Meeting held May 12, 2021:

Retirement Fund	\$21,615.84
Retirement Fund	\$21,295.91
UPMC Health Plan	\$92,685.10
UPMC Dental	\$113.82
Symetra Life Insurance	\$462.08
Ebensburg Borough	\$28,068.80
Penelec	\$14,805.77
Phoenix Rehab	\$350.00
Ricoh	\$209.00
Wells Fargo	\$150.20
FNB Credit Card	(\$185.30)
Ricoh	\$370.52
Eric Wysong	\$56.00
GC Pivotal	\$67.16
Direct Energy	\$620.90
Peoples	\$926.53
Phoenix Rehab	\$295.00
Total:	\$181,907.33

Invoice Status Report:

June 4, 2021, 164 Invoices Totaling	\$229,339.55
Canteen Fund bills paid after May, 2021, Meeting	\$3,304.87
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$34,497.96

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to approve the bills and the Invoice Status Report.

Motion was seconded by District Attorney Neugebauer and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

The Warden requested an Executive Session.

Motion was made by District Attorney Neugebauer to convene an Executive Session at 10:33 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by District Attorney Neugebauer to reconvene the Public Meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Personnel:

- 1. Daniel Link, transfer Full-Time Correctional Officer I to Full-Time Correctional Officer II, effective May 30, 2021.**
- 2. Phillip Petak, transfer Full-Time Correctional Officer I to Full-Time Correctional Officer II, effective June 6, 2021.**
- 3. Dakota Fauver, transfer Per-Diem Correctional Officer to Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 13, 2021.**
- 4. Chelsea Gaida, transfer Per-Diem Correctional Officer to Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 13, 2021.**
- 5. Alexander Nagle, transfer Per-Diem Correctional Officer to Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 13, 2021.**
- 6. Gabrielle Freed, remove Per-Diem Correctional Officer from payroll, effective May 22, 2021.**

Warden Smith reported:

- 1. To date, there have been three hundred and seventy-nine (379) positive Covid-19 cases at the Prison; seventy (70) staff, seven (7) PrimeCare employees, and three hundred and two (302) inmates, which is an increase of five (5) positive cases since last month's report. Currently, the active positive cases consist of one (1) staff member and zero (0) inmates. All screening, testing, cleaning, social distancing, and quarantine practices remain in effect. PrimeCare has another vaccination clinic scheduled for June 8, 2021. Every inmate and staff member has been offered the vaccine. A total of forty-six (46) inmates and no staff members have requested it this time.**

2. Over the last month, the Prison's maintenance crew has been busy rehabbing the outside entranceway of the Facility. Overgrown shrubbery and trees were removed, topsoil was laid, grass was planted, and now, they are working on scraping the metal beam structure in preparation for painting the entire front façade of the building. Weather dependent, the project should be finished within the next two (2) to three (3) weeks.

In addition to the front of the Prison, the maintenance crew has begun scraping and painting all of the housing unit outdoor recreation yards. To date, three (3) of the six (6) recreation yards are completed.

3. With the decline of Covid-19 cases, the Prison is gradually increasing the use of County work crews. At the request of the Courts, the Prison will be sending work crews to assist at the County Records Storage Building, and another crew will be working on painting the PennDOT plows as part of the payback for the Agility Program Agreement that was entered into a few years ago. With no crews going out last year, the Facility will be doubling the number of plows being done this year to a total of six (6). This will fulfill the Prison's part of the Agreement.

4. For many years, the Prison has been utilizing LexisNexis software services for the inmate law library. The Facility is currently exploring Westlaw software and met with a representative recently. One major change that would benefit the Prison is that Westlaw is automatically updated every twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours; whereas, LexisNexis sends updates quarterly that need to be installed. If a proposal is received, the Prison will work with the Solicitor regarding any contractual issues.

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

May, 2021

Average Daily Population for May, 2021	344
Housing Revenue for May, 2021	\$138,040.00
Year to Date Revenue as of May, 2021	\$653,450.00

Food Service Report:

During the month of May, the Prison worked with inmate labor on time and temperature controls as well as how to properly store food items. The inventory practice of the FIFO (First In First Out) method of rotation as well as storing raw, cooked, and dry food items in the correct locations was also discussed.

The Facility also worked on preparing different items and meals that were prepared to celebrate National Corrections Week during the first full week of May. Different menus were provided for the staff through the week such as chicken Caesar salad, baked potato bar, a breakfast bar, sandwich and finger foods and a Chinese themed meal as well.

Medical Report:

Report is attached.

Training:

None.

Misconduct Report:

There was no information to report.

Miscellaneous:

There was no information to report.

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to accept the Warden's Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Communications:

None.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Judge Krumenacker stated that the current Covid-19 restrictions will remain in effect for Court-related facilities beyond the State's elimination of mask mandates, until Cambria County reaches a seventy percent (70%) vaccination rate.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by District Attorney Neugebauer to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk