

# PRISON BOARD MINUTES

December 9, 2020

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Others Present:**

William Patterson, First Deputy Warden  
Craig Descavish, Second Deputy Warden  
George Rozum, Security Captain  
William Valko, Court Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Smith called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg.

Motion was made by District Attorney Neugebauer to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on November 12, 2020.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt 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 November 12, 2020:**

Retirement Fund	\$22,316.32
Retirement Fund	\$24,620.95
UPMC Health Plan	\$91,294.52
UPMC Dental	\$113.82
Symetra Life Insurance	\$454.63
GC Pivotal	\$132.83
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$1,087.24
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$450.00
Ebensburg Borough	\$20,992.55
Mayer (Hite)	\$110.78
Penelec	\$14,916.22
Phoenix Rehab	\$100.00
Ricoh	\$565.17
Home Depot Pro	\$696.64
FNB Visa	\$29.34
Nutrition	\$8,390.40
Direct Energy	\$432.04
Wells Fargo	\$150.20
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$186,853.65</b>

**Invoice Status Report:**

<b>December 8, 2020, 93 Invoices Totaling</b>	<b>\$202,680.08</b>
<b>Canteen Fund bills paid after November 2020 Meeting</b>	<b>\$8,615.26</b>
<b>Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid</b>	<b>\$27,276.66</b>

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

**Motion was seconded by Acting Sheriff Robertson and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Controller Cernic to have the Commissioners approve updating the furnace in the HF Unit to a natural gas furnace.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.**

**Controller Cernic recognized the staff at the Prison for working through Covid-19 issues.**

**Warden's Report:**

**Personnel:**

- 1. Leanne Reese, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I from payroll, effective November 29, 2020.**

**Deputy Warden Patterson reported:**

- 1. Covid-19 mitigation, data tracking and collection, and maintaining Facility operations continue to be the primary focus during this pandemic. Proper cleaning, quarantine procedures, suspension of group activities, and social distancing practices remain in effect. Covid-19 testing of all new commitments, as well as testing of any symptomatic current inmates, continues.**

**To date, since September 23, 2020, the Prison has had a total of one hundred and eighty-one (181) positive Covid-19 cases; thirty-six (36) employees, three (3) PrimeCare employees, and one hundred and forty-two (142) inmates. Of these, four (4) active employee cases and one (1) active inmate case remain. Additionally, three (3) currently employees are currently off work pending testing and results.**

- 2. The Central Booking Center has returned to normal operations, and it appears that law enforcement continues to exercise caution in making arrests, as the number of defendants remains minimal.**

- 3. Bids are currently being received for the HF Unit Furnace Project. The specifications are for the replacement of the oil-fired furnace with a natural gas furnace. Deputy Patterson and Maintenance Supervisor Hoffman provided interested contractors with a tour of the project site as well as the necessary requirements of the project.**

- 4. The two (2) newly acquired Dodge vans have been placed into service for inmate transportation. Each van has the capability to transport thirteen (13) inmates in a secure compartment. One of the Prison's older vans has been retired from service, and the other van was repurposed to the County's inmate renovations program.**

**Statistical Report:**

**Report is attached.**

**November, 2020**

<b>Average Daily Population for November, 2020</b>	<b>291</b>
<b>Housing Revenue for November, 2020</b>	<b>\$133,280.00</b>
<b>Year to Date Revenue as of November, 2020</b>	<b>\$1,494,570.00</b>

**Food Service Report:**

During the month of August, the Facility worked with inmate labor on the importance of safety in the workplace. A discussion was held regarding what one is to do, if they start to choke, and what is to be done for a choking victim. Other safety issues were also reviewed such as what to do if someone receives a cut and/or burn in the workplace as well as what to do if one slips and falls.

During the month of September, the Facility worked with inmate labor on keeping clean and healthy by washing hands, wearing gloves, and wearing face masks. The importance of keeping a clean work space by cleaning and sanitizing work areas after each task was also discussed.

On September 28, 2020, the Prison started doing prepackaged meal items as well as having premade food items delivered from The Nutrition Group due to the lockdown for Covid-19.

**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 District Attorney Neugebauer and passed unanimously.

**Communications:**

None.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to allow phone participation of Board Members during the pandemic.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed. Commissioner Chernisky voted no.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion was seconded by District Attorney Neugebauer and passed unanimously.**

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**Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk**