

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

May 8, 2019

Board Members Present:

Robert Kolar, Sheriff
Thomas C. Chernisky, President Commissioner
Mark J. Wissinger, Commissioner
Kelly Callihan, District Attorney
Dana Descavish, Second Deputy for
Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller

Others Present:

Christian Smith, Warden
William Patterson, Second Deputy to the Warden
Craig Descavish, Second Deputy to the Warden
Scott Fye, Detective

Pledge of Allegiance.

Sheriff Kolar called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m., at the Cambria County Prison, Ebensburg.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wissinger to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on April 10, 2019.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Presentation and Approval of Invoices:

Dana Descavish presented the following bills and Invoice Status Report for approval:

Prison bills paid after the Meeting held April 10, 2019:

Retirement Fund	\$19,359.69
Retirement Fund	\$20,967.82
UPMC Health Plan	\$94,054.20
UPMC Dental	\$124.66
Symetra Life Insurance	\$452.56
Phoenix Rehab	\$120.00
Ricoh	\$351.40
Penelec	\$18,330.15
Ray Oil & Gas	\$513.85
Peoples	\$2,561.73
Ricoh	\$497.74
Total	\$157,333.80

Invoice Status Report:

May 6, 2019, 93 Invoices Totaling \$218,230.36

Motion was made by Dana Descavish to approve these bills and the Invoice Status Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

The Warden requested an Executive Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wissinger to convene an Executive Session at 10:43 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wissinger to reconvene the public meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Personnel:

- 1. Brian Litzinger, transfer from Full-Time Correctional Officer I to Full-Time Lieutenant, effective May 19, 2019.**
- 2. Tiffany Schaeffer, remove Full-Time Department Clerk II, effective May 4, 2019.**

Operations:

Warden Smith reported:

- 1. On Wednesday, April 23, 2019, at approximately 3:00 p.m., parts of Ebensburg, including the Prison, received a boil-water advisory. Due to this advisory, the Prison was forced to implement its emergency preparedness plans. Due to the supper meal being served within two (2) hours of the advisory, there was an immediate need for water. To resolve this issue, the Warden contacted Altoona Soft Water, who was able to have three hundred (300) gallons of drinking water delivered to the Prison with an hour. With the help of the County's Emergency Services Director, Art Martynuska, the Facility was able to secure a five thousand (5,000) gallon tanker truck of drinking water from Stallion Services. The truck was delivered the next day and was onsite until the boil-water advisory was lifted approximately forty-eight (48) hours later.**
- 2. The Prison's Victim Notification contract with the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association for automated victim notification software has been renewed for 2019. The Warden informed the Board that the PDAA has determined that there will be no cost to counties for 2019, saving Cambria County the annual fee of \$6,000.00.**
- 3. The Pennsylvania Prison Warden Association's Spring Conference was held in April, in Erie. Deputy Patterson attended as Cambria County's representative. The training included "Opioids, Co-Stars Purchasing, Sex Trafficking Laws, and Trauma Services." The Warden congratulated Deputy Patterson for being reelected to his fourth term as the PPWA's Western Representative.**
- 4. The Warden reminded the Board that this week is Correctional Employees Week and invited members to stay for lunch or visit the Facility throughout the remainder of the week, when there will be special lunches for employees and door prizes that have been donated by local businesses. On Friday, May 10, 2019, at 2:00 p.m., all Board Members are invited to attend the annual awards ceremony.**

5. As part of the contract extension with GTL, the company purchased a Cell Sense cell phone detector, (a \$13,000.00 value), to be used throughout the Facility. This will allow the Prison to detect cell phones that anyone entering the building may be carrying. It is also portable and can be moved throughout the Facility when conducting unit searches, etc. Training on the unit was conducted yesterday, and it will be placed in use in the near future.

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

April, 2019

Average Daily Population for April, 2019	478
Housing Revenue for April, 2019	\$261,864.00
Year to Date Revenue as of April, 2019	\$1,035,980.00

Food Service Report:

There was no Report for the month of April.

Medical Report:

Report is attached.

Training:

1. From April 1, 2019, through April 3, 2019, Warden Smith, Deputy Warden Patterson, and Security Captain Rozum completed training on these topics at the Pennsylvania County Corrections Association Conference in Altoona: “Addiction and How it Affects the Brain,” “The Impact of Stress and Trauma,” “Leadership Basics,” “CCAP Legal Updates,” and “Navigating FMLA and Related Employment Issues in Corrections.”
2. On April 17, 2019, Lieutenants Mark Anderson and Corey Fox completed “Employee Demotivation and its Effect on Our Workplace,” presented by CCAP in State College.
3. On April 26, 2019, and April 27, 2019, Deputy Warden Patterson completed training on these topics at the Pennsylvania Prison Wardens Association Conference in Erie: “Opioids and Other Dangerous Drugs – Safety Awareness,” “Co-Stars – Cooperative Purchasing,” “Pennsylvania and Federal Sex Trafficking Laws,” “Trauma Services and Transitioning for Survivors of Human Trafficking.”
4. During April, 2019, thirty-five (35) staff members completed a four (4) day annual recertification and Title 37 mandated training.

Misconduct Report:

There was no information to report.

Miscellaneous:

There was no information to report.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wissinger to accept the Warden’s Report.

Motion was seconded by District Attorney Callihan and passed unanimously.

Communications:

None.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Wissinger to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk