

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

August 14, 2019

Board Members Present:

Robert Kolar, Sheriff
Thomas C. Chernisky, President Commissioner
William J. Smith, Commissioner
Mark J. Wissinger, Commissioner
Dana Descavish, Second Deputy to
Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller

Others Present:

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk
William Valko, Court Administrator
Christian Smith, Warden
William Patterson, Second Deputy to the Warden
Craig Descavish, Second Deputy to the Warden

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Warden Smith requested an Executive Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to convene an Executive Session at 10:32 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wissinger and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to reconvene the public meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wissinger and passed unanimously.

Presentation and Approval of Invoices:

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

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

Retirement Fund	\$24,745.61
Retirement Fund	\$22,091.68
UPMC Health Plan	\$91,478.98
UPMC Dental	\$113.82
Symetra Life Insurance	\$449.01
Phoenix Rehab	\$525.00
Pro Disposal	\$495.00
Penelec	\$20,369.92

Camtran	\$712.24
Peoples	\$1,792.42
Ricoh	\$337.50
Ricoh	\$691.79
Ebensburg Borough	\$92,216.30
Kronos	\$6,656.53
Pro Disposal	\$495.00
Vale Wood Farms	\$8,871.12
Total	\$272,041.92

Invoice Status Report:

August 12, 2019, 116 Invoices Totaling	\$236,843.35
Canteen Fund bills paid after July 2019, Meeting	\$21,058.14
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$15,220.06
Visa Card to be Paid	\$1,288.24

Motion was made by Commissioner Wissinger to approve these bills and the Invoice Status Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

Personnel:

1. Hannah Orlosky, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective July 25, 2019.
2. Scott Clevenger, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective July 25, 2019.
3. Brian Thompson, remove Per-Diem Correctional Officer, effective July 11, 2019.
4. William McClellen, remove Per-Diem Correctional Officer, effective August 2, 2019.

Operations:

Warden Smith reported:

1. Due to the ongoing issues with contraband and drugs coming in through inmate mail, the Prison is scheduling meetings with three (3) different vendors that deal with mail processing offsite to see what they have to offer. On July 31, 2019, staff met with Smart Communications, and on August 22, 2019, they will be meeting with Text Behind, and with Pitney-Bowes on August 26, 2019. Once meetings have been held with all three (3) vendors, and if any of them offer a solution that would benefit the Prison, the Warden will bring that information to the Board.
2. Under federal guidelines, the Prison is required to undergo a PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) audit during every three (3) year audit cycle. The Prison Rape Elimination Act was passed in 2003, and the purpose of the Act was to "provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape." Another benefit of this Act is that it prepares institutions on how to respond and react in the event of a sexual assault. The audit for this inspection cycle is scheduled for August 13, 2019, and August 14, 2019, and the Prison fully expects to remain in compliance

with the Act. Once the final audit report is received, it will be forwarded to the Board and posted on the Prison's website.

3. The Prison recently met with PennDOT regarding extending the Agility Agreement, in order for the Prison's parking lot to get repaved. The Agreement worked out that PennDOT will crack seal and tar/chip the entire parking lot and road. In return, the Facility will use inmate labor to restore three (3) snow plows per year for three (3) years. In addition, the Prison will extend the inmate litter pickup crew for an additional two (2) years, (two (2) weeks in the spring and two (2) weeks in fall). This Agreement greatly benefits the Prison and the County, since the parking lot is twenty-two (22) years old and is in need of attention.

4. Naltrexone, sold under the brand name Vivitrol, is a medication primarily used to manage alcohol dependence and opioid dependence. Recently, the County received grant funding to begin providing Vivitrol to inmates being released from the Prison. The committee overseeing implementation consists of employees from the Prison, Courts, BH/ID & EI, Drug & Alcohol, and the Day Reporting Center. Specific criteria will be developed to determine qualifying candidates, a procedure will be developed, and the previously-mentioned parties will work closely with PrimeCare Medical to administer the injections.

5. The Prison recently met with a representative from the Department of Education, Veterans Education Division, to implement a program in which newly hired Corrections Officers who are veterans will be able to benefit from the GI Bill and receive a monthly stipend for the month that they attend the Prison's Training Academy and for up to six (6) months of on-the-job training. This stipend could be as much as \$900.00 per month, depending on the veteran's classification. To date, the Facility has three (3) officers who have registered to take part in this program, and the hope is that this will increase employment recruiting efforts with veterans.

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

July, 2019

Average Daily Population for July, 2019	519
Housing Revenue for July, 2019	\$261,588.00
Year to Date Revenue as of July, 2019	\$1,867,628.00

Food Service Report:

None.

Medical Report:

Report is attached.

Training:

1. From July 30, 2019, through August 1, 2019, Officer Lakin Nicholson completed three (3) days of training on Food Service Sanitation at the Department of Corrections Academy in Elizabethtown.

2. From July 29, 2019, through July 31, 2019, three (3) corrections officers and three (3) shift supervisors completed annual training.

Throughout the month, the following correctional staff completed and passed CLEAN recertification for the Booking Center: Captain Brian Latoche, Captain Don Ochenrider, Lieutenant Corey Fox, Officers Joe Popich, Harry Plummer, John Briel, Rick Alexander, Bob Nagy, and Brad Dugan.

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 Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Communications:

Sheriff Kolar received letters from former inmates.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wissinger and passed unanimously.

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk