

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

July 13, 2022

Board Members Present:

Thomas C. Chernisky, President Commissioner
William J. Smith, Commissioner
Scott W. Hunt, Commissioner
Dana Descavish, Second Deputy Controller

Others Present:

Chris Smith, Warden
Craig Descavish, First Deputy Warden
George Rozum, Second Deputy Warden
Kurt Wolford, Security Captain
William Valko, Court Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on June 8, 2022.

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 June 8, 2022:

Retirement Fund	\$28,205.17
Retirement Fund	\$26,480.18
UPMC Health Plan	\$93,946.22
UPMC Health Plan	\$568.70
UPMC Dental	\$113.82
Symetra Life Insurance	\$512.51
CamTran	\$230.87
CJL Engineering	\$1,775.62
Phoenix Rehab	\$225.00
Tribune Democrat	\$277.50
UPS	\$14.99
Wells Fargo	\$295.10
FNB (Visa)	\$6,227.90
Pro Disposal	\$1,792.25
Ricoh	\$900.11
Kimberly Peles	\$53.82
GC Pivotal	\$73.01
Penelec	\$31,757.06
Wells Fargo	\$300.40
Direct Energy	\$570.43
Total:	\$194,320.66

Invoice Status Report:

July 11, 2022, 144 Invoices Totaling	\$275,349.49
Canteen Fund Bills Paid after June, 2022, Meeting	\$2,410.71
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$49,825.81

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

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

The Warden requested an Executive Session.

Motion was made by Dana Descavish to convene an Executive Session at 10:35 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Dana Descavish to reconvene the Public Meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Personnel:

- 1. Chad Sossong, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 13, 2022.**
- 2. Christopher Huston, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 21, 2022.**
- 3. Matthew Leamer, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 21, 2022.**
- 4. Miranda Gindlesperger, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 30, 2022.**
- 5. Jude Launi, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective July 10, 2022.**
- 6. Matthias Balliet, transfer from Per-Diem Correctional Officer to Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective July 17, 2022.**
- 7. Joseph Frontino, transfer from Full-Time Correctional Officer I to Lieutenant, effective July 17, 2022.**
- 8. Tammy St. Clair, hire as Full-Time Booking Center/Records Clerk, effective July 17, 2022.**
- 9. Brian Risko, transfer from Full-Time Maintenance Technician to Full-Time Maintenance Supervisor, effective August 3, 2022.**

The Warden reported:

- 1. Through Monday, July 11, 2022, the Prison has experienced a total of 621 positive Covid-19 cases. There have been no additional positive cases since the last report. All Covid-19 protocols remain in effect. Breakdown is as follows: 482 inmates, 128 employees, and 11 contracted employees.**

2. MAJOR MAINTENANCE/FACILITY UPDATES: (As of Monday, July 11, 2022):

a. **HF HVAC System** – All pre-installation work is done and unit is set in place. Final installation steps and unit startup are expected by the end of month.

b. **Roof** – Work began on June 3, 2022. With the exception of last week, the weather has held up, and the contractor is making good progress. The majority of the roof repairs are done, pre-installation cleaning is done, and the final coating is currently being installed.

c. **Kitchen Floor/Equipment** – A pre-construction meeting with all parties was held on July 11, 2022, to develop a construction timeline, which is as follows: August 29, 2022, set up temporary kitchen; August 30, 2022, through September 2, 2022, equipment tear-out; September 6, 2022, floor work to begin. The project is anticipated to last 4 to 5 weeks.

d. **Fire Hydrant** – Hydrant was replaced on June 17, 2022.

3. Since the Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, the Hi-Set Testing Program, (GED), has been in full swing. The program is taught by instructors from Goodwill Industries, and the tests are proctored by one of the Prison's counselors. So far this year, the Facility has had 6 inmates complete the program and earn their GEDs. In addition, 2 are scheduled to take their final section of the test, and several others are scheduled to take individual sections of the test.

4. The Vivitrol Grant that the Prison received in 2019 was set to expire in June. Vivitrol is a prescription injectable medicine used to treat opioid dependence. Due to the lack of interest from inmates being released to receive the injection, there is still \$90,000.00 of unspent funds left from the grant. The Prison has applied for an extension to be able to use these funds and are awaiting formal notification, if the extension will be granted.

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

June, 2022

Average Daily Population for June, 2022	407
Housing Revenue for June, 2022	\$215,730.00
Year to Date Revenue as of June, 2022	\$1,289,295.00

Food Service Report:

During the month of June, the Prison worked with inmate labor on cleaning and sanitizing work areas as well as equipment in the workplace.

Jeff Callihan met with William Snyder, Joe Medvan, and Martin Singer, from the Nutrition Group. William Snyder will be filling in for Megan Gervasi, who is no longer working for the Nutrition Group.

Medical Report:

Attached.

Training:

The following trainings were completed during the month of June, 2022:

1. Officer Youssef El-Shawarby completed 16 hours of training on Intake Operations.
2. Officer George Lung completed 16 hours of training on Prison Kitchen Operations.
3. Officers Cody Morgart and Darrin Smith completed 40 hours of training at the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy on Fire Emergency Response Team Operations.

The Cambria County Prison Basic Training Academy No. 2 for 2022 began on June 13, 2022. There are 4 cadets in the academy, all Cambria County employees.

Misconduct Report:

There was no information to report.

Miscellaneous:

There was no information to report.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to accept the Warden's Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Dana Descavish to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk