

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

August 10, 2022

Board Members Present:

Thomas C. Chernisky, President Commissioner
Scott W. Hunt, Commissioner
Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller
Donald Robertson, Sheriff

Others Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance.

Controller Cernic called the Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

Motion was made by William Valko to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on July 13, 2022.

Motion was seconded by Sheriff Robertson 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 July 13, 2022:

Retirement Fund	\$27,819.50
Retirement Fund	\$26,142.26
UPMC Health Plan	\$90,632.84
Ebensburg Borough	\$37,841.05
Marcon	\$230,029.00
Ricoh	\$209.00
Wells Fargo	\$445.30
Jerrad Baker	\$91.26
Kristen Glavach	\$87.75
Eric Wysong	\$58.50
GC Pivotal	\$80.75
Penelec	\$32,857.53
Peoples	\$838.39
Direct Energy	\$590.43
Total:	\$447,723.56

Invoice Status Report:

August 8, 2022, 89 Invoices Totaling	\$352,867.38
Canteen Fund Bills Paid after July, 2022, Meeting	\$2,763.82
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$34,150.26

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

Motion was seconded by Sheriff Robertson and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

Personnel:

- 1. Jason Burkhardt, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective August 17, 2022.**
- 2. Matthias Balliet, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective July 30, 2022.**
- 3. Tyler Gulash, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective August 7, 2022.**
- 4. Chalsy McQuillen, remove Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective 7, 2022.**

The Warden reported:

- 1. Through Monday, August 8, 2022, the Prison has experienced a total of 625 positive Covid-19 cases, which is an increase of 3 since last month. All Covid-19 protocols remain in effect. Breakdown is as follows: 485 inmates, 129 employees, and 11 contracted employees.**
- 2. MAJOR MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES UPDATES: (As of Monday, August 8, 2022):**
 - a. HF HVAC System – Some final installation steps, including programming the unit into the HVAC software, remain. The unit startup is expected by end of month.**
 - b. Roof – Progress is continuing. No anticipated completion date.**
 - c. Kitchen Floor/Equipment – Construction timeline 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. DHU Recreation Runs – Due to deterioration, the segregation unit recreation runs are in need of replacement. The Prison will be using the existing framework and replacing the chain link with galvanized expanded metal. Cost will be for materials only, as Prison maintenance staff will do the installation. Materials were ordered this week.**
- 3. On Tuesday, the Facility began undergoing its PREA, (Prison Rape Elimination Act), audit, which is conducted to ensure the Facility is in compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003. The Act sets guidelines and requirements that facilities must adhere to regarding sexual abuse in prison as well as the housing of juvenile offenders.**
- 4. As the Board was informed at the end of July, the Prison is currently experiencing a staffing issue, which will impact overtime costs. Several measures have been taken to help combat this issue. Currently, there are 11 vacant full-time positions and no per-diem officers to backfill with. The Prison is continuing to advertise and have over 20 interviews scheduled throughout the month. A new Cadet Academy is scheduled to begin September 19, 2022.**
- 5. Medication Assisted Treatment, or MAT, is the use of prescribed medications, along with counseling, for the treatment of opioid abuse disorders. Recently, the Department of Justice issued guidance regarding the use of MAT within institutions. A meeting has been scheduled for September 1, 2022, with PrimeCare's President of Operations and the Commissioners, regarding any revisions that may be necessary to the**

medical contract in order to remain compliant with the Department of Justice's guidance.

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

July, 2022

Average Daily Population for July, 2022	408
Housing Revenue for July, 2022	\$214,360.00
Year to Date Revenue as of July, 2022	\$1,498,385.00

Food Service Report:

During the month of July, the Prison worked with inmate labor on preventing cross contamination, which occurs when microorganisms are transferred from one food or surface to another.

Jeff Callihan also worked with William Snyder from the Nutrition Group preparing for when the kitchen renovation project starts.

Medical Report:

Attached.

Training:

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

1. Five correctional officers and 15 support staff completed 16 hours of annual training.

The Cambria County Prison Basic Training Academy No. 2 was completed on July 15, 2022. There were 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 William Valko to accept the Warden's Report.

Motion was seconded by Sheriff Robertson and passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Sheriff Robertson to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by William Valko and passed unanimously.

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk