

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

February 12, 2025

Board Members Present:

Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller
Thomas C. Chernisky, Commissioner
Linda Rovder Fleming, President Judge
Scott W. Hunt, President Commissioner
Gregory J. Neugebauer, District Attorney
Keith Rager, Commissioner
Don Robertson, Sheriff

Others Present:

Craig Descavish, Acting Warden
George Rozum, Deputy Warden
Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance.

Sheriff Robertson 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 Commissioner Rager to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on January 8, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

John DeBartola stated that he believes that the County needs to increase the salary for Corrections Officers in order to reduce overtime.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to amend the Agenda to include notice of an Executive Session of the Prison Board that was held on February 10, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed. Judge Fleming abstained.

Presentation and Approval of Invoices:

Controller Cernic presented the following bills and Invoice Status Report for approval:

Prison bills paid after the Meeting held January 8, 2025:

Retirement Fund	\$35,235.35
Retirement Fund	\$30,886.19
Retirement Fund	\$34,171.58
UPMC Health Plan & Dental	\$45,297.06
UPMC Health Plan & Dental	\$46,348.24
Ebensburg Borough	\$37,572.30
Elite Outdoor Services	\$2,395.00
GC Pivotal	\$135.98
Peoples	\$1,317.92
CamTran	\$397.82
FNB (Visa)	\$44.60
Kyle Brawley	\$100.50
Kimberly Peles	\$100.50
Penelec	\$29,970.14
United Energy	\$1,171.25
GC Pivotal	\$135.98

Mainline Newspaper	\$578.50
Total:	\$265,858.91

Invoice Status Report:

February 7, 2025, 103 Invoices Totaling	\$716,728.19
Canteen Fund Bills Paid after January, 2025, Meeting	\$3,549.56
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$46,666.85

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

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Warden’s Report:

The Acting Warden requested an Executive Session.

Motion was made by Judge Fleming to convene an Executive Session at 10:40 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to reconvene the Public Meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Personnel:

- 1. Christian Smith, remove as Full-Time Warden, effective January 9, 2025.**
- 2. Eric Dreikorn, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer, effective March 9, 2025.**
- 3. Hire the following, pending pre-employment screenings:**

Full-Time Correctional Officers:

Misty Rito	Tyler Whitaker	Krista Pell
Scott McCoy	Joshua Fultz	Nathaniel Lane
Rusty Wills	Jason Graffius	Kristin Claypoole
Derek Makin	Brad Black	

Per-Diem Correctional Officers:

Josh Fetzer	Kolbe Brothers	Jason Crusan
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Acting Warden Descavish reported:

- 1. MAJOR MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES UPDATES:**
 - a. Kronos Time Keeping Software – The go-live is scheduled for the next payroll period.**
 - b. Housing Unit F furnace – All repairs have been completed, and the furnace is operating as it should.**
- 2. The Facility is due for its three-year cycle Prison Rape Elimination Act Audit. The audit has been tentatively scheduled for July of this year.**
- 3. The Basic Training Academy is scheduled to begin on March 3, 2025.**

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

January, 2025

Average Daily Population for January, 2025	334
Housing Revenue for January, 2025	\$173,466.00
Year to Date Revenue as of January, 2025	\$173,466.00

Food Service Report:

During the month of January, 2025, the Prison worked with inmate labor on when and how to properly wash hands in the workplace and how and when to use gloves in the food industry.

The Food Service Director continued to work with the Nutrition Group on ways to try to help with rising food costs and shortages.

Medical Report:

Attached.

Training:

The following staff training was completed during the month of January, 2025:

1. Officer Jared McCready completed sixteen (16) hours of training in Prison Lobby Operations.
2. Officer Kyle Brawley completed twenty-four (24) hours of training in Intake Operations.
3. Officer Tyler Long completed twenty-four (24) hours of training in Maximum and Floor Control Operations, twenty-four (24) hours of training in Central Control Operations, and twenty-four (24) hours of training in Intake and Property Operations.
4. Officer Johnathan Regala completed twenty-four (24) hours of training in Prison Kitchen Operations.

The following recruiting was completed: January 15, 2025, conducted a hiring event at the Cambria County Human Services Building.

Misconduct Report:

There was no information to report.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to approve the Warden's Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk