

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

June 10, 2026

Board Members Present:

**Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller
Thomas C. Chernisky, Commissioner
Linda Rovder Fleming, President Judge
Scott W. Hunt, President Commissioner
Keith Rager, Commissioner
Don Robertson, Sheriff**

Others Present:

**Kurt Wolford, Warden
Megan Bursky, Chief Deputy Warden
Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk**

Pledge of Allegiance.

Sheriff Robertson called the Meeting to order, at 10:30 a.m., at the Cambria County Prison.

Public Comment:

John DeBartola commented about the crime in the area and stated that he still wanted the documents he requested in his Right to Know Request that concerned the Prison.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on May 13, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Judge Fleming and passed. Sheriff Robertson abstained.

Executive Session:

An Executive Session of the Prison Board was held on June 8, 2026.

Presentation and Approval of Invoices:

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

Prison bills paid after the Meeting held May 13, 2026:

Retirement Fund	\$38,283.48
Retirement Fund	\$38,723.32
UPMC Health Plan and Dental	\$53,676.58
UPMC Health Plan and Dental	\$1,213.45
FNB Visa	\$170.96
Penelec	\$26,876.89
Wells Fargo	\$445.30
Ricoh	\$209.00
United Energy	\$1,209.80
William Irvin	\$116.73
ProDisposal	\$863.34
GC Pivotal	\$274.88
Total:	\$162,063.73

Invoice Status Report:

June 8, 2026, 103 Invoices Totaling	\$338,436.77
Canteen Fund Bills Paid after May, 2026, Meeting	\$5,325.36
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$40,309.45

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

Motion was seconded by Judge Fleming and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

Personnel:

Removals/Resignations:

1. Remove Vincenzo Scott, Correctional Officer I, effective May 21, 2026.
2. Remove Linda Gongloff, Per-Diem Correctional Officer, effective June 7, 2026.

Transfer:

1. Duane Biller, Per-Diem Correctional Officer to Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective June 7, 2026.

Warden Wolford Reported:

Major Maintenance/Facility Updates:

1. The evaluation of all proposals submitted in response to the recent Request for Proposals (RFP) has been completed. A recommendation is being presented for consideration, and a decision is requested regarding the vendor selection moving forward.
2. The Warden met with Controller Cernic and representatives from PrimeCare Medical to discuss opportunities for reducing healthcare expenditures, including potential cost-saving measures related to monthly billing and contract terms.
3. The Controller's Office completed audits for the Resident Fund and Canteen Fund at the Facility.

Training:

1. Director Smick attended a job fair on May 4, 2026, in support of the Facility's continued recruitment initiatives aimed at increasing the applicant pool for open correctional officer positions.
2. The next Correctional Officer Academy is scheduled to begin on June 8, 2026. Upon completion of the Academy, the class will transition into field training in preparation for independent assignment.
3. In coordination with the Sheriff's Department, three (3) interns completed tours of the Facility to gain exposure to correctional operations and the criminal justice system.
4. Chief Deputy Warden Furnari and Director Smick successfully completed Title 37 Inspection Training in preparation for the Facility's upcoming state inspection scheduled for August, 2026.

Staff:

1. Prison Administration conducted a meeting with all Booking and Admissions staff to discuss operational challenges, recent accomplishments, and future objectives. The meeting provided an opportunity to promote consistency across shifts, enhance communication

and collaboration, and reinforce safe and efficient operational practices throughout the department.

2. EAP training, coordinated by Human Resources Director Amy Glessner, was completed during the reporting period. The training emphasized employee wellness, mental health awareness, and available support resources to assist staff in maintaining personal and professional well-being.
3. A Supervisors Meeting was conducted on May 21, 2026, following the establishment of a full complement of Shift Commanders. The meeting focused on operational expectations, communication, and leadership objectives to ensure consistency, efficiency, and effective coordination across all shifts.
4. Staff attended service dog training with Detective Hinterliter to observe the capabilities and operational applications of the narcotics detection canine that will be utilized at the Facility. The training provided valuable insight into the canine's detection abilities and potential role in enhancing Facility safety and security.
5. Administration is continuing to work with Detective Hinterliter on the selection of a narcotics detection canine that is suited to the operational needs and security requirements of the Facility.
6. Interviews were held for the Warden's Assistant position to identify qualified candidates and support the continued operation of administrative services within the Facility.
7. The Prison coordinated with Chief Britton of the Johnstown Police Department to begin planning efforts for the Second Annual First Responders Ball, scheduled to take place in November. The event is intended to recognize and strengthen partnerships among public safety professionals throughout the region.
8. Facility staff conducted a memorial service to honor former Cambria County Prison Correctional Officer Calvin Ates following his passing on May 18, 2026. The Facility was also invited to participate in a memorial service at FCI Loretto in recognition of Officer Ates' service and contributions to the corrections profession.
9. Correctional Officers Week was observed to recognize and honor the dedication, professionalism, and service of those who work in the corrections field. As part of the recognition program, Captain Perino was selected as Supervisor of the Year; Officer Mastrine was selected as Officer of the Year; and Food Service Director Mathis was selected as Employee of the Year.
10. Chief Deputy Warden Furnari continues to coordinate and oversee preparations for the Facility's upcoming state inspection scheduled for August, 2026, including the review of policies, procedures, documentation, and compliance requirements.
11. Captain Houston continues preparations for the upcoming ICE audit scheduled for the end of the month, including the review of policies, procedures, documentation, and detention standards to ensure continued compliance with applicable requirements.
12. The Warden developed apparel designs for shirts and sweatshirts to support a fundraising initiative benefiting the Employee Benefit Fund.

Kitchen Updates:

1. Serv-Safe training was completed by Food Service Director Mathis and all staff working in the kitchen. The inmates also completed the training via the inmate tablets.

Treatment and Behavioral Health:

1. Chief Deputy Warden Bursky attended gambling addiction training with Gina Schellhammer and Michael Larocco through the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). The training supported the implementation of a gambling disorder treatment program for the inmate population, which is scheduled to become effective on July 6, 2026.
2. Staff attended the DRC Graduation Ceremony on May 15, 2026. The event highlighted the achievements of program participants and provided an opportunity to observe the positive impact of treatment, recovery, and community-based support services on successful reentry outcomes.

Faith-Based Programming:

1. Chaplain Burkhard has established a weekly Bible study program for juvenile detainees, which is held each Friday. The program is supported by two (2) volunteer religious advisors and provides additional faith-based programming opportunities for participating youth.
2. Chaplain Burkhard and Administration met with Prison Fellowship to discuss opportunities to expand faith-based resources available to the inmate population, including the donation of Bibles and other religious materials. In addition, discussions were held regarding the potential implementation of an Angel Tree program during the upcoming holiday season to support inmates and their families.
3. Met with Sean O'Dowd to discuss the implementation and orientation of the Alpha Program at the Facility. The program is designed to provide faith-based programming and support positive personal development, community reintegration, and successful reentry for participating inmates.

Family Reunification and Community Reintegration:

1. In coordination with Court Administrator Nicole Arrington, Officer Dumm and the inmate furlough work crew have expanded community work projects and increased overall productivity. These assignments provide participating inmates with meaningful work opportunities, promote personal responsibility, and support positive engagement while contributing to community improvement efforts.
2. The Warden met with Children and Youth Services Supervisor Melissa Raho to discuss the development of a program designed to increase positive interaction between incarcerated parents and their children. The initiative is intended to strengthen family connections, support successful community reintegration, and promote positive outcomes for both inmates and their families.

Community Partnerships and Criminal Justice Collaboration:

1. An unannounced inspection was conducted by the ICE Detention Manager to evaluate overall Facility operations and compliance with applicable ICE detention standards. Facility staff fully cooperated with the review process.
2. Chief Deputy Warden Bursky attended the Cambria County Health and Welfare Council meeting during the reporting period. Discussions included upcoming community events and collaborative initiatives scheduled throughout the summer months.

3. Administration attended the Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) meeting on May 13, 2026, and participated in discussions regarding procedures, programs, and collaborative strategies aimed at reducing recidivism and preventing unnecessary incarceration.

Statistical Report:

May, 2026

Average Daily Population for May, 2026	422
Housing Revenue for May, 2026	\$351,133.50
Year to Date Housing Revenue	\$1,517,076.00

Food Service Report:

Report is attached.

Medical Report:

Report is attached.

Training:

Report is attached.

Misconduct Report:

There was no information to report.

Miscellaneous:

There was no miscellaneous information reported.

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

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk