Westmoreland County
Prison Board
April 2, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Courtney, Commissioner Kopas, Sheriff Jonathan Held and Controller Jeff Balzer.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2012 was made by Commissioner Courtney, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous

The population of the prison today is 541 in-house, 560 total. The average population for March 2012 was 537 in-house and 554 totals. This compares to March of 2011 when the average was 520 in-house and 532 total.

Average length of stay for March 2012 is 33.75 days as compared to March 2011 which was 32.92 days. There was one rental billed in March 2012, for $ 2,310.00. The year to date total is $6,930.00.

In March, 80 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 15 were performed by Judge Pezze, 1 by Judge Hathaway, 1 by Judge Blahovec, and 59 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 4 out of county bench warrants were served. The number of video conferences for March is down due to a noticeable echo in the room.

Naphcare reported no cases of MRSA and no cases of staph infection in the month of March 2012.
Nutrition Incorporated reported that the March 2012 cost per meal was $ 1.00 compared to $ .90 in March 2011.

The Westmoreland County Prison Public Handbook has been updated and was put out on the web April 6, 2012.

Commissioner Courtney made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Commissioner Courtney made a motion to reconvene in public session, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to terminate full time Corrections Officer Brian Gibino, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to terminate full time Corrections Officer Ed Guy, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to accept the resignation of full time Corrections Officer, Gregory Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the retirement, effective May 1, 2012, of Sergeant Richard Planey, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

The Board recognized that an arbitrator has directed that former Corrections Officer, David Sims be reinstated after being fired 9 months ago for excessive force.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation, effective March 30, 2012, of part time corrections officer Shawn Shemenski, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Commissioner Courtney made a motion to accept the resignation, effective April 14, 2012, of part time correction officer Patrick McEwen, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to hire Curtis Tringhese effective May 2, 2012 as Sargeant, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to hire Amy Baker, effective April 3, 2012 as Assistant Records Supervisor, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Commissioner Courtney made a motion to have the Chairman of the Prison Board, Jonathan Held prepare and send a letter to National Institute of Corrections in Washington D.C. requesting an evaluation of the Westmoreland County Prison, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.