Westmoreland County
Prison Board
May 7, 2012
Meeting Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2012 was made by Commissioner Kopas, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous

The population of the prison today is 508 in-house, 528 total. The average population for April 2012 was 528 in-house and 551 total. This compares to April of 2011 when the average was 537 in-house and 552 total.

Average length of stay for April 2012 is 37.64 days as compared to April 2011 which was 37.05 days.
There was one rental billed in April 2012, for $ 2,310.00. The year to date total is $9,317.00.

In April, 49 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 20 were performed by Judge Pezze, 1 by Judge Hathaway, and 25 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 3 out of county bench warrants were served. The number of video conferences for April 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 April 2012.
Nutrition Incorporated reported that the April 2012 cost per meal was $ 1.00 compared to $ .98 in April 2011.

The Warden contacted Value Added Communication inquiring about allowing inmates to make local calls(Monessen, New Kensington, Belle Vernon, etc) for $20.00 per month that will be paid out of the Inmate Welfare Fund. This would be very helpful for inmates calling for a ride when they leave the jail.

Officers riding in an ambulance transporting Prisoners will now carry a cell phone. This allows the officers some protection as they travel unarmed in an ambulance.

The Warden has made 12 hour Interpersonal Communication Skills training available. Lt. O'Brien has done the training which involves how to answer the phones and their responsibility to the public.

Bruno Mediate gave the Adult Probation/Parole Quarterly Report.

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

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

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the retirement of full time Corrections Officer Vince Kremer, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to hire full time Records Supervisor, Lisa Backus, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

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