

**Westmoreland County  
Prison Board  
March 11, 2013  
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 February 14, 2013 was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous

The population of the prison today is 556 in-house, 581 total. The average population for February 2013 was 549 in-house and 577 total. This compares to February of 2012 when the average was 543 in-house and 558 total.

Average length of stay for February 2013 is 19.04 days as compared to February 2012 which was 18.12 days. There were no rentals billed in February 2013.

In February, 77 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 35 were performed by Judge Pezze, 3 by Judge Hathaway, 4 by Judge Bell, and 28 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 7 out of county bench warrants were served.

Wexford reported five cases of MRSA and no cases of staph infection in the month of February 2013.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the February 2013 cost per meal was \$.87 compared to \$.99 in February 2012.

In the first two months of 2013 there were 147 and 157 psychiatric visits, respectively, by inmates. Similarly there were 71 and 56 psychiatric visits in the first two months of 2012. There is no longer a waiting list for psychiatric patients to be seen by a psychiatric doctor. Inmates placed on suicide watch can be seen by a psychiatrist during this time and will be removed more timely from the suicide watch.

The Warden met with Dan Stewart from the New York State Department of Corrections, concerning the possibility of using video conferencing as a form of visitation with the families of the inmates. It was discussed that one 30 minute visit per week would be free of charge and after that there could be a charge for an additional two visits per week.

The state police and other police departments don't have shackles, but have been cooperative in getting them. There has been a policy change between booking and the sally port areas. The inmates need to be shackled before they arrive in booking.

The Prison Board has agreed that the contract for the chaplain's position as an independent contractor be set at \$18,000.00 and will be on the March 14, 2013 commissioner's meeting. The chaplain will receive retro pay back to March 1, 2013.

Jodi Cammarata gave the population report.

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

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

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the retirement of full time Corrections Officers Carl Perry and Tom Wood, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation of part time Corrections Officer, Banner Spennati, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

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