

**Westmoreland County
Prison Board
October 20, 2014
Meeting Minutes**

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

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Jonathan Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2014 was made by Controller Balzer, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 585 in-house, 599 total. The average population for September 2014 was 575 in-house and 588 total. This compares to September of 2013 when the average was 574 in-house and 596 total.

Average length of stay for September 2014 is 17.92 days as compared to September 2013 which was 18.78 days. Average length of stay from January to September 2014 is 42.52 compared to January to September 2013 is 43.70. In September 2014 there were 414 commitments and 397 releases, compared to 364 commitments and 342 releases in September 2013. So far in 2014, there have been 3442 commitments and 3469 releases. In January thru September 2013, there have been 3253 commitments and 3157 releases.

The rate of recidivism for September 2014 is 32.12%, compared to 36.81% for September 2013. January to September 2014, the recidivism rate is 35.09% compared to 35.99% January to September 2013.

\$54.90 has been collected from one rental billed in September 2014 from Federal Bureau of Prisons. Fines collected in September for Clerk of Courts were \$ 8,198.50. Total monies collected in 2014 for Clerk of Courts is \$ 79,557.70.

In September, 74 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 7 were performed by Judge Hathaway, 14 were performed by Judge Pezze, and 47 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 6 out of county bench warrants were served. 106 District Justice hearings were held in September 2014.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the September 2014 cost per meal was \$.99 compared to \$.98 in September 2013.

In September 2014, there were no inmates above the cap. So far in 2014, the prison has had to pay an additional \$13,526.55 for health coverage.

160 incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival. 52.6% of the inmate population coming into jail in September 2014 needed to detox, this compares to 53.3% last month, and 39% were prescribed psych medications, compared to 40% last month.

The Warden reported that our computers are not communicating with Renovo's video conferencing system. They hope to have the system up and running by the first of the year.

Per the Warden, Colleen Hughes the Executive Director of the Westmoreland County Drug and Alcohol Commission wants to begin helping inmates that are leaving the prison to go to inpatient rehabilitation, get their medical assistance reinstated before they get released from the jail so that there isn't a week lapse in medical coverage that is currently being covered by the WEDAC.

Starting on November 1, 2014 the FCC is putting limits on local calls and there will be no surcharges on out of state calls.

The Warden conducted a review of the police criminal complaints on new commitments and noted that many new inmates arriving at the jail need to be fingerprinted. A fingerprinting system in booking is needed at the jail.

The state inspection relating to Title 37 was done on September 30, 2014. Westmoreland County Prison was determined to be in full compliance.

Jody Cammarata gave the population monitoring report for July, August, and September of 2014. Sixteen veterans have accepted services in July, August, and September, through the Veteran's Outreach Program. There are two new programs that have been implemented. Salvation Army of Pittsburgh will accept inmates leaving the prison that have no address and nowhere to go. There can be no drugs or alcohol addiction. Westmoreland Community Action is the other new program recently implemented. Inmates leaving the jail have gone there and it has been a great place so far.

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

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

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation of part time corrections officers' Christopher Moody, Joshua Meadows, and Christopher Pietron, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the retirement of Records supervisor Barbara Toth and Executive Secretary, Diane Mackert, on December 1, 2014, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

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