

**Westmoreland County
Prison Board
May 26, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

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

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Anderson.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2015 was made by Commissioner Courtney, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

John Shannon of Texas-based OD Security North America presented a proposal of their full-body scanners to the Prison Board.

The population of the prison today is 573 in-house, 592 total. The average population for April 2015 was 585 in-house and 606 total. This compares to April of 2014 when the average was 609 in-house and 626 total.

Average length of stay for April 2015 is 17.74 days as compared to April 2014 which was 18.04 days. Average length of stay from January to April 2015 was 32.10 compared to January to April 2014 of 35.22. In April 2015 there were 394 commitments and 414 releases, compared to 393 commitments and 399 releases in April 2014. So far in 2015 there have been 1590 commitments and 1548 releases compared to 1491 commitments and 1495 releases in January thru April 2014.

The rate of recidivism for April 2015 is 28.16%. This includes parole and probation violations too. Also, the April 2015 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hr and 72 hour detainers is 36.02%. January – April 2015 recidivism rate is 30.74 and 39.41 including 48 hr and 72 hr detainers. This compares to January – April 2014 recidivism rate of 33.79, and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers, 42.03.

There was one rental billed in April 2015 and \$878.40 was collected. Fines collected in April for Clerk of Courts were \$10,181.20. Total monies collected in January thru April of 2015 for Clerk of Courts is \$37,246.88.

In April, 109 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 39 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 19 were performed by Judge Pezze, 3 were performed by Judge Hathaway and 37 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 11 out of county bench warrants were served. 105 District Justice hearings were held in April 2015.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the April 2015 cost per meal was \$.93 compared to \$.89 in April 2014.

In April 2015, there were 10 inmates above the cap, resulting in an additional \$ 705.00 owed for the month. So far in 2015 the credit for being under the cap is \$ 2,791.80. 55% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 58% last month. 43.6% of inmates are currently on psych meds, compared to 38.5% last month.

The Warden reported that \$4,051.12 has been collected for video conferencing through April, 2015. In the month of April, the amount collected was \$1,283.89. Effective May 31, 2015, all inmates at the Westmoreland County Prison will be entitled to one regular visit. Two video visits can be purchased for \$15.00 per visit.

The financial discussions with the United Mine Workers of America Local 522 have been mostly completed and there is a possibility that further discussions will need to go to arbitration to be resolved.

As a result of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's (PCCD) visit that the Westmoreland County Jail is in compliance with the core protections of the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002. All juveniles currently being housed have been either charged or convicted as an adult.

The Prison received Act 81 monies of \$ 154,611.60. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pays for the level 4 or 5 offenders serving 1-5 sentences that are on work release. This comes from grant monies but we are not guaranteed to always get these funds.

May 3 thru May 9 was Corrections Employee Week.

For the third year, several men from the prison including the Warden attended CERT (community emergency response teams) training at Moundsville West Virginia. It is a great training and all men agreed to pay their own way to stay there.

The Prison has received funding from Private Industry Council to do GED testing. Four laptops were provided by the prison to be used for the GED online testing.

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

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

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the resignation of full time correctional officer Zane Lakin, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to hire the following part time Corrections Officers, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Shawn Blackburn
William Cappalonga
Shaina Moseley
Katlynn Golkosky
Isaiah Jenkins
Zachary Gustafson
Daphne Swink
Rachel Anderson

Shara Zeunges
Carrie Smith
Lisa King
Seth Miller
Jason Macioce
Leanne Guercio
Matthew Molans
Rachel Bellish

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