

Westmoreland County Prison
Board Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2021

Members Present: Sheriff James Albert, Commissioner Sean Kertes, Commissioner Douglas Chew, Commissioner Gina Cerilli (via phone), Controller Jeffrey Balzer and District Attorney John Peck

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Chew.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting was made by Commissioner Kertes, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

There was no public comment.

The Adult Probation/Parole Report was submitted detailing the monthly statistical data on the Electronic Monitoring Program, Pre-Trial Services and the Institutional Parole Officer events as of February 22, 2021. The following information was presented to the Prison Board. There was 209 current number of offenders on Electronic Monitoring and 194 pending Electronic Monitoring cases. \$40,493.03 Intermediate Punishment Program fees were collected as of January 31, 2021. The current number of Active Pre-Trial Cases for Electronic Monitoring is 28 and 139 Non-Electronic Monitoring. Pre-Trial program fees collected as of January 31, 2021 was \$861.05. The Institutional Parole Officer completed 6 parole applications and 13 Nominal Bond Investigations to date. Since January 31, 2021, 49 Drug and Alcohol evaluations have been completed at the Westmoreland County Prison. Of the 49 Drug and Alcohol evaluations, the Institutional Parole Officer coordinated the release of 12 inmates to treatment.

The population of the prison today is 486 in-house, 528 total. The average population for January 2021 was 464 in-house and 509 total. This compares to January of 2020 when the average was 611 in-house and 651 total.

Average length of stay for January 2021 was 21.48 days as compared to January 2020 which was 19.68 days.

In January 2021, there were 204 commitments and 203 releases, compared to 369 commitments and 364 releases in January 2020.

The rate of recidivism for January 2021 is 32.35% and 34.31% including the 48- & 72-hour detainees as compared to January 2020 which was 25.19% and 29.95% including the 48- & 72-hour detainees.

There were no Rentals collected in January 2021, totaling \$0.00. There were no Locker Revenue collected in January 2021. Fines collected in January 2021 for Clerk of Courts were \$8,341.19.

The Warden reported that \$2,412 has been collected for video conferencing for January 2021.

In January 2021, 327 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 4 were performed by Judge Hathaway, 1 by Judge McCormick, 62 by Judge Bilik-Defazio, 66 by Judge Feliciani, 5 by Judge Stewart, 62 by Judge Mears, 3 by Judge Walsh, 81 by Judge Krieger, 20 by Domestic Relations, 1 by Judge Bononi, 1 by Social Security and 21 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 320 District Justice hearings were held.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the January 2021 cost per meal was \$1.22 compared to \$0.86 in January 2020.

For January 2021, we were below the cap by 166 inmates saving \$12,508.50.

59.37% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 44.34% last month. 56.03% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

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

Controller Balzer made a motion to reconvene in public session, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to rescind the hiring of Probationary P/T employee Beth Brady, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to hire Curtis Tringhese LT., seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to hire Matthew Springer Maintenance Supervisor, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

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