

Westmoreland County Prison
Board Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2021

Members Present: Sheriff James Albert, Commissioner Sean Kertes, Commissioner Douglas Chew, Commissioner Gina Cerilli, 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 February 22, 2021 meeting was made by Controller Balzer, seconded by District Attorney Peck. 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 March 29, 2021. The following information was presented to the Prison Board. There was 215 current number of offenders on Electronic Monitoring and 137 pending Electronic Monitoring cases. \$156,519.39 Intermediate Punishment Program fees were collected year to date. The current number of Active Pre-Trial Cases for Electronic Monitoring is 27 and 146 Non-Electronic Monitoring. Pre-Trial program fees collected year to date was \$5,156.81. The Institutional Parole Officer completed 18 parole applications and 25 Nominal Bond Investigations to date. Since January 1, 2021, 91 Drug and Alcohol evaluations have been completed at the Westmoreland County Prison. Of the 91 Drug and Alcohol evaluations, the Institutional Parole Officer coordinated the release of 53 inmates to treatment.

The population of the prison today is 515 in-house, 553 total. The average population for February 2021 was 483 in-house and 523 total. This compares to February of 2020 when the average was 618 in-house and 660 total. For January thru February 2021 the average population was 474 in-house and 517 total compared to 615 in-house and 656 total in January thru February 2020.

Average length of stay for February 2021 was 19.43 days as compared to February 2020 which was 17.75 days. For January thru February 2021 the average stay was 30.94 days compared to 26.93 in January thru February 2020.

In February 2021, there were 227 commitments and 204 releases, compared to 376 commitments and 351 releases in February 2020. For January thru February 2021 there have been 431 commitments and 407 releases compared to 745 commitments and 715 releases in January thru February 2020.

The rate of recidivism for February 2021 is 31.27% and 33.47% including the 48 & 72 hour detainers as compared to February 2020 which was 27.38% and 30.83% including the 48 & 72 hour detainers. For January thru February 2021 recidivism rate is 35.96% and 38.28% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers. This compares to January thru February 2020 recidivism rate of 28.58% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers, 32.47%.

There were no Rentals collected in February 2021, totaling \$0.00. There were no Locker Revenue collected in February 2021, totaling \$0.00. Fines collected in February 2021 for Clerk of Courts were \$9,381.77, totaling \$17,722.96.

The Warden reported that \$1,574.48 has been collected for video conferencing for February 2021.

In February 2021, 256 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 40 were performed by Judge Bilik-Defazio, 1 by Judge McCormick, 54 by Judge Feliciani, 65 by Judge Mears, 72 by Judge Krieger, 3 by Judge Silvis, 4 by Judge Stewart, 4 by Judge Walsh, 7 by Domestic Relations, and 6 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 241 District Justice hearings were held.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the February 2021 cost per meal was \$0.89 compared to \$0.84 in February 2020.

For February 2021, we were under the cap by 147 inmates saving \$11,072.04. For the year we are below having saved \$23,580.54.

42.29% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 59.37% last month. 57.14% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

Controller Balzer made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by District John Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to reconvene in public session, seconded by Commissioner Cerilli. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to terminate Officer Joseph Madden, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to promote Nikki Crammer to Segreant, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to promote William Martin to Segreant, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to hire the following as C/O: Chase Logan, Ty Gaffney, Jessica Donitzen, Shane Thomas and Charles Schachte II, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

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

