

**Westmoreland County Prison Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 23, 2022**

Members Present: Chief Deputy John Rock (via phone), Commissioner Sean Kertes, Commissioner Douglas Chew, Commissioner Gina Cerilli Thrasher (via phone), Controller Jeffrey Balzer and District Attorney Nicole Ziccarelli

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Chew.

Opportunity for public comment: none presented

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022 meeting was made by Commissioner Kertes, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

Adult Probation/Parole Office Report is presented within the monthly packet. However, no one was able to present the following report. No motion was made.

**Report from County Correctional Facility, Warden Kline:**

The population of the prison today is 526 in-house, 630 total. The average population for April 2022 was 525 in-house and 631 total. This compares to April of 2021 when the average was 497 in-house and 536 total. For January thru April 2022 the average population was 531 in-house and 630 total compared to 486 in-house and 527 total in January thru April 2021.

Average length of stay for April 2022 was 18 days as compared to April 2021 which was 19 days. For January thru April 2022 the average stay was 37 days compared to 39 in January thru April 2021.

In April 2022, there were 309 commitments and 304 releases, compared to 272 commitments and 275 releases in April 2021. For January thru April 2022 there have been 1031 commitments and 996 releases compared to 1156 commitments and 1158 releases in January thru April 2021. April commitments and releases increased respectively by 13.6% and 10.55%.

The rate of recidivism for April 2022 is 28.15% and 30.73% including the 48 & 72 hour detainees as compared to April 2021 which was 22.42% and 23.52% including the 48 & 72 hour detainees. For January thru April 2022 recidivism rate is 29.15% and 31.31% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees. This compares to January thru April 2021 recidivism rate of 29.96% and including 48 hour and 72-hour detainees, 31.51%.

There were \$5940.00 in Rentals collected in April 2022, totaling \$11,880.00. There were \$41.00 in Locker Revenue collected in April 2022, totaling \$69.50. Fines collected in April 2022 for Clerk of Courts were \$9,516.58, totaling \$38,097.78.

The Warden reported that \$2,054.33 has been collected for video conferencing for April 2022.

In April 2022, 230 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 59 were performed by Judge Bilik-Defazio, 63 by Judge Feliciani, 45 by Judge Mears, 19 by Judge

Krieger, 1 by Judge Walsh, 5 by Judge Bononi, 5 by Judge Hathaway, 2 by Judge Silvis, 17 by Domestic Relations, and 14 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 329 District Justice hearings were held, totaling 1255.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the April 2022 cost per meal was \$1.21 compared to \$1.14 in April 2021.

For April 2022, we were under the cap by 105 inmates saving \$8,473.50. For the year we are below having saved \$29,867.07.

61% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 53% last month. 70% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

Executive Session:

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 Commissioner Kertes. Unanimous.

**Meeting business, discussions, motions:**

**(A)** Controller Balzer made a motion to hire Joseph McLane, Hayden Norris and Trinity Harris, seconded by Commissioner Kertes. Unanimous.

**(B)** Controller Balzer made a motion to accept the resignations of Kalynn Campbell, William Martin, Cierra Bogonovich and Gerald Shaffer, seconded by District Attorney Zicarelli. Unanimous.

**(C)** Controller Balzer made a motion to accept the retirement of Larry Burak, seconded by Commissioner Kertes. Unanimous.

No action was taken on other agenda items.

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