

Westmoreland County Prison
Board Meeting Minutes
May 24, 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 April 26, 2021 meeting was made by Controller Balzer, seconded by Commissioner Kertes. 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 May 24, 2021. The following information was presented to the Prison Board. There was 203 current number of offenders on Electronic Monitoring and 155 pending Electronic Monitoring cases. \$271,205.64 Intermediate Punishment Program fees were collected year to date. The current number of Active Pre-Trial Cases for Electronic Monitoring is 30 and 130 Non-Electronic Monitoring. Pre-Trial program fees collected year to date was \$9,499.86. The Institutional Parole Officer completed 24 parole applications and 33 Nominal Bond Investigations to date. Since January 1, 2021, 170 Drug and Alcohol evaluations have been completed at the Westmoreland County Prison. Of the 170 Drug and Alcohol evaluations, the Institutional Parole Officer coordinated the release of 105 inmates to treatment.

The population of the prison today is 534 in-house, 494 total. The average population for April 2021 was 496 in-house and 536 total. This compares to April of 2020 when the average was 472 in-house and 524 total. For January thru April 2021 the average population was 487 in-house and 528 total compared to 572 in-house and 620 total in January thru April 2020.

Average length of stay for April 2021 was 19.13 days as compared to April 2020 which was 24.91 days. For January thru April 2021 the average stay was 38.76 days compared to 42.80 in January thru April 2020.

In April 2021, there were 272 commitments and 275 releases, compared to 53 commitments and 143 releases in April 2020. For January thru April 2021 there have been 1031 commitments and 996 releases compared to 1011 commitments and 1158 releases in January thru April 2020.

The rate of recidivism for April 2021 is 26.83% and 27.93% including the 48 & 72 hour detainers as compared to April 2020 which was 26.40% and 32.06% including the 48 & 72 hour detainers. For January thru April 2021 recidivism rate is 38.39% and 40.43% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers. This compares to January thru April 2020 recidivism rate of 36.98% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers, 41.13%.

There were no Rentals collected in April 2021, totaling \$0.00. There were no Locker Revenue collected in April 2021, totaling \$0.00. Fines collected in April 2021 for Clerk of Courts were \$12,165.28, totaling \$45,674.50.

The Warden reported that \$2,169.56 has been collected for video conferencing for April 2021.

In April 2021, 333 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 69 were performed by Judge Bilik-Defazio, 57 by Judge Feliciani, 54 by Judge Mears, 86 by Judge Krieger, 4 by Judge Silvis, 5 by Judge Stewart, 2 by Judge Walsh, 1 by Judge Bononi, 19 by Domestic Relations, and 36 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 379 District Justice hearings were held.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the April 2021 cost per meal was \$1.14 compared to \$0.99 in April 2020.

For April 2021, we were under the cap by 134 inmates saving \$10,813.80. For the year we are below having saved \$45,068.26.

86.30% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 62.38% last month. 63.7% 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 Commissioner Kertes. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to hire Kayli Sims seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to request the Salary Board to turn all Part-Time C/O into Full-Time C/O. (Retro to Current) seconded by Commissioner Cerilli. Unanimous.

June 1, 2021 Limited programs will be starting back up (NA/AA)

June 7th Work release and visitation will resume.

As of 5/19/2021, 35% of the Prisoners received the Covid-19 Vaccine.

Controller Balzer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.