

Westmoreland County Prison Board
Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2022

Members Present: Sheriff Albert, Commissioner Sean Kertes, Commissioner Douglas Chew, Commissioner Gina Cerilli Thrasher (via phone), Controller Jeffrey Balzer (via phone) and District Attorney Nicole Zicarelli

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Chew.

Opportunity for public comment: none presented

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2022 meeting was made by Commissioner Kertes, seconded by District Attorney Zicarelli. Unanimous.

Report from Adult Probation/Parole Office, Chief Leydig:

Detailing the monthly statistical data on the Electronic Monitoring Program, Pre-Trial Services and the Institutional Parole Officer events as of July 25, 2022.

There was 188 current number of offenders on Electronic Monitoring and 168 pending Electronic Monitoring cases. \$310,596.07 Intermediate Punishment Program fees were collected year to date. The current number of Active Pre-Trial Cases for Electronic Monitoring is 23 and 159 Non-Electronic Monitoring. Pre-Trial program fees collected year to date was \$7,691.17.

The remainder of this report are events up until June 23, 2022. The Institutional Parole Officer completed 29 parole applications and 55 Nominal Bond Investigations to date. Since January 1, 2022, 272 Drug and Alcohol evaluations have been completed at the Westmoreland County Prison. Of the 272 Drug and Alcohol evaluations, the Institutional Parole Officer coordinated the release of 174 inmates to treatment.

A motion to accept the Adult Probation/Parole report for the minutes was made by Commissioner Kertes, seconded by District Attorney Zicarelli. Unanimous.

Report from County Correctional Facility, Warden Kline:

The population of the prison today is 511 in-house, 623 total. The average population for June 2022 was 543 in-house and 648 total. This compares to June of 2021 when the average was 497 in-house and 545 total. For January thru June 2022 the average population was 533 in-house and 633 total compared to 491 in-house and 533 total in January thru June 2021.

Average length of stay for June 2022 was 19 days as compared to June 2021 which was 19 days. For January thru June 2022 the average stay was 41 days compared to 43 in January thru June 2021.

In June 2022, there were 302 commitments and 321 releases, compared to 286 commitments and 289 releases in June 2021. For January thru June 2022 there have been 1757 commitments and 1752 releases compared to 1583 commitments and 1535 releases in January thru June 2021. June commitments and releases increased respectively by 5.59% and 11.07%.

The rate of recidivism for June 2022 is 21.85% and 25.49% including the 48 & 72 hour detainees as compared to June 2021 which was 24.46% and 25.85% including the 48 & 72 hour detainees. For January thru June 2022 recidivism rate is 25.94% and 28.44% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees. This compares to January thru June 2021 recidivism rate of 27.97% and including 48 hour and 72-hour detainees, 29.80%.

There were no in Rentals collected in June 2022, totaling \$14,553.00. There were no Locker Revenue collections in June 2022, totaling \$69.50. Fines collected in June 2022 for Clerk of Courts were \$10,217.52, totaling \$57,816.58.

The Warden reported that \$2,203.95 has been collected for video conferencing for June 2022.

In June 2022, 174 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 30 were performed by Judge Bilik-Defazio, 19 by Judge Feliciani, 46 by Judge Mears, 52 by Judge Krieger, 2 by Judge Walsh, 1 by Judge Stewart, 1 by Judge Silvis, 9 by Domestic Relations, and 14 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 335 District Justice hearings were held, totaling 1,888.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the June 2022 cost per meal was \$1.30 compared to \$1.09 in June 2021.

For June 2022, we were under the cap by 87 inmates saving \$7,020.90. For the year we are below having saved \$45,310.50.

60% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 36% last month. 58% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

Warden announced a Legislative Tour of the prison on August 15th at 10:00 am with a discussion regarding mental health treatment and re-entry programs with state and county leaders. An invitation to all of prison board was made.

Warden announced that PrimeCare will be onsite on July 27th to meet with the Warden and all medical staff

Executive Session:

Commissioner Kertes made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by District Attorney Ziccarelli. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kertes made a motion to reconvene in public session, seconded by District Attorney Ziccarelli. Unanimous.

Meeting business, discussions, motions:

(A) Commissioner Kertes made a motion to accept the hiring of Heather Carl, Gileyla Jones, Jessica Lewis, Sean Rounds and Michael Skovira, seconded by District Attorney Ziccarelli. Unanimous

(B) Controller Balzer made a motion to accept the resignations of Dwayne Smith, Katey Schuck, Arianne Camarote and Ashley Perillo, seconded by Commissioner Kertes. Unanimous.

(C) Controller Balzer made a motion to consider the termination of Brandie Waugh, seconded by Commissioner Kertes. Unanimous.

(C.1) Controller Balzer made a motion to accept the retirement of Joseph Beaken, seconded by District Attorney Zicarelli. Unanimous.

(D) Controller Balzer made a motion to approve the policy (0-334) regarding inmate tablets, seconded by Commissioner Kertes. No discussion occurred. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Kertes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by District Attorney Zicarelli. Unanimous.