

**Westmoreland County Prison Board**  
**December 12, 2016**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Sheriff Jonathan Held, Commissioner Gina Cerilli, Commissioner Ted Kopas, Commissioner Charles Anderson, Controller Jeff Balzer, and District Attorney John Peck

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 31, 2016 meeting was made by District Attorney Peck, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 637 in-house, 662 total. The average population for October was 629 in-house and 649 total. This compares to October of 2015 when the average was 619 in-house and 632 total. The average population for November was 636 in-house and 660 total. This compares to November of 2015 when the average was 607 in-house and 620 total.

Average length of stay for October 2016 is 19.01 days as compared to October 2015 which was 18.71 days. In October 2016 there were 417 commitments and 405 releases, compared to 419 commitments and 417 releases in October 2015. So far in 2016 there have been 4090 commitments and 4008 releases compared to 3943 commitments and 3871 releases in January thru October 2015.

Average length of stay for November 2016 is 18.73 days as compared to November 2015 which was 18.93 days. In November 2016 there were 399 commitments and 371 releases, compared to 352 commitments and 368 releases in November 2015. So far in 2016 there have been 4489 commitments and 4379 releases compared to 4295 commitments and 4239 releases in January thru November 2015.

The rate of recidivism for October 2016 is 31.65% as compared to October 2015 which was 33.88%. Also, the October 2016 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hour and 72 hour detainers is 35.72% as compared to October 2015 which was 41.75%. January thru October 2016 recidivism rate is 33.37% and 38.96% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers. This compares to January – October 2015 recidivism rate of 35.27% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers, 44.24%.

The rate of recidivism for November 2016 is 26.31% as compared to November 2015 which was 29.25%. Also, the November 2016 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hour and 72 hour detainers is 31.82% as compared to November 2015 which was 37.77%. January thru November 2016 recidivism rate is 33.3% and 38.82% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers. This compares to January – November 2015 recidivism rate of 35.11% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers, 44.07%.

There were no rentals billed in October 2016. Fines collected in October for Clerk of Courts were \$9,013.61. Total monies collected from January to October 2016 were \$91,823.03.

There were no rentals billed in November 2016. Fines collected in November for Clerk of Courts were \$9,419.46. Total monies collected from January to November 2016 were \$101,242.49.

The Warden reported that \$1,870.31 has been collected for video conferencing for the month of September 2016. And for the year, January to September, \$17,231.81 has been collected for video conferencing.

No money has been received yet for the video conferencing for the month of October 2016.

In October, 98 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 21 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 37 by Judge Hathaway, and 29 were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 11 out of county bench warrants were served. 173 District Justice hearings were held in October 2016.

In November, 134 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 5 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 43 by Judge Feliciani, 32 by Judge Hathaway, and 33 were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 21 out of county bench warrants were served. 163 District Justice hearings were held in November 2016.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the October 2016 cost per meal was \$0.81 compared to \$0.96 in October 2015. And the November 2016 cost per meal was \$0.88 compared to \$0.75 in November 2015.

In October 2016, we were 54 inmates above the cap owing \$4,251.96. For the year, we are above the cap owing \$30,218.14. 56% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 57.9% last month. 44.2% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

In November 2016, we were 61 inmates above the cap owing \$4,648.20. For the year, we are above the cap owing \$34,866.34. 64.9% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 56% last month. 46% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

We received a check from GTL in the amount of \$250,000.00 which is good thru October 2017 and the last year on this contract, which then will go out for bid.

Controller Balzer made a motion to go forward with the new system with Guard 1 Plus (approximately \$50,000.00) on making rounds which CCAP will provide for us and we will have to only pay approximately \$1,800.00 per year for upgrades after the first year, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

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

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

Controller Blazer made a motion to hire Cody Henderson, Paul Lennert, Christopher Mill, Michael Forbes, Brandon Castle, Zack Bates, William Neil, Sam Holmes, and James Ferrenberg effective December 13, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Sheriff Held made a motion to accept the resignation of Zachary Gustafson, seconded by Controller Balzer.

Sheriff Held made a motion to accept an employee transfer from the Westmoreland County Prison to the Westmoreland Manor as of December 1, 2016, seconded by Controller Balzer.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the retirement of Peter C. Scifo effective November 15, 2016, seconded by Controller Balzer.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sheriff Held. Unanimous.