

**Westmoreland County
Prison Board
October 31, 2016
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Sheriff Jonathan Held, Commissioner Cerilli, Commissioner Kopas, Commissioner Anderson, Controller Balzer, and District Attorney Peck. The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2016 meeting was made by Controller Balzer, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 619 in-house, 638 total. The average population for September 2016 was 625 in-house and 645 total. This compares to September of 2015 when the average was 584 in-house and 600 total.

Average length of stay for September 2016 is 17.71 days as compared to September 2015 which was 18.17 days. In September 2016 there were 431 commitments and 450 releases, compared to 377 commitments and 357 releases in September 2015. So far in 2016 there have been 3673 commitments and 3603 releases compared to 3524 commitments and 3454 releases in January thru September 2015.

The rate of recidivism for September 2016 is 27.6% as compared to September 2015 which was 31.03%. Also, the September 2016 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hour and 72 hour detainees is 31.31% as compared to September 2015 which was 38.45%. January thru September 2016 recidivism rate is 32.87% and 38.61% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees. This compares to January – September 2015 recidivism rate of 34.84% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees, 43.86%.

There were no rentals billed in September 2016. Fines collected in September for Clerk of Courts were \$8,298.63. Total monies collected from January to September 2016 \$82,809.42 has been collected.

The Warden reported that \$ 1,732.63 has been collected for video conferencing in the month of September 2016. And for the year, January to September, \$15,361.50 has been collected for video conferencing.

In September, 112 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 45 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 36 by Judge Hathaway, and 23 were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 8 out of county bench warrants were served. 162 District Justice hearings were held in September 2016.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the September 2016 cost per meal was \$.84 compared to \$.95 in September 2015.

In September 2016, we were 50 inmates above the cap owing \$3,810.00. For the year, we are above the cap owing \$25,966.18. 57.9% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 63% last month. 45% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

Training has begun on the fingerprint machine. 20 people have been trained and the Warden expects to have everyone ready to operate the machine by next Monday, Nov.7, 2016.

Dennis Wolfe from Canon- Virtual Imaging Company, and Lisa Funk from Department of Environmental Protection have been in contact with Melissa Guiddy, our Solicitor, trying to satisfy all the regulations in order to get the scanner installed at the prison.

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

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

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to hire Nicholas Carmichael as Sergeant, effective November 1, 2016, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to cancel the regularly scheduled prison board meeting November 28, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The prison board will meet at the next regularly scheduled meeting, December 12, 2016 at the Prison. Unanimous.

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