

**Westmoreland County Prison**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 22, 2017**

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

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2017 meeting with the correction was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Cerilli. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 619 in-house, 640 total. The average population for April 2017 was 615 in-house and 635 total. This compares to April of 2016 when the average was 627 in-house and 646 total. For January thru April 2017 the average population was 622 in-house and 645 total compared to 602 in-house and 618 total in January thru April 2016.

Average length of stay for April 2017 was 18.63 days as compared to April 2016 which was 18.33 days. For January thru April 2017 the average stay was 34.29 days compared to 34.26 in January thru April 2016.

In April 2017 there were 369 commitments and 381 releases, compared to 424 commitments and 424 releases in April 2016. For January thru April 2017 there have been 1598 commitments and 1569 releases compared to 1582 commitments and 1521 releases in January thru April 2016.

The rate of recidivism for April 2017 is 28.18% as compared to April 2016 which was 33.01%. Also, the April 2017 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hour and 72 hour detainees is 34.41% as compared to April 2016 which was 39.37%. January thru April 2017 recidivism rate is 31.72% and 37.47% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees. This compares to January thru April 2016 recidivism rate of 34.06% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees, 40.82%.

There were no rentals billed in April 2017. Kiosk Revenue collected in April 2017 was \$502.50, totaling \$2,009.50 from January to April 2017. Locker Revenue collected in April 2017 was \$123.50, totaling \$658.50 from January to April 2017. Fines collected in April 2017 for Clerk of Courts were \$10,152.04; total monies collected from January to April 2017 were \$40,763.23.

The Warden reported that \$2,430.00 has been collected for video conferencing for the month of April.

In April, 121 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 17 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 41 by Judge Feliciani, 16 by Judge Hathaway, 29 by Domestic Relations, and 18 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 137 District Justice hearings were held in April 2017.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the April 2017 cost per meal was \$0.78 compared to \$0.96 in April 2016.

In April 2017, we were 39 inmates above the cap owing \$2,971.80. For the year, we are above the cap owing \$14,348.46. 74% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 65% last month. 46.7% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

Almost ready for the Full Body Scanner.

Mental Health workers started last week, there is going to be individual and group sessions. This is funded by a grant.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Sheriff Held. Unanimous.

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

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the resignation of Jonathan Gavin, seconded by Commissioner Anderson.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to terminate Christopher Mull, due to abandonment of job, seconded by Commissioner Kopas.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to hire Lieutenant Steven Pelesky for the training officer position, seconded by Commissioner Kopas.

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