

Westmoreland County Prison
Board Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2017

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

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2017 meeting was made by Controller Balzer, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 659 in-house, 684 total. The average population for September 2017 was 662 in-house and 684 total. This compares to September of 2016 when the average was 625 in-house and 645 total. For January thru September 2017 the average population was 631 in-house and 653 total compared to 613 in-house and 631 total in January thru September 2016.

Average length of stay for September 2017 was 18.45 days as compared to September 2016 which was 17.71 days. For January thru September 2017 the average stay was 40.34 days compared to 39.96 in January thru September 2016.

In September 2017 there were 413 commitments and 435 releases, compared to 431 commitments and 450 releases in September 2016. For January thru September 2017 there have been 3703 commitments and 3639 releases compared to 3673 commitments and 3603 releases in January thru September 2016.

The rate of recidivism for September 2017 is 26.14% as compared to September 2016 which was 29.92%. Also, the September 2017 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hour and 72 hour detainees is 30.49% as compared to September 2016 which was 32.47%. January thru September 2017 recidivism rate is 31.83% and 37.55% including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees. This compares to January thru September 2016 recidivism rate of 34.57% and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees, 40.39%.

There were no rentals billed in September 2017. Kiosk Revenue collected in September 2017 was \$490.00, totaling \$4,529.00 from January to September 2017. Locker Revenue collected in September 2017 was \$0.00, totaling \$1,251.75 from January to September 2017. Fines collected in September 2017 for Clerk of Courts were \$10,154.66; total monies collected from January to September 2017 were \$91,755.69.

The Warden reported that \$2,115.00 has been collected for video conferencing for the month of September.

In September, 168 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 36 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 60 by Judge Feliciani, 36 by Judge Hathaway, 29 by Domestic Relations, and 7 out of county bench warrants were served. In addition, 183 District Justice hearings were held in September 2017.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the September 2017 cost per meal was \$0.93 compared to \$0.84 in September 2016.

In September 2017, we had 12 inmates over, owing \$914.40. For the year, we owe \$13,929.36

64.3% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 51.4% last month. 36.7% of inmates are currently on psych meds.

Started training on the Full Body Scanner. Training to be completed by end of week.

Syntec (owners of SCI Greensburg) sent a letter regarding the purchase of an inmate pod.

Re-entry packet added to the inmate handbook. Re-entry packet given to those inmates who are permanently released.

Received another check from GTL in the amount of \$26,128.71. Additional funds received for inmate phones now totals \$ 59,602.60.

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

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

Controller Balzer made a motion to accept the resignations of Joshua Baranski, Terry Kuikendall, and Quentin Rickard, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to hire Vickie Valimont, part-time receptionist, seconded by Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

District Attorney Peck made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.