

**Westmoreland County  
Prison Board  
September 21, 2015  
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Kopas, Deputy Controller Garris, and District Attorney Peck. Commissioner Courtney attended via telephone.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2015 was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 568 in-house, 582 total. The average population for August 2015 was 572 in-house and 590 total. This compares to August of 2014 when the average was 592 in-house and 603 total.

Average length of stay for August 2015 is 18.87 days as compared to August 2014 which was 18.89 days. Average length of stay from January to August 2015 was 37.92 compared to January to August 2014 of 40.88. In August 2015 there were 400 commitments and 357 releases, compared to 385 commitments and 393 releases in August 2014. So far in 2015 there have been 3147 commitments and 3097 releases compared to 3028 commitments and 3071 releases in January thru August 2014.

The rate of recidivism for August 2015 is 30.5% as compared to August 2014 which was 35.05%. Also, the August 2015 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hr and 72 hour detainees is 39.5% as compared to August 2014 which was 43.36%. January – August 2015 recidivism rate is 32.11% and 41.10% including 48 hr and 72 hr detainees. This compares to January – August 2014 recidivism rate of 35.20%, and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainees, 43.65%.

There were no rentals billed in August 2015. Fines collected in August for Clerk of Courts were \$7,480.00. Total monies collected in January thru August of 2015 for Clerk of Courts is \$74,608.52.

In August, 120 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 42 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 41 were performed by Judge Hathaway, and 29 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 8 out of county bench warrants were served. 112 District Justice hearings were held in August 2015.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the August 2015 cost per meal was \$ .93 compared to \$.88 in August 2014.

In August 2015, we were three inmates under the cap, resulting in a \$ 226.92 credit for the month. So far in 2015 the credit for being under the cap is \$ 1,762.12. 60% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 68% last month. 36% of inmates are currently on psych meds, compared to 41% last month.

The Warden reported that \$8,201.96 has been collected for video conferencing through August, 2015. In the month of August, the amount collected was \$959.80.

The contract with United Mine Workers of America Local 522 has been signed. One change with the new contract is a policy involving part times workers on call. Calls that are made to part timers needing to report to work that go unanswered could result in disciplinary action.

The Warden will be scheduling a bid opening soon for full body scanners.

Wexford's nurses have been trained on administering Narcan. Two doses of the heroin antidote have been received and will be on hand for inmates.

The repairing of the prison roof will begin next week.

The Warden has met with the State Police and the Chief's Association about the live scan equipment that is going to be installed in the jail. The equipment will be able to do fingerprints and photos.

Alex Hribal turns eighteen on October 1, 2015 and will be then housed at the prison. The Warden will be meeting with District Attorney, Hribal's Attorney, and Judge Feliciani to discuss Hribal's psychiatric care while housed at the prison. A decision will be reached as to Hribal's being kept in solitary confinement or will he be included in the general population.

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

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to reconvene in public session, seconded by Deputy Controller Garris. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to hire Nicola Pagano as full time counselor, effective September 22, 2015, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation of part time probationary Corrections Officer, Lisa King effective August 16, 2015, the resignation of full time Corrections Officer Charles Hill effective August 18, 2015, the resignation of probationary part time Corrections Officer Isiah Jenkins who is transferring to the Sheriff's office effective September 28, 2015, and the resignation of Corrections Officer Leanne Guercio seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the retirement of Lenore Tiger effective November 16, 2015, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

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