



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

c/o Blair County Controller, 423 Allegheny St., Ste 141 Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of January 21, 2021 at 8:30 AM

By Conference Call

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Commissioner Amy Webster, Controller A.C. Stickel, District Attorney Peter Weeks, President Judge Elizabeth Doyle, Sheriff James Ott

Board Members not in Attendance:

Commissioner Laura Burke

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Nicole Hemminger, Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Eckerd, Deputy Warden McMahon, Deputy Warden Whitesel,

Primecare Representatives in

Attendance: Ashley Simmers

AFSCME Representatives in

Attendance: NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance:

None

Media in Attendance: Kay Stephens,

Altoona Mirror

Call to Order: Controller Stickel called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Controller Stickel explained the ground rules for today's teleconference. Only voting members of the Prison Board may leave their telephones unmuted during the entire meeting, but we would request each avoids excess noise from your location. All other participants should mute their telephones until called upon to speak. Public participants may speak only during the designated public comment period near the beginning of the meeting and must keep their phones muted during the rest of the meeting. Each person needs to avoid interrupting the person speaking. Each speaker MUST state his/her name before talking each time he/she speaks so others will know who is speaking and to ensure minutes will be accurate.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Controller Stickel.

The roll was called by Tracy Mosel-Miller.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror) stated an interest in a COVID-19 Report: number of active cases, number of recovered cases, and when the inmates could be transported for court proceedings.

Approval of Minutes from December 17, 2020 Meeting: A motion was made by Commissioner Erb and seconded by Sheriff Ott to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2020 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Meeting of January 21, 2021 continued. . .

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate thanked Ashley Simmers and the staff of Primecare for doing a tremendous job. She stated they have been a "great partner" through the COVID-19 issue.

Inmate Population Report: Warden Tate provided an updated Inmate Population Report which will be kept on file with the minutes. Controller Stickel made a call for questions, and there was none.

Inmate Services Report: Deputy Warden McMahon reviewed the Inmate Services Report which will be kept on file with the minutes. Controller Stickel made a call for questions, and there was none.

Warden's Report: Warden Tate provided the Warden's Report which will be kept on file with minutes.

Staffing Update: Deputy Warden Eckard provided a Staffing Report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

COVID-19 Update: Warden Tate stated there are 3 inmates that have tested positive. New inmates are being tested 3 times upon commitment: Day 1, Day 3, and Day 13. 194 inmates have recovered and are in general population. She has 1 Corrections Officer off due to COVID-19 protocol. Some inmates (around 17) and staff members (around 43) are interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccination.

Prison Expansion Committee: The committee needs further discussion, and needs to visit sites, but unable to due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Webster stated that Dr. Osgood suggested the County consider looking at the KNY Building (old Altoona YMCA) to be used for day treatment / half way house.

Prison Operation Continuity Report: Chairman Stickel stated the COVID-19 recovery numbers are up and the new cases are down with inmates and prison staff.

Chairman's Report: No report at this time.

Financial Report: Controller Stickel provided a report for December 2020 which will be kept on file with the minutes. He made a call for questions, and there was none.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, Controller Stickel adjourned the meeting at 8:51 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. by conference call.

Respectfully Submitted,


President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle
Secretary