



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of January 20, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. In Commissioners' Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Commissioner Laura Burke, Controller A.C. Stickel, Commissioner Amy Webster, Sheriff James Ott, District Attorney Pete Weeks

Board Members not in Attendance:

President Judge Elizabeth Doyle

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Deputy Warden Jay Whitesel, Nicole Hemminger, Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog)

Primecare Representatives in Attendance: NONE

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance: Dave Carey

Prison Society Members in Attendance: NONE

Media in Attendance: Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror Ryan Risky, WTAJ

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

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Controller Stickel

The roll was called by Tracy Mosel-Miller.

Chairman Stickel called for a motion to amend today's agenda to include: "Request Bids for Alternative Options for Inmate Sustenance". A motion was made by Commissioner Erb and seconded by Sheriff Ott to amend the agenda. The motion was unanimously carried.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Controller Stickel called for public comment on Prison items. Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror, asked for some details on the new item.

Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2021 Meeting: A motion was made by Sherriff Ott and seconded by Commissioner Erb to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2021 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate wanted to welcome Cory Yedlosky to the Blair County Prison Team. He was hired as a Lieutenant. He was previously employed by the

Meeting of January 20, 2022 continued. . .

Department of Corrections. He has been able to "hit the ground running" and has been a tremendous help to the Prison in some of the areas other employees had been handling since this position was vacant for a period of time. Warden Tate also stated she appreciates the knowledge he shares.

Inmate Population Report: Warden Tate provided an updated Inmate Population Report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

District Attorney Weeks recommended encouraging the State to accept their inmates quicker than it has been happening. Chairman Stickle agreed, and stated even though we do not control their timing, a letter will be written asking for their cooperation.

Inmate Services Report: All programs were cancelled due to COVID-19 Safety Protocols

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

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

COVID-19 Update: Warden Tate stated 26 inmates and 6 staff members received vaccinations on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Four (4) Prison employees are out on COVID-19 Protocol, and 32 inmates currently have COVID-19.

Request Bids for Alternative Options for Inmate Sustenance: Warden Tate stated the Prison had to previously close the kitchen due to the lack of staff and inmate workers caused by COVID-19. During those times, Prime Sirloin picked up and prepared the County-purchased food and delivered it in hotel pans. She stated the Prison is in need of that service again today. Warden Tate stated this service is used sparingly, but she sees a need for it in the future.

Chairman Stickle called for a motion to request the Board of Commissioners go out to bid to contract for an alternative means of providing for inmate sustenance in emergency situations.

District Attorney Weeks asked if the service would only use County-purchased food or would they provide additional food. Chairman Stickle stated he did not think it would be appropriate to limit it. He believes doing that might eliminate options. District Attorney Week's concern was the source of the food.

A motion was made by Sherriff Ott to request the Board of Commissioners go out to bid to contract for an alternative means of providing for inmate sustenance in emergency situations. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion and it was carried (5 Yes, 1 Opposed). District Attorney Weeks opposed the motion.

Meeting of January 20, 2022 continued. . .

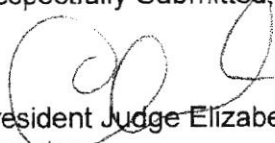
Prison Expansion Committee: Chairman Stickel stated there will be another meeting with R.L. Kimball, Architect. The Expansion Committee has asked R.L. Kimball, Architect to be more specific and provide narrower parameters.

Financial Report: Controller Stickel provided a report for December 2021 which will be kept on file with the minutes.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, Controller Stickel adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,



President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle
Secretary