

BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of November 17, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. In the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Commissioner Amy Webster, Controller A.C Stickel, District Attorney Pete Weeks, Chief Deputy Sheriff Chris Tatar, Deputy Controller Angela Wagner

Board Members not in Attendance:

Commissioner Laura Burke, President Judge Elizabeth Doyle, Sheriff James Ott

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden James Eckard, Nicole Hemminger, Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog)

Primecare Representatives in

Attendance: NONE

AFSCME Representatives in

Attendance: NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance:

Kathy Skebeck

Media in Attendance:

Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror

Call to Order: Commissioner Erb called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Commissioner Erb

The roll was called by Tracy Mosel-Miller.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Commissioner Erb called for public comment on Prison items. There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2022 Meeting: A motion was made by Chief Deputy Tatar and seconded by District Attorney Weeks to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2022 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate requested a moment of silence to reflect on the 1-year anniversary of the passing of Corrections Officer Rhonda Russell.

Warden Tate stated the Prison had two minor fires in the laundry area.

Corrections Officer Jeffrey Plazek, Deputy Warden James Eckard, Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson and Corrections Officer Gabriel Wint responded to the first fire. Their quick response prevented a situation that could have been much worse than it was.

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Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Sargent Chad Murray and Corrections Office Michael Wilt were quick to respond to the second fire. They kept the fire under control until the fire department arrived.

Warden Tate wanted to thank the entire staff for functioning in a building built in 1869. She appreciates their efforts.

Commissioner Erb stated he and the Board appreciate the commitment of the staff. He asked Warden Tate to extend the Board's gratitude and thanks to them.

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

Inmate Services Report: Warden Tate stated: The Peerstar Re-entry Program had 0 participants. Salvation Army Presentation had 6 participants. Women's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 45 participants. Men's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program had 13 participants. Reformers Unanimous had 18 participants. Women's Parenting had 16 participants. Men's Parenting had 27 participants. The Good Will Re-entry Program had 5 participants. The GED Preparation Program has 9 female and 16 male participants.

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

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

COVID-19 Update: No update at this time.

Prison Sub-Committees: The Inmate Services Committee met earlier this week. The Medication- Assisted Treatment Program was discussed. They also discussed the GED Program and the Parenting Program.

The Human Resources Committee also met.

Financial Report: Deputy Controller Wagner provided a report for October 2022 which will be kept on file with the minutes.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Erb adjourned the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Meeting of November 17, 2022 continued. . .

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at the Blair County Prison.

Respectfully Submitted,

President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle

Secretary