



# BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

## Blair County Prison Board Meeting of September 16, 2021 at 8:30 AM In Commissioners' Public Meeting Room

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Commissioner Bruce Erb, Commissioner Laura Burke, President Judge Elizabeth Doyle, Commissioner Amy Webster, Controller A.C. Stickel, Sheriff James Ott

### **Board Members not in Attendance:**

District Attorney Pete Weeks

**Quorum:** Present

### **Non-Board Members in Attendance:**

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Eckerd, Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog)

**Primecare Representatives in Attendance:** NONE

**AFSCME Representatives in Attendance:** NONE

### **Prison Society Members in Attendance:**

Dr. Osgood

**Media in Attendance:** Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror

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**Call to Order:** Controller Stickel called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**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:** Controller Stickel called for public comment on Prison items. Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror, stated interest in a COVID-19 update. She also questioned if the Prison Expansion Committee was making progress.

**Approval of Minutes from August 19, 2021 Meeting:** A motion was made by Commissioner Erb and seconded by Sheriff Ott to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2021 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Recognition of BCP Employee:** Warden Tate wanted to thank all of the staff for continuing to show up for work every day. She also thanked the County for being extremely helpful. The Commissioners, Judges, District Magistrates, Human Resources, and Nicole Hemminger have been very understanding. Warden Tate stated she continues to receive calls asking how they are doing. It is greatly appreciated. The Prison continues to try to navigate through COVID-19. This time is very different than the first time. The staff continues to work to help limit the spread of COVID-19 within the building and the community.

Meeting of September 16, 2021 continued. . .

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

**Inmate Services Report:** Deputy Warden Edmundson reviewed the Inmate Services Report which will be kept on file with the minutes. Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings have 7 participants. Women's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program has 7 participants. Men's In-Prison Drug/Alcohol Pre-Release Program has 1 participant. Women's Parenting has 10 participants. Men's Parenting has 22 participants. Reformers Unanimous has 8 participants. Chairman Stickel made a call for questions. There were 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 6 COVID-19 cases among female inmates. They are housed in the K-Block Unit. This has been contained to a two-cell radius. The inmates will be tested again on Monday, September 20. If all have negative results, the modified lock-down restrictions will be lifted. Two (2) male inmates had symptoms. They tested negative, were tested again; awaiting the results. One (1) staff member is off on COVID-19 protocol.

**Prison Expansion Committee:** Chairman Stickel stated the committee is active. On August 27, 2021 Warden Tate, Deputy Warden Eckard, Nicole Hemminger, and he visited the Franklin County Prison. It is a very nice, very functional facility. R.L. Kimbell, Architect presented two (2) plans. Chairman Stickel did not consider either "palatable". We have taken great first steps. This is not going to happen in the near future, but we are moving forward.

**Prison Sub Committee Discussion:** No discussion at this time.

**Chairman's Report:** No report at this time.

**Financial Report:** Controller Stickel provided a report for August 2021 which will be kept on file with the minutes. He made a call for questions. There were none.

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

Meeting of September 16, 2021 continued. . .

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Doyle', written over the text 'Respectfully Submitted,'.

President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle  
Secretary