



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of April 18, 2019 at 8:30 AM at the Blair County Courthouse in Conference Room 2B

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Ted Beam, Commissioner Terry Tomassetti, President Judge Elizabeth Doyle, District Attorney Richard Consiglio, Controller A.C. Stickel, Sheriff James Ott

Board Members not in Attendance:

Commissioner Bruce Erb

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Jayme McMahan, Deputy Warden James Eckard, Josh Laird, Lynn Stover, Lynn Mills, Robin Gindlesperger, Eric Lindskold

Primecare Representatives in Attendance:

None

AFSCME: Dave Carey

Prison Society Members in Attendance:

Dr. Ed Grab

Media in Attendance: None

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Commissioner Beam.

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

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Commissioner Tomassetti and seconded by Controller Stickel that the minutes from March 21, 2019 Prison Board meeting, be approved as prepared. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employees: Warden Tate asked that the board recognize Work Release Case Manager Josh Laird, Female Case Manager Lynn Mills and Male Case Manager Lynn Stover for their excellent job performance including their eagerness to learn with little to no previous case manager experience and the service they provide to the county and the prison inmates.

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

Inmate Services Report: Presented by Deputy Warden McMahan and will be kept on file with the minutes. Deputy Warden McMahan noted that the Goodwill re-entry program has reached the quota of 50 participants.

Warden's Report: Presented by Warden Tate and will be kept on file with minutes.

Warden Tate requested permission from the Prison Board to recommend to the Salary Board the creation of a new position of Training Coordinator. The position is part-time at \$20.00 per hour with no benefits. Abbie provided reasons that the position is needed include that documentation of training needs to be improved, training methods need to be improved and made more consistent and training is presently being done by sergeants and their shifts then

Meeting of April 18, 2019 continued. . .

need to be covered, resulting in overtime. A motion was made by Sheriff Ott and seconded by Controller Stickel that the request to fill the Training Coordinator position be recommended to Salary Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Warden Tate requested permission from the Prison Board to recommend to the Commissioners approval of the Encartele Inmate Telephone Contract Extension. Warden Tate explained that Encartele can provide electronic bulletin boards which can provide information to inmates including programming, PRIA information, Prison Society information, inmate orientation videos, etc. This is a two-year extension and it includes nine (9) content broadcasting units including enclosures which will become property of the county. Encartele will also provide five (5) additional desktop scanners to scan documents.

President Judge Doyle asked if there will be any additional cost to inmates for phone calls and Warden Tate stated that there will be no increase to the cost for phone calls.

Warden Tate stated that Nathan Karn reviewed the contract.

Commissioner Beam asked how long it will take to implement. Warden Tate stated that the Wi-Fi system and the Guardian system is a priority, but this system will be in place in the next few months.

A motion was made by Controller Stickel and seconded by Sheriff Ott that the request to extend the Encartele Inmate Telephone Contract be recommended to the Commissioners for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Financial Report: Presented by Controller Stickel and will be kept on file with the minutes.

Controller Stickel reported that he and Commissioner Beam toured the prison with Warden Tate, Deputy Warden McMahon and Deputy Warden Eckard on April 8th. The Controller shared the impressive transformation of operations since his previous tour several years ago. While facing incredible challenges, the administration has made significant progress in changing operations and attitudes at the Blair County Prison.

Warden Tate needs our continued support, but is to be commended for her leadership in that position.

There being no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Beam adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD MAY 16, 2019 AT 8:30 AM AT THE BLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN CONFERENCE ROOM 2B.

Respectfully Submitted,



Secretary