



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of August 19, 2021 at 8:30 AM In Commissioners' Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Board Members not in Attendance:

Commissioner Burke

Quorum: Present

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Eckerd, Deputy Warden Whitesel, Deputy Warden Shaun Edmundson, Officer Aaron Smith, Officer Denny Bishop, Katherine Swigart

Primecare Representatives in Attendance: Tom Weber

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance: NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance: Dr. Ed Grab

Media in Attendance: Kay Stephens, Altoona Mirror

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.

Chairman Stickel announced the Prison Board Members will enter an Executive Session at the end of the Public Meeting to discuss personnel issues.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Controller Stickel called for public comment on Prison items. No comments at this time.

Approval of Minutes from July 15, 2021 Meeting: A motion was made by Sheriff Ott and seconded by Commissioner Erb to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2021 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Warden Tate acknowledged and thanked Officer Aaron Smith (Control Room) and Officer Denny Bishop (Central Booking) for helping the court system with video conferencing. They went above and beyond their job description. Neither officer hesitated to answer yes when asked if they would help. This assisted with hearings

Meeting of August 19, 2021 continued. . .

and conferences within the MDJ Offices and the Court of Common Pleas. Chairman Stickel stated he applauds and appreciates their dedication and willingness to adapt. Judge Doyle stated it was appreciated very much. District Attorney Weeks commented it was amazing what had been accomplished.

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 Whitesel reviewed the Inmate Services Report which will be kept on file with the minutes. Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings have 10 participants. Women's Parenting has 19 participants. Men's Parenting has 18 participants. Reformers Unanimous has 16 participants. Chairman Stickel made a call for questions. 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 no cases with inmates or staff. The 4th vaccine clinic was held 8/17/2021. 17 inmate and 2 staff members received vaccinations. COVID-19 Protocol was implemented on Monday, August 16. The Prison is requiring face masks within the facility. This decision was made after reviewing information from the Department of Corrections and Primecare. Warden Tate consulted with Human Resources and the Courts. Chairman Stickel thanked Warden Tate for consulting with Department of Corrections and Primecare. He also stated Warden Tate needs to make decisions that are best for the Prison.

Prison Expansion Committee: Chairman Stickel and a few Committee Members are touring the Franklin County Prison on August 27, 2021. A meeting will be held with R.L. Kimbell, Architect the following week to discuss options.

Prison Sub Committee Discussion: Chairman Stickel stated he would like to keep this committee informal and only meet when an idea or issue arises.

Chairman's Report: No report at this time.

Meeting of August 19, 2021 continued. . .

Financial Report: Controller Stickel provided a report for July 2021 which will be kept on file with the minutes. He made a call for questions.

The Prison Board Meeting recessed at 8:46 a.m.

The Prison Board Members, Warden Tate, and Katherine Swigart entered the Executive Session.

The Prison Board Meeting reconvened at 9:20 a.m.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, Controller Stickel adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,



President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle
Secretary