



BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

Blair County Prison Board Meeting of August 14, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. In the Commissioner's Public Meeting Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Amy Webster, Commissioner Laura Burke, Controller A.C. Stickel, Sheriff James Ott, District Attorney Peter Weeks, Judge Wade Kagarise,

Board Members not in Attendance:

Commissioner David Kessling, President

Quorum: Present

Media in Attendance: Rachel Foor - Altoona Mirror

Non-Board Members in Attendance: Acting Warden Shaun Edmundson, Lieutenant Amanda Moore, C.O. Cameron Smith, Melena Koegler, Alicia Triacave, Angela Wagner

Primecare Representatives in Attendance:
NONE

AFSCME Representatives in Attendance:
NONE

Prison Society Members in Attendance:
Bob Dupont

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

Moment of Silent Reflection: Led by Controller Stickel.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Controller Stickel.
The roll was called by Controller Stickel.

Call for Public Comment on Prison Board Items: Bob Dupont : Prison Society – Any progress on a new facility? Any update on the new Prison Warden search?

Approval of Minutes from July 10, 2025 Meeting: A motion was made by Controller Stickel and seconded by Sheriff Ott to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2025 Prison Board Meetings. The motion was unanimously carried.

Presentation from Tom Weber of Prime Care: Wanted to present to the Prison Board and overview of services provided and available to the Prison. Mr. Weber provided a physical summary documentation of the last 12 months of health care services which will be kept with the minutes. Mental health and substance abuse being the most significant concerns within the facility Mr. Weber informed the board that about a third of new intakes are put into MAT program. These patients cause a significant strain on staff while they safely withdrawal from medication. Mr. Weber is unsure the current department of Justice has the same stance on MAT as the previous administration had, but we have a program at the Prison. This is also a strain on security and healthcare staff because of the duality making sure patience get their medication but also aren't diverted or abused. The current average is about 40 cases a month or about a third of your intakes or twenty percent of overall population of the Prison.

Throughout the commonwealth County Prisons have become the mental health treaters with Blair County not being an exception to that. Blair County has somewhat more significant prevalence than average need for care than the other 86 facilities Primecare oversees in this Country. Following the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections scale for mental health in these facilities with a rating on A-E. E are your individuals with serious mental health diagnosis, schizophrenia and psychosis. Blair County averages about 27% E-rate int their facility. C and D are actively receiving mental health care. Blair County has 82% with Case C or D mental health needs. That is high but as mental health facilities have closed a lot of the brunt of these cases have fallen on County correctional facilities.

Cost savings for the County Prime Care in 23-24 there were 2.8 Million in out of service care, but the cost for the County came down to 800 thousand. Last year 1.6 million out of service care has happened but the cost to the County has only been 600 thousand.

Reports come the Prison administration on a monthly basis so they are aware what is going on. If the Board would have any question or like more frequent information of what's going on or a break down of any information provided so the County is aware of what's being done.

Recognition of BCP Employee: Correction Officer Cameron Smith has been with Blair County Prison for nearly a year and has been praised by many shift managers and other officers. He has worked 2nd and 3rd shifts and has recently moved to 1st shift. He has also shown expert skill at the range. Interested in continuing his time with the Blair County Prison and taking on further roles and learning opportunities.

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

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

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

Staffing Update: Lieutenant Moore provided a Staffing Report which will be kept on file with the minutes.

Financial Report: Controller Stickel presented the financial report to be kept on file with the minutes.

Controller Stickel – Prison Board is actively interviewing candidates for the Warden position.

District Attorney Weeks – So it is clear for the public members of the Prison Board are not clear either on new facility developments.

Commissioner Webster – Purchasing and acquiring real-estate assets are the job of the Commissioners. We are currently seeking an appropriate location.

Meeting of August 14, 2025 continued. . .

Adjournment: There being no further public business to come before the Board, Controller Stickel made the motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Sheriff Ott. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:51a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. at the Blair County Prison.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "August C. Stickel IV", written in a cursive style.

August C. Stickel IV
Chairperson