



# BLAIR COUNTY PRISON BOARD

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

## Blair County Prison Board Meeting of December 17, 2020 at 8:30 AM By Conference Call

### Board Members in Attendance:

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

### Board Members not in Attendance:

**Quorum:** Present

### Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Nicole Hemminger, Warden Abbie Tate, Deputy Warden Eckerd, Deputy Warden Whitesel,

**Primecare Representatives in Attendance:** NONE

**AFSCME Representatives in Attendance:** NONE

**Prison Society Members in Attendance:** None

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

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**Call to Order:** Controller Stickel called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Controller Stickel explained the ground rules for today's teleconference. Only voting members of the Prison Board may leave their telephones unmuted during the entire meeting, but we would request each avoids excess noise from your location. All other participants should mute their telephones until called upon to speak. Public participants may speak only during the designated public comment period near the beginning of the meeting and must keep their phones muted during the rest of the meeting. Each person needs to avoid interrupting the person speaking. Each speaker MUST state his/her name before talking each time he/she speaks so others will know who is speaking and to ensure minutes will be accurate.

**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:** Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror) stated an interest in a COVID-19 Report: number of active cases, number of recovered cases, and when the lockdown would be lifted.

**Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2020 Meeting:** A motion was made by Sheriff Ott and seconded by Commissioner Erb to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2020 Prison Board Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

**Recognition of BCP Employee:** Warden Tate recognized and thanked all county workers for helping navigate this "difficult and strange time".

Meeting of December 17, 2020 continued. . .

**Inmate Population Report:** Warden Tate provided an updated Inmate Population Report which will be kept on file with the minutes. Controller Stickel made a call for questions, and there was none.

**Inmate Services Report:** Warden Tate reviewed the Inmate Services Report which will be kept on file with the minutes. Controller Stickel made a call for questions, and 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 there are 132 inmates that have tested positive. 90 inmates have been tested and are awaiting the results. She has 16 Corrections Officers off due to COVID-19 protocol. The first quarantined housing unit has passed the 14 day criteria and the inmates can now fill positions.

**Prison Expansion Committee:** The committee needs further discussion, and needs to visit sites, but unable to due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Prison Operation Continuity Report:** Chairman Stickel stated there had been no positive COVID-19 cases among the prisoners until Thanksgiving week. It moved quickly. Chairman Stickel, Katherine Swigart, Warden Tate, Commissioner Erb, and Nicole Hemminger; with her food service expertise, discussed a contingency plan if the kitchen had to close. Prime Sirloin was chosen to be the back-up plan. The kitchen did close, and the prison successfully used Prime Sirloin to feed the inmates. Discussion took place regarding the Prison Board meeting to adopt a long-term contingency plan.

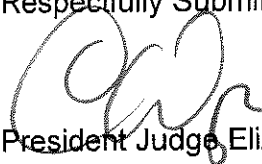
**Chairman's Report:** No report at this time.

**Financial Report:** Controller Stickel provided a report for November 2020 which will be kept on file with the minutes. He made a call for questions, and there was none.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, Controller Stickel adjourned the meeting at 8:52 a.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Thursday January 21, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. by conference call.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
President Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle  
Secretary