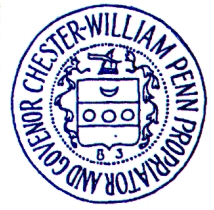




THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



COMMISSIONERS
Marian D. Moskowitz
Josh Maxwell
Michelle Kichline

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
313 W. Market Street, Suite 6202
P.O. Box 2748
West Chester, PA 19380-0991
(610) 344-6100

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

March 24, 2022

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair of the Prison Board Commissioner Josh Maxwell called the Prison Board Meeting to order on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 1:03 PM at Chester County Prison. In addition to Commissioner Maxwell, the following board members were also in attendance: President Judge John Hall, Sheriff Fredda Maddox, and Controller Margaret Reif.

CALL TO ORDER

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

President Judge Hall made a motion to approve the Prison Board minutes from the last meeting on February 24, 2022. Controller Reif seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2022 Prison Board Meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA

There was no public comment on agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Controller Reif made a motion to adopt the agenda. President Judge Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried to adopt the March 24, 2022 Prison Board Meeting agenda.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5. MONTHLY REPORT

Warden Ron Phillips presented the monthly update on the Prison for February 2022, noting that the average daily inmate population was 648, as compared to 595 in the previous year.

MONTHLY REPORT

The Warden noted that on February 28, 2022 there were 639 inmates, held for the following:

- County sentenced inmates: 108
- State sentenced inmates serving their sentence at Chester County Prison: 5
- Approximately 309 inmates were held for court, 139 for preliminary hearings, and 19 were held on a Balance of Max.

The Warden reported that there were 2 juvenile offenders (1 Chester County, 1 Bucks County).

A total of 135 arrestees were brought in on Central Booking by 32 different agencies. In February of the previous year, there were 109 arrestees brought in by 32 different agencies.

In January, the Correctional Center had an average daily population of 15.

There were 45 medical transports, 9 of which were to the Emergency Room.

There were 2 Correctional Emergency Unit activations, all for non-compliant behaviors.

There were 214 Video Conferencing Hearings this month, compared to 313 in the previous year.

The Warden reported the following medical updates:

- Inmates seen at sick call: 321
- Inmates on psychotropic medications: 261
- Inmates on prescription or “over-the-counter” medications: 248
- Inmates on suicide watch: 7%

The Warden reported the following mental health updates:

- Seriously Mental Ill Individuals: 63 (52 male, 11 female)
- Inmates at Norristown State Hospital (N.S.H.): 11
- Referred to mental-health court: 1

It was noted that the Thinking for a Change and Stable Pathways programs are ongoing at this time, as well as the GED program. However, programs are on-going at a limited rate due to COVID-19 concerns and the priority of keeping the case count low.

The Warden reported that the first applicants for the PennDOT Program have enrolled and that their IDs will be waiting for them upon their release.

The Prison currently has 70 open positions, with 55 openings being for Correctional Officer Is. The Warden reported that 5 new hires will be starting on the upcoming Monday. It was discussed among the Board that the difficulty in hiring is heavily influenced by the competitive nature of salaries with nearby counties, but particularly in the private sector.

The Warden provided the following COVID-related statistics:

- Staff confirmed positives: 6 – 3 recovered
- Inmate confirmed positives: 13 – 13 recovered

Masks are available daily for inmates and staff, and mandatory testing of staff is conducted twice a week. The vaccine incentive program will carry on for current staff until March 31, 2022, and current inmates until June 30, 2022. New staff and incoming inmates will also be offered the incentive. Currently, 152 staff and over 300 inmates have participated in the incentive program.

The Warden stated that as of today the inmate count is 628, compared to 629 at this time last year.

6. INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT PLAN

Adult Probation, Parole, and Pretrial Services Deputy Chief Rick Marinari asked the Board for the annual approval on the Intermediate Punishment Plan. Modifications were made to the Plan based on recent changes in the law. President Judge Hall made a motion to approve the Plan, which was seconded by Controller Reif. Motion carried to approve the Intermediate Punishment Plan.

**INTERMEDIATE
PUNISHMENT PLAN**

7. DISCUSSION

There were no items of discussion.

DISCUSSION

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Lockard of the Deaf Community Action Network expressed a desire to work with the Prison on behalf of deaf or hard of hearing inmates. Commissioner Maxwell asked Deputy Warden George Roberts to be Mr. Lockard's contact to work through his recommendations for improvement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no further public comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Judge Hall made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Controller Reif. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM.

ADJOURNMENT