

Minutes of the Monthly  
Meeting of the  
Lancaster County Prison Board  
February 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Joshua Parsons at 9:15 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Lancaster County Administrative Office Building.

Members Present: Commissioner Joshua Parsons, Commissioner Craig Lehman, Sheriff Christopher Leppler, and Controller Brian Hurter.

Others Present: Cheryl Steberger, Robert Wolfe, William Aberts, Joseph Shiffer, Ashley Garcia, Cody Scheid, Bob Devonshire, Charlette Stout, Tammy Moyer, Harry Klinger, Matthew Wagner, Christina Fluegel, Adam Brown, Marissa Chitty, Dustin Emerich, Emily Eleutice, Tyler Fox, Jonathan Megerlin, Jason Helm, Chutt Pa, Luis Lorenzi, Keith Halbleib, Alexis Ehrhart, Shannon Drexel, Carey Sell, John Tencto, Blake Lechner, Donald Weisel, Ashley Johnson, Derek Spangler, Joshua Paukovits, Samuel Coleman, Toni Warfel, Ray D'Agostino, Xavier Garcia, Kelly Rhoads, Kelly Ehrich, Kim Reichenbach, Kim McDevitt, Carter Walker, and Diana Rivera.

Commissioner Dennis Stuckey, President Judge Dennis Reinaker, and District Attorney Craig Stedman were unable to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Parsons stated that the Prison Board met in executive session on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 8:45 a.m. to discuss labor negotiations, litigation, and personnel matters related to the discipline, suspension, and termination of employees. Specifically, under litigation, the Board discussed the Stickily case.

Controller Hurter moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2019 Prison Board Meeting. Commissioner Lehman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Cheryl Steberger, Warden; Robert Wolfe, Deputy Warden for Operations; William Aberts, Major/Security Operations; Joseph Shiffer, Deputy Warden for Inmate Services; Tammy Moyer, Director of Administration; and Bob Devonshire on behalf of Charlie Douts, Director of Facilities Management; gave reports on their areas of responsibility. All of these reports, including operations and statistical information, are posted on the County's website.

Cheryl Steberger, Warden, welcomed the new Correctional Officers that were in attendance.

Warden Steberger reported that the population as of this morning is 828. She reported that the average population during January 2018 was 808 and the average population in January 2019 was 814.

Warden Steberger provided an update on the Department of Corrections' bi-annual inspection that occurred on November 28, 2018. She stated that the inspection

consisted of reviewing local written policies and procedures and an overall tour of the Prison. She stated that the Prison was in full compliance and there were no deficiencies to report. Warden Steberger commended the staff for their efforts in operating the facility in accordance with statewide correction standards.

Warden Steberger reported that the Mental Illness Substance Abuse (MISA) team will be hosting Dauphin County's Warden Brian Clark and his staff on March 7, 2019 at the Prison.

Commissioner Parsons welcomed the new Correctional Officers that were in attendance. He congratulated the Warden and her staff on passing the inspection at the Prison.

Commissioner Lehman thanked the new Correctional Officers for being in attendance and wished them well on their careers.

Commissioner Lehman commented on the population. He stated that in January 2013 the population was 1,302 and that the comparison to what the population is today says a lot.

Commissioner Parsons commented that a lot of hard work went into reducing the Prison population and he appreciates the partnership with the Courts to make the system more efficient.

Robert Wolfe, Deputy Warden for Operations, reported that policy and procedure meetings have restarted after a break due to the holidays.

Deputy Warden Wolfe reported on the inspection that was held at the Prison. He stated that there were two teams who toured the building looking for cleanliness and functionality.

Deputy Warden Wolfe reported that a body scanner has been selected and they are now finalizing paperwork. He stated that once the paperwork is completed he will present it to the Board of Commissioners.

Deputy Warden Wolfe reported that he received all of the results from the supervisor surveys that were given out to supervisors last month. He stated that he will review the results and see what needs to be worked on for the supervisors to efficiently do their jobs.

Deputy Warden Wolfe reported on staff training: 194 staff trained in Assault Management Application Course (AMAC), 16 staff trained as Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) instructors, and 64 staff trained in the newest range courses. He stated that a new class started on February 18, 2019 which brings the complement up to 216 and the next class will start in April.

Commissioner Lehman thanked the Warden and Deputy Warden for keeping the Commissioners updated with the temperature at the Prison during the cold weather in January and February.

Commissioner Parsons commented that he appreciates the focus on getting feedback from the supervisors and making sure they have the tools and time they need to lead.

Joseph Shiffer, Deputy Warden for Inmate Services, reported that Aramark Correctional Services will be the new food service contractor effective March 1, 2019. He stated that the transition will begin on February 27, 2019. He stated that the inmates are aware that cold meals will be served for a three-day period during the transition. Deputy Warden Shiffer stated that hot meals are expected to begin on March 2, 2019.

Deputy Warden Shiffer invited Matthew Wagner, Reentry Services Manager to provide an update on building our reentry services and a coalition in the County. Mr. Wagner stated that for the past month they have been focusing on developing an outline and timeline for the reentry services program. He stated that they are working on community collaboration, building partnerships, and reaching out to community providers who have already been doing reentry services in the past. He stated that they are looking at ways to help implement those services into their reentry program and restore past relationships that may have been broken in the past. Mr. Wagner stated that their major goals are to increase public safety through utilizing evidence-based practices that help the inmates to remain crime free, obtain the growth of the prison and probation population by implementing strategies that help reduce their criminogenic factors, implement programs that support restitution, restoration and rehabilitation of offenders, and promote public safety through collaborating partnerships with providers in the community. He stated that they will be tracking six different outcomes, such as housing, employment, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, prosocial networks, and recidivism. Mr. Wagner stated that their timeline to begin pre-release services at the Prison is May 30, 2019. He stated that a meeting will be held on March 11, 2019 to invite their partners into the Prison to go over their vision of the reentry plan and discuss ways to work together to start looking at services they can provide to the inmates. He stated that a second round of meetings will begin in April to discuss more intensively about ways that they can collaborate and what services they can provide. Mr. Wagner stated that they will be meeting with inmates who may qualify for reentry services and explain to them what their reentry program may look like and what would be available to offer them.

Controller Hurter asked Deputy Warden Shiffer if adding fruits and vegetables has been addressed in the new food contract. Deputy Warden Shiffer stated that fruits and vegetables have been implemented in the new menus and it just needs to be implemented physically moving forward. He stated that he is confident that fruits and vegetables will be a staple in the meals.

William Aberts, Major/Security Operations, reported the Officers of the Month for January: First Shift, Officer Stanley Johnson; Second Shift, Officers Ashley Johnson, Travis Reifsnnyder, Derek Spangler, and K-9 Officer Kenneth Geib; Third Shift, Officer Parker Beatty. Officers Stanley Johnson and Parker Beatty were unable to attend the meeting.

Major Aberts invited Officer Phillip Klinger to the podium to announce his promotion to Sergeant. Major Aberts and Warden Steberger pinned him with his chevrons. Sergeant Klinger received a round of applause from those in attendance. Sergeant Klinger gave a short speech and said he was thankful for the opportunity to serve the Prison and the community.

Major Aberts reported that he has been working with Deputy Warden Wolfe on the decision-making process on the selection of a body scanner and he looks forward to getting it up and running.

Major Aberts reported that the Prison has purchased their own ID maker. He stated that ID's will be made in-house resulting in less individuals being required to sign out a visitor badge, ultimately tightening the security of the Prison.

Tammy Moyer, Director of Administration, handed out a copy of an article featuring technology in the Bloomsburg Report to the Board. The article was about how jails are starting to use more technology and part of that was the Pigeonly website now being used at the Prison for greeting cards. Ms. Moyer stated that the journalist reached out to the Prison to get feedback on how the website works. She stated that it was fun working with the officers and inmates who helped be a part of the article.

Ms. Moyer reported that on February 6, 2019 the Commissioners approved an amended contract with Securus Technologies, the current inmate telephone vendor. She stated included in the amendment is a four-year contract extension and a decrease to the cost of local phone calls from 21 cents to 17 cents per minute. She stated that this also allows them to put kiosks into the building, eliminating paper requests. Ms. Moyer stated that Purchasing will be scheduling a kick off meeting with the vendor and they will also be scheduling meetings with individual departments to improve the day to day operations at the Prison. She stated that the kiosks will also have an added feature of e-messaging between the inmates and their family and friends. Ms. Moyer stated that this will generate revenue for the Inmate Welfare Fund, so they will be tracking the fees and usage and will include this information in the monthly statistic report.

Bob Devonshire on behalf of Charlie Douts, Director of Facilities Management, reported that CGL is fully staffed.

Mr. Devonshire reported that the C-Main ceiling repair is now complete. He stated that quotes to paint shower stalls have been provided to the Warden and they are in the process of creating a purchase order. He stated that they are assisting Deputy Warden

Shiffer and his team with the food service transition and new kitchen equipment that were in the capital budget.

Mr. Devonshire reported that the upgrades to the elevators are underway. He stated that it is a 12-week process per elevator. He reported that the vendor is working on the final development of the system for the control room upgrades.

Julie Holtry, Behavioral Health & Developmental Services (BH/DS), provided an update on the Transition to Community (TTC) Program. She reported that in the last month there were two inmates released to the program and there have been three additional inmates identified for possible release to the program once openings become available.

Ms. Holtry provided an update on the Lancaster Behavioral Health Hospital. She reported that there was a dry run this past month where some Correctional Officers and staff from PrimeCare did a walk through the facility to understand how an inmate who needs inpatient hospitalization would be able to enter the facility and how the Correctional Officers would need to respond and be available during their stay. Ms. Holtry reported by next week all of the policies will be completed at the hospital and they will be available to start taking inmates who will need that level of care.

Ms. Holtry reported that she was notified by the Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services that Torrance State Hospital will have availability to accept inmates for treatment rather than Norristown State Hospital. She stated that the waiting list for Norristown has been extensive over the years and they were made aware that Torrance could take their inmates who need that level of care. Ms. Holtry reported that to date they have had one inmate who has gone to Torrance State Hospital for treatment. She stated that potentially two or three more inmates may go to Torrance for treatment within the next month.

Commissioner Parsons reported that the last PrisonStat meeting was held on January 28, 2019. He stated that the next meeting will be on the calendar in the near future and will be announced at the next Prison Board meeting.

Commissioner Lehman moved to adjourn at 9:48 a.m. Controller Hurter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Lancaster County Prison Board will be March 21, 2019, at 9:15 a.m. in the Visitation Room at the Lancaster County Prison.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian K. Hurter  
Secretary