

**Westmoreland County
Prison Board
January 25, 2016
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Commissioner Cerilli, Commissioner Kopas, Commissioner Anderson, Controller Balzer, and District Attorney Peck. The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Held.

Controller Balzer made a motion to retain Sheriff Held as the Chairman of the Prison Board, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2015 was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 574 in-house, 589 total. The average population for December 2015 was 562 in-house and 574 total. This compares to December of 2014 when the average was 564 in-house and 581 total.

Average length of stay for December 2015 is 17.58 days as compared to December 2014 which was 19.17 days. Average length of stay from January to December 2015 was 40.63 compared to January to December 2014 of 42.50. In December 2015 there were 398 commitments and 449 releases, compared to 327 commitments and 378 releases in December 2014. So far in 2015 there have been 4693 commitments and 4688 releases compared to 4579 commitments and 4662 releases in January thru December 2014.

The rate of recidivism for December 2015 is 26.63% as compared to December 2014 which was 33.02%. Also, the December 2015 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hr and 72 hour detainers is 35.15% as compared to December 2014 which was 44.02%. January – December 2015 recidivism rate is 32.53% and 41.20% including 48 hr and 72 hr detainers. This compares to January – December 2014 recidivism rate of 35.88%, and including 48 hour and 72 hour detainers, 44.74%.

There were no rentals billed in December 2015. Fines collected in December for Clerk of Courts were \$6,266.60. Total monies collected in January thru December of 2015 for Clerk of Courts is \$105,903.92. Total monies collected for Kiosk Revenue in 2015 is \$4,539.50.

In December, 101 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 37 were performed by Judge Bilik- Defazio, 10 were performed by Judge Hathaway, and 40 were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 14 out of county bench warrants were served. 159 District Justice hearings were held in December 2015.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the December 2015 cost per meal was \$.94 compared to \$ 1.08 in December 2014.

In December 2015, we were 13 inmates below the cap allowing a \$983.32 credit. For the year, the prison now owes an additional \$3,583.32 for their medical expenses to Wexford. 61.2% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 66. % last month. 41.6% of inmates are currently on psych meds, compared to 41. % last month.

The Warden reported that \$ 13,836.40 has been collected for video conferencing through December, 2015. In the month of December, the amount collected was \$1,732.63.

Melissa Guiddy has been compiling all the paperwork referencing our policies to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection. The full body scanner bid was awarded to Virtual Imaging Canon USA from Dallas, Texas and is coming to the prison in March, 2016.

GTL believes the FCC has exceeded its legal authority and has filed an appeal to the FCC Ruling. GTL will be seeking a “stay” while they file an appeal.

Controller Balzer made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Cerilli. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to promote Sergeant Karl Ledbetter to position of Lieutenant, effective Jan 10, 2016, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to accept the resignation of part time corrections officer Zachary Luffy, effective 2/1/2016, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

Controller Balzer made a motion to hire Kathy Leasher as a clerk/typist effective Feb. 8, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to promote full time Corrections Officer Dayton Wolfe to position of Sergeant effective 1/26/2016, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.