

**Westmoreland County  
Prison Board  
May 19, 2014  
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Sheriff Jonathan Held, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Courtney, Commissioner Kopas, District Attorney John Peck, and Controller Jeff Balzer.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Jonathan Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2014 was made by Commissioner Kopas, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

The population of the prison today is 603 in-house, 619 total. The average population for April 2014 was 596 in-house and 613 total. This compares to April of 2013 when the average was 560 in-house and 584 total.

Average length of stay for April 2014 is 18.64 days as compared to April 2013 which was 19.04 days. Average length of stay from January to April 2014 is 36.15 compared to January to April 2013 is 36.88. In April 2014 there were 393 commitments and 399 releases, compared to 342 commitments and 359 releases in April 2013.

There were two rentals billed in April 2014. \$858.00 was collected from two prisoners. Fines collected in April for Clerk of Courts were \$10,499.06.

In April, 68 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 8 were performed by Judge Hathaway, and 41 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 19 out of county bench warrants were served. 133 District Justice hearings were held in April 2014.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the April 2014 cost per meal was \$.89 compared to \$.96 in April 2013.

In April 2014, the prison is 21 inmates above the cap. The prison has to pay an additional \$2,241.92 to Wexford. So far in 2014, the prison has had to pay an additional \$8,734.90 for health coverage.

There is an update on the Renovo software installation. The wiring has been finished and equipment due to be received after May 30, 2014. The Warden is expecting the video visitation equipment to go live in July of 2014.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, 20 men from the prison and including the Warden, attended CERT (community emergency response teams) training at Moundsville, West Virginia. It cost \$500.00 for the officers to attend but the officers agreed to pay their own room and board. There were thirteen countries involved in this training.

GTL (also known as Value Added Communication) will continue to honor the contract we have with them. The minimum annual guarantee of \$250,000.00 will not change despite the FCC rule changes concerning intra state calls.

Per the Juvenile Act, once a juvenile gets charged as an adult our Juvenile facility can no longer house them. Per the Warden, the jail has nowhere to house these juveniles. There is a possibility that the Juvenile Act language could be changed so that PA Juvenile detention centers can assist prisons with PREA compliance by holding youthful offenders but that involves legislation which could take several months. The Warden will try and do the best he can but likely would have to keep juveniles in their cells for 23 out of 24 hours per day. The jail is not equipped to handle this. The Warden has made numerous calls to other facilities including York and Philadelphia County. York County is a possibility at \$83.00 per day; however Philadelphia County is not taking any other juveniles at this time.

\$59,682.00 was received from Commonwealth of PA for DUI inmates sentenced 1-5 years and on work release in our county jail. We receive \$98.00 per day for these DUI inmates. Currently the prison only has 5 inmates that are on work release.

Naphcare has attempted to collect \$25,940.80 of past due invoices from Jan- April 2012 and for May 2013 from Westmoreland County. We contend that these invoices are the responsibility of Naphcare. The Warden has asked for copies of these bills to review. If the prison was over the cap at these times we will likely owe this money.

We have received a new drug dog with the help of The Big Ben Foundation. Bosco, the former drug dog has been retired. Grace Veterinary Clinic will provide all veterinary services for the new drug dog free of cost.

There is a relapse prevention program due to be implemented at the prison. Tim Phillips from Westmoreland Community Action will be the administrator of the program. The hope is that once released from the prison, the relapse prevention program will be able to "equip" those interested in the group to make healthy choices.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to reconvene in public session, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

The Warden asked the Board to accept the resignation of part time Corrections Officers Patrick Zufall and Douglas Long. Sheriff Held made the motion seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the retirement of Corrections Officer John Klorczyk, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Kopas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Courtney. Unanimous.