

**Westmoreland County
Prison Board
February 23, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

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

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Jonathan Held.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2014 was made by Commissioner Kopas, seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Unanimous.

Louisa Wotus gave the Adult Probation/Parole Quarterly Report.

The population of the prison today is 540 in-house, 554 total. The average population for January 2015 was 548 in-house and 564 total. This compares to January of 2014 when the average was 604 in-house and 620 total.

Average length of stay for January 2015 is 18.66 days as compared to January 2014 which was 19.59 days. In January 2015 there were 399 commitments and 408 releases, compared to 357 commitments and 367 releases in January 2014.

The rate of recidivism for January 2015 is 33.32%. This includes parole and probation violations too. Also, the January 2015 recidivism rate which also includes 48 hr and 72 hour detainers is 42.09. A final meeting is planned to define recidivism, repeat offenders, and parole /probation violators.

There was one rental billed in January 2015. \$702.00 was received from Clark Haggans. Fines collected in January for Clerk of Courts were \$7,935.36.

In January, 103 total bench warrants have been performed via video conferencing. 18 were performed by Judge Hathaway, 22 were performed by Judge Pezze, and 42 bench warrants were performed by Domestic Relations. In addition, 21 out of county bench warrants were served. 106 District Justice hearings were held in January 2015.

Nutrition Incorporated reported that the January 2015 cost per meal was \$.99 compared to \$.95 in January 2014.

In January 2015, there were no inmates above the cap, resulting in a \$ 1,966.95 credit for the month.

37% of incoming prisoners needed to detox upon arrival compared to 28.8% last month. 46% of inmates are currently on psych meds, compared to 50.7% last month.

The Warden reported that the video conferencing system hasn't collected any monies yet. So far, in February there have been 95 video visits.

There are ongoing meetings with United Mine Workers of America Local 522. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2015 and the item of discussion is random drug testing.

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 Controller Balzer. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to hire Stacey Long and Amanda Mitchell as full time counselors on February 24 2015, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation of part time corrections officers Randy Russell on February 4, 2015 and Alicia Sarnese on February 5, 2015, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation of full time corrections officer Michael Hooper on February 28, 2015, seconded by District Attorney Peck. Unanimous.

District Attorney Peck made a motion to hire Gregory Reed as Sergeant, seconded by Commissioner Kopas. Unanimous.

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