



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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PRISON BOARD OF INSPECTORS MINUTES

May 29, 2024

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Chester County Prison Board of Inspectors was called to order at 12:31 PM on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, in the Commissioners' Board Room, by Commissioner Josh Maxwell. Commissioner Eric Roe, President Judge John Hall, Controller Margaret Reif, Sheriff Kevin Dykes, and District Attorney Chris de Barrena-Sarobe were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Maxwell asked Commissioners' Office Interns Grace Xia and Diego Alonso, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warden Holland recognized Counselor Hawthorne for 15 years of service, CO Howard for 5 years of service, and CO Kennedy for 5 years of service. CO Love was recognized as April's Employee of the Month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Maxwell announced the Prison Board of Inspectors met in Executive Session on Monday, April 29, 2024, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

District Attorney de Barrena-Sarobe made a motion to approve the Prison Board of Inspectors minutes from the meeting on Monday, April 29, 2024. President Judge Hall seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried to approve the minutes from the Monday, April 29, 2024, Prison Board of Inspectors Meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA

Stephanie Hoopman, Pocopson Township, expressed concern regarding the need for a plan to implement permanent security measures.

PUBLIC COMMENT

6. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Controller Reif made a motion to adopt the agenda. District Attorney de Barrena-Sarobe seconded the motion. Motion carried to adopt the Wednesday, May 29, 2024, Prison Board of Inspectors Meeting agenda.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

7. OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

a. MONTHLY REPORT

Monthly Report

Warden Holland presented the monthly update on the Prison for April 2024, noting that the average daily inmate population was 710, as compared to 695 in the previous year.

The Warden noted that on April 30, 2024, there were 715 inmates held, and no juvenile offenders housed in the Prison.

Central Booking had 146 arrestees in April. Central Booking had a year-to-date total of 543 arrestees from 43 different agencies, of which 242 made bail, and 301 were committed.

The Correctional Center for April 2024 had an average daily population of 29 residents, the average at this time last year was 34.

For Security, there was 1 transport to a State Correctional Institute (SCI) in April for a total number of 8 inmates transported to SCI.

There were 42 medical transports, 10 of which were to the emergency room.

There were 4 Correctional Emergency Unit activations in April for non-complaint behavior.

There were 70 inmate disciplinary actions for major misconduct. There were 35 inmates housed on the Restricted Housing Unit.

There were 224 Video Conferencing Hearings in April with an approximate cost savings of \$22,400.

The Warden reported the following medical updates:

- Inmates seen at sick call: 623

- Inmates on prescription or “over-the-counter” medications: 60%

- Inmates on psychotropic medications: 36%

- Inmates on suicide watch: 11%

The Warden reported the following mental health updates:

- Serious Mentally Ill Inmates: 70

- Inmates at Norristown State Hospital (NSH): 18

- Inmates awaiting a bed at NSH: 1

- Court Orders received in April for commitment to NSH: 4

Additionally, Warden Holland reported Institutional Programming included Alcohol Anonymous, Anger Management, Crime Victims, Depression/Anxiety Management, Drug and Alcohol, Dual Diagnosis, Exit, Enter, Employ (E3), Flagger Force, Financial Workshop, New Choices, Oral Hygiene, One Page at a Time, Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR), Stable Pathways, and Thinking for a Change, with 220 participants.

Monthly Report (cont.)

Warden Holland reported that in the month of April 2024 a total of \$7,538.51 was collected for inmate booking fees and a total of \$2,107.67 was collected for inmate financial responsibilities.

Lastly, it was reported that the Prison had 2 officers go through the Basic Training Academy in April and 4 officers began on May 13, 2024. 43 officers participated in additional training including Weapons Qualifications, Correctional Emergency Unit, High Impact Supervision, Train the Trainer, Clean Tac, Mock Prison Riot, and Health Training for Correctional Officers.

b. PRISON SECURITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

Prison Security Improvement Updates

Warden Holland reported the razor wire installation is complete. Additionally, Warden Holland reported the new HVAC units are being installed currently, additional monitors have been purchased for the camera rooms, and progress continues in all areas.

Warden Holland reported a vendor has been chosen for training dogs for the K9 program which is scheduled to begin in September 2024.

c. HUMAN RESOURCES MATTERS

Human Resources Matters approved

Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve hires and rehires. District Attorney de Barrena-Sarobe seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve hires and rehires.

Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve promotions. District Attorney de Barrena-Sarobe seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve promotions.

Sheriff Dykes made a motion to approve ends of employment. President Judge Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve ends of employment.

d. CONTRACTS

Contracts approved

President Judge Hall made a motion to approve the Contracts Agenda. Controller Reif seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the Contracts Agenda.

e. VOUCHERS AS SUBMITTED BY CONTROLLER

Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted by Controller. District Attorney de Barrena-Sarobe seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the vouchers as submitted by Controller.

Vouchers approved

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Judge Hall. made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Controller Reif. Motion carried to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:47 PM.

ADJOURNMENT