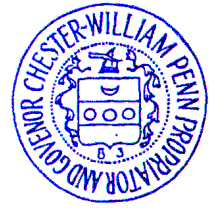




THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



COMMISSIONERS
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PRISON BOARD MINUTES

June 24, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair of the Prison Board Commissioner Josh Maxwell called the Prison Board Meeting to order on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 1:04 PM in the Commissioner's Board Room. In addition to Commissioner Maxwell, the following board members were also in attendance: Commissioner Marian Moskowitz, Commissioner Michelle Kichline, Controller Margaret Reif, and District Attorney Deb Ryan.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Commissioner Moskowitz made a motion to approve the Prison Board minutes from the last meeting on May 20, 2021. Commissioner Kichline seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2021 Prison Board Meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA

There was no public comment on agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

OLD BUSINESS

5. NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

a. Monthly Report

Warden Ron Phillips presented the monthly update on the Prison for May 2021, noting that the average daily inmate population was 575, as compared to 497 in the previous year.

Monthly Report

The Warden noted that on May 31, 2021 there were 597 inmates, held for the following:

- County sentenced inmates: 111
- State sentenced inmates serving their sentence at Chester County Prison: 7
- Approximately 66% of the inmate population is held for court or preliminary hearing, 20% serving sentence, 4% held on a Balance of Max, and 10% for miscellaneous.

The Warden reported that there were 3 juvenile offenders (1 Chester County and 2 Berks County) at the end of May 2021. As of today, there are 4 juvenile offenders (1 Chester County, 1 Bucks County, and 2 Berks County).

A total of 120 arrestees were brought in on Central Booking by 29 different agencies, compared to 103 arrestees brought in by 23 different agencies in 2020.

The Correctional Center for May had an average daily population of 22. Last year's average was around 16. Today the total is 25.

It was reported that there were 2 transports to the state correction facilities due to COVID restrictions. Currently, 33 are pending transfer.

There were 30 medical transports – 15 to the emergency room.

There was 1 Correctional Emergency Unit activations for a non-compliant individual.

There were 373 Video Conferencing Hearings, compared to 169 in 2020. This is approximately a 55% increase.

The Warden reported the following medical updates:

- Inmates seen at sick call: 308
- Inmates on psychotropic medications: 223 (about 39% inmate population)
- Inmates on prescription or “over-the-counter” medications: 259
- Inmates on suicide watch: about 10% of inmate population

The Warden reported the following mental health updates:

- Seriously Mental Ill Individuals: 52 (49 male, 3 female)
- Inmates at Norristown State Hospital (N.S.H.): 14
- Additional inmates awaiting a bed for treatment at N.S.H.: 0
- Inmates referred to the Mental Health Court: 2
- Court order received for commitment to N.S.H.: 5

It was noted that the Thinking for a Change program will continue at the Correctional Center. Horse-Works to start again in the near future, with the horses being brought out to re-acclimate in the next week and the program restarting in early July.

The Warden stated that IFR and Bookkeeping fees are still suspended until further notice. Family and community visitation has resumed despite being scaled back due to COVID. Inmates are allowed one visitor once a week.

It was also reported that 8 cadets graduated from the training academy in May. There were 69 staff training classes, and the Prison currently has 24 open positions. The Warden noted several interviews are scheduled to take place over the next few weeks.

The Warden provided the following COVID-related statistics:

- Staff confirmed positives: 0
- Inmate confirmed positives: 0
- 111 inmates presented positive, and 111 have recovered.

The Warden stated that as of today the count is 591, compared to 501 at this time last year. This is approximately a 15% increase.

b. Other Prison Board Matters

There were no additional Prison Board Matters.

Prison Board Matters

c. Discussion

There were no additional items of discussion.

Discussion

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

7. ADJOURNMENT

Controller Reif made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Kichline. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

ADJOURNMENT