



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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PRISON BOARD MINUTES

October 28, 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, October 28, 2021 at 1:33 PM at the Chester County Prison. In addition to Commissioner Maxwell, the following board members were also in attendance: Commissioner Marian Moskowitz, Commissioner Michelle Kichline, President Judge John Hall, Controller Margaret Reif, Sheriff Fredda Maddox, 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 September 30, 2021. Commissioner Kichline seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried to approve the minutes from the September 30, 2021 Prison Board Meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA

There was no public comment on agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kichline made a motion to adopt the agenda. Controller Reif seconded the motion. Motion carried to adopt the October 28, 2021 Commissioners' Meeting agenda.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5. MONTHLY REPORT

Warden Ron Phillips presented the monthly update on the Prison for September 2021, noting that the average daily inmate population was 654, as compared to 623 in the previous year.

MONTHLY REPORT

The Warden noted that on September 30, 2021 there were 659 inmates, held for the following:

- County sentenced inmates: 102
- State sentenced inmates serving their sentence at Chester County Prison: 7
- Approximately 70% of the inmate population is held for court or preliminary hearing, 3% held on a Balance of Max, and 9% for miscellaneous.

The Warden reported that there were 7 juvenile offenders (1 Chester County, 1 Berks County, 1 Bucks County, 1 Lancaster County, and 3 Montgomery County).

A total of 146 arrestees were brought in on Central Booking by 30 different agencies, compared to 133 arrestees brought in by various agencies in 2020.

The Correctional Center for September had an average daily population of 32. Last year's average was around 21. Today the total is 30.

It was reported that there were 8 transports to the state correction facilities due to COVID restrictions. Currently, 40 are pending transfer.

There were 23 medical transports.

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

There were 224 Video Conferencing Hearings, compared to 388 in 2020.

The Warden reported the following medical updates:

- Inmates seen at sick call: 475
- Inmates on psychotropic medications: 238 (36%)
- Inmates on prescription or "over-the-counter" medications: 267 (41%)
- Inmates on suicide watch: 60 (9%)

The Warden reported the following mental health updates:

- Seriously Mental Ill Individuals: 49 (44 male, 5 female)

It was also explained that the coroner's report for the gentleman who passed away at the end of the summer came back, and his passing was due to a cardiac issue.

It was noted that the Thinking for a Change and Stable Pathways programs are ongoing at this time, as well as the GED program.

The Warden stated that IFR and Bookkeeping fees are still suspended until further notice.

It was also reported that 4 cadets graduated from the training academy in September. There were 24 staff training classes, and the Prison currently has 49 open positions. The Warden noted that 3 positions have new hires and 3 offer letters are currently out awaiting response.

The Warden provided the following COVID-related statistics:

- Staff confirmed positives: 0
- Inmate confirmed positives: 0
- Total vaccines distributed at the close of the month: 227

The Warden stated that as of today the count is 645, compared to 623 at this time last year.

Taken and Transcribed by Tonya Harris

6. DISCUSSION

There were no items of discussion.

DISCUSSION

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

An anonymous officer of the Chester County Prison expressed concern and asked questions about incentives and raises for staff in order to increase retention rates, the number of vacancies at the Prison currently, and safety measures for staff, all which were addressed by the Board and the Warden.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no further public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moskowitz made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Kichline. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

ADJOURNMENT