

PRISON BOARD MINUTES

December 13, 2023

Board Members Present:

Thomas C. Chernisky, President Commissioner
William J. Smith, Commissioner
Scott W. Hunt, Commissioner
Edward Cernic, Jr., Controller
Donald Robertson, Sheriff
Gregory J. Neugebauer, District Attorney
Norman A. Krumenacker, III, President Judge

Others Present:

Chris Smith, Warden
Craig Descavish, First Deputy Warden
George Rozum, Second Deputy Warden

Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Smith called the Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on November 8, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Presentation and Approval of Invoices:

Controller Cernic presented the following bills and Invoice Status Report for approval:

Prison bills paid after the Meeting held November 8, 2023:

Retirement Fund	\$31,732.70
Retirement Fund	\$34,026.65
UPMC Health Plan	\$87,444.24
UPMC Dental	\$81.30
Symetra Life Insurance	\$483.76
CamTran	\$803.44
Ebensburg Borough	\$38,589.05
Ricoh	\$209.00
United Energy	\$1,249.32
Wells Fargo	\$445.30
GC Pivotal	\$111.07
Penelec	\$19,916.79
Henry Harrison	\$42.62
Terry Horner	\$36.68
William Irvin	\$127.07
Peoples	\$1,084.78
Pro Disposal	\$753.50
Total:	\$217,197.27

Invoice Status Report:

December 11, 2023, 106 Invoices Totaling	\$431,505.91
Canteen Fund Bills Paid after November, 2023, Meeting	\$9,535.68
Canteen Fund Bills to be Paid	\$40,957.49

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to approve the bills and the Invoice Status Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Warden's Report:

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to convene an Executive Session at 10:34 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Controller Cernic to reconvene the Public Meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Personnel:

1. Lakesha Stith, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective November 7, 2023.
2. Calvin Ates, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective November 18, 2023.
3. Derrick Weaver, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective November 19, 2023.
4. Ivan Heresco, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective November 18, 2023.
5. John Lacko, remove as Full-Time Correctional Officer I, effective November 26, 2023.

Warden Smith reported:

1. **MAJOR MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES UPDATES:**
 - a. Kronos Time-Keeping Software – The Prison is still testing the software. The anticipated go-live date has been pushed back to February, 2024.
 - b. Hot Water Tank – The last of the 4 hot water tanks that were installed in 2019 has failed and is in need of replacement. The cost is \$17,475.00, and the tank has been ordered.
 - c. Viapath/GTL – The inmate tablet update and installation was completed on November 29, 2023. The Prison went live with the new software on December 5, 2023. This update will give the inmates increased access to law library materials, additional educational resources, and their personal mail, (not legal mail), will now be delivered to them digitally.
2. Through the Canteen Fund, the Facility purchased 40 copies of a new treatment book entitled *No Addict Left Behind* to distribute among the housing unit libraries. Each housing unit received 6 copies of the book to share among the inmate population. The author is Joey Pagano, MSW, LSW, CRS, who is a recovering addict and project supervisor at the SPSHS Center of Excellence in southwestern Pennsylvania. A printout of his social

media post regarding the Prison's purchase was included with the Board's packet.

3. LBCB Next Steps, an independent Bible non-denominational church located in Manheim, Pennsylvania, reached out to correctional facilities throughout the State asking if they would be willing to accept Christmas 'Hope Packs,' for both inmates and staff. The inmate Hope Pack included items such as a journal, a calendar, a puzzle book, and a pre-paid postage card. All inmates received one package each. A separate Hope Pack containing different items was distributed to staff. The Prison thanked LBCB Next Steps for its generous donation.

4. The Pennsylvania Prison Society's Bi-Annual Data Collection Report was included in the Board's packet. Cambria County was one of the 38 counties who responded to their request for information.

5. On November 30, 2023, the Prison met with Bruce Mancini from Tremco, (the company that performed work on the Prison roof), and a representative from The BAI Group, a civil/environmental and geological consultant group. The two have partnered on rooftop solar projects and wanted to discuss a possible solar array on the Prison's roof. Preliminary data shows a possible 30% savings in electricity. The solar panels would be secured to the roof by weighted ballasts with no penetration to the new roof. All maintenance would be covered, and the rooftop warranty would not be affected. The project would involve no initial cost to the County. However, the County would have to agree to a specified time period to purchase the solar power. They are gathering more detailed data, and the Prison plans to meet with them again. If the project seems promising, the information will be forwarded to the Commissioners' Office for review. If and when a decision is made to move forward with RFPs, the Prison suggested an engineering study of the roof be done to ensure that it can bear the extra weight.

Statistical Report:

Report is attached.

November, 2023

Average Daily Population for November, 2023	397
Housing Revenue for November, 2023	\$295,285.50
Year to Date Revenue as of November, 2023	\$2,756,971.50

Food Service Report:

None.

Medical Report:

Attached.

Training:

The following staff training was completed during the month of November, 2023:

1. Nineteen staff members completed the "Fundamentals of Security" annual training.
2. Five staff members completed Firearms Safety and re-qualification.
3. Five staff members completed in-person annual training, which is now 100% complete.

- 4. Seven staff members completed Nuc-Tech Body Scanner Operator Training.**
- 5. Officer Zackary Bell completed 32 hours of training in Maximum and Floor Control Operations and 40 hours of training in Central Control Operations.**
- 6. Officer Jordan Geist completed 16 hours of training in Intake and Property Operations, and 24 hours of training in Floor and Maximum Control Operations.**
- 7. Officer Mattalynn Ross completed 16 hours of training in Central Control Operations.**
- 8. Officer Edward Fockler completed 16 hours of training in Prison Laundry and Escort Operations.**
- 9. Officer William Irvin completed 16 hours of training in Maximum Control Operations, 24 hours of training in Central Control Operations, and 32 hours of training in Intake and Property Operations.**
- 10. Officer Tyler Karlinsey completed 16 hours of training in Floor Control Operations, 16 hours of training in Prison Kitchen Operations, 24 hours of training in Central Control Operations, and 8 hours of training in Mail Operations.**
- 11. Officer Jestin Poruban completed 8 hours of training in Prison Lobby Operations, 16 hours of training in Floor Control Operations, 16 hours of training in Central Control Operations, and 24 hours of training in Intake and Property Operations.**
- 12. Officer Michael Pribish completed 24 hours of training in Maximum Control and Escort Operations, 16 hours of training in Floor Control Operations, 32 hours of training in Prison Kitchen Operations, 8 hours of training in Prison Lobby Operations, and 24 hours of training in Central Control Operations.**
- 13. Officer Courtney Sinclair completed 8 hours of training in Floor Control Operations.**
- 14. Officer Joseph Coyle completed 16 hours of training in Maximum Control Operations.**
- 15. Officer Thomas Hagerman completed 16 hours of training in Maximum Control Operations and 8 hours of training in Prison Laundry Operations.**
- 16. Officer Kimberly Peles completed 16 hours of training in Floor Control Operations.**
- 17. Officer Ashlee Mulraney completed 16 hours of training in Intake Operations.**
- 18. Officer Anthony Markovich completed 40 hours of training in Booking Center Operations.**
- 19. Officer Allan Zunich completed 24 hours of training in Central Control Operations.**
- 20. Officer Derick Kurtz completed 8 hours of training in Prison Lobby Operations.**
- 21. Officer Jonathan Lacko completed 8 hours of training in Prison Laundry Operations.**

Misconduct Report:

There was no information to report.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by District Attorney Neugebauer to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Tara N. Keilman, Deputy Chief Clerk