

**BERKS COUNTY JAIL SYSTEM
PRISON BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

August 13, 2025

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. at the Berks County Services Center and via Microsoft Teams.

Commissioner Rivera, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

The following members were in attendance:

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr.
Sheriff Mandy P. Miller
Commissioner Michael Rivera
District Attorney John Adams

The following members were not in attendance:

Judge Scott Lash
Commissioner Christian Leinbach
Controller Joe Rudderow

The following County staff were in attendance:

Warden Jeffrey Smith
Deputy Warden Bradley Roberts
Deputy Warden Stephanie Smith
Deputy Warden Franco Tassone
County Solicitor Christine Sadler
Deputy Chief Clerk Jessica Blauser
Chief Operations Officer Kevin Barnhardt

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The July 9, 2025, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Jail Senior Staff members gave the following reports:

Warden Report

Today's Population – 733 including 2 Juveniles
(2 housed in Wayne County)

Year To Date:

Average Daily Population – 730 inmates (for July 2025) Commitments – 2439
Total Discharges – 2396

Inmates Sentenced to an SCI:

18 inmates are sentenced to an SCI.

13 are ready to be transported to an SCI between now and August 31, 2025. 5 inmates are either awaiting a transport date or pending other charges.

Current State of Affairs

The jail has discharged 4 individuals who had detainers issued by ICE in the past 30 days.

Currently, there are 27 individuals at the jail with an immigration detainer.

As mentioned last month, we are partnering with artist Mike Miller (Berks Community Murals). We are currently in the concept phase. We have sought suggestions from our incarcerated population and staff. Once we identify a few concepts, the project will begin, and our population will participate in the painting. If you have any mural ideas or would like to participate in the painting, please let me know. We have plenty of blank space in the jail to fill with murals.

Deputy Warden Custody Report

Staffing Update

There are currently 17 Correctional Officer vacancies and 4 Sergeant vacancies. There are 7 new candidates that will start the academy on August 27, 2025. The next new hire testing date has not been scheduled yet.

Deputy Warden of Treatment Report

Programming Update

There are currently 77 D roster individuals in custody. This makes up 10% of the total population. The combined C and D active mental health roster makes up 62% of the total population. In July, 21 individuals were eligible for work release per their sentencing order. There was an average Trusty population of 34%, and 13 individuals were newly classified as Trusty.

For the month of July, the PennDOT ID Program received 75 referrals, processed 64 applications, received 18 products via mail and 12 vouchers.

As of July 31, 2025, one individual was waiting to go to Norristown for competency and zero waiting to go for treatment. Four individuals are waiting to go to Wernersville. In July, there was one admission to Norristown for competency. The individual sent to Norristown for competency restoration waited 15 days. There were no admissions to Wernersville or Norristown for treatment. There are currently 11 individuals at Norristown; 10 are there for competency restoration and 1 is there for treatment.

Operations Report

Project Update

The population from K-unit was moved over to L, allowing maintenance to ensure all utilities are operational, along with all security devices. This will continue throughout the jail. Martins Flooring resurfaced the restroom floors. This was completed on August 1st; this project is complete. The security upgrades slated for Tuesday August 5 and Wednesday August 6 are partially completed, the vendor needs more equipment to complete this project at a later date to be determined. We had the kickoff meeting for the upcoming paving project, and we are now waiting on the vendor for the underground survey of the utilities. 2025-2 class graduates August 20th.

2. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report and no executive session needed.

3. Comments from the Prison Board

No comments.

4. Executive Session

Not needed.

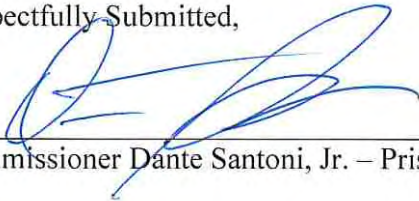
PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:07 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Santoni', is written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr. – Prison Board Secretary