

**BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2023**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. at the Commissioners Boardroom and Microsoft Teams Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

Judge Scott Lash called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

The following members were in attendance:

Commissioner Christian Leinbach
Commissioner Michael Rivera
Commissioner Lucine Sihelnik
District Attorney John Adams
Secretary Sandra Graffius
Judge Scott Lash

The following member were absent:

Sheriff Eric J. Weaknecht

The following County staff also attended:

Solicitor Christine Sadler
Warden Jeffrey Smith
Deputy Warden- Custody Bradley Roberts

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the October 11, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS

INMATE POPULATION: Warden Jeffrey Smith stated the inmate population is 768. There are 2 juveniles at Lehigh County and 3 juveniles at Wayne County. Thirty-five inmates are sentenced to an SCI. Fifteen inmates are ready to be transported between now and November 30th. Thirteen inmates are awaiting a transport date. Seven inmates are not ready for transport.

PROGRAMS: Warden Smith updated the Board on the mental health roster. There are currently 85 D roster inmates in population. There are 13 inmates eligible for work release.

PROJECT UPDATES: Warden Smith updated the board that the current projects:

- Roof conduit repair project is completed
- Transfer switch and main breaker at the FCRC has been replaced
- Stainless shower installs on (2) housing units has been completed
- Steam line replacement has been completed
- Maintenance team is currently working on the exterior of the mansion

STAFFING: Deputy Warden Roberts updated the Board on the status of the staffing:

- 33 Correctional Officer vacancies
- 6 Sergeant vacancies
- 4 Cadets in the Academy with a tentative graduation date of December 21st
- Next scheduled testing on November 21st with a tentative academy date of January 2024

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

County Solicitor Christine Sadler has nothing to report and no need for executive session.

COMMENTS FROM THE JAIL BOARD

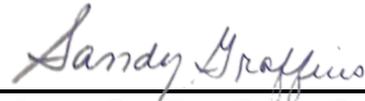
District Attorney John Adams spoke about the new Pennsylvania sentencing guidelines as of January 2024. This change will impact all county correctional facilities. The changes will most likely not be seen for about 6 months. This change will affect the location of where inmates will be incarcerated.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Judge Scott Lash to adjourn at 9:07 A.M. The next Prison Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 13, 2023.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandy Graffius".

Sandy Graffius, Prison Board Secretary