

**BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 2023**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, October 11, 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
Deputy Warden-Treatment Stephanie Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the September 13, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS

INMATE POPULATION: Warden Jeffrey Smith stated the inmate population is 787. Two juveniles at Lehigh County and 3 juveniles at Wayne County. Forty-two inmates are sentenced to an SCI. Twenty-six inmates are ready to be transported between now and October 26th. Thirteen inmates are awaiting a transport date. Three inmates are pending due to other circumstances.

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

- Replacing some of the showers with stainless steel inserts as part of the capital plan.
- New washer and dryer installs in main laundry is complete – just need to connect steam and exhaust lines.
- Roof conduit repair is still being worked on. Should be done by end of November.
- Maintenance team is doing exterior repairs on the mansion – waiting on contractor to do the dormers, windows, roof (Bond issues)
- Community Service project last week at Maiden Creek Township – brush pick up and shredding
 - Yesterday – trash clean up in Exeter Township.

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

- 32 Correctional Officer vacancies
- 6 Sergeant vacancies
- 4 Cadets in the Academy with a tentative graduation date of December 21st.
- Next scheduled testing on October 23rd

PROGRAMS: Deputy Warden Smith updated the Board on programing. There are currently 86 D roster inmates in population. Last month there were 13 inmates for eligible for work release.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

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

COMMENTS FROM THE JAIL BOARD

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Judge Scott Lash to adjourn at 9:05 A.M. The next Prison Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 8, 2023.

Sandy Graffius

Sandy Graffius, Prison Board Secretary