

BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. at the County of Berks Jail 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 July 12, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS

INMATE POPULATION: Warden Jeffrey Smith stated the inmate population is 775. Twenty-nine inmates sentenced to an SCI. Twenty-five are ready to be transported between now and September 28th. Four inmates are awaiting a transport date.

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

- Roof conduit repair is in progress and should be completed in the fall.
- Plan to have showers repaired this month. – Waiting on an install date with the vendor

- Transfer switch at the FCRC and is expected to be switched over in October.
- Maintenance team will be doing repairs to the mansion exterior and will have a vendor on site to address the dormers, windows, and roof repairs.
- Maintenance team will be installing new equipment in our main laundry area this week.

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

- 36 Correctional Officer vacancies
- 4 Sergeant vacancies
- 7 Cadets in the Academy with a tentative graduation date of September 19th
- 4 candidates in the background phase with a tentative start date of September 28th
- Next scheduled testing on October 23rd

PROGRAMS: Deputy Warden Smith updated the Board on programing. The jail received the compliance report from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care and the jail is in full compliance with all their standards.

There are currently 90 D roster inmates in population. In August there was 16 inmates 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 October 11, 2023.

Sandy Graffius

Sandy Graffius, Prison Board Secretary