

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

September 10, 2025

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. at the Berks County Jail System and via Microsoft Teams.

Judge Lash, 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  
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 August 13, 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 – 758 including 2 Juveniles  
(2 housed in Wayne County)

Year To Date:

Average Daily Population – 736 inmates (for August 2025) Commitments – 2730  
Total Discharges – 2660

Inmates Sentenced to an SCI:

25 inmates are sentenced to an SCI.

9 are ready to be transported to an SCI between now and October 2, 2025.

16 inmates are either awaiting a transport date or pending other charges.

### **Current State of Affairs**

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

Currently, there are 29 individuals at the jail with an immigration detainer.

During the week of March 14th, we had our PREA Audit. The PREA Auditor returned last week to review our corrective actions. We are now in full compliance. We are audited every three years.

Copper rain gutters and downspouts were installed on the Heister Mansion in February of this year.

Sometime during the early morning hours of August 27th, several of the downspouts and collectors were stolen from the property. The items were recovered from a local salvage yard, and there is currently an investigation underway.

### **Deputy Warden Custody Report**

#### **Staffing Update**

There are currently 13 Correctional Officer vacancies and 4 Sergeant vacancies.

There are 7 new cadets in the academy with a tentative graduation date of Monday, November 24th. The next new hire testing is scheduled for Monday, September 22, 2025.

### **Deputy Warden of Treatment Report**

#### **Programming Update**

There are currently 78 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

August, 17 individuals were eligible for work release per their sentencing order. There was an average Trusty population of 28% and 11 individuals were newly classified as Trusty.

For the month of August, the PennDOT ID Program received 54 referrals, processed 44 applications, received 35 products via mail and 33 vouchers.

As of August 31, 2025, zero individuals were waiting to go to Norristown for competency and zero waiting to go for treatment. Four individuals are waiting to go to Wernersville. In August, there was

one admission to Norristown for competency. The individual sent to Norristown for competency restoration waited 10 days. There were no admissions to Wernersville or Norristown for treatment.

There are currently 10 individuals at Norristown; 9 are there for competency restoration and 1 is there for treatment.

### **Operations Report**

#### **Project Update**

Paving project start date is to be determined due to the underground utilities. We will be walking the area to be paved with the contractor on September 11th to review the best way to begin this project.

Burkhardt Mechanical is set to begin the stainless-steel cladding for the unit showers. Once this is complete, all showers for population will have a stainless-steel insert to increase the longevity of the showers.

Two new exterior yard doors were installed on I and K. We will be replacing two more doors in 2026. Construction has begun to add a sallyport to the entrance of B-unit, to control the volume of traffic on and off the unit.

**2. Solicitor's Report**

One item for executive session, no action required.

**3. Comments from the Prison Board**

No comments.

**4. Executive Session**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Judge Lash adjourned the meeting at 9:08 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,



---

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr. – Prison Board Secretary