

# **BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES**

## **JULY 12, 2023**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, July 12, 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  
District Attorney John Adams  
Secretary Sandra Graffius  
Judge Scott Lash

The following member were absent:

Commissioner Lucine Sihelnik  
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 June 14, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS**

**INMATE POPULATION:** Warden Jeffrey Smith stated the inmate population is 759. Twenty-seven inmates sentenced to an SCI. Nine are ready to be transported between now and July 25th. Fifteen inmates are awaiting a transport date. Three remain at the jail with other circumstances.

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

- Pagoda Electric is onsite this month to repair the roof conduit and to install the new transfer switch and breaker at the FCRC
- Parking lot seal project is going out to bid this month

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

- 33 Correctional Officer vacancies
- 4 Sergeant vacancies
- 8 Cadettes in the Academy with a tentative graduation date of September 15<sup>th</sup>
- 7 candidates are moving to the interview phase after testing on July 5<sup>th</sup>
- Next scheduled testing on August 15th

PROGRAMS: Deputy Warden Smith updated the Board on programing. The jail had the NCCHC audit at the end of June. The exit interview went very well. The report should be received in the next few months. The Board will be updated at that time.

In June there were 15 inmates approved and eligible for work release. There are 95 D-roster inmates in population. In 2021 and 2022 in July the D-roster made up 10 percent of the population. Today they make up for 13 percent. The combined active rosters the C's and D's in 2021 they made up 59 percent of population. In 2022 they made up 61 percent and today they made up 65 percent. There is a gradual uptick.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

County Solicitor Christine Sadler has nothing to report but has a brief item for executive session that does not require action.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE JAIL BOARD**

None.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Judge Scott Lash to adjourn at 9:06 A.M. The next Prison Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 9, 2023.

*Sandy Graffius*

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**Sandra Graffius, Prison Board Secretary**