

Minutes of the Monthly
Meeting of the
Lancaster County Prison Board
January 18, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Joshua Parsons at 9:15 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Lancaster County Administrative Office Building.

Members Present: Commissioner Joshua Parsons, Commissioner Craig Lehman, President Judge Dennis Reinaker, District Attorney Craig Stedman (left at 9:45 a.m.), Sheriff Christopher Leppler, and Controller Brian Hurter.

Others Present: Cheryl Steberger, Robert Wolfe, William Aberts, Joe Shiffer, Ashley Garcia, Tammy Moyer, Charlie Douts, Charlette Stout, Cody Scheid, Kathy Kunkel, Diana Rivera, Mike Baldwin, Gretchen Gaudioso, Scooter Haase, Kim Reichenbach, Kent Kroehler, Toni Warfel, Troy Shifflett, David George, Ben Lefever, Kim Wolfe, Brett Hambright, Sandy Heisey, Sue Lao, and Mike Hansberry.

Commissioner Stuckey was unable to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Parsons stated that the Prison Board met in executive session on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. to discuss litigation, potential litigation, and personnel matters related to the discipline, suspension, and termination of employees. Specifically, under litigation, the Board discussed the Barney, Gatewood, Kanney, and Schatz cases.

Judge Reinaker moved to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2017 Prison Board Meeting. Controller Hurter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Cheryl Steberger, Warden; Robert Wolfe, Deputy Warden for Operations; William Aberts, Major/Security Operations; Joseph Shiffer, Deputy Warden for Inmate Services; Tammy Moyer, Director of Administration; and Charlie Douts, Director of Facilities Management; gave reports on their areas of responsibility. All of these reports, including operations and statistical information, are posted on the County's website.

Warden Cheryl Steberger reported that the average inmate population in December 2017 was 847 and the average population has been under 800 since January 1, 2018. She noted that during January the population for one day was at 802 and was as low as 762. She stated that in December of 2016 the average inmate population was 939. Warden Steberger stated that she is very proud of the progress they are making in reducing the inmate population and thanked the President Judge, Re-entry Programs, Probation & Parole, and Behavior Health & Developmental Services (BHDS) for their involvement. She stated that they are feeling the effects of a reduced population inside the Prison. Warden Steberger noted that the management team met yesterday and

discussed the future impact on the housing units and ways to possibly move inmates around and perhaps closing a housing unit.

Judge Dennis Reinaker commented that the District Attorney needs to be included, as his involvement with getting cases processed in the court system efficiently is a bigger burden than any other group and he deserves as much credit as anyone else.

Commissioner Lehman commented that without the collective effort and support from the Prison Board and all of the groups in the court system we would not be having the results that we have had. It has been a team effort to achieve these results.

District Attorney Craig Stedman commented that the President Judge has been willing to try different things and noted the speed in processing Domestic Violence and DUI court cases.

Warden Steberger reported that in 2017 there has been 2,500 less hours of overtime and there were no completed suicides. She stated that they continue to work on suicide prevention with trainings, meetings, reviewing and updating policies, and procedures that are in place. Warden Steberger stated that she met with her team to discuss their goals for the upcoming year.

Warden Steberger reported that she anticipates information being released in the near future regarding the death of Brandon Schatz, an inmate who died at the Prison on July 12, 2017.

Warden Steberger reported that Officer Jason Booth passed away in December. She stated he was a 10-year veteran and worked in the medical housing unit. She expressed her condolences to his family.

Robert Wolfe, Deputy Warden for Operations, reported that staff continues to conduct the weekly inspections and six-month inventories. He reported that the group along with administration is continuing with the policy and procedure reviews every other Wednesday. He reported that the bunk replacement and Temporary Housing Unit (THU) roof projects are ongoing. Deputy Warden Wolfe reported that they are still working on the post orders for the housing units and about 4-5 post orders have been completed.

Deputy Warden Wolfe reported that his staff continue to meet with other agencies. He reported that his team met with the Sheriff's team to discuss ways to expedite paperwork with new inmates coming into the Prison.

Commissioner Lehman asked how the temperatures are in the Prison with the recent cold weather. Deputy Warden Wolfe reported that the temperatures have been good except for a few offices for staff. He reported that the temperature has been between

68-72 on the blocks and extra blankets have been provided to the inmates if needed. He stated that the temperatures have increased since the boilers were fixed.

Joseph Shiffer, Deputy Warden for Inmate Services, reported that PrimeCare is providing groups for trauma recovery and anger management with approximately ten inmates participating in each group, which meets once a week. He stated that they continue to work with Gretchen Gaudio and Scooter Haase from Mental Health America on providing groups for males and females. He reported that a new group started on the third floor that is being monitored by Quinn Shaeffer of the treatment staff.

Deputy Warden Shiffer gave an update on the Mental Illness Substance Abuse (MISA) team. He reported that it will be a year in January since the program started. He stated that their goals are to decrease recidivism and decrease incidents and misconduct with inmates who have serious mental illness. Deputy Warden Shiffer reported that out of 155 seriously mentally ill inmates released from the Prison, 32 returned, which is a recidivism rate of 26%. Deputy Warden Shiffer stated that he is very pleased with the progress MISA has made with providing mental health services and will continue work to improve those services.

Deputy Warden Shiffer provided an update on the Vivitrol project. He reported that seven inmates received the injection before they were released and seven more inmates are on the waiting list to be a part of the program. He reported that the group met this week to discuss their progress and any changes that may need to be made. He stated that there are inmates who received the injection who have had a relative amount of success. He stated that they will be tracking recidivism with the program and it will be discussed at PrisonStat meetings moving forward.

Deputy Warden Shiffer reported that there have been 27 graduates in the IU 13/HiSet program for the last six months. He stated that last year there was a total of 35 graduates. He stated that they are on pace to exceed last year's numbers.

William Aberts, Major/Security Operations, reported the Officers of the Month for December: First Shift Officer, no selection; Second Shift Officer, Troy Shifflett; and Third Shift Officer, no selection. Officer Shifflett received a round of applause from those in attendance.

Major Aberts presented four Life Saving Awards to Officer David George, Officer Charles Horn, LPN Leann Barr, and LPN Cindy Grieman. In late December Officers George and Horn found a new commitment who was basically unresponsive in the holding cell. It was determined that it was a possible overdose and administered Narcan. The inmate was taken to LGH and revived. Major Aberts reported that Officer Horn was unable to attend. He stated that Mike Baldwin from PrimeCare will be accepting the awards on behalf of LPN Leann Barr and LPN Cindy Grieman as they

were unable to attend. Major Aberts reported that each person will receive a plaque and each officer will receive a pin that will be part of their uniform. Officer George and Mr. Baldwin received a round of applause from those in attendance. Members of the Board thanked them for their service and intervening to save a life.

Major Aberts reported that his team along with the administrative team continue to work on policies at the biweekly policy review meetings. He reported that they continue to conduct the institutional inspections with the supervisors and administrative team.

Tammy Moyer, Director of Administration, reported that the focus for 2018 for the administration and fiscal unit will be policy and compliance. Ms. Moyer will improve communication by holding weekly purchasing and monthly budget meetings. Ms. Moyer reviewed a chart listing the Prison population from 1981 through 2017. She noted that her population count includes inmates housed outside the Prison, while the Warden's averages only include those in-house. The Board suggested that the charts reflect just the inmates in-house.

Ms. Moyer noted that the Prison's vendor contract fees for food and medical are based on the number of inmates served. She predicted that between the 2017 savings due to the decrease in population and anticipated trends in 2018, the Prison can expect an overall savings of almost \$560,000.

District Attorney Stedman noted that the chart does not reflect that the courts are processing many more cases now than in prior years. He estimated that twenty years ago the courts were processing 4,500 cases per year and now they are processing 6,000.

Charlie Douts, Director of Facilities Management, reported on several projects:

- Personnel
 - Fully staffed with CGL employees.
- Maintenance Items
 - Heating issues during cold spell, drafty windows, mechanical failures. Mechanical issues resolved.
- Projects
 - P.O. issued for elevator upgrades, waiting on schedule from the contractor.
 - Meeting scheduled next week with contractor to discuss Building B roof replacement.
 - Meeting scheduled with vendor, Prison officials to define scope of control room panel upgrades and replacement.

Mr. Douts stated that the recent cold snap overtaxed the Prison's heating system. He noted that two of the three boilers went offline, but maintenance was able to bring one of them back quickly. In addition, he reported that a sprinkler head broke in the sally port but luckily it only caused minimal damage. He stated the CGL did a great job in preventing these from becoming major problems for the Prison.

Larry George, Director of Behavioral Health/Developmental Services, stated that the Transition to Community (TTC) residential treatment facility, which serves as a forensic diversion program, has been operating since May 15, 2017. The program serves adults with serious mental illness and forensic issues who are in need of community reintegration. The program provides a comprehensive treatment focus on assisting individuals to successfully live independently. Mr. George presented statistics on the program stating that to date, there has been twenty-one admissions, and sixteen discharges. He noted that the average length of stay is 50 days and currently there are five residents. Mr. George stated to his knowledge only one individual has returned to the Prison.

Mr. George reported that his office is currently conducting interviews for a new full-time Criminal Justice Planner - CIT Coordinator position to oversee CIT for law enforcement and support the Lancaster County Prison's efforts to create and administer CIT for Corrections Officers. The employee will serve as a County liaison, working with individuals being supervised/served by three departments: Adult Probation & Parole, Behavioral Health/Developmental Services, and the Lancaster County Prison. He noted that the three departments will split the cost of the position, but it will be managed by and housed at the Adult Probation & Parole Department. Mr. George noted the employee will also serve as a lead in the Stepping Up initiative. This program is a formalized collaboration between the criminal justice, corrections, and behavioral health systems, with the primary goal of reducing the number of incarcerated individuals who are seriously mentally ill.

Mr. George reported on the new Lancaster General Health (LGH) behavioral center for psychiatric services. Mr. George stated that he met with the new CEO of the facility who assured him that the current arrangement which allows for inmates to enter the facility for voluntary mental health treatment will continue as is. He reported that the new LGH behavioral center is expected to open in July 2018.

Commissioner Parsons gave an update on the Suicide Prevention Task Force. He stated that their last meeting was held in December 2017. They assessed the past year and reviewed plans for the future. He reported that the committee is continuing to work on policies and programs for suicide prevention. Commissioner Parsons stated that he was proud of the Prison staff and members of the committee for their work. He said that in consideration that Lancaster County from 2010-2015 had one of the highest rates of suicide in the Commonwealth to having no suicides in the last two years, is a pretty remarkable transformation.

Commissioner Parsons reported that the PrisonStat Committee met on January 11, 2017 and noted that the data is showing progress in Prison programs and procedures. The date for the next meeting will be decided at a later time, and will be announced to the public. He stated that the meeting must be publicly advertised if there would be a quorum of Prison Board members in attendance.

Commissioner Lehman moved to adjourn at 9:50 a.m. Controller Hurter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Lancaster County Prison Board will be February 15, 2018 at 9:15 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Lancaster County Administrative Office Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian K. Hurter
Secretary