

BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES
BERKS COUNTY SERVICES CENTER
COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
JANUARY 13, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Barnhardt unofficially called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

The following members were in attendance:

Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt
Commissioner Mark Scott
Controller Sandy Graffius
District Attorney John Adams
Judge Scott Lash

The following County staff also attended:

Solicitor Christine Sadler

REORGANIZE NOMINATIONS:

Christine Sadler officially called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. for nominations for the following positions: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Solicitor.

Ms. Graffius moved, seconded by Mr. Adams, to appoint Kevin Barnhardt as Chair. Mr. Barnhardt, seconded by Mr. Scott, to appoint Christian Leinbach as Vice Chair. Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Scott, to appoint Sandra Graffius as Secretary. Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Graffius, to appoint Christine Sadler as Solicitor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 9, 2015 meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

WARDEN REPORT:

Warden Quigley reported that the Department of Corrections will be reducing the number of technical parole violators given to the Jail under the contract which will cause a loss of revenue. A formal letter was received on Jan 4, 2016. The Jail is given approximately 110 violators but will now be capped at 50. The additional inmates will be moved within the next three months. To pick up revenue, Ms. Quigley contacted other county jails to see if they had overcrowding problems to relieve them of violators. The Board discussed the possibility of the Jail housing juveniles from Abraxas. The Warden will discuss a solution with John Adams and Robert Patrizio within the next 3 months to avoid loss of revenue.

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JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Deputy Jeffrey Smith stated there are 6 candidates to start the academy on January 27, 2016. Testing dates are potentially scheduled for March and July.

Deputy Kyle Russell updated the Board on the following renovation projects:

- Conditions Assessment – About 50 percent complete.
- Infrastructure and Security Upgrade Project – Working on punch list items. Currently held up by other contractors that need to come back to complete work.

Deputy Stephanie Smith notified the Board that the Department of Corrections will be auditing on the Technical Parole Violators program on January 20, 2016. Ms. Smith does not expect any issues from this year's audit.

Mr. Barnhardt spoke about a three day symposium regarding the National Association of Counties Initiative and the Stepping Up Initiative. The three day symposium will be held in April in Washington DC. Names have been submitted to attend including individuals from the Jail, Adult Probation, Courts and Commissioners, as well as Edward Michalik, Mental Health/ Developmental Disabilities Administrator, with additional standbys. NACO will pay for the first five attendees.

Mr. Barnhardt mentioned CCAP's Comprehensive Behavioral Health Task force similar to the Stepping Up Initiative, which also works with drug and alcohol dependencies as well as mental health issues. CCAP, the Human Services Board and Mr. Michalik, will meet monthly.

Warden Quigley spoke about the announcement from the Department of Health to suspend Medicaid benefits rather than terminate them when an individual enters the Prison systems. The Department of Health expects to make this change for State inmates this year followed by County inmates.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

GOOD & WELFARE: Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned at 9:16 a.m. into the Executive Session which adjourned at 9:22 a.m. The next Prison Board meeting will be February 10, 2016 in the Commissioners' Board Room, Berks County Services Center.

Sandy Graffius, Secretary Prison Board