

**BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2018**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. in the Special Operations Center at the Berks County Jail, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

The following members were in attendance:

Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt
Commissioner Christian Leinbach
Controller Sandra Graffius
District Attorney John Adams
Judge Scott Lash

The following members were absent:

Commissioner Mark Scott
Sheriff Eric Weaknecht

The following County staff also attended:

Solicitor Christine Sadler
Human Resources Director Jessica Weaknecht
Chief Administrative Officer Ronald Seaman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The October 10, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as presented. The meeting scheduled November 14, 2018 was cancelled for want of a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS

Warden Janine Quigley stated that the current inmate population was 1,099. Of the population reported, 47 inmates were technical parole violators from the State. She stated that 140 of the inmate population were female and 959 inmates were male.

The Warden spoke about the Forensic Conference for mental health sponsored by CCAP and DHS, on December 3, 2018. She stated 12 people from Berks County attended, including District Attorney John Adams and Judge Theresa Johnson.

Chief Deputy Jeffrey Smith updated the Board on the status of the staffing. There were 11 correctional officer vacancies; 6 custodial, 1 maintenance and 4 kitchen positions. Three cadets graduated on December 14, 2018. Fifteen potential candidates are in the selection process. Next academy start date is January 30, 2018.

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Chief Deputy Smith spoke about the need to have locked the jail down last week due to the high amounts of drafts (staff being mandated to stay and work overtime). Some staff had multiple drafts in a week and some had been forced to work back to back double shifts due to unforeseen hospital duties, transports, and mental health observations.

Deputy Warden Kyle Russell thanked the Board, as it was his last meeting as an employee of Berks County.

Deputy Warden Stephanie Smith updated the Board on the Veterans Program Initiative in collaboration with the Veterans Affairs office. She stated that an informational session was successfully held in November. The Veterans Affairs office and the County Veterans Association volunteers, that have clearance, are scheduled to hold a session every 3rd Thursday of the month.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Sadler updated the Board on the CGL assessment stating that portions of the CGL report draft were ready to review. She added that they are on target to complete the assessment within the expected timeframe.

COMMENTS FROM THE JAIL BOARD

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 9:25 A.M. The next Prison Board meeting will be held January 30, 2019 in the Commissioners' Board Room on the 13th Floor of the Berks County Services Center.


Sandy Grafflus, Secretary Prison