

## PRISON BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2025

In Attendance: Judge Ammerman, Sheriff Churner, DA Sayers, Commissioners Glass, Sobel & Winters, Acting Warden Oates and Controller Edwards

Excused:

**The meeting held in the Commissioners Meeting Room was called to order by Commissioner Sobel at 12:00 p.m.**

**Public Comment:** none

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Commissioner Glass made the motion to approve the March 11, 2025 minutes, with a second from Commissioner Winters. The motion carried.

**Financial Committee Report:** Controller Edwards presented the financial reports for March. Commissioner Winters made a motion to approve the financial report. DA Sayers seconded, and the motion carried.

**Warden's Report:** Warden Oates reviewed the Housing, Revenue, Inmate Financial Responsibility and Extraordinary Occurrence Reports for March. Warden Oates noted that our current population is 161 in-house.

There was one extraordinary occurrence for the month which involved the use of chemical spray to restrain the inmate.

Controller Edwards reviewed the bills for March and made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Judge Ammerman seconded and the motion carried.

**Work Release Program:** Warden Oates reviewed work release statistics, which show 3 inmates currently participating. Warden Oates noted that a combination of low employer demand, and our selection criteria, is limiting the number of inmates on work release. She noted that Deputy Warden McQuillen's report shows 19 inmates that have been sentenced *and* will be incarcerated for at least 30 more days. DA Sayers suggested that we focus on those inmates for work release. Warden Oates noted that few, if any, of those 19 had an established job, and at this point employers aren't looking to hire. Judge Ammerman asked if we have the ability to track that many work release inmates, to which Warden Oates said that Deputy Warden McQuillen definitely could track them.

**Personnel:** Warden Oates reviewed personnel. We currently employ 25 full-time and 3 part-time corrections officers, which is 5 officers short of what we need.

**Correspondence:** none

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** Warden Oates presented a plan to remove a small individual cell ("bird cage") to make more room for the booking area. Sheriff Churner asked where "troublemakers" in booking could be held. Warden Oates said that there are other cells in the facility reserved in case of this need.

**New Business Continued:** Tom Weber from Prime Care was present to give an update on the MAT program at the jail. He said that 22 inmates currently participate in the MAT program. Mr. Weber noted that this number may increase, as Prime Care is going to begin testing upon intake, just like they would screen for diabetes, etc. He noted that there has been dissatisfaction from some inmates in the fact that we do not administer methadone as a MAT treatment, so that we won't be surprised if an inmate files a grievance in regards to this. Mr. Weber feels that we are legally ok since we do offer a MAT program, even though it may not give inmates choice of treatment method. Discussion ensued regarding various medications such as buprenorphine, methadone, Vivitrol and injectable Sublocade. Controller Edwards will work with Warden Oates to determine the "hidden costs" associated with daily buprenorphine administration versus monthly injectable Sublocade (i.e. time spent by Corrections Officers helping with administration). Regardless of which method we use, pregnant females being booked into jail, who are already being treated with methadone, must continue treatment with methadone. Prime Care is working on an MOU with a local methadone clinic in the event this happens.

**Good of the Order:** Warden Oates thanked the Court and the Sheriff for helping to transfer an inmate to a different facility for help that she was in need of.

Commissioner Glass asked Warden Oates how things are going. Warden Oates responded that they are going well, and that it really hasn't been much of a change.

DA Sayers noted that current procedure at the jail is to require law enforcement to have a complaint in-hand to book somebody into jail. His concern is that there are situations where it costs law enforcement a lot of time, such as when the person is being held on a parole detainer or a bench warrant from another county. Commissioner Glass said that he understands the concern, but does not want it to get back to police dropping off people without paperwork. DA Sayers and Warden Oates will work on this as cases arise.

**Executive Session:** none

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, 2025, and will be held in the Commissioners meeting room.