

MERCER COUNTY PRISON BOARD

Pete C. Acker, President
Bruce Rosa, Vice President
Daniel P. Wallace, Secretary
Stephen Sherman II
Matthew B. McConnell
Timothy M. McGonigle
Scott E. Boyd



MERCER COUNTY PRISON

Mac McDuffie, Warden
James Scott, Deputy Warden/Security
Joseph Reichard, Deputy Warden/Operations

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COUNTY OF MERCER

Prison Board President Pete Acker called to order the December 19th, 2023 Mercer County Prison Board meeting with roll call:

Members Present:

President Pete Acker, District Attorney
Vice President Bruce Rosa, Sheriff
Secretary Judge Wallace, President Judge
Stephen Sherman, Controller
Matthew McConnell, Commissioner

Members Absent:

Timothy McGonigle, Commissioner
Scott Boyd, Commissioner

Others Present:

Mac McDuffie, Warden
Joe Reichard, Deputy Warden
James Scott, Deputy Warden
William McClure, IPP Director
Tim Callahan, Sheriff
Sharin Robb, Administrative Assistant
Melissa Klaric, Sharon Herald

Approval of Minutes:

Prison Board President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the November 21st, 2023 prison board minutes. Controller Stephen Sherman makes the first motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Matthew McConnell. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Wardens Report:

Warden McDuffie begins by stating that the current population is 205 with the average being 230. In the month of November, there were 183 commitments, 205 releases with an average length of stay of 16.64 days. Warden McDuffie thanks the board for their assistance in helping keep the population low especially with the growing female population.

Prison Board President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the Wardens Report. Vice President Bruce Rosa makes the first motion and it was seconded by Commissioner McConnell. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

IPP Report:

IPP Director William McClure begins by stating that for the month of November there were 89 referrals, 71 successful completions and 12 failures/revocations with a total of 641 clients. Savings to the county totaled \$283,159 which was based on 3,429 jail bed days saved from house arrest and Pre-Trial Tasc. There were 559 community service hours completed which made a savings to the work sites of \$4,214. Currently there are 28 clients in specialty court, 14 in treatment court and 5 in mental health court as well.

Director McClure continues by stating that Specialty Court Coordinator, Tiffany Spangler, has officially resigned on Friday. He states that he will take over her caseload until another person begins.

Prison Board President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the IPP Report. Vice President Bruce Rosa makes the first motion and it was seconded by Secretary Judge Wallace. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

New Business

Warden McDuffie begins by stating that he would like to discuss the recent incident regarding a medical furlough. He states to the board that due to the lack of staff, it is not feasible to have the officers watch over inmates during a long period of time. Warden McDuffie states that medical furloughs are only asked under certain circumstances and if certain stipulations regarding the inmates' backgrounds are met. Prison board president Pete Acker states that he knows that no judge would ever permit an inmate to go on medical furlough if they were a danger to the community. He states that without going into detail, this specific situation was critical and deemed necessary for the inmate to be hospitalized.

Old Business:

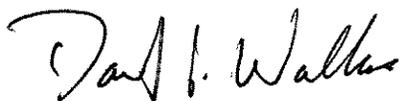
Warden McDuffie begins by updating the board on the status of the female population. He states that he has started to bring back females that were transported to Lawrence County due to overpopulation. The numbers have also started to decline so the housing unit total should be getting back to normal.

Deputy Warden Reichard informs the board that the number of mental health inmates continues to increase. He states that many are coming in and seem to be extremely hard to manage. Deputy Warden Reichard continues by stating that a few mental health inmates who are incarcerated have nowhere else to go. Often times, a restoration team will come in and determine if the inmate is eligible to go to Torrance State Hospital based on their mental status. Recently, an inmate was number two in line for a bed but the restoration team deemed them competent so that spot was lost. Deputy Warden Reichard informs the board that this process is now causing an issue and is currently looking into a solution.

Vendor Requests:

None.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judge Daniel Wallace
Mercer County Prison
Prison Board Secretary