

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 August 15th, 2023 Mercer County Prison Board meeting with roll call:

Members Present:

President Pete Acker, District Attorney
Vice President Bruce Rosa, Sheriff
Stephen Sherman, Controller
Matthew McConnell, Commissioner
Timothy McGonigle, Commissioner
Scott Boyd, Commissioner

Members Absent:

Secretary Judge Wallace, President Judge

Others Present:

Mac McDuffie, Warden
James Scott, Deputy Warden
William McClure, IPP Director
Holly Patterson, Record Argus
Sharin Robb, Administrative Assistant

Approval of Minutes:

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the July 18th, 2023 Prison Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Matthew McConnell makes the motion and it was seconded by Vice President Bruce Rosa. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Wardens Report:

Warden McDuffie begins by stating that the current populations is at 230. For the month of July there were 211 commitments and 202 releases with an average length of stay of 16.99 days. Currently there are 21 inmates on the MAT/MOUD program with the number continuing to increase.

Warden McDuffie states that as of August 3rd, the jail will start distributing Methadone. Currently there are two inmates who did receive dosages but both were recently released.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the Wardens Report. Commissioner McConnell makes the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Boyd. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

IPP Report:

IPP Director William McClure begins by stating that for the month of July there is a total of 630 participants with 90 successful completions and 9 failures/revocations. Savings to the county totaled \$279,192 which was based on 3,378 jail bed days saved. Community service hours totaled 969 which created a savings to the work sites of \$7,027. In treatment court there were five participants who applied, two were denied, and two were successfully discharged for a total of 36 participants. Veterans Court had one participant denied and two who were successfully discharged for a total of 20 participants.

Director McClure continues by telling the Prison Board that in September, he will be sending two of his staff to Pittsburgh to get certified in teaching the DUI school.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the IPP Report. Commissioner McGonigle makes the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Boyd. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

New Business

IPP Director William McClure states that a currently occurring issue with Veterans Court is that if somebody who is on house arrest tests positive, it's considered a major violation and that person should be incarcerated. Recently there was an incident where this outcome did not happen. President Pete Acker states that the Prison Board is the overseer of IPP and House Arrest and the question is if there should be a requirement that appropriate sanctions be issued when major violations occur.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to require the appropriate sanction of incarceration based on major violations perpetrated during House Arrest. Vice President Bruce Rosa makes the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner McGonigle. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Warden McDuffie tells the board that he was notified of a little bit of funding left over from the HSDF grant and that it was recommended to be utilized for the jail. The remaining amount was \$47,187 which will be applied to the funding for the mental health counselors increasing the total to \$129,187.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to recommend to the commissioners that the remaining HSDF funding for mental health be utilized at the jail. Controller Stephen Sherman makes the motion and it was seconded by Vice President Bruce Rosa. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Warden McDuffie informs the board that he recently met with Scott Baird from Oasis who has asked the jail to take a reduction in the commissary rate due to several circumstances. The percentage would take an eight percent cut from 48% to 40% for the one year contract extension only. Warden McDuffie continues by stating that even with the reduction, the commissary profits will still come in at approximately \$142,429 per year. He also informs the board that Oasis is now introducing web ordering for commissary. This will enable friends/family to purchase commissary for inmates without having to put money on their account which will also increase profits from Oasis. Warden McDuffie states that inmates will still be able to purchase commissary on their own as well.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to approve the reduction of Oasis profits from 48% to 40% as well as the online web ordering for commissary. Commissioner McGonigle makes the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner McConnell. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Warden McDuffie states that he has been looking into purchasing body cameras for the staff as well which would cost roughly \$90,000. With the current canteen account balance being \$630,925, Warden McDuffie

asks the board if he can utilize the account to purchase the body cameras as it would ensure liability and safety for inmates.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to obtain three bids for the purchase of 12 body cameras for staff. Controller Stephen Sherman makes the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Boyd. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Old Business:

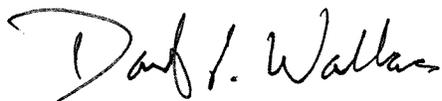
None.

Vendor Requests:

None.

President Pete Acker asks for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Boyd makes the motion and it was seconded by Vice President Bruce Rosa. Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danl. Wallace". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Judge Daniel Wallace
Mercer County Prison
Prison Board Secretary