

**BERKS COUNTY PRISON BOARD MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 9:10 A.M. in the Commissioners' Board Room on the 13th Floor for the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to the due notice to Board member and the public. This meeting was also available on Microsoft Teams.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

The following members were in attendance:

Commissioner Christian Leinbach
Commissioner Michael Rivera
Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt
District Attorney John Adams

The following members were absent:

Judge Scott Lash
Secretary Sandra Graffius
Sheriff Eric J Weaknecht

The following County staff also attended:

Executive Assistant Jessica Blauser
Solicitor Christine Sadler
Warden Jeffrey Smith
Chief Deputy Warden Stephanie Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the October 27, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

JAIL SENIOR STAFF REPORTS

WARDEN REPORT:

Today's Population – 775
Juveniles – 3 (Lehigh)

Inmates sentenced to an SCI – 68

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64 of those inmates are scheduled to leave between now and December 31st .
4 inmates are awaiting transport date.

DOC has reconsidered our commitments:

- Increased from 10 to 18 inmates on the 11/30 transport

Added a 12/8 transport

Project Updates –

Outstanding Capital Projects from 2020:

- A/B Visitation – Work began on November 3rd. Everything has been installed by the vendor. Only outstanding items are the doors need to be painted and the electric has to be run for the intercoms.
- End Cells & HVAC Project – Programs have been installed. Waiting for them to come and train our staff.

2021 Capital Projects:

- Repair of the water tanks and expansion valves has been completed by Berkshire Mechanical.
- NVRs – Continuing to work with the IS team. Quotes have been provided. The IS team is following up with some additional questions before a decision can be made.

GTL – On November 9th, GTL provided us a demo of their scheduling software for inmate visitation (both civilian and professional).

- We believe it will be an effective tool and allow our staff to be more productive.
- We had further questions that they are looking into.
- We plan to have a follow up meeting with them once they have more information

Chief Deputy Warden Report:

Programming update – partnering with COCA and PrimeCare to distribute Narcan kits to individuals who are being released from BCJS. Plan to have more follow up meetings and plan to start this program 1/1/22.

Deputy Warden of Custody Report:

- 35 CO vacancies
- 3 graduated 11/12
- 1 graduate 11/19
- 11/24 is the start date for the next academy
 - 7 candidates to start academy
- 12/7 next test

Public Comment: None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

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Solicitor Sadler had nothing to report. No need for executive session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt to adjourn at 9:07 A.M. The next Prison Board meeting will be held on December 15, 2021.

Sandy Graffius

Sandy Graffius, Prison Board Secretary