

MEETING MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
Board of Prison Inspectors
August 11, 2022

**THE BOARD MEETING WAS HELD ON-SITE AT THE FACILITY AND
VIA ZOOM**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. with an Executive Session. Following that, the public session started with a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: President Nancy Wieman, Vice-President Craig Browne, David Reed, Julio Algarin, Vernon Steed, Solicitor Brian Phillips and Secretary Richard Dresher. **Absent:** Ted Baird.

PRISON STAFF: Warden Sean McGee, Assistant Wardens Marcy D’Orazio, Sean Smith and Tom Berger; Majors Joseph Interante, Moyer; and Captains Zerr.
Administrative: Brandon Craig, and Kathy Brighter; **PrimeCare Medical:** Joe Lynch, P.J. McTiernan, and Kelly Ehrich.

PUBIC IN MEETING: The public is invited to attend at the facility...when open to visitors again... or on *ZOOM* when meetings are held via that medium. No public was in attendance in person or virtually. .

APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES:

Motion to Approve:
Reed

Second:
Browne

Board Approval:
Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Bid Approvals: *The following are recommendations by Warden McGee for bid approvals. Bids are to be awarded to lowest responsible bidders that meet the specifications and requirements set forth in the request for bid. NOTE: By County standards, the most qualified bidder is not always the lowest bidder. In some cases, "Highest Rated "or "Best Value to the County," may be awarded a bid. And contracts may be awarded to approved Costar vendors without competitive bids.*

As of January 2022, the new threshold dollar amount for large bids is now \$21,900...formerly \$21,300. Anything above that must be approved by the Board and accompanied with a signed resolution.

o Board Letter: A letter of Board support for the 2023 budget was reviewed and approved by the Board. It was addressed the to County Chief Financial Officer Dean Dortone. Copies would also be sent to the three County Commissioners, Warden McGee, President Judge Carluccio, and the liaison

between the Court and MCCF, Judge Demchick-Alloy. It will be included at the August 22nd budget discussion with the County.

Motion to Approve:
Browne

Second:
Algarin

Board Approval:
Unanimous

o Groceries Meats, and Provisions: Invitations to bid were sent to 224 potential suppliers; 29 downloaded it; and 6 submitted and were awarded bids.

<u>Bidders</u>	<u># of items</u>
o W Valario Produce.....	58
o Driscoll Foods.....	56
o Feeser's Inc.....	33
o Goodsource.....	3
o Chesapeake Corp.....	2
o Godshall Quality Meat.....	<u>1</u>
TOTAL.....	153

Motion to Approve:
Browne

Second:
Algarin

Board Approval:
Unanimous

o Replacement of HVAC Units: As part of the replace meet plan, two twenty-five ton Seasons Four rooftop units are to be replaced...serving the Visitor Control and Activity areas. Invitations to bid were sent to 378 Companies; 29 responded; and 3 companies made submissions:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
o Oliver Mechanical.....	\$564,355
o Gaudelli Bros, Inc.....	\$534,200
o Hirschberg Mechanical...	\$504,950

Staff recommended that the bid be awarded to Hirschberg Mechanical for the bid price of \$504,950.

Motion to Approve:
Reed

Second:
Steed

Board Approval:
Unanimous

Solicitor Phillips pointed out that this is subject to a signed resolution by the Board President.

APPROVAL OF WAGES, INVOICES, AND MONTHLY REPORTS:

Motion to Approve:
Algarin

Second:
Browne

Board Approval:
Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE: None

RETIREMENTS: Farm Supervisor, Kevin Brown, retired on August 5th after 29 years of dedicated service to MCCF. We wish him well.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PROMOTIONS: None

WARDEN REPORTS:

Warden McGee:

- o COVID showing a slight rise in both Intake and the back jail. Whatever happens in society follows into the jail.
- o The County Health Department wants to test MCCF sewage to try to learn more about COVID in the facility.
- o While COVID will continue to be closely monitored, masking within the facility will continue to be recommended, but optional in most areas of the jail with the exception of medical, quarantine and Intake. Walmart donated about 5,000 N-95 masks to the facility. (Thanks to Major Interrante's wife who works for Walmart.)
- o The County is initiating a new email format for all County employees. There will be an internal and an external version.
- o MCCF applying for funds from a PCCD (Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency) grant to be used for the Inmate Medical Assistance program.
- o Hoping to secure an Opioid Settlement Fund Grant.
- o Due to a COVID quarantine of the County Courts, there is a seven to eight thousand case backlog.

Assistant Warden Marcy D'Orazio

Programs/Administration/Finance/Operations/Female

- o **Administrative Dispositions:** A total of 8 inmates were completed during the month of July and the average length of sentence was 2.69 to 20.0 months.
- o **Preliminary Hearing Video Waiver Program:** There were 266 ZOOM hearings. Such hearings are being held in multiple locations in the jail.
- o **Professional Video Visits:** There 551 were such visits.
- o **Veterans Court:** There were 7 inmates in the program 1 admission

and no graduations.

o Behavioral Health Court: There were 29x participants with 1 admission and no discharges.

Assistant Warden Sean Smith
Community Corrections Center

o COVID: Ten staff and 47 inmates tested positive in July.

o Inmate Video Visits: 512 inmates signed up, but only 234 visitors followed through.

o Work Release: No room and board was returned to the Treasurer. There were a total of 16 inmates on Work Release wearing GPS ankle bracelets and

o Community Farm Task Program: There were only 9x inmates on the farm due to the lower population causing a diminished pool of eligible inmates.

o Community Corrections Courtroom: No judges made use of the MCCF courtroom in July

Assistant Warden Thomas Berger
Custody/Security

o Population: The inmate population as of meeting day:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL*</u>
August	812	93	905
July	791	103	894

*Not all housed within the facility.

o Training: There were 112 of in-service training and 1,280 pre-service hours for a total of 1,392 hours.

o Open Positions: There are currently 44 Correctional Officer openings.

o Tours of the Facility: No tours due to quarantine.

o Contraband: There were two overdoses of inmates on admission to Intake. Both were rescued with Narcan by staff.

There were no cases of diverted prescribed drugs within the facility.

There have been reported cases of inmate use of xylazene, a veterinary drug used in animals as a sedative, analgesic and muscle relaxant. In humans, it can cause death. (Again, whatever happens in society follows

into the jail. Xylazene illicit use is being reported in Philadelphia and suburbs.)

INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT: Staff completed inspections and reported back to the Board. After reviewing the report, a Board vote was taken.

Motion to Approve:
Algarin

Second:
Reed

Board Approval:
Unanimous

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: None

BOARD MEMBER'S AND OTHER REMARKS: Dr. Browne inquired as to when Board member on-site inspections might resume. It was thought to be by October.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday September 8, 2022

ADJOURNMENT: 9:35 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: *Richard J. Dresher*
Board Secretary

DRAFT