



**Fayette County  
Prison**

12 Court Street

**Prison Board of Inspectors**

- Sheriff James Custer (Chair)
- Commissioner Dave Lohr
- Commissioner Vincent A. Vicites
- Commissioner Scott Dunn
- Judge Steve Leskinen
- District Attorney Rich Bower
- Controller Scott Abraham

**Minutes**

Fayette County Prison Board of Inspectors  
February 24, 2021 Regular Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Prison Board took place on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. It was held in the Commissioners Conference Room of the Fayette County Courthouse, as well as virtually via ZOOM.

The meeting was **Called to Order** at 9:17 am by Sheriff James Custer.

At **Roll Call**, the following members were present and constituted a quorum: Sheriff Custer, Controller Scott Abraham (virtual), Commissioner Dave Lohr, Commissioner Vince Vicites (virtual), Commissioner Scott Dunn (virtual) and Judge Leskinen (virtual)

Members absent at roll call were: District Attorney Rich Bower (excused).

Also present were: County Assistant Solicitor Tim Witt (virtual), Warden John Lenkey, Assistant Chief Adult Probation Officer Jim Kovacs, Juvenile Probation Officer Dwaine Berger (late via virtual), CYS Director Gina D’Auria (virtual), HR Assistant Director Lorraine Conard, Mary Over - Chief of staff for Commissioner Vicites and Tammy Nedrow - Chief of Staff for Commissioner Dunn. Also attending virtually was an unknown via a Nokia phone.

Sheriff Custer led the **Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance**.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items** : None

**Approval of Minutes of January 27, 2021 Regular Meeting**

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Dunn** to approve the meeting minutes of the January 27 , 2021 Regular Meeting.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

**Approval of February 2021 Bills**

Moved by **Sheriff Custer** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to approve February 2021 bills.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

**Population Report for February**

Warden Lenkey reported at present there are a total of **145** inmates, with **131** males and **14** females. **One** male inmate is currently housed outside of Fayette County at Washington County, being Court Ordered and One female inmate is currently housed outside of Fayette County at Greene County due to having a relative on staff at Fayette.

**Update on Maintenance Repair**

Warden Lenkey provided the report as attached. He reported that the maintenance staff has been doing mostly plumbing repairs (hot water, small leaks, etc.) and general maintenance, no big projects.

**Intermediate Punishment Program Report**

Officer Jim Kovacs of Adult Probation reviewed his report as attached. For the month of January, there were a total of 275 active offenders on probation, resulting in 6,594 incarceration days saved. There were 90 electronic monitoring (EM) installations, and 28 disconnects.

Mr. Kovacs also noted that the invoice for Restrictive Intermediate Punishment treatment for the month of January 2021 was \$2,873.89 paid to the Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission. Medical Assistance paid a sum of \$1,739.00.

**Juvenile Probation**

Officer Dwaine Berger had nothing to report.

**Courts**

Judge Leskinen reported that the Courts are somewhat backed up with 217 cases expiring by mid April. There are 14 jail cases expiring this month with only 6 available Court dates so the Courts are working on a solution.

**CYS**

Director Gina D’Auria had nothing to report.

**Personnel**

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Sheriff Custer** to ratify the promotion of Sergeant Nick Covert to Lieutenant, Non-Union Supervisor/Pay Grade 18/Step B, starting rate \$28.96 an hour, \$60,236.80 annual effective February 14, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Vicites** to ratify the hiring of Part-time Corrections Officer Cristina Dipiazza, starting rate \$16.40 per hour, effective February 16, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Vicites** to ratify the hiring of Part-time Corrections Officer Michael Bennett, starting rate of \$16.40 per hour, effective February 16, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Vicites** to to ratify the hiring of Part-time Corrections Officer Ryan Sigley, starting rate \$16.40 er hour, effective February 16, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Personnel (Continued)

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Vicites** to ratify the hiring of Part-time Corrections Officer Coron Mains, starting rate of \$16.40 per hour, effective February 16, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Vicites** to promote Full-time Corrections Officer Anthony Dragone to Sergeant, Non-Union Supervisor/Pay Grade 16/Step E, starting rate \$29.27 an hour, \$60,881.60 effective February 24, 2021 [In discussion, Commissioner Dunn expressed concern that this promotion could possibly go against the County Nepotism Policy as there is a chance that the Officer may sometime be the supervisor of his family].

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye          |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye          |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye          |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye          |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Nay          |
| Judge Leskinen        | Abstain      |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>4-1-1</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |              |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Dunn** to hire Brandon Bowers for Sergeant, Non-Union/Pay Grade 16/Step SR, starting rate \$23.05 an hour, \$47,944.00 effective February 24, 2021 start date TBD.

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Sheriff Custer       | Aye |
| Controller Abraham   | Aye |
| Commissioner Lohr    | Aye |
| Commissioner Vicites | Aye |

Commissioner Dunn  
Judge Leskinen  
**Motion Carried**  
**Unanimously**

Aye  
Aye  
**6-0**

## Executive Session

**Sheriff Custer** moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:34 a.m. to discuss personnel discipline and policy matters; seconded by **Commissioner Lohr**. (Prison Board Members, Lenkey, Connard & Witt)

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Sheriff Custer** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to leave Executive Session at 9:46 a.m. and return to the Regular Meeting. Sheriff Custer reported that a personnel issue and policy issue were discussed during Executive Session leading to the action below by the Board.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Judge Leskinen** to suspend Corrections Officer Martin Urban for 3 days, without pay, effective March 3, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Controller Abraham** to add to the Fayette County Prison Policy and Procedure Manual to include policy on inmate bedding effective February 24, 2021.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

**Public Comment :**

None

**New/Old Business**

None

**Adjournment**

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Judge Leskinen** to adjourn meeting.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sheriff Custer        | Aye        |
| Controller Abraham    | Aye        |
| Commissioner Lohr     | Aye        |
| Commissioner Vicites  | Aye        |
| Commissioner Dunn     | Aye        |
| Judge Leskinen        | Aye        |
| <b>Motion Carried</b> | <b>6-0</b> |
| <b>Unanimously</b>    |            |

Meeting adjourned **at 9:48** am.

Respectfully Submitted by Tammy Nedrow, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Dunn