



**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
March 30, 2022 Regular Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Prison Board took place on Wednesday, March 30, 2022. It was held in the Commissioner’s Conference Room of the Fayette County Courthouse, as well as virtually via ZOOM.

The meeting was **Called to Order** at 9:15 am by Sheriff James Custer.

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

Members absent at roll call were: Judge Steve Leskinen and District Attorney Rich Bower.

Also present were: County Solicitor Jack Purcell, Warden John Lenkey, Assistant Chief Adult Probation Officer Jim Kovacs, Juvenile Probation Ofcr Dwaine Berger (virtual), Drug & Alcohol Melissa Ferris (virtual), HR Director Cristi Spiker, Mary Over - Chief of Staff for Commissioner Vicites and Tammy Nedrow - Chief of Staff for Commissioner Dunn. Public attending virtually were Shannon Matty and Bob Stiles. Director of Veteran Affairs Brian Benson and Veteran Josh Reed entered meeting after Executive Session.

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

Public Comment on Agenda Items : NONE

Approval of Minutes of February 23, 2022 Regular Meeting

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2022 meeting.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye

Motion Carried 5-0
Unanimously

Approval of March 2022 Bills

Moved by **Commissioner Lohr** and seconded by **Commissioner Dunn** to approve March 2022 bills.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Population Report for March

Warden Lenkey reported at present there are a total of **165** inmates, with **129** males and **36** females. **Four** male and **One** female inmates are currently housed outside of Fayette County at Greene County, four being Court Ordered and one due to relationship. Fayette County is currently housing **One** inmate for Greene County. He also reported that there are currently **Three** males at Torrence.

Update on Maintenance Repair

Warden reported that general maintenance repairs are being done - no major projects other than Hot Water repair this morning which caused the hot water only to be off for a few hours.

Intermediate Punishment Program Report

Officer Jim Kovacs of Adult Probation reviewed his report as attached. For the month of February, there were a total of 297 active offenders on probation, resulting in 6,617 incarceration days saved. There were 76 electronic monitoring (EM) installations, and 12 disconnects. There was also 1 on the TAD unit.

Mr. Kovacs also noted that the invoice for Restrictive Intermediate Punishment treatment for the month of February 2022 was \$2,853.61 paid to the Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission. Medical Assistance paid a sum of \$4,265.39.

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to approve the IPP Plan for 2022-2023 as presented.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Juvenile Probation

Officer Berger reported that the one youth that was housed at Aspire when it was shut down is now on house arrest and being monitored by Juvenile Probation. He further reported that their office is looking into housing again at Jefferson in Ohio, as well as Sargis in St. Clairsville ,Ohio.

Courts

No report in the absence of Judge Leskinen.

CYS

No report in the absence of Director Gina D’Auria.

Drug & Alcohol

Interim Director Melissa Ferris reported that the office is currently performing assessments on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the prison. They also do outpatient counseling on Thursdays (currently counseling 1 inmate).

Old Business

NONE

New Business

NONE

Personnel

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** ratify the retirement of Full-Time Corrections Officer James Hoffman, effective March 1, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the retirement of Full-time Corrections Officer George Morris, effective March 1, 2022..

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the retirement of Captain Joel Bush, effective March 28, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Personnel (Continued)

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the resignation of Sergeant Brandon Bowers, effective January 29, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the resignation of Part-time Corrections Officer Christian Blackstone, effective February 24, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the hiring of Part-time Corrections Officer Randy Shea, starting rate \$16.40 per hour, effective February 25, 2022..

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the resignation of Part-time Corrections Officer Randy Shea, effective February 25, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the resignation of Part-time Corrections Officer Nicholas Davis, effective February 26, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Personnel (Continued)

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify resignation of Part-Time Corrections Officer Shelby Rutherford, effective March 6, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the termination of Part-Time Corrections Officer Bailey Jenkins, effective March 13, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the termination of Part-Time Corrections Officer Courtney Landis, effective March 16, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to ratify the hiring of Part-time Corrections Officer Gabrielle Smith, starting rate \$16.40 per hour, effective March 7, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to approve the promotion of Lieutenant Heather Eicher to Captain, Non-Union Supervisor/Pay Grade 20/Step C, starting rate of \$33.19 an hour, \$69,035.20 annually effective March 28, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Personnel (Continued)

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to approve the promotion of Full-Time Corrections Officer Samuel Sickelsmith to Sergeant, Non-Union Supervisor/Pay Grade 16/Step A starting rate of \$26.87 an hour, \$55,889.60 annually effective March 30, 2022.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Executive Session

Moved by **Sheriff Custer** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to enter in executive session at 9:33 a.m. to discuss personnel.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Moved by **Sheriff Custer** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to leave executive session at 10:31 a.m. and return to regular meeting.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye

Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	5-0
Unanimously	

Upon return to regular session, Sheriff Custer reported that two personnel issues were discussed leading to the following actions:

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to terminate Corrections Officer John Cole.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Nay
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	4-1

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to terminate Corrections Officer William DeWitt.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye
Commissioner Vicites	Nay
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried	4-1

Public Comment:

VA Director Brian Benson presented Veteran Josh Reed to speak. Mr. Reed is a 6 year Veteran and recently worked at SCI Greene and SCI Fayette (now retired). He would like to volunteer to assist in bettering the judicial process for Veterans. With the guidance and approval of Specialty Courts, etc. he suggested to possibly better communicate and educate veterans at their first intake of the services available and provided by the Veterans Administration Office. Warden Lenkey and Director Benson agreed to re-establish the Mentorship Program that fell by the wayside due to COVID.

Adjournment

Moved by **Commissioner Dunn** and seconded by **Commissioner Lohr** to adjourn the meeting.

Sheriff Custer	Aye
Commissioner Dunn	Aye
Commissioner Lohr	Aye

Commissioner Vicites	Aye
Controller Abraham	Aye
Motion Carried Unanimously	5-0

Meeting adjourned **at 10:42** a.m.