

**DETENTION CENTER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 16th, 2017**

The Detention Center Commission met this date at 3:30 P.M. in the Union Parish Police Jury meeting room, Union Parish Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana. Present were: Lanny Parker (UPPJ), Charles Sawyer (UPPJ), and Chief Bim Culbertson (Town of Farmerville). Absent: Dusty Gates (Union Parish Sheriff) and John Belton (District Attorney).

Mr. Parker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Parker led the group in prayer. Roll call was taken. Mr. Parker asked if anyone in the audience would like to register for public comment. At this time Becky Stark addressed the Commission. Ms. Stark has several concerns with the Detention Center. Ms. Stark has issues with the following: (1) inmates not receiving the proper medication, (2) bedbugs, (3) lack of activity for the inmates, (4) over-crowding, (5) not enough food and (6) too much violence. Warden Copes said he would look into each of Ms. Stark's allegations.

Motion made by Chief Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Sawyer and declared adopted by Roll Call vote to approve the agenda as written.

Motion made by Mr. Sawyer and seconded by Chief Culbertson to adopt the minutes of the October 24, 2017 meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

TWP Director Comments

The room and board for the month of October is **\$112,411.73**. The room and board as of November 16, 2017 is **\$43,932.23**. There are 71 inmates in work release. We have five approved to go into the work release program and three inmates coming tomorrow from Bossier. That will make a total of eight to add to the program. Two inmates are being screened. The work release inmates are working over-time at Foster Farms.

Warden Comments

There are currently 137 parish and 193 DOC inmates for a total of 330 inmates being housed at the Union Parish Detention Center. The inmate count is down about 60 inmates and it is a state-wide issue. The phone profit for the month of September was approximately \$10,700 and the commissary profit was \$11,223.93. Warden Copes is working hard to find DOC inmates and is working diligently on the policies and procedures.

The warden would like to purchase a wide angle hand-held video camera for the Detention Center. The Secretary/Treasurer gave a report on the brand she would recommend and the cost. **No action taken.**

A brief discussion was held concerning the basement of the Detention Center. Warden Copes would like to clean out the basement and use that space for a hobby/craft workshop for the

inmates. There were some concerns with what type of equipment might be stored in the basement and how to properly dispose of it. Warden Copes was instructed **not** to do anything until Mr. Brantley could supervise the cleaning of the basement. **No action taken.**

Motion made by Chief Culbertson and seconded by Mr. Sawyer for Commission to enter into executive session for personnel/security issues. Roll call vote: YEAS 3, NAYS 0, ABSENT 2.

Motion made by Chief Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Sawyer for Commission to come out of executive session and to return to meeting; no action taken in executive session. Roll call vote: YEAS 3, NAYS 0, ABSENT 2.

There being no further business to come before the commission, Mr. Parker declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Chief Culbertson, seconded by Mr. Sawyer, on this the 16th day of November, 2017.

Lanny Parker, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Sec-Treasurer