

**DETENTION CENTER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 4th, 2020**

The Detention Center Commission met this date at 3:00 P.M. in the Union Parish Police Jury meeting room, Union Parish Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana. Present were: Johnny Buckley (Union Parish Police Jury), Nathan Pilgreen (Union Parish Police Jury), Dusty Gates (Union Parish Sheriff) and Chief Bim Coulberson (Town of Farmerville). Absent: John Belton (District Attorney).

Mr. Buckley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Sheriff Gates led the group in prayer. Roll call was taken. Mr. Buckley asked if anyone in the audience would like to register for public comment to speak.

Motion made by Sheriff Gates, seconded by Mr. Pilgreen and declared adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote to approve the agenda as written.

Motion made by Chief Coulberson seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to adopt the minutes of Thursday, February 27th, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Transitional Work Program Director's Report – Mrs. Shoemaker reported that there are currently seventy-four (74) TWP participants; fifty-eight (58) of those are Louisiana Employment Opportunity (LEO's). The room and board for February was \$116,600.56; March - \$129,474.27 and April - \$26,495.59. The DOC income for February was \$210,461.08; March - \$220,187.69; April - \$227,583.02 and May - \$217,613.33. Due to the COVID pandemic, the offenders have not been working since April. As of May 25, 2020, twenty-five (25) inmates are now back at work at Foster Farms. There are twenty-eight (28) pending DOC approval to return to work.

Warden's Comments – There are a total of 266 DOC inmates at the facility and seventy-eight (78) parish inmates at the facility. There are 16 males and 16 females being housed in Madison Parish. The meal costs are averaging out to \$1.94 per inmate per day. The commissary profit for February was approximately \$11,000; March - \$14,000; April - \$18,498 and May - \$16,297. The phone profit for February was \$8,028; March - \$5,678; and April - \$5,771. HomeWav video visitation has also generated a good profit. The profit for February was \$916; March - \$3,842 and April was \$5,741. The commissary and phone profits go back into the Inmate Welfare Fund. There is a total of \$89,516.37 in the Inmate Welfare Fund account.

There was a brief discussion regarding additional TWP inmates returning to work. Richard Davis from Foster Farms has requested additional inmates. Those inmates will be returning to work as soon DOC approves them.

The proposal from Tiger Correctional Services which was presented during the February meeting regarding the inmate food services was discussed. Tiger is proposing to offer our current kitchen staff the opportunity to remain as employees of Tiger Correctional Services with benefits. Tiger's price depends on how many total inmates that the facility can house, and Tiger would

supply all of the food. There would be ten (10) officer trays provided at no cost, and Tiger would provide \$5,000 to purchase new meal trays. Johnny Creed, Consultant to the Union Parish Detention Center, said he had reviewed the proposal and he is of the opinion that it would be good for the facility. **Motion Chief Coulbertson seconded by Mr. Pilgreen to enter into an agreement with Tiger Correctional Services regarding a full food service plan and authorize the Union Parish Detention Center Commission Chairman, Johnny Buckley, to execute any necessary document. Motion carried unanimously.**

A brief discussion was held on the temporary pay increase for essential workers. **Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Sheriff Gates to discontinue the \$2.00 hourly temporary pay increase for essential workers effective June 5th, 2020; all workers will now go back to their normal rate of pay. Motion carried unanimously.**

A brief discussion was held on non-essential employees returning to work. **Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Sheriff Gates that all non-essential workers will return to work as usual on June 8th, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by Chief Coulbertson and seconded by Mr. Pilgreen for the Commission to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel/security issues. Roll call vote: YEAS 4, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1.

Motion made by Chief Coulbertson and seconded by Mr. Pilgreen for the Commission to come out of executive session and to return to meeting; no action taken in executive session. Roll call vote: YEAS 4, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1.

There being no further business to come before the commission, Mr. Buckley declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Chief Coulbertson, seconded by Sheriff Gates, on this the 4th day of June, 2020.

Johnny Buckley, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer