

**DETENTION CENTER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
July 6th, 2023**

The Detention Center Commission met this date at 9:00 A.M. in the Union Parish Police Jury meeting room, Union Parish Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana. Present were: Brenda Abercrombie (Union Parish Police Jury), Dusty Gates (Union Parish Sheriff), and Chief Bim Coulbertson (Farmerville Chief of Police). Absent: John Belton (Union Parish District Attorney) and A.J. Ford (Union Parish Police Jury). Also present: Warden Adams and Lisa Salley, Business Manager.

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

Motion made by Chief Coulbertson, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie and declared adopted by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as written.

Motion made by Chief Coulbertson, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie to adopt the minutes of the Tuesday, January 31st 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Transitional Work Program Director's comments.

Mrs. Salley reported that the balance in the Transitional Work Release Account is \$184,160.00. The phone commission is averaging between \$4,500 and \$5,300 a month. The Home Wave commission is averaging between \$5,500 and \$6,000 a month. The Work Release Program has the following count:

- 56 TWP working inmates
 - 24 – House of Rayford - Arcadia
 - 13 – Fayette - Arcadia
 - 11 – PSSI – Bastrop
 - 4 – Thomas Nursery
 - 4 – Trash Guys

- 26 inmates are pending to go to work once an employer is found. Of those twenty-six (26), one inmate is waiting to go to the DMV and three (3) are waiting on out-of-state birth certificates. The out-of-state birth certificates are extremely difficult to obtain.

- Out of the 56 TWP inmates, six (6) inmates are LEO and one (1) inmate is ARKLA.

Mrs. Salley reported she has been talking with Mr. Durrett at the Police Jury. The Police Jury has requested ten (10) work release inmates. Those inmates will work at the Road and Landfill Departments. The Police Jury will be responsible for transporting the inmates back and forth to work.

Warden's Comments.

Warden Adams reported on the following:

Counts:

DOC	242
Pretrial	102

Warden Adams reported that the cell phone detectors are still in place and the illegal phone activity is down. The phone card sales have increased from approximately 500 to 700 cards sold.

Warden Adams reported that the facility is maintaining a high DOC count and the January invoice will reflect that. Warden Adams stated that the staff continues to request a raise.

Motion made by Chief Coulbertson and seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie for the Commission to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel/security issues. Roll call vote: YEAS 3, NAYS 0, ABSENT 2.

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

Public comments were made by Lynn Ramsey and Johnny Creed during the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the commission, Sheriff Gates declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Chief Coulbertson, seconded by Mrs. Abercrombie, on this 6th day of July, 2023.

**Sheriff Dusty Gates, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary/Treasurer**