

Elk County Prison Board
May 7, 2026

The Elk County Prison Board met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room at the Courthouse Annex. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Prison Board members present were Commissioners Matthew Quesenberry, M. Fritz Lecker and Greg Gebauer (via Zoom), District Attorney Beau Grove, Sheriff Todd Caltagarone (via Zoom) and Treasurer Matthew Frey. Also present were Warden Scott Atwell, Deputy Warden Rodney Constable, Solicitor Rick Brown, IT Director Calvin Moore, Chief Clerk Pat Straub, and Recording Secretary Jennifer Barnett.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING: January 22, 2026

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made by District Attorney Beau Grove and seconded by Treasurer Matthew Frey. The motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – No Additions

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by District Attorney Beau Grove and seconded by Treasurer Matthew Frey. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

No visitors were present.

CORRESPONDENCE – No Correspondence

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
<u>Warden</u>			
General Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$390.00
<u>Jail</u>			
General Fund	\$69,435.96	\$46,921.06	\$46,015.46
Corrections Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
D & A Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$333.00
Work Release	\$0.00	\$5,060.00	\$1,068.34

A motion to approve the bills was made by Commissioner M. Fritz Lecker and seconded by Treasurer Matthew Frey. The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS

1. Warden's Report

Warden Atwell reported on the following items:

A. Housing Information

As of 8:00 a.m. this date, the inmate population for the Elk County Prison was 48 incarcerated individuals. The average daily population for January was 56, February was 55, March was 56, and April was 50.

The facility has generated \$20,325.00 from housing out-of-county inmates since January 1, 2026.

We have received \$600.00 in incentive payments from the Social Security Administration.

Work Release fees collected so far this year were \$5,036.53. Warden Atwell stated that we currently have three inmates out on work release.

The Prison has been reimbursed \$9,177.96 from the Opioid Settlement Fund for the purchase of M.A.T. drugs for the first quarter of 2026.

B. New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations

Gregory Wonderly resigned from his part-time Correctional Officer position effective February 27, 2026.

Roderick Smith resigned from his part-time Correctional Officer position effective March 29, 2026. Mr. Smith accepted a full-time position with Elk County Probation.

Kiara Schauer resigned from her full-time Correctional Officer position effective April 2, 2026.

Damian Challingsworth was hired to fill a vacant part-time Correctional Officer position effective April 20, 2026. Mr. Challingsworth is from Ridgway.

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C. Inmate Population

The female population has been averaging around 14 a month. We are currently housing 11 females in our facility. We currently have 6 inmates transferred out to other facilities for various reasons. We are paying for 3 of those inmates who are housed elsewhere.

The total number of inmates booked so far this year is 109 compared to 118 at this time last year. We have released 24 inmates in the last month and a total of 111 releases so far this year.

D. 2025 Audit

Warden Atwell reported the Elk County Auditors completed the 2025 audit on the Work Release, Booking, Inmate and Incentive Accounts. All accounts were found to be accurate and in good order. Warden Atwell explained Title 37 requires the outcome of the audit to be provided to the board.

E. Prison Inspection

Warden Atwell notified the board that the Department of Corrections state inspection is scheduled for August 12. He stated that this is an annual inspection; however, if the facility received a 100% compliance for the prior inspection, then the next inspection will be in two (2) years instead of one (1) year. The Elk County Prison received 100% compliance on the last inspection in 2024, so it was not necessary to do the inspection in 2025.

F. Prison Policy Review

Warden Atwell updated the board regarding the prison policy review performed by Attorney Marie Jones. Copies of the review were provided to the board and showed no faults being found within the current prison policies. There were some minor changes, most being verbiage

G. Inmate Tablets

Warden Atwell updated the board on the Inmate tablet installation. He stated the installation process will begin on May 11, and the go-live date is proposed for May 21.

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GOOD OF THE COUNTY

Warden Atwell spoke briefly about the Love on a Leash program that was recently implemented at the facility. He stated this is a non-profit organization that provides volunteer pet therapy teams to engage in meaningful and productive animal-assisted therapy for the inmates. Warden Atwell stated the first visit was a few weeks ago and went over extremely well. Every inmate in the building was requesting a visit with the dogs. They will be coming in once a month to provide ongoing animal therapy for the inmates.

Deputy Warden Rodney Constable acknowledged that May 3 through May 9 is National Correctional Officer Week and commended the staff for the work they do.

Warden Atwell stated the Annual Prison tour will take place today, immediately following the conclusion of the 10:00 a.m. Commissioner's meeting.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS -N/A

ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business before the Elk County Prison Board, a motion to adjourn was made by District Attorney Beau Grove and seconded by Treasurer Matthew Frey. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:
Thursday, August 6, 2026 at 9 A.M.
Courthouse Annex, Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room**