

Meeting Minutes

Iowa Prison Industries Advisory Board Friday, March 11, 2022 Meeting held online via Google Meet

Present: Dr. Doug Hillman, Tim Diesburg, Greg Steggerda, Dr. Jennifer Doke-Kerns, Ralph Haskins

Absent: None

Staff: Dan Clark

Guests: None

I. Call to Order.

Dr. Doug Hillman called the meeting to order at 8:06am on March 11, 2022.

II. American Rescue Plan Act - Homes for Iowa program.

Mr. Clark reviewed for the Board the data reporting associated with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for Homes for Iowa. IPI will, on a quarterly basis, provide updates on three Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): recidivism, employment, and wages earned. Mr. Clark stated that the initial recidivism data looked very positive and would be shared with the board in mid-April. Statistics for employment and wages are provided by Iowa Workforce Development under a data sharing agreement. For privacy reasons, IWD provides summary data only – for example, average wages earned by a group of men, and not the wages for any one particular person.

III. IPI Program YTD Results.

Mr. Clark reviewed sales data for each of the IPI traditional industries locations, as well as private industries, house building, and canteen operations. On the whole, total program sales are down 14% versus last year due to the closures at Anamosa and Fort Madison after two DOC staff were killed at ASP.

Mr. Clark stated that the offgrounds program at Evapco, approved by the board at its January 2022 meeting, had begun and was well received by the company. Employers statewide are struggling to fill their open positions and this has opened doors for men and women with a criminal record. Mr. Clark reviewed some recent employer visits, and the positive response once the employers met IPI associates and observed firsthand the training provided, such as American Welding Society (AWS) qualification, lean manufacturing training, etc.

IV. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes.

Mr. Diesburg made a motion to approve the minutes for the online meeting held January 12, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steggerda. During discussion of the motion, Mr. Diesburg asked about the apprenticeship data and when it would be released. Mr. Clark informed the board that the preliminary research findings would be shared with DOC Director Skinner and others later this month, and presented at a national conference in April. The motion passed unanimously.

V. New Business.

Mr. Clark reminded the board that the next scheduled meeting is June 17 in Anamosa. This would be the first in-person meeting in two years.

VI. Adjourn

Dr. Hillman asked for a motion to adjourn, which was offered by Mr. Diesburg and seconded by Mr. Steggerda. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46am.

Minutes submitted by:

Minutes approved by:

Dan Clark, Director

Daniel J. Clark

Dr. Doug Hillman, Chair