



Meeting Minutes
Iowa Prison Industries Advisory Board
Friday, September 18, 2020
Meeting held online / conference call

Present: Dr. Doug Hillman, Andrew Bright, Jennifer Gardner, Bonnie Winther, Helen Miller, Megan Ellsworth, Dan Clark.

Absent: Tim Diesburg

Staff:

Guests: Brad Hartkopf – Association of Business and Industry

I. Call to Order.

Dr. Doug Hillman called the meeting to order at 9:02am on September 18, 2020.

II. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes.

Ms. Gardner made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting held online June 19, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ms. Miller and passed unanimously.

III. Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair.

Ms. Winther made a motion to defer the election of board chair and vice-chair until the September 2021 meeting. Mr. Clark noted that two board seats would be up for reappointment in July 2021, the agriculture and labor seats held by Ms. Gardner and Ms. Winther respectively. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ellsworth and passed unanimously.

IV. Review of IPI Traditional Industries – FY20 and Outlook for FY21.

Mr. Clark reviewed the results for FY20 versus FY19. Training hours finished at 1,182,104 down 3.5% from the previous year, although sales increased to \$30.6 million. The program broke even in FY20, which will limit the new investments that can be made in more modern equipment and other capital projects. Mr. Clark reviewed for the board the impact of the pandemic since mid-March, and that the outlook for furniture in the upcoming year was down 50% versus last year.

V. IPI Statewide Training Conference.

Mr. Clark reviewed the schedule and speaker lineup for the 2020 training conference, which will be held online. Invitations will be sent shortly.

VI. DOC Racial Disparity Report.

The Iowa Department of Corrections recently completed its first racial disparity report, which examined various aspects of the state prison system during FY19. Two areas of interest to the Advisory Board include work assignments (no disparity observed) and apprenticeship completions (a disparity was seen between completers as compared to the racial composition of the overall state prison population).

Further analysis has been requested for numerous areas, including participation in the IPI program, level of work assignment, and participation in the private sector program.

VII. COVID Update / Risk Level Matrix.

Mr. Clark reviewed for the Board the present situation with the pandemic within the Department, showing the data publicly shared on the DOC website. He described the department's efforts to test, segregate and treat incarcerated individuals with the disease. Fort Dodge currently has no incarcerated men or staff with the disease, while Mount Pleasant is dealing with an outbreak. As the reception center for the DOC, IMCC has a continued challenge with new admissions. Four incarcerated men with significant risk factors have died from COVID-related complications.

VIII. Report – Private Contractor Sales.

Mr. Clark reminded the Board that approved sales to private contractors that involve eligible IPI customers may be found and examined on the IPI website. The majority are sign sales.

IX. New Business.

There was none.

X. Adjourn

Dr. Hillman asked for a motion to adjourn, which was offered by Ms. Miller and seconded by Ms. Gardner. The meeting was adjourned at 9:48am.

Minutes submitted by:



Dan Clark, Director

Minutes approved by:



Dr. Doug Hillman, Chair