



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Iowa Prison Industries Advisory Board**  
**Monday, August 06, 2018**  
**Meeting held via teleconference**

*Present:* Dr. Doug Hillman, Jennifer Gardner, Terry Goodman, Bonnie Winther, Tim Diesburg, Dan Clark.

*Absent:* Sheila Wilson.

*Staff:* None.

*Guests:* None.

**I. Call to Order.**

Dr. Doug Hillman called the meeting to order at 8:03am on August 6, 2018.

**II. Offender Private Sector Employment Project – FDCF Industries.**

Mr. Diesburg made a motion to approve the private sector program FDCF Industries. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gardner.

During discussion of the motion, Mr. Clark explained that this program would operate as a Subcontract project – the offenders at FDCF would work under the supervision of IPI staff, and would perform subcontracting work using IPI program equipment and space. As with other private sector programs, IPI had gone through the notification and approval processes (both state and federal), had established that no civilian displacement would occur, and that offenders would be paid civilian level wages as determined by Iowa Workforce Development.

Mr. Diesburg mentioned that the Monticello company Polo Custom Products had approached him and sought to work with the Iowa DOC for apprenticed employees, and that he was very excited to see this begin. He thought there would be excellent employment opportunities for any released offenders that located near Monticello.

Dr. Hillman inquired as to whether there would be some sort of segregation between the usual IPI programs (producing denim jeans, etc) and private sector work being done in the same IPI facility. Mr. Clark stated that yes, only designated offenders would perform private sector work, and that they would be selected based on performance and seniority. Mr. Clark informed the board that incarcerated men at Ft. Dodge were very excited about the potential program and that a number of them personally shook his hand and thanked him. In addition to the higher wages, the private sector program allows incarcerated individuals to pay down their restitution, with up to 50% of their gross wages applied. Mr. Clark stated that as a whole, the men and women incarcerated in our state prisons owe more than \$100 million in court ordered restitution.

Ms. Winther asked whether it was appropriate for Mr. Clark to mention the potential program to offenders before the IPI Advisory Board had approved it. Since the program had cleared all state and federal hurdles and met the intent of Iowa Code 904.801, Mr. Clark didn't believe it was inappropriate, but reminded the Board that they could withhold approval or require additional information as they felt necessary.

Ms. Winther asked about the requirement that IPI program participants attain their High School diploma or equivalency, and Mr. Clark stated that this encouraged incarcerated men and women to engage in prosocial and productive activities while imprisoned.

Mr. Diesburg asked whether IPI would have to reimburse the company for defective products. Mr. Clark stated that Polo would send a manufacturing engineer and quality person to assist with the start-up, and that the company had visited and approved IPI as a potential subcontractor, but that yes, IPI would need to produce the items correctly or rework them.

Mr. Goodman asked how many offenders would perform subcontract work, and Mr. Clark stated 6-10 at present, out of approximately 28 offenders at IPI Ft. Dodge.

Dr. Hillman asked for a vote on the motion. It passed unanimously.

### **III. Offender Private Sector Employment Project – ICIW Industries.**

Mr. Diesburg made a motion to approve the private sector program ICIW Industries. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gardner.

During discussion of the motion, Mr. Clark explained that this program was essentially identical to the FDCF Industries subcontracting program the board had just approved. He stated that there were no immediate plans to subcontract textiles at Mitchellville, but that the program could be implemented quickly should Polo or another private company need the help and qualified under the PIE program. The wages would be slightly different because Mitchellville was in the Des Moines MSA, while Ft. Dodge was in IWD's NW Iowa region.

Dr. Hillman asked for a vote on the motion. It passed unanimously.

### **IV. Offender Private Sector Employment Project – PDM Precast, Inc.**

Ms. Gardner made a motion to approve the private sector program PDM Precast, Inc. The motion was seconded by Mr. Diesburg.

During discussion of the motion, Mr. Clark explained that under this program, PDM Precast would transport 6-8 men from the Newton Correctional Release Center and employ them as General Laborers. He gave an overview of the precast concrete products manufactured by the company and the work performed by the General Laborer position.

Dr. Hillman asked for a vote on the motion. It passed unanimously.

### **V. Offender Private Sector Employment Project – De-certification of NuAge Marketing.**

Mr. Diesburg made a motion to de-certify the private sector program NuAge Marketing. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gardner.

During discussion of the motion, Mr. Clark informed the Board that the owner of NuAge had abruptly closed the business on June 11, 2018. The two civilian staff and all offenders were immediately terminated. Fortunately the company had wire transferred the payroll for offenders through their last day.

Mr. Clark explained that de-certification was somewhat of a formality, and that he would inform the federal officials that this private sector program was no longer operating.

Dr. Hillman asked for a vote on the motion. It passed unanimously.

**VI. New Business.**

Mr. Clark informed the board that its seventh member, who would fill the Vocational / Technical Education slot previously held by Dr. Foster, was in the application process, and that he hoped the new board member would join us for the September 14 meeting in Ft. Madison.

Ms. Winther said she would be traveling out of state and would be unable to attend the September meeting.

**VII. Adjourn**

Dr. Hillman asked for a motion to adjourn, which was offered by Ms. Gardner and seconded by Mr. Diesburg. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:32am.

Minutes submitted by:



**Dan Clark, Director**

Minutes approved by:



**Dr. Doug Hillman, Chair**