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Department of Corrections Ad Hoc Subcommittee

**Monday, August 12, 2019
10:30 a.m.
Blatt Room 110**

Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.8, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access an archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on *Committee Postings and Reports*, then under *House Standing Committees* click on *Legislative Oversight*. Then, click on *Video Archives* for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

Attendance

- I. Ad hoc subcommittee Chairman Edward R. Tallon, Sr., calls the Department of Corrections Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting to order on Monday, August 12, 2019, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building. The following members are present during all or part of the meeting: ad hoc subcommittee Chairman Tallon, Representative Gary E. Clary; Representative Micajah P. "Micah" Caskey, IV; Representative Chandra E. Dillard; Representative Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.; and Representative Robert Q. Williams. Representative Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson, an attorney, was absent as he was representing a client in a federal court hearing.

Minutes

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not have to be verbatim accounts of meetings. It is the practice of the Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes for its subcommittee meetings.
- II. Representative Caskey moves to approve the minutes from the prior Subcommittee meeting. A roll call vote is held, and the motion passes.

Rep. Caskey moves to approve the minutes from the Subcommittee's July 24, 2019, meeting:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting (Absent)
Rep. Clary	✓		
Rep. Caskey	✓		
Rep. Dillard	✓		
Rep. Jefferson	✓		
Rep. Johnson			✓
Rep. Tallon	✓		
Rep. Williams	✓		

Discussion of the S.C. Department of Corrections

- I. Ad hoc subcommittee Chairman Tallon explains the purpose of today's meeting is to ask questions related to information presented during the last meeting, hear from members of the public who requested to testify, and for the Department of Corrections (SCDC) to continue presenting information about its programs, reentry, and rehabilitative services unit.
- II. Ad hoc subcommittee Chairman Tallon explains that all testimony given to this subcommittee, which is an investigating committee, must be under oath. He reminds agency personnel previously sworn in that they remain under oath.
- III. Members ask questions from information presented during the prior meeting pertaining to:
 - a. allocation of school facilities;
 - b. response of Palmetto United School District to Department of Education survey;
 - c. salaries of various teachers (e.g., adult education, etc.);
 - d. analysis of incidents at institutions; and

- e. visits to various correctional institutions by individual members of the ad hoc committee.

SCDC personnel answer member questions.

- IV. Ms. Nena Walker-Staley, SCDC Director for Programs, Reentry, and Rehabilitative Services (PRRS), with the assistance of other agency personnel from PRRS, presents information on the unit, which includes, but is not limited to:

- A. Overview of **reentry**:
 - a. inmate skills – information SCDC maintains;
 - b. recidivism rates for inmates participating in pre-release program and ten states with lowest recidivism rates in 2018;
 - c. percentage of inmates released after five years or less;
 - d. number of inmates released from SCDC, by type, in May 2019;
 - e. national recidivism within one, three, and five years of release;
 - f. program participations impact on recidivism;
 - g. designated pre-release facilities;
 - h. partnerships;
 - i. collaboration SCDC seeks with other state entities
 - j. additional details about SCDC deliverables in state statutes or provisos; and
 - i. provide clothing to newly released inmates
 - ii. offender employment preparation program
 - k. performance measures – recidivism overall and of those involved in pre-release program.
- B. Overview of **victims services**:
 - a. data on victim notifications in calendar year 2018 by the following:
 - i. type of reason (youthful offender release, parole, maxout, etc.)
 - ii. method of notification (text, email, telephone)
 - iii. special program type (sexual predator review, escape, etc.)
 - iv. work program type (labor crew, designated facility, etc.)
 - b. additional details about SCDC deliverables in state statutes or provisos;
 - i. transfer \$250,000 each month to Attorney General's Office for state victims' assistance program;
 - ii. notification prior to inmate visiting sick of dying family member;
 - iii. notification prior to unconditional discharge of youthful offender (YO)

- iv. denial of unconditional discharge of YO based on information from victim;
 - v. notification prior to conditional discharge of YO;
 - vi. denial of conditional discharge of YO based on information from victim;
 - vii. notification prior to authorizing inmate for work release and denial of work release based on information from victim;
- c. restitution program;
 - i. restitution collected for victims from work release and prison industries (FY2014 through FY2018)
 - ii. restitution paid to victims from intensive supervision services (CY2014 through CY2018)
- k. prosecution of inmates who utilize internet to communicate with victims; and
- l. ensure victims' bill of rights are not violated.

V. Members ask questions which Ms. Walker-Staley and other agency personnel answer.

VI. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.