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Department of Corrections Ad Hoc Subcommittee

**Wednesday, July 24, 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 Wednesday, July 24, 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.; Representative Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson; and Representative Robert Q. Williams.

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 Jefferson moves to approve the minutes from the prior Subcommittee meeting. A roll call vote is held, and the motion passes.

| Rep. Jefferson moves to approve the minutes from the Subcommittee's June 18, 2019, meeting: | Yea | Nay | Not Voting (Absent) |
|---|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| Rep. Clary | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Caskey | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Dillard | | | ✓ (Absent at time of vote) |
| Rep. Jefferson | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Johnson | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Tallon | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Williams | | | ✓ (Absent at time of vote) |

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. Ad hoc subcommittee Chairman Tallon swears in the following individuals
 - a. Ms. Teresa Bebeau, SCDC Advocates;
 - b. Mr. Tommy Moore, CEO, JumpStart;
 - c. Mr. Andre Norman, CEO, Academy of Hope;
 - d. Mr. Lawrence E. Dean, II, Communications Director, Academy of Hope;
 - e. Mr. Patrick Patterson, Facilitator, Academy of Hope;

- f. Mr. Richard Hodgkiss, Interim Division Director for Support Services/Division Director Prison Industries, SCDC; and
 - g. Ms. Beverly Holiday, Academic Program Manager, SCDC.
- III. Members ask questions from information presented during the prior meeting and information learned after the meeting related to a SCDC inmate released early and an inmate held past his maxout date. SCDC personnel answer member questions.
- IV. Ms. Bebeau testifies about inmate issues relating to programs, medical, food, guards, windows, reentry, and visitation. Members ask questions, which Ms. Bebeau answers.
- V. Mr. Norman testifies about the Academy of Hope (inmate program) that he and others are implementing at SCDC. Members ask questions, which Mr. Norman answers.
- VI. Mr. Dean testifies about his involvement in implementation of the Academy of Hope program at SCDC. Members ask questions, which Mr. Dean answers.
- VII. Mr. Patterson testifies about his involvement in implementation of the Academy of Hope program at SCDC. Members ask questions, which Mr. Patterson answers.
- VIII. Mr. Moore testifies about the JumpStart (inmate program) at SCDC. Members ask questions, which Mr. Moore answers.
- IX. 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. Video with information on the JumpStart program;
 - b. Video with information on the Academy of Hope program;
 - c. Overview of Palmetto Unified School District (PUSD);
 - i. Legislative intent/purpose for PUSD;
 - ii. Organization flow chart with regional supervisors and principals at PUSD;
 - iii. Policies, standards, and governance of PUSD;
 - iv. Board of trustees composition and duties ;
 - v. Superintendent of PUSD duties;
 - vi. Administrators and teachers of PUSD;
 - vii. School district personnel, credentials required;
 - viii. PUSD vacancies;
 - d. Educational Services;
 - i. Adult Educational Services (Age 22+);

- ii. High School Educational Services (Age 17-21);
 - iii. Career and Technical Education;
 - iv. Programs and facilities at which they are offered;
 - e. Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE);
 - i. TABE Scores for FY 2019;
 - ii. Admissions w/out GED and number of those who have now earned it;
 - f. Participation of Inmates;
 - i. Number of students enrolled;
 - ii. GED and other certificates earned (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019);
 - iii. Number of inmates earning GED or other certificates over last five years;
 - iv. Recidivism rate overall compared to inmates earning GED ;
 - g. College courses;
 - i. Ensure no SCDC funds used for college courses (prohibited in law);
 - ii. Post-Secondary education's impact on recidivism;
 - iii. Inmates earning associate's or bachelor's degrees while at SCDC;
 - h. Finances;
 - i. Include PUSD budget as line item in SCDC's annual budget;
 - ii. Revenue per pupil – PUSD compared to other SC school districts with similar total enrollment;
 - i. Additional info about education services;
 - i. Provide local governing bodies access to SCDC regulations regarding inmate education as a guide; and
 - ii. Barbering program.
- X. Members ask questions which Ms. Walker-Staley and other agency personnel answer.
- XI. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.