

Prison Enterprises Board Meeting

February 20, 2024

1. Chairman Joseph Ardoin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. at Prison Enterprises (PE) Headquarters (HQ), Baton Rouge, Louisiana (LA). Roll call was conducted by Mrs. Labello.

2. Attendance:

2.1 Members Present:

Joseph Ardoin, Jr. Chairman

Richard Oliveaux, Vice-Chairman

Harvey Honore'

2.2 Prison Enterprises Staff Present:

Misty Stagg, Director

Brooke Farrar

Scot Floyd

Stuart Gray

Beth Labello

Deloy Chapman

Edna Palmer

Danny Willis

- 3. Mr. Ardoin acknowledged that not enough Board members were present for a quorum; therefore, a vote to approve the Board meeting minutes for August 15, October 24, November 21, and December 19 could not be taken. Mr. Ardoin also acknowledged that elections for Chairman of the Board and Vice Chairman of the Board could not be conducted due to the absence of a quorum.
- 4. Mr. Ardoin turned the meeting over to Director Stagg.
- 5. Director Stagg announced that PE's re-naming efforts have been tabled for now and only PE's logo has been updated. A sample of the new logo was included in the members' Board materials and an implementation plan for the new logo to be phased in is being constructed.
- 6. Then, Director Stagg provided feedback on the newly elected Sheriff's luncheon that was held at PE HQ February 7. She stated that it was a successful event and the Sheriffs and their Chief Deputies seemed interested in PE's mission and the products that were displayed during the showroom tour. PE's Sales and Marketing staff were present to introduce themselves, hand out promotional materials, and answer questions about products and services that PE offers.
- 7. Lastly, Director Stagg announced that the new Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner, and their staff, toured the Tag Plant and a few other plants with PE staff. The tour was successful and resulted in a new quote for embroidered uniform shirts.
- 8. Director Stagg asked Mr. Floyd for his updates.
- 9. Mr. Floyd discussed the challenges that PE has been facing in finding qualified candidates to fill job vacancies. PE competes to offer the best salaries possible, but the ability to offer a more competitive salary to well-qualified, experienced candidates is regulated by the Louisiana State Civil Service's guidelines. Mr. Floyd stated that there has been an increase in the number of qualified candidates who have applied recently, and he believes that positive

- (YTD) totaling \$5.5 million for January 2024 compared to YTD job orders totaling \$7.5 million for January 2023.
- 27. Lastly, Mr. Willis reported PE received monthly job orders through February 19 for \$1.1 million compared to orders totaling \$733,000 for all of February 2023, and YTD job orders totaling \$6.7 million for February 2024 compared to YTD job orders totaling \$8.2 million for February 2023. Mr. Willis stated that the YTD total does not include the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women's (LCIW) pending job order.
- 28. Director Stagg asked Ms. Farrar for the industries update.
- 29. Ms. Farrar provided updates on industries as follows:
 - a. Canteen Package Program (CPP) Spring Program ordering will begin February 20 and end March 14. Order filling will begin March 26 and end April 15.
 - b. Metal Fab continues to work overtime on the LCIW project and other job orders.
 - c. Most industries are ramping up production to ensure adequate inventory is available to fulfill fiscal year end (FYE) orders.
 - d. PE continues to work with prison administration to fill vacant inmate worker positions throughout all operations.
- 30. Director Stagg asked Mr. Smith to report on the agriculture updates.
- 31. Mr. Smith began with a Rangeherd update.
 - a. For the LSP rangeherd, 1,067 calves, or 61%, were born, and calving is expected to be complete by mid-March.
 - b. At current feeding levels, the remaining 1,062 bales of hay are expected to last through the feeding season. Feeding cubes were used in January to sustain the herd during the hard freeze and more feeding cubes are on-hand should severe weather occur again.
 - c. Breeding season began at DCI and DWCC and is expected to begin at LSP March 1 for a 90-day breeding season.
 - d. LSP bulls were tested February 7 and additional bulls were transported to David Wade Correctional Center (DWCC).
- 32. Next, Mr. Smith provided an update on the horse program:
 - a. Four outside breedings were purchased and 1 stud was transported from DWCC to LSP for the upcoming breeding season.
 - b. Foals were successfully halter broken and are growing as expected.
- 33. Continuing, Mr. Smith provided a row crop update:
 - a. Corn fields were sprayed with herbicides on February 7 and 500 acres of corn is expected to be planted soon.
 - b. The vacant PE Shop Foreman position was filled and the new employee is currently attending the Training Academy.
 - c. The used kelly plow was picked up February 19.
- 34. Lastly, Mr. Smith stated that timber recommendations were received from the timber consultant and approval was granted to harvest the timber at Winn Parish.
- 35. Mr. Ardoin stated the next meeting is scheduled March 19, 2024, and an election will be conducted if a quorum is present.
- 36. Mr. Ardoin adjourned the meeting at 10:30 A.M.