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July 21, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Lane, Chief of Intergovernmental Relations
Illinois Department of Corrections

FROM: Dan R. Long, Executive Director

RE: Follow-up questions from the Hardin County Work Camp Closure Hearing

Outlined are questions asked at the Commission hearing on the Hardin County Work Camp which DOC indicated additional follow-up information would be provided.

1. It was indicated plans are to close the Hardin County Work Camp by December, 2015. Can DOC please provide the Commission the step by step dates and actions which will need to take place to close this facility?
2. Please provide the recidivism rate for the Hardin County Work Camp as well as the other work camps in the DOC system.
3. How many vacancies exist, at the date of your response, at the Shawnee Correctional Center and the Vienna Correctional Center? It was stated at the hearing that all 61 employees at the Hardin County Work Camp could be placed in positions available at Shawnee and Vienna – could you please outline how this will be attained and the impact that any “bumping rights” will have on this plan?
4. Can you provide the total number of beds at work camps statewide and the number of beds available as of July 20, 2015?
5. There was a significant amount of testimony on the service the Hardin County Work Camp provides to the community. Can you please provide the total hours of Community Service provided by the work camp in 2013, 2014 and projected 2015, with a listing of specific services provided?

6. Can you provide a breakdown of the \$9.8 million estimated deferred maintenance which was indicated to include repairs to the kitchen at the Hardin County Work Camp that was damaged by a fire? It was stated this list was completed by CDB in FY 2009 – is there an update to this list? Is there a list of deferred maintenance needs at all DOC facilities? If so, please provide the list for all DOC facilities. Are these considered a “wish list” or do all the items listed need to be immediately completed to keep facilities operational? Can you provide a minimum estimated cost to make the Hardin Work Camp kitchen operational using in-house DOC skilled labor?
7. Can you provide the Commission with the status of FOIA requests related to the Hardin County Work Camp that have been received in the last 90 days?
8. Can we get a breakdown of the estimated \$25,000 cost to maintain the 15 acre Hardin County Work Camp if it is closed? Can you provide a list of all the critical tasks that will be necessary as part of the maintenance? What will happen to the bee hives? Will the gardens be maintained, etc?
9. Can you provide a copy of the contract for the portable kitchen that is currently used at the Hardin County Work Camp? How was the contract procured? Why has DOC not moved forward with making the current kitchen operational instead of continuing to pay \$13,000 per month for a portable kitchen?
10. Please provide a comparison of the cost to house an inmate at each DOC facility as opposed to a work camp?
11. Which counties will be the most impacted by the closure of the Hardin County Work Camp and can you provide an economic impact related only to these counties?
12. What percent of inmates are high school dropouts? How many obtain their high school degree or equivalent while being incarcerated?
13. Please provide specifics as to why current skilled labor on the DOC payroll cannot be used to make the Hardin County Work Camp kitchen operational? We understand that equipment and supplies which exceed \$10,000 may require competitive bidding or use of master contracts maintained by CMS but we do not understand why skilled labor employed by DOC cannot be used to make repairs. If they cannot be used for maintenance and repairs at DOC facilities, what do they do? Secretary of State employs skilled labor who provide maintenance, repairs, and construction needed in buildings located in the Capital Complex on a daily basis. How is this different from the skilled labor employed by DOC?

DRL:dkb
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cc: Senator Donne Trotter
Representative Donald Moffitt