

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA



Kristi Noem
Governor

Kellie Wasko
DOC Secretary

Department of Corrections

Administration Office

Kellie Wasko, Secretary

3200 East Highway 34

Pierre, SD 57501

605-773-3478

Kellie.Wasko@state.sd.us

January 24, 2024

Dear Governor Kristi Noem, Chief Justice Steve R. Jensen, and Members of the 2024 Legislature:

The South Dakota Corrections Commission held two meetings during calendar year 2023. The first meeting was held on May 23 and the second was held on October 16. Both meetings were available virtually via Microsoft Teams. The purpose of the Corrections Commission is to assist the Department of Corrections in examining criminal justice issues and developing initiatives to better address problems in corrections. The primary focus of the Corrections Commission is to approve the use of certain funds from the prison industries revolving fund to enhance, develop, or expand prison industries.

Department of Corrections Topics Reviewed by the Commission:

Pheasantland Industries Shop Closures:

The commission was briefed on overall Pheasantland Industry shop services and productivity. In adherence to the corrective measures outlined in DOC policy 1.1.B.06 *Pheasantland Industries Business Management*, the commission approved the closure of PI shops that had not turned a profit and failed to meet the required corrective action.

Pheasantland Industries New Shop Business Proposal:

The commission approved a new Pheasantland Industries business plan that would allow PI to assume operational management of the offender commissary program. This program would operate from the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls.

Additional Discussion:

The commission discussed the new women's facility groundbreaking ceremony held October 16 in Rapid City. This medium security facility will alleviate overcrowding issues currently faced at the South Dakota Women's Prison in Pierre while providing offenders with more opportunities for successful reentry. The target completion date for this project is early 2026.

Respectfully,

Senator Michael Diedrich
South Dakota Corrections Commission