



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

REP. BRADLEY SLAGH

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

10:30 AM

Room 308, House Office Building

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections was called to order by the Chair, Representative Slagh.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Slagh, Lightner, Brann, Borton, T. Carter, Sabo, and C.A. Johnson.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative T. Carter moved to adopt the meeting minutes from February 17, 2021. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Heidi Washington, Director of the Department of Corrections, appeared before the subcommittee virtually to discuss the FY 2021-22 executive budget recommendation for the department. She discussed key strategic investments targeted at staffing levels and employee wellness. She briefly described other investments and reductions included in the recommendation. Questions and answers followed.

Director Washington proceeded to discuss physical and mental health care in prisons and the department's efforts to respond to contraband narcotics. She discussed the department's focus on enforcement and the department's focus on treatment for substance use disorders. Questions and answers followed.

Keith Barber, Legislative Corrections Ombudsman, appeared in-person before the subcommittee to describe the role of the ombudsman's office, jurisdiction of the office, and services provided by the office. Questions and answers followed.

The subcommittee heard brief testimony from Mrs. Geri Morris on substance use disorders in prison.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Slagh adjourned the meeting at 11:50 AM.

Representative Bradley Slagh, Chair

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