Department of Veterans Affairs
Soldiers & Sailors Bldg
425 E Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone 605.773.3269
Fax 605.773.5380

DATE: June 6, 2014

TO: Senator Deb Peters, Co-Chair Interim Joint Appropriations
Representative Fred Romkema, Co-Chair Interim Joint Appropriations
Joint Appropriations Committee Members

FROM: Larry Zimmerman, SDDVA Secretary

SUBJECT: Status Report on Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home

Construction of the new Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home is progressing and we are very pleased with what has been accomplished to date.

Old Building Four has been demolished and all debris has been removed. We were fortunate to have resources from the South Dakota National Guard, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Corrections to assist us with completion of this portion of the project.

Most of the excavation has been completed. The majority of structural steel is done and several large concrete floors have been poured.

The blasting and earthwork are nearing completion for Phase I. Foundations are being poured and waterproofed. The slab-on-grade has been placed for Area C and steel is being erected as well. Other areas will be following soon. The area for the Biomass foundation is being excavated and the foundation should be poured soon.

On May 22, we FINALLY received, from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, the official Memo of Agreement awarding the federal construction grant of $23,599,934 (65 percent of the total cost) to the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs.

To date expenditures from the federal grant total $3,472,295 and state expenditures from our $16,365,044 appropriation total $1,901,899.

If you are going to be in the Hot Springs area, I would encourage you to drive up and view the progress. If not feasible to make the trip to the Hills, I would encourage you to view the web came that we have set up on our webpage --- progress changes daily.
(http://www.truelook.com/clients/scullconstruction-webcam3/).

We appreciate the support you have provided for this project and I will continue to update you quarterly, on the project.

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General
Jason Dilges, Bureau of Finance and Management