

Meeting Minutes - Draft
Executive Committee Conference Call
South Dakota Council of Juvenile Services (CJS)
April 29, 2026

CJS Executive Committee Members: Beth O'Toole, Chair and Professor at the University of Sioux Falls; Sara McGregor-Okroi, Vice-Chair and Director of Aliiive Roberts County; Judge Tami Bern, Circuit Court Judge in the First Circuit; Charles Frieberg, Director of Court Services; and Sheriff Brad Howell, Codington County Sheriff.

Executive Committee Members Present: Chair Beth O'Toole, Vice-Chair Sara McGregor-Okroi, Judge Tami Bern, Charles Frieberg, and Sheriff Brad Howell.

Executive Committee Members Absent: Sheriff Brad Howell

Others Present: Kristi Bunkers and John Stewart, South Dakota Department of Corrections (DOC); Makenzie Huber, Dakota Searchlight.

1. WELCOME

Chair Beth O'Toole called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, and welcomed everyone to the call. Chair O'Toole explained that the purpose of the meeting was to act regarding the FY2025 Formula Grant Application.

2. PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair O'Toole asked if there were any public comments to be brought before the Council at the meeting. After confirmation that no one had comments to share, Chair O'Toole proceeded with the meeting agenda and ended the period for public comment.

3. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Stewart asked if any Council Members had conflicts of interest with the proposed agenda to disclose. No conflicts were disclosed.

4. APPROVAL OF FY2025 FORMULA GRANT APPLICATION

Stewart explained that the FY2025 Formula Grant Application was the second year of the 2024 Three-Year Plan. The FY2025 application is due to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by May 4, 2026.

Stewart stated the program narrative outlines South Dakota's compliance with the 33 statutory requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) and contains goals, objectives, and action plans consistent with current justice program areas. Since program goals have not changed since the FY2024 application, a statement of no change would be submitted in lieu of a new narrative.

Discussion ensued regarding the content of the application and appreciation to staff at the Department of Corrections for their work on it.

Judge Bern moved to approve the FY2025 Formula Grant Application for submission to OJJDP as presented. Sara McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN

At 10:13 AM, Beth O'Toole moved to adjourn the Executive Committee Meeting. Sheriff Howell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

*Recorded by John Stewart
Juvenile Justice Specialist*