

## **SD Board of Pardons and Paroles**

1600 N. Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57104



### **MINUTES**

#### **Meeting of the Board of Pardons and Paroles August 2025**

The Board of Pardons and Paroles hearing panels held meetings on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the following facilities in the State of South Dakota:

- South Dakota State Penitentiary
- Jameson Annex
- Mike Durfee State Prison
- South Dakota Women's Prison
- Rapid City Minimum Center
- Board of Pardons and Paroles Office

A Full Board meeting was held at Jameson Annex on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

#### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rau. A quorum was present. Present were the following board members:

- Myron Rau, Board Chair
- Kirsten Aasen, Vice Chair
- Ken Albers, Member
- Vaughn Beck, Member [Teams]
- John Brown, Member
- Kurt Hall, Member
- Peter Lieberman, Member
- Patricia Meyers, Member [Teams]
- Jan Steele, Member

Support staff in attendance: Shelli Gust – Board Administration Manager; Karena Cassidy – Board Senior Secretary; Eilish O'Toole – Board Corrections Analyst; Georgia Will – Board Program Assistant

Special guests in attendance in person: Ian Miller – Senior Case Manager; Tory Twohig – Case Manager; Morgan Ruiz – Case Manager; Sarah Van Voorst – Case Manager; Melanie Barse – Mental Health Professional

Special guests in attendance on Teams: Nicole Mayer – Case Manager; Travis Ripperda – Risk Reduction; Tammy DeJong – Case Manager; Sam Yost – Case Manager; Jordan Moos – Case Manager; Rex Squyres, Board Program Assistant; Earl Whitcomb; Athena Plank; Kati Belfrage – Associate Reentry Program Manager; Anne LNU

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### II. Call for Public Input

No public input.

### III. Parole Hearings

#### A. *Smith, Lance*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Lance Smith*. The offender was present via TEAMS. Guest on TEAMS: Earl Whitcomb

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Vice Chair Aasen for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Testimony was provided by guest Earl Whitcomb. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to grant parole.
Made:	Lieberman
Seconded by:	Aasen
Votes in Favor:	Albers, Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	Steele
Results:	Motion carried.

#### B. *Marshall, Patrick*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Patrick Marshall*. The offender was present. Guest on TEAMS: Athena Plank

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Members Hall and Brown for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to deny parole and set a next review date for February 2026.
Made:	Aasen
Seconded by:	Brown
Votes in Favor:	Albers, Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	None.
Results:	Motion carried.

#### C. *Squirrel Coat, Kardsten*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Kardsten Squirrel Coat*. The offender was present.

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Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Members Hall and Brown for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Testimony was provided by staff: Travis Ripperda – Risk Reduction. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to deny parole and set out to SSRD.
Made:	Brown
Seconded by:	Hall
Votes in Favor:	Albers, Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	None.
Results:	Motion carried.

### D. *Morgan, Rocky*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Rocky Morgan*. The offender was present.

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Members Meyer and Beck for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to grant parole.
Made:	Meyers
Seconded by:	Aasen
Votes in Favor:	Albers, Beck, Brown, Lieberman, Meyers, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	Hall
Results:	Motion carried.

Board Members took a scheduled break.

## V. Minutes

Board Members reviewed the minutes for the July 2025 meetings of the Board. Motion by Albers, second by Steele to approve the July 2025 minutes. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

## VI. August Hearing Panels

Board Member Vaughn Beck participated in the parole hearings the afternoon of Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Board Member Kirsten Aasen did not participate in the parole hearings the afternoon of Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. There were no other changes to the posted schedule.

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### **VII. September Proposed Schedule**

Board Members reviewed the proposed schedule for September. Due to a lower number of full board cases in August, the board will hold its business meeting the Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and not convene on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Board Members indicated whether they would be appearing via Teams and had no further changes to the proposed schedule.

### **VIII. Board Report / Field Services Report**

Board Members reviewed the board report and monthly metrics. There was a Special Session held on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025; there were waivers (parole/SSV/non-compliance), parole revocation hearings, non-compliance hearings, suspended sentence revocation hearings, and paper reviews of early discharge, commutation, and pardon applications. Governor Rhoden did not act on any clemency applications this month. There were 7 pardon applications received in July, and the current set-out period is September/October 2025.

### **IX. Items for Discussion**

Board Members discussed a personnel item. Board Members discussed correspondence received from an offender related to the outcome of the commutation hearing. Board Members discussed Operation Prairie Thunder and how hearings will logistically scheduled going forward if new cohorts of offenders are identified for review. Board Members discussed APAI training on SDMF attended by Vice Chair Aasen and Chair Rau. Board members discussed the special session clemency decision ratification process and directed staff ask the DOC attorney if they would issue an opinion on what is required.

### **X. Training**

Board Member Steele, Mental Health Professional Melanie Barse, and Associate Reentry Program Manager Kati Albers provided Board Members with training on mental health and treatment for mental health within the institutional setting.

### **XI. Policy Review**

Board members reviewed Policy 8.1.A.18 Withholding Parole, Restitution Hearing, Compassionate Parole. Staff recommended no revisions to the policy.

### **XII. Full Board Cases / Potential Upcoming Paper Review Cases**

Board Members were advised that the September calendar has 3 full board cases currently scheduled – one compassionate parole and two parole. Board Members were advised that there are two commutation cases currently scheduled for October.

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### **XIII. Special Session Decisions**

Motion by Albers, second by Lieberman to ratify and affirm the special session clemency decisions. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

### **XIV. Attachments – Decisions**

Incorporated by reference is the attached listing, entitled Parole Board Actions, for all parole violations, suspended sentence violations, non-compliance, discretionary parole, appeal of parole dates, earned discharge, and rescission decisions made by the Board this month.

### **XV. Adjourn**

The Full Board meeting adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m. The next full board meeting is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Myron Rau, Board Chair or Kirsten Aasen, Vice Chair

Submitted by:  
Shelli Gust  
Parole Board Administration Manager  
Board of Pardons and Paroles