

SD Board of Pardons and Paroles
1600 N. Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57104



MINUTES

Meeting of the
Board of Pardons and Paroles
February 2025

The Board of Pardons and Paroles hearing panels held meetings on January 23rd, 2025 and February 10th and 11th, 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 February 12th, 2025, commencing at 8:30 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 [Teams]
- Ken Albers, Member
- Vaughn Beck, Member
- John Brown, Member
- Kurt Hall, Member
- Peter Lieberman, Member [Teams]
- Patricia Meyers, Member
- Jan Steele, Member

Support staff in attendance: Shelli Gust – Board Administration Manager; Stacy Cole – Board Corrections Specialist; Karena Cassidy – Board Senior Secretary; Georgia Will – Board Program Assistant

Special guests in attendance in person: Riley DeGroot – Senior Case Manager; Jordan Moos – Case Manager; Brenna Carlson – SOMP Program Manager; Ken Anderson; Paul Anderson; Dr. David Kauffman – Licensed Psychologist; Sam Yost – Case Manager; Travis Uecker – Case Manager

Special guests in attendance on Teams: Ian Miller – Senior Case Manager; Nicole Mayer – Case Manager; James Flores; Autumn Sattler; Clara Eagle; Angela Taylor; Stephanie Yellow Eagle; Kim Lippincott – Senior Case Manager; Jessica Luke – Unit Case Manager; Jeff Neill – SOMP; Rachel Negrete; Anthony Steele

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II. Parole Hearings

A. *Ecoffey, Josiah*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Josiah Ecoffey*. The hearing was a paper review, and the offender was not present.

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to himself and Board Member Albers for summarization. The offender has a pending major and the board advised full hearing would not be conducted until the major is resolved. The following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to continue to March 2025 before the Full Board.
Made:	Albers
Seconded by:	Rau
Votes in Favor:	Aasen, Albers, Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Rau, Steele
Votes Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion carried.

III. Call for Public Input

No public input.

***** A break was held until offenders were transported to the facility.*****

IV. Parole Hearings

A. *Wall, Spencer*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Spencer Wall*. The offender was present. Guest(s) on Teams: Angela Taylor

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Member Albers and Board Member Steele for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Testimony was provided by staff: Sam Yost - Case Manager; Brenna Carlson – SOMP. Testimony was provided by guest(s): Angela Taylor. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

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

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B. *Anderson, Steven*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Steven Anderson*. This hearing was continued from October 2024 pending completion of a psychosexual evaluation. The offender was present. Guest(s): Ken Anderson, Paul Anderson

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to himself and Board Member Albers and Board Member Brown for summarization. The board acknowledged that an extensive hearing had taken place in October 2024 and that previous testimony and evidence be recognized into the record. Additional testimony was provided by the offender. Testimony was provided by staff: Brenna Carlson – SOMP; Dr. David Kauffmann – Licensed Psychologist. Testimony was provided by guests: Paul Anderson; Ken Anderson. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to deny parole and set the next review date for October 2025 with a board order that the offender follow Dr. Kauffmann’s recommendations, which include SOMP treatment and a history polygraph.
Made:	Aasen
Seconded by:	Brown
Votes in Favor:	Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	Albers, Meyers
Results:	Motion carried.

C. *Steele, Philip*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Philip Steele*. The offender was present. Guest(s): Richard Litschewski, Robert Steele, Kathleen Yellow Bird, Katherine Pilcichowski. Guest(s) on Teams: Autumn Sattler, Stephanie Yellow Eagle, Rachel Negrete, Anthony Steele.

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to himself and Board Member Albers and Board Member Steele for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Testimony was provided by staff: Brenna Carlson – SOMP. Testimony was provided by guests: Kathleen Yellow Bird, Stephanie Yellow Eagle, Anthony Steele, Richard Litschewski, Robert Steele, Autumn Sattler. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to deny parole and set the next review date for October 2025.
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Made:	Beck
Seconded by:	Lieberman
Votes in Favor:	Beck, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	Albers, Brown
Results:	Motion carried.

IV. Adjourn

The Full Board adjourned from parole matters at approximately 11:44 a.m.

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I. Call to Order

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

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

Special guests in attendance: None

Special guests in attendance on Teams: Kayla Stucky – Associate Director of Field Operations; Sheila Shatter – Central Records Program Manager

II. Call for Public Input

Board Member Lieberman expressed concerns with guests interrupting hearings and deliberations with disruptive comments.

III. Minutes

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



IV. February Hearing Panels

Board Members Aasen appeared via Teams on Tuesday - Thursday, and Board Member Lieberman appeared via Teams Monday - Thursday. There were no other changes to the posted schedule.

V. March Proposed Schedule

Board Members reviewed the proposed schedule for March. Due to a lower number of full board cases in March, the board will hold its business meeting the afternoon of Wednesday, March 12th, 2025 and not convene on March 13th. Board Members indicated whether they would be appearing via Teams and had no further changes to the proposed schedule.

VI. Board Report / Field Services Report

Parole Services Associate Director Kayla Stucky appeared before the board to provide an update on staffing and field services activities.

Board Members reviewed the board report and monthly metrics. There was a Special Session held on January 23rd; there were early discharges, waivers (parole/SSV/non-compliance), parole revocation hearings, non-compliance hearings, suspended sentence revocation hearings, paper reviews of pardon applications, and paper reviews of commutation applications. Governor Rhoden did not act on any commutation or pardon applications this month. There were 20 pardon applications received in December, and the current set-out period is April 2025.

VII. Items for Discussion

At Board Chair Rau's request, staff discussed the office's upcoming move to the One Stop, the office's current organizational structure, and an upcoming proposed change to the early discharge policy. Board members expressed interest in holding their business meeting during board week at the One Stop.

VIII. Training and Policy Review

Board Members participated in refresher training on the Suspended Sentence Status Report policy and suspended sentence revocation processes. Board members reviewed Policy 8.1.A.15: Suspended Sentence Status Report. Staff recommended revisions to the policies so that the language was consistent with statute and current and best practices. Board members provided guidance and feedback on the recommended revisions. Staff will bring the policy back to the Board in March for review and approval.

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IX. Full Board Cases / Potential Upcoming Paper Review Cases

Board Members were advised that the March calendar has 6 full board cases and the April calendar has 1 full board case currently scheduled.

X. Special Session Decisions

Motion by Steele, second by Beck to ratify the special session clemency decisions. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

XI. 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.

XII. Adjourn

The Full Board meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m. The next full board meeting is scheduled for March 12th, 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