

January 2024



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
MINUTES

Jameson Annex
1600 N Drive
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Parole Board meetings were held on December 29th, 2023, and January 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2024 in various locations in the State of South Dakota. A Full Board meeting was held on Wednesday, January 10th, commencing at 12:03 P.M. with the following present:

Present:

Myron Rau, Board Chair
Kirsten Aasen, Vice Chair (via MS Teams)
Peter Lieberman, Member
Jan Steele, Member
Patricia Meyers, Member (via MS Teams)
Vaughn Beck, Member
Charles Schroyer, Member
Ken Albers, Member
Kurt Hall, Member
Val McGovern, Parole Board Corrections Specialist (via MS Teams)
Brad Lewandowski, Director of Parole
Kati Albers, Parole Admin Supervisor
Stacy Cole, Parole Admin Specialist
Eilish O'Toole, Parole Admin Corrections Analyst
Karena Cassidy, Parole Admin Senior Secretary
Georgia Will, Parole Admin Program Assistant I
Jayden Clark – Parole Admin Intern
Kennedy Goblirsch- Parole Admin Intern

Quorum Present? Yes

Absent: N/A

SPECIAL GUESTS: Lee Schroeder- Case Manager, Riley DeGroot- Senior Case Manager, Ryan Howey- Case Manager, Meredith Jones- Case Manager, Jeff Neill- SOMP, Sam Yost- Case Manager

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPEARED/REVIEWED BEFORE THE FULL BOARD IN SIOUX FALLS WEDNESDAY, January 10th, 2024:

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The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Albers made a motion to **grant parole**, and Board Member Beck made a **substitute motion to deny parole and set out 2 years to a two-panel review**. Board Member Lieberman seconded the motion. All board members voted aye, except Board Member Albers, Board Member Schroyer, and Board Member Myers, the motion carried.

Long Soldier, Ardon

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Hall made a motion to **grant parole**, Board Member Schroyer seconded the motion. All board members voted aye, except Board Member Albers, Board Member Lieberman, Board Member Beck and Board Chair Rau, the motion carried.

McKenery, George

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Lieberman made a motion to **grant parole**, Board Member Steele seconded the motion. All board members voted aye, except, Board Member Albers, Board Member Steele and Board Member Beck, the motion carried.

Johnson, Ronald

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Parole Board meetings were held on December 29th, 2023 and January 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2024 in various locations in the State of South Dakota. A Full Board meeting was held on Wednesday, January 11th, commencing at 8:32 A.M. with the following present:

Present:

Myron Rau, Board Chair
Kirsten Aasen, Vice Chair (via MS Teams)
Peter Lieberman, Member
Jan Steele, Member
Patricia Meyers, Member (via MS Teams)
Vaughn Beck, Member
Charles Schroyer, Member
Ken Albers, Member
Kurt Hall, Member
Val McGovern, Parole Board Corrections Specialist
Brad Lewandowski, Director of Parole
Kati Albers, Parole Admin Supervisor
Stacy Cole, Parole Admin Specialist
Eilish O'Toole, Parole Admin Corrections Analyst
Karena Cassidy, Parole Admin Senior Secretary
Georgia Will, Parole Admin Program Assistant I
Jayden Clark – Parole Admin Intern
Kennedy Goblirsch- Parole Admin Intern

Absent: N/A

SPECIAL GUESTS: Kyle Smith- SE Field Supervisor, Liz Effling- Parole Field Operations Specialist, JC Smith- SE Field Supervisor, Kayla Stucky- Associate Director of Field Operations (via MS Teams), Jessica Campbell- Case Manager

APPEARED/REVIEWED BEFORE THE FULL BOARD IN SIOUX FALLS THURSDAY, January 11th, 2024:

2024 annual election of Chair and Vice Chair.



Board Member Schroyer made a motion to re-elect Myron Rau as the Board Chair and Kirsten Aasen as the Vice-Chair, Board Member Hall seconded the motion, all board members voted aye, the motion carried.

HEARING PANELS: Due to the increase in hearing numbers Chair Rau worked on 1/10/24 instead of having the morning off.

BOARD TRAINING: N/A

MINUTES: Board Member Beck made a motion to approve the minutes for the December meeting of the Board. Board Member Lieberman seconded the motion. All members voted aye; the motion carried.

BOARD REPORT: Val McGovern was available and updated the board on the following:

- There was a Special Session held by the parole board on December 29th, 2023.
- Board Members continued to utilize Adobe sign for board slips and legal findings.
- Val McGovern continues to audit the Top 50 absconder warrants in NCIC to ensure they are active.
- There were 14 pardon applications received in December and the current set-out period is to April 2024. There are currently 57 pending clemency cases pending a decision by Governor Noem.
- Board Members Myers, Beck, and Steele have been accepted in the Parole Board NIC training in Colorado in February and have confirmed their attendance.
- Chuck Schroyer's last board week will be January 8-11th, Val McGovern previously reached out to the Supreme Court Justice and is awaiting their new appointment.

FIELD SERVICES REPORT: Associate Field Service Director, Kayla Stucky updated the board on the following:

Open positions: 9 agent positions: 2 Sioux Falls (conditional offers have been accepted; start date set for 1/9/2023 for both positions), 5 Rapid City (positions relisted (all currently vacant; 1 conditional offer accepted; interviews are ongoing)) 1 Watertown (conditional offer accepted and start date set for 1/9/2023), 1 Pierre (Specialist position moved from Rapid City; conditional offer has been accepted and start date set for 1/9/2023); .5 secretary positions: Part-time Spearfish (not listing at this time).

- Agents in training: 4: 2 Sioux Falls (Ashtyn Shafer (1.5 months); Mallory Arndt (3 month)), 2 in Rapid City (Agent Sullivan (5 month), Supervisor Martin (4 months)).
- Resignations: 2: Taylor Santana (Rapid City – 12/8/2023), Jason Goodall (Rapid City – 12/14/2023)

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POLICY REVIEW: Policies 8.1.A.13 Rescission of Parole, were reviewed before the full board meeting, there were no recommended updates therefore the only official changes/updates that will occur will be the effective date and supersession date.

Discussion:

The board had a discussion with Jackie Schwader from the Central Records department pertaining to sentence structure, early discharge, commutation impacts/decisions etc.

RECUSALS: There were not any recusals for the month of January.

FULL BOARD CASES:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS – DECISIONS: Please refer to the attached listing entitled Parole Board Actions for all parole violations, suspended sentence violations, non-compliance, discretionary parole, earned discharge, and rescission decisions made by the Board this month.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:46AM The next full board meeting is scheduled for February 14th, 2024.

BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Myron Rau, Board Chair or Kirsten Aasen, Vice Chair

Val McGovern, Corrections Specialist

Submitted by:
Val McGovern
Corrections Specialist
Board of Pardons and Paroles