

SD Board of Pardons and Paroles
1501 S. Highline Ave, Ste. 3A, Sioux Falls, SD 57110



MINUTES

Meeting of the
Board of Pardons and Paroles
January 2026

The Board of Pardons and Paroles hearing panels held meetings on December 29th, 2025 and January 12th and 13th, 2026 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
- Yankton Minimum Center
- Board of Pardons and Paroles Office

A Full Board meeting was held at Jameson Annex on January 14th, 2026, 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
- Vaughn Beck, Member
- John Brown
- Kurt Hall, Member
- Peter Lieberman, Member
- Patricia Meyers, Member [TEAMS]
- Aaron Pilcher, Member
- Jan Steele, Member

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

Special guests in attendance in person: Tanner Ver Steeg – Parole Agent; Zach Ciurej – Parole Agent; Amanda Hazel; Danae Peterson; Landen Hazel; Carter Hazel

Special guests in attendance on Teams: Rex Squyres – Board Program Assistant; Travis Ripperda – Risk Reduction Manager; Brittany Shelburg – Case Manager; Riley DeGroot – Senior Case Manager; Jamisen Wagner – Case Manager; Erin Boysen – Parole Agent

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II. Call for Public Input

None.

III. Parole Hearings

A. *Black Cloud, William*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *William Black Cloud*. The offender was present.

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Member Brown and Board Member Steele 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 of July 2026.
Made:	Beck
Seconded by:	Hall
Votes in Favor:	Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Pilcher, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion carried.

B. *Peterson, Robert*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Robert Peterson*. The offender was present. Guest(s) present: Amanda Hazel; Danae Peterson; Landen Hazel; Carter Hazel

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Member Lieberman and Board Member Meyers for summarization. Testimony was provided by the offender. Testimony was provided by guest(s): Amanda Hazel, Danae Peterson Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

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

The Full Board Adjourned from parole matters at approximately 10:10 a.m.



The Full Board returned to its full board meeting at approximately 10:45 a.m.

IV. Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion by Beck, second by Brown to re-elect Myron Rau as the Board Chair and Kirsten Aasen as the Vice-Chair. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

V. December Minutes

Board Members reviewed the minutes for the December 2025 meetings of the Board. Motion by Aasen, second by Brown to approve the December 2025 minutes. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

VI. January Hearing Panels

There were no changes to the posted schedule.

VII. Full Board Cases / Potential Upcoming Paper Review Cases

Board Members were advised that the February calendar has 4 full board cases currently scheduled.

VIII. February Proposed Schedule

Board Members reviewed the proposed schedule for February. Due to a lower number of full board cases in February, the board will hold its business meeting on Wednesday, February 11th, 2026, and not convene on February 12th, 2026. Board Members indicated whether they would be appearing via Teams and had no further changes to the proposed schedule.

IX. Board Report / Field Services Report

Board Members reviewed the board report and monthly metrics. There was a Special Session held on December 29th; there were paper reviews of early discharges, pardons, and commutation applications, waivers (parole/SSV/non-compliance) signed, and a non-compliance hearing. The current set-out period for pardons is March 2026.

X. Items for Discussion

Board Administration Manager Gust briefly recapped two meetings that she attended about parole releases and parole board processes.

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XI. Policy Review

Board members reviewed Policy 8.1.A.13: Rescission of Parole. Staff recommended no revisions to the policy.

XII. Training

Board members participated in training on the DOC FY25 Statistical Report.

XIII. Special Session Pardon Denials (SDCL 24-15A-11.2)

Board Members reviewed the denials of 4 pardons by the two-panels at Special Session. Motion by Lieberman, second by Beck to ratify the decisions and adopt the denials. 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 12:30 p.m. The next full board meeting is scheduled for February 11th, 2026.

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