



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
March 2026

The Board of Pardons and Paroles hearing panels held meetings on February 26th, 2026 and March 9th and 10th, 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 March 11th, 2026, commencing at 9:13 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
- Kurt Hall, Member [TEAMS]
- Peter Lieberman, Member
- Patricia Meyers, Member
- Aaron Pilcher, Member [TEAMS]
- Jan Steele, Member

Absent: John Brown, 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

Special guests in attendance in person: Cyanne O’Neil – Offender Services Intern

Special guests in attendance on Teams: Allison Walhof; Rex Squyres – Board Program Assistant; Travis Ripperda – Risk Reduction Manager; Jamisen Wagner – Case Manager; Jordan Jensen – Board Corrections Analyst



II. Call for Public Input

None.

III. Parole Hearings

A. Arpan, Tanner

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Tanner Arpan*. The offender was present on Teams.

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

IV. 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 Aasen, second by Beck to ratify the decisions and adopt the denials. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

V. February Minutes

Board Members reviewed the minutes for the February 2026 meetings of the Board. Motion by Meyers, second by Steele to approve the February 2026 minutes. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

VI. March Hearing Panels

Nothing to report.

VII. Full Board Cases / Potential Upcoming Paper Review Cases

Board Members were advised that the April calendar has 3 full board cases currently scheduled. One of the cases will need to be scheduled for Tuesday afternoon to accommodate the offender's facility schedule.



VIII. April Proposed Schedule

Board Members reviewed the proposed schedule for April. Due to a lower number of full board cases in April, the board will hold its business meeting on Wednesday, April 15th, 2026, and not convene on April 16th, 2026. Board Members indicated whether they would be appearing via Teams. Board Members would like to try holding more hearing sessions and meetings over Teams from the Board Office at the Sioux Falls One Stop. The Board Chair will visit with the Board Administration Manager to review the meeting rooms that are available.

IX. Board Report / Field Services Report

Board Members reviewed the board report and monthly metrics. There was a Special Session held on February 26th; there were paper reviews of early discharges, pardons, and a commutation application, waivers (parole/SSV/non-compliance) signed, and parole revocation, suspended sentence, and non-compliance hearings. The current set-out period for pardons is May 2026.

X. Items for Discussion

Vice Chair Aasen would like to see additional data on recidivism. Board Chair Rau advised that he had an upcoming online meeting with Richard Stroker, Center for Effective Public Policy about a potential training opportunity.

XI. Policy Review

Board members reviewed Policy 8.1.A.5 Parole Board Decisions and Setting of Next Review Dates. Staff recommended no revisions to the policy at this time.

XII. 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.

XIII. Adjourn

The Full Board meeting adjourned at approximately 11:28 a.m. The next full board meeting is scheduled for April 15th, 2026.

BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Myron Rau, Board Chair or Kirsten Aasen, Vice Chair

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