

SD Board of Pardons and Paroles

1600 N. Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57104



MINUTES

Meeting of the
Board of Pardons and Paroles
October 2025

The Board of Pardons and Paroles hearing panels held meetings on September 25th, 2025 and October 6th and 7th 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 October 8th, 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
- 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; Karena Cassidy – Board Senior Secretary; Georgia Will – Board Program Assistant; Eilish O'Toole – Board Corrections Specialist

Special guests in attendance in person: Brenna Carlson – SOMP Program Manager; Shelby Black – Nurse Practitioner; Scott Klutman – Nursing Manager; Ian Miller – Senior Case Manager; Sarah Van Voorst – Case Manager; Sheila Roettele; Becky Dallman; Carol Vandenberg; Tiffany Bohms; Jesse Tewinkel; Mary Montoya; Michael Ness; Melissa Ness; Gerald Thin Elk; Louis Whitehead; Tiffany Bohms; Jeff Sjomeling; Delmar Klassen; Raleigh Hansman

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Special guests in attendance on Teams: Rex Squyres – Board Program Assistant; Nicole Mayer – Case Manager; Riley DeGroot – Senior Case Manager; Meredith Jones – Case Manager; Ryan Howey – Case Manager; Tanner Maurer – Parole Agent; Jeff Neill – SOMP; Travis Ripperda – Risk Reduction Manager; Kobe Whipple – Parole Agent; Brittany Shelburg – Case Manager; Clara Engle – Offender Services Intern; Catherine Anthony – Parole Agent; Michael Doorn; Duane Seiler; Lenny Mark

II. Call for Public Input

No public input.

III. Parole Hearings

A. *Kilber, Shannon* [Compassionate Parole]

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

This matter was heard by the Board in September 2025. Applicant and staff indicated that offender had a bed date at Avera Dougherty Hospice House. Compassionate parole was granted. Subsequent to the September 2025 hearing, staff learned that offender no longer had a bed date at Avera Dougherty Hospice House. Attempts to secure placement at a different hospice facility were unsuccessful. This matter was brought back before the board to address whether compassionate parole could be extended to include home hospice care.

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Shelli Gust – Board Administration Manager for summarization. Testimony was provided by staff: Shelby Black – Nurse Practitioner and Scott Klutman – Nursing Manager. Following summarization, testimony, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to grant compassionate parole and allow offender to parole to a 24/7 hospice or nursing home facility or to home hospice care.
Made:	Hall
Seconded by:	Aasen
Votes in Favor:	Beck, Brown, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Steele, Aasen
Votes Opposed:	Albers, Rau
Results:	Motion carried.

B. *Hammond, Billy*

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

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Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Member Meyers for summarization. Offender is serving a concurrent life sentence for the state of Wyoming. Following summarization, testimony, evidence review, questions and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion:	Motion to grant parole pursuant to SDCL 24-15A-41.1.
Made:	Beck
Seconded by:	Aasen
Votes in Favor:	Albers, Beck, Hall, Lieberman, Meyers, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	Brown

C. *Bissonette, Queana*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Queana Bissonette*. The offender was present on TEAMS.

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Member Beck for summarization. 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, Steele, Aasen, Rau
Votes Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion carried.

D. *Sieler, Ricky*

Board Members proceeded with the scheduled hearing of *Ricky Sieler*. The offender was present with his attorney, Raleigh Hansman. Guest(s) on Teams: Duane Sieler. Guest(s) in person: Sheila Roettele, Becky Dallman, Carol Vandenberg, Tiffany Bohms

Chair Rau turned the proceedings over to Board Members Lieberman and Steele for summarization. Testimony was received by the offender and through his attorney. Testimony by staff: Brenna Carlson – SOMP Program Manager and Rex Squyres – Board Program Assistant. Testimony by guest(s): Sheila Roettele and Carol Vandenberg. 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 June 2026, with the offender directed to complete SOMP.
Made:	Albers

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

IV. Adjourn

The Full Board adjourned from parole matters at approximately 11:15 a.m.

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MINUTES

Meeting of the
Board of Pardons and Paroles
October 2025

A Full Board meeting was held at Jameson Annex on October 9th, 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
- John Brown, Member
- Kurt Hall, Member
- Patricia Meyers, Member
- Jan Steele, Member

Absent: Peter Lieberman, Member

Support staff in attendance: Shelli Gust – Board Administration Manager; Karena Cassidy – Board Senior Secretary; Eilish O'Toole – Board Corrections Specialist

Special guests in attendance in person: Jon Hult, Searchlight

Special guests in attendance on Teams: Rex Squyres – Board Program Assistant; Morgan Hunt – Parole Agent, Kobe Whipple – Parole Agent; Brittany Shelburg – Case Manager

II. Call for Public Input

No public input.

III. Minutes

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

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IV. October Hearing Panels

There were no changes to the posted schedule.

V. November Proposed Schedule

Board Members reviewed the proposed schedule for November. Due to a lower number of full board cases in November, the board will hold its business meeting on Wednesday, November 5th, 2025, and not convene on November 6th, 2025. 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

Kayla Stucky, Associate Director of Field Operations, provided a report to the Board. Board Members were advised that because of the work of parole staff, the absconder apprehension unit, and a partnership with the U.S. Marshals Service, parole absconder numbers had dropped below 100. Board Members were also given a staffing update.

Board Members reviewed the board report and monthly metrics. There was a Special Session held on September 25th; there were early discharges, waivers (parole/SSV/non-compliance), parole revocation hearings, suspended sentence hearings, non-compliance hearings, and paper reviews of pardon applications and commutation applications. Governor Rhoden did not act on any commutation or pardon applications this month. The current set-out period for pardons is December 2025.

VII. Items for Discussion

Board Members discussed plans for sharing a holiday meal together. Plans will be solidified in November.

VIII. Training

Board Members participated in an annual review of the explanation of the open meeting laws of South Dakota published by the Attorney General. This annual review was done pursuant to SDCL 1-25-13.

IX. Policy Review

Board members reviewed Policy 8.1.A.6: Code of Ethics. No changes were recommended.

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X. Full Board Cases / Potential Upcoming Paper Review Cases

Board Members were advised that the November calendar has 3 full board cases and 1 commutation currently scheduled.

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

Board Members reviewed the denials of two pardons by the two-panel at Special Session. Motion by Beck, second by Aasen to ratify the decisions and adopt the denials. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

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 10:50 a.m. The next full board meeting is scheduled for November 5th, 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