

STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
August 10, 11, 12, and 13, 2020

Parole Board meetings were held on August 10, 11, 12, and 13, 2020 at various locations in the State of South Dakota. A Parole Board meeting was held on August 13, 2020 at the South Dakota Board of Pardons and Paroles Office commencing at 8:03 AM with the following present:

Myron Rau, Board Chair  
Ken Albers, Vice Chair  
Kirstin Aasen, Member  
Gregg Gass, Member  
Peter Lieberman, Member (via Zoom)  
Ed Ligtenberg, Member (via Zoom)  
Chuck Schroyer, Member  
Gordy Swanson, Member  
Rev. Patricia White Horse – Carda, Member  
Brad Lewandowski, Director SD Board of Pardons and Paroles  
Karena Cassidy, Senior Secretary  
Stacy Cole, Corrections Analyst  
Traci Fredrikson, Operations Supervisor  
April Maeschen, Program Assistant I  
Val McGovern, Corrections Specialist  
Jessica Beeck, Corrections Analyst Intern  
Lexi Hanson, Corrections Analyst Intern

Quorum Present? Yes

REPRESENTATIONS: Catherine Schlimgen, Staff Attorney representative, was available for questions.

SPECIAL GUESTS: Ian Miller, Case Manager, Liz Effling, Corrections Specialist, Riley DeGroot, Case Manager, Dusti Werner, Risk Reduction Manager, Hanna Paauw, Risk Reduction Intern, Brenna Carlson SOMP Program Manager, Jeff Neil SOMP, Derek Ekeren, Case Manager, Travis Ripperda Compassionate Parole Specialist, Kimberly Gukeisen, Clinical Supervisor RN, Shamim Sultana, Family Physician-Geriatrics Specialty, Kayla Thelen, Program Manager/Behavior Health.

MINUTES: Board Member Schroyer made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2020 meeting of the Board. Board Member Gass seconded the motion. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

HEARING PANELS: Board Member Aasen joined in person instead of via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPEARED/REVIEWED BEFORE THE FULL BOARD (NINE MEMBERS) IN SIOUX FALLS  
THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2020:

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Gass made a motion to grant parole. Board Member Schroyer seconded the motion. All Board Members voting aye the motion carried.

Nicholas Beesley

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Aasen made a motion to grant parole. Board Member White Horse - Carda seconded the motion. Board Member Ligtenberg voting nay, all other members voting aye, the motion carried.

Cody Desersa

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Swanson made a motion to deny parole. Vice Chair Albers seconded the motion. All members voting aye, the motion carried.

Marvin Hage

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Schroyer made a motion to grant parole. Board Member Swanson seconded the motion. All members voting aye, the motion carried.

Shelby Schaeffer

The following Parolee was paper reviewed by the full board for an early final discharge. Vice Chair Albers made a motion to grant the final discharge. Board Member White Horse - Carda seconded the motion. Board Member Swanson was unavailable Board Member Ligtenberg voted nay. All other members voting aye, the motion carried.

Michael Poncelet

The following Parolee was paper reviewed by the full board for an early partial discharge. Vice Chair Albers made a motion to grant the early partial discharge of 5 years. Board Member Aasen seconded the motion. All board members voting aye, the motion carried.

Jerommi Rodriguez

Director's Report: Director Lewandowski was available and updated the board on the following: Parole Board Office: The Supreme Court appointed Attorney Kirsten Aasen, Rapid City, to the Parole Board on 5/20/20; she began training immediately and began participating in hearings in June. Welcome, Kirsten! The office received 13 pardon applications in July and hearings are being scheduled two months out. Staff and board members communicated regularly regarding changes to hearing processes due to COVID. Zoom accounts were purchased; half of July's hearings were conducted by Zoom and half in person with guests still participating by Zoom. Staff have begun discussions on proposed legislative changes for next

year. Sioux Falls board staff attended CR-2 training in July, a communication model for “creating resilience and regulation.”

Director of Field Services Report: Kayla Stuckey was unavailable, and Brad Lewandowski provided an update to the board.

Safety and Training: Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, all Field Offices are still closed to the public. Agents are able to meet with offenders outside of the office, keeping in mind COVID precautions. Agents are meeting with offenders in the parking lot, outside of residences and places of employment. Agents are still utilizing creative ways to complete other contacts such as picture messages, facetime, etc. Agents are also limiting detainments to assist in limiting exposure to jails and DOC institutions. Agents are working with offenders currently on detainment or in CTP to find community placements/residences as quick as possible. SE Region Annual Qualification was held and completed on July 29<sup>th</sup>. All Agents qualified. NE Region Annual Qualification was held on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Huron Range. Remedial training and make up training date will be set for August. Agent Lebert and Agent Tacke are currently in New Agent Firearms training and concluded on July 31<sup>st</sup>. West Region Annual Qualification was held and completed on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

Southeast Region Staff Update: Proficient agents (not including agents in training or supervisor) have an average caseload of 79.95. Mitchell JCA Grosdidier is assisting with the supervision of 28 indirect/minimum/medium cases for the Sioux Falls office. One agent is still on extended leave effective 8/30/2019. The Southeast Region supervised 19 extended confinement cases this month. The 2 open FTE positions remain open and close on 7/8/20. A Senior Case Manager Position was advertised, and interviews took place during the first half of July. Sioux Falls agent Kyle Smith was selected to fill the position.

Northeast Region Staff Update: Proficient agents (agents out of training, not including supervisor) have an average caseload of 90.11. The SWO Agent position remains open. It has been posted until the position is filled. Agent Beyl continues coverage of 87 SWO cases. Agent Seim has assumed additional cases that were previously supervised by Agent Beyl. The Interview process remains ongoing for the PA position in the Mitchell Field Office. The position for Parole Agent in the Brookings Area closed on June 11, 2020. Tiffani Lebert-Hoffelt was selected for the position and started on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Juvenile Correction Agent Thury assists with supervision of 18 cases in the Watertown Office. Agent Kollars supervises 7 cases under the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribal Program.

West Region Staff Update: Proficient agents (agents out of training, not including supervisor) have an average caseload 81.11. The West Region supervised 20 extended confinement cases this month.

Parole Case Manager position closed on 6/30/20 with interviews completed. A good number of applicants applied and hope to have an offer made in early August. Juvenile Correction Agent Leighty is helping Spearfish with 50 Offenders.

Legal Issues: Catherine Schlimgen was available and provided the following updates for the board:

No updates

Board Training and COMS Updates: Traci Fredrikson was available. No updates available.

Policy Review: Policy 8,1,A.7 – Early/Partial Discharges, Return Street Time for Offenders on Community Supervision. Board member Schroyer made a recommendation to adopt the motion. Board Member Aasen seconded the motion. Board member Swanson was unavailable. Board Members Gass, White Horse – Carda, Ligtenberg voting nay with all others voting aye the motion carried.

RECUSALLS:

Board Member Swanson recused himself from the following hearing(s)

Paul Greger.

Decisions: Board Member Schroyer made a motion to ratify and affirm all decisions: Board Member Gass seconded the motion. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

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

Adjournment: Board Member Aasen made motion to adjourn the August 13, 2020 meeting of the Board. Vice Chair Albers seconded the motion. All members voting aye; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11: AM Thursday, August 13, 2020. The next board meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

SD BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

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Myron Rau, Board Chair or Ken Albers, Vice Chair

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Brad Lewandowski, Director

Submitted by:  
Karena Cassidy  
Senior Secretary