

STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
April 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2022

Parole Board meetings were held on April 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2022 various locations in the State of South Dakota. A Full Board meeting was held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls commencing 12:52 PM with the following present.

Myron Rau, Board Chair  
Gordy Swanson, Vice Chair  
Kirsten Aasen, Member (Zoom)  
Ken Albers, Member  
Gregg Gass, Member  
Kurt Hall, Member  
Peter Lieberman, Member (Zoom)  
Chuck Schroyer, Member  
Brad Lewandowski, Director SD Board of Pardons and Paroles  
Karena Cassidy, Senior Secretary  
Stacy Cole, Corrections Specialist  
April Maeschen, Program Assistant I (Zoom)  
Val McGovern, Corrections Specialist (Zoom)  
Rachel Boyer, Corrections Analyst Intern (Zoom)

Quorum Present? Yes

REPRESENTATIONS: Loranda Kenyon, Staff Attorney was available for questions.

SPECIAL GUESTS: Tom Lais, Senior Case Manager, Tammy Johnson-DeJong Case Manager, via Zoom. Liz Effling, Corrections Specialists, Amber Kollars, Parole Agent, Shay Potter, Parole Agent, Elaina Callahan, Secretary Mitchell Office, Brenna Carlson, SOMP Program Manager, Misti Waagmeester, Unit Case Manager.

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPEARED/REVIEWED BEFORE THE FULL BOARD (EIGHT MEMBERS) IN SIOUX FALLS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022:

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Vice Chair Albers made a motion to grant parole. Board Member Swanson seconded the motion. Board Chair Rau, Board Member Lieberman and Board Member Gass voting nay. All other board members voting aye, the motion carried.

Brian Bakker

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing. Board Member Gass made a motion to deny parole and set out 4 months. Board Member Hall seconded the motion. Board Chair Rau, Vice Chair Swanson voting nay. All other board members voting aye, the motion carried.

Jacob Erks

STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
April 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2022

Parole Board meetings were held on April 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2022 various locations in the State of South Dakota. A Full Board meeting was held on Thursday April 14, 2022, at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls commencing 8:01 AM with the following present.

Myron Rau, Board Chair  
Gordy Swanson, Vice Chair  
Kirsten Aasen, Member (Zoom)  
Ken Albers, Member  
Gregg Gass, Member  
Peter Lieberman, Member (Zoom)  
Chuck Schroyer, Member  
Brad Lewandowski, Director SD Board of Pardons and Paroles  
Karena Cassidy, Senior Secretary  
Stacy Cole, Corrections Specialist  
April Maeschen, Program Assistant I  
Val McGovern, Corrections Specialist

Quorum Present? Yes

REPRESENTATIONS: Loranda Kenyon, Staff Attorney was available for questions.

SPECIAL GUESTS: Terry Cummings Pierre Senior Secretary, Amber Kollars, Parole Agent, Shay Potter, Parole Agent, Elaina Callahan, Secretary Mitchell Office via Zoom. Liz Effling, Corrections Specialists, Kayla Stucky, Field Office Director, Brenna Carlson, SOMP Program Manager, Rick Leslie, Director of Classification and Transfer.

HEARING PANELS: Kurt Hall was unavailable for the Full Board Meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2022

MINUTES: Board Member Schroyer made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2022 meeting of the Board. Board Member Gass seconded the motion. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPEARED/REVIEWED BEFORE THE FULL BOARD (SEVEN MEMBERS) IN SIOUX FALLS THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022:

The following offender appeared before the full board for a Parole hearing for a case review. He will be reviewed again in April 2023.

Toby Ferguson

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Lewandowski was available and updated the board on the following: Parole Board Office Board Members Ed Ligtenberg and Rev. Patricia White Horse-Carda resigned from the board effective January 2022. Board Member Ken Albers was reappointed by Governor Noem and confirmed by the Senate in February. Rev. White Horse-Carda's position remains unfilled. Faulk County Sheriff Kurt Hall was appointed to the board by AG Ravnsborg to fill the vacancy left by Board Member Ligtenberg. Kurt attended hearings and began training in February and was confirmed by the Senate in March. Board Chair Rau and Supervisor Fredrikson are making plans to attend the annual APAI conference in May 2022 in San Diego. Senior Secretary Karena Cassidy celebrated two years with the DOC! The board took a tour of Jameson and Pheasantland Industries in March. Board Attorney Catherine Schlimgen's last day was 1/21/22; DOC Attorney Loranda Kenyon is covering her duties until a replacement is hired. The office received 16 pardon applications in March and hearings are being scheduled two months out. The governor granted 13 pardons and one commutation and denied one commutation in March. There are currently 33 pardons and one commutation pending a final action from the Governor. Board staff have finished helping the institution with GTL phone list requests. The commutation paper review process was enhanced to include reasons for denial, board staff interviews prior to the paper review, and use of the SDMF tool during the review. Board staff have been working on completing job manuals and will then spend time crosstraining with their counterparts (two corrections specialists, two program assistants, two senior secretaries).

DIRECTOR OF FIELD SERVICES REPORT: Kayla Stucky was available and updated the board on the following: Parole Board Office Southeast Region Staff Update: Agents utilized in the SE have a caseload average of 64.84. Agents utilized in the SE have a workload average of 103.42%. Current staffing: 2 vacant specialist positions, 1 vacant secretary position. 3 agents in training (SF); 1 secretary in training (SF); 1 agent on light duty. Interviews have begun for both vacant positions. Specialist Hannah Hohn transferred from Sioux Falls to Mitchell. Parole agent specialists continue conducting the Moving On class. The Southeast Region supervises 13 extended confinement cases. Northeast Region Staff Update: Agents utilized in the NE Region have an average caseload of 61.14. Agents utilized in the NE have an average workload of 92.96%. Current staffing: 2 vacant agent positions (Pierre; Mitchell/Pierre), 1 agent in training (Aberdeen). Mitchell Agent Grube resigned effective 3/10/22; this position has been listed in both Yankton and Mitchell offices. The position will be filled in the office where the best candidate is located, and interviews are in process. Firearms Instructor Doug Seim (Watertown) submitted his retirement notice, effective June 8. This position has been listed. Interviews are in process for the Pierre position. Agent Jeremiah Kendrick transferred from Mitchell to Sioux Falls. Juvenile Corrections Agent Thury assists with supervision of 10 cases in the Watertown office. Juvenile Corrections Agent Shawn Davis is assisting with the supervision of 10 cases in the Mitchell office. The Northeast Region supervises 17 extended confinement cases. West Region Staff Update: Agents utilized in the West Region have an average caseload of 58.86. Agents utilized have an average workload of 90.20%. Current staffing: one agent in training (Rapid City). Agent Rachel Steinbauer successfully completed her probationary period as of 3/13/22. Parole agent specialists continue conducting the Moving On class. Parole Specialist Rachel Steinbauer continues to meet with offenders in the parole office weekly to go over basic life skills as well as interview skills and how to apply for jobs. The West Region supervises 11 extended confinement cases.

Break 8:58 – 9:30

LEGAL ISSUES: Loranda Kenyon was available and provided the following updates for the board:

- Update on pending litigation.

BOARD TRAINING: SOMP training by Brenna Carlson and Dr. Kauffman.

RECUSALLS:

N/A.

DECISIONS: Board Member Albers made a motion to ratify and affirm all decisions. Board Member Schroyer 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 10:37AM, Thursday, April 14, 2022, the Board of Pardons and Paroles went into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:49 AM, Thursday, April 14, 2022. The next board meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2022, at 8:00 a.m.

SD BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

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Myron Rau, Board Chair or Gordon Swanson, Vice Chair

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Val McGovern, Director

Submitted by:  
Karena Cassidy  
Senior Secretary