

*Meeting Minutes **DRAFT***

*South Dakota Council of Juvenile Services*

*June 12, 2025*

*Teams Video Conference*

Thursday, June 12, 2025

**Council of Juvenile Services Members Present (In Person):** Beth O'Toole, Chair and Professor at the University of Sioux Falls; Sara McGregor-Okroi, Vice-Chair and Director of Aliive-Roberts County; Eric Anderson, Department of Corrections Division of Juvenile Services Supervisor; Charles (Chuck) Frieberg, Director of Trial Court Services; Cindy Heiberger, Former Minnehaha County Commissioner; Sheriff Brad Howell, Codington County Sheriff; Judge Tami Bern, First Judicial Circuit Judge; Chief Dave McNeil, Aberdeen Police Department Chief of Police; Chief Judge Ruth Burns, SWO Chief Tribal Judge; Becky Rasmussen, Direct of Call to Freedom; Jamin McGray, Youth Member

**Council of Juvenile Services Members Present (Online):** Doug Herrmann, Executive Director of The Club for Boys; Angela Lisberg, Avera St. Mary's Central South Dakota Child Assessment Center; Daniel Haggar, Minnehaha County State's Attorney; Amy Witt, Chief Program Office Lutheran Social Services; Cassidy Frederick, Youth Member; Skylir Skipper, Youth Member.

**Council of Juvenile Services Members Absent:** Melanie Boetel, DSS Division of Behavioral Health Director, Dadra Avery, Sturgis Brown High School Counselor, Julian Woodward, Youth Member.

**State Agency Staff Support:** John Stewart, and Kristi Bunkers, South Dakota Department of Corrections (DOC)

**Others Present (In Person):** Annie Brokenleg: UJS; Kelsi Vinger, Brown County

**Others Present (Online):** Bridget Coppersmith, DOC; Brittini Skipper, DOC; Samson Boutchee, Director of Operations Pierre Boys & Girls Club.

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Beth O'Toole called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM on June 12, 2025. John Stewart took roll call and quorum was validated by Stewart at this time. Stewart introduced Becky Rasmussen, Chief Judge Burns, Jamin McGray, and Amy Witt as the newly appointed council members.

## 2. PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair O'Toole asked if there were any public comments to be brought before the Council at the meeting. After confirmation that no one had comments to share, Chair O'Toole proceeded with the meeting agenda and ended the period for public comment.

## 3. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Stewart identified the following conflicts of interest:

*Sheriff Brad Howell* – Codington County court resource home application and Codington County Racial/Ethnic Disparities application.

*Chief Dave McNeil* – Brown County court resource home application and Brown County Racial/Ethnic Disparities application.

*Amy Witt* – Lutheran Social Services applications.

*Eric Anderson* – Strengthening Families applications.

*Judge Tami Bern* – Clay County alternatives to detention application

*Charles Frieberg* – any applications involving a state's attorney's office.

*Daniel Haggar* – Boys and Girls Club Sioux Falls, potentially.

## 4. APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED BYLAWS

Stewart provided an overview of the proposed updates to the bylaws from the December 6, 2024, Meeting. Cindy Heiberger inquired if she still qualifies to be on the council since she is no longer an elected official. Stewart and O'Toole noted that since other elected officials serve on the council and since Heiberger has experience working with at risk youth, she is still a qualified member of the council.

***Sheriff Howell moved to approve the proposed bylaw changes; Chuck Frieberg seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## 5. APPROVAL OF THE December 2024 CJS MEETING MINUTES

Chair O'Toole provided an overview of the December 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

***Cindy Heiberger moved to approve the December 6, 2024, meeting minutes; Sara McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## 6. ELECTION OFF CJS CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair O'Toole turned the meeting over to Stewart to oversee the annual elections.

***Eric Anderson moved to nominate Beth O'Toole for CJS Chair, Sara McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously, with Beth O'Toole abstaining.***

***Chuck Frieberg moved to nominate Sara McGregor-Okroi for CJS Vice-Chair, Judge Bern McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously, with Sara McGregor-Okroi abstaining.***

Stewart explained that the Executive Committee is made up of the elected Chair and Vice-Chair and three additional elected members.

***Cindy Heiberger moved to retain Sheriff Howell, Judge Bern, and Chuck Frieberg as the executive team members. Chief Judge Burns seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Sheriff Howell, Judge Bern, and Chuck Frieberg abstaining.***

Stewart turned the meeting over to Chair O'Toole.

#### 7. BROWN COUNTY PRESENTATION

At approximately 9:26 AM, Kelsey Vinger presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the efforts to help youth in Brown County. The presentation was titled "Brown County – Helping Youth in Their Communities." Chief McNeil provided additional information on how his office works to support the youth in the community.

#### 8. STATE FISCAL YEAR (SFY) 2026 SUBGRANT APPLICATIONS

Stewart presented application overviews on behalf of subgrant applicants for the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026 funding period. Stewart explained the different categories of grant applications that will be presented to the council: Alternatives to Detention, Court Resource Homes, Native American Programs, Racial/Ethnic Disparities, Community Based Services, and Strengthening Families. Stewart explained that there were three applicants for Alternatives to Detention. Lincoln County and Northern Hills were applying for their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding. Clay County was applying for their second year of funding. Stewart explained that there were four Court Resource Home applicants. Davison, Codington, and Brown County were applying for their 4<sup>th</sup> year of funding. Yankton County was applying for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of funding. Stewart explained that there were two Native American Program applicants Crow Creek Sioux Tribe was applying for

its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding. Oglala Lakota Behavioral Health was applying for their 4<sup>th</sup> year of funding. Stewart explained that there were five Racial/Ethnic Disparities applications. Brown County was applying for their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding. Davison, Codington, and Hughes/Stanley County were applying for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of funding. Yankton County was applying for their 1<sup>st</sup> year of funding. Stewart explained that there were two Strengthening Families applicants, but that both were Lutheran Social Services (LSS). LSS in Sioux Falls was applying for their 3<sup>rd</sup> year while LSS in Pennington County was applying for their 1<sup>st</sup> year of funding. Stewart explained that there were three Community Based Services Applications. New Hope Worship Center, LSS in Pennington County, and the Sioux Falls Boys & Girls Club. All three were applying for their 1<sup>st</sup> year of funding.

9. DOC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING SFY 2025 SUBGRANT APPLICATIONS

DOC staff recommended funding for the Clay County Alternatives to Detention application as written for \$75,000.

***Sheriff Howell moved to approve the Clay County Alternatives to Detention application as written for \$75,000. Sara McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Judge Bern abstaining and Amy Witt excused.***

DOC staff recommended approving the Northern Hills Alternatives to Detention application at \$128,672 after reducing travel for out of state conferences by \$1,328.

***Judge Bern moved to approve the Northern Hills Alternatives to Detention application at \$128,672, Chuck Frieberg. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt excused.***

DOC staff recommended approving the Lincoln County Alternatives to Detention application at \$91,522.

***Cindy Heiberger moved to approve the Lincoln County Alternatives to Detention application at \$91,522. Chief McNeil seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Chuck Freiberg abstaining from action and discussion and Amy Witt excused.***

DOC staff recommended denying the Codington County Court Resource Home application as written for \$22,860.

***Cindy Heiberger moved to deny the Codington County Court Resource Home application as written for \$22,860. Eric Anderson seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Sheriff Howell abstaining from action and discussion and Amy Witt excused.***

DOC staff recommended denying the Brown County Court Resource Home application as written for \$30,000.

***Angela Lisburg moved to deny the Brown County Court Resource Home application as written for \$30,000. Sara McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Chief McNeil abstaining from action and discussion and Amy Witt excused.***

DOC staff recommended denying the Davison County Court Resource Home application as written for \$30,000.

***Sheriff Howell moved to deny the Davison County Court Resource Home application as written for \$30,000. Eric Anderson seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt excused.***

DOC staff recommended approving the Yankton County Court Resource Home application as written for \$25,564.62.

***Daniel Haggard moved to approve the Yankton County Court Resource Home application as written for \$252,564.62. Chief McNeil seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt excused.***

DOC recommended approving the Crow Creek Native American program application as written for \$30,000.

***Judge Bern moved to approve the Crow Creek Native American program application as written for \$30,000, Chief Judge Burns seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

DOC recommended approving the Oglala Lakota Native American program application as written for \$105,706.

***Chuck Freiberg moved to approve the Oglala Lakota Native American program application as written for \$105,706, Judge Bern seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

DOC recommended approving the Codington County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$17,704, a reduced amount of \$2,000 by having one person attend the R/ED conference instead of two.

***Sara McGregor-Okroi moved to approve the Codington County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$24,956.40, Chief McNeil seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Sherriff Brad Howell abstaining from discussion and action.***

DOC recommended approving the Yankton County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$17,425.49 a reduced amount of \$2,500 by having one person attend the R/ED conference instead of two.

***Chief McNeil moved to approve the Yankton County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$17,425.49, Chief Judge Burns seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

DOC recommended approving the Davison County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$30,000.

***Sheriff Howell moved to approve the Davison County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$30,000, Cindy Heiberger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

DOC recommended approving the Brown County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$22,050 a reduced amount of \$2,050 by having one person attend the R/ED conference instead of two.

***Chuck Freiberg moved to approve the Brown County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$22,050, Judge Bern seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Chief McNeil abstaining from discussion and action.***

DOC recommended approving the Hughes/Stanley County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$17,500 a reduced amount of \$2,500 by having one person attend the R/ED conference instead of two.

***Sara McGregor-Okroi moved to approve the Hughes/Stanley County Racial/Ethnic disparities application at \$17,500, Chief McNeil seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Jamin McGray abstaining from discussion and action.***

DOC staff recommended approving the Lutheran Social Services Sioux Falls application for \$89,505.10. This is a reduction from the submitted amount of \$93,788 after lowering the indirect costs to approximately \$7,164.10 and removing the \$1,500 for occupancy. Daniel Haggar highlighted the performance measures and the positive results that the program is producing.

***Judge Bern moved to approve the Lutheran Social Services Sioux Falls application at \$89,505.10, Sheriff Howell seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt and Eric Anderson abstaining from discussion and action.***

DOC staff recommended approving the Lutheran Social Services Rapid City application for \$44,299.20. This is a reduction from the submitted amount of \$45,549 after lowering the indirect costs to approximately \$3,727.20

***Chief McNeil moved to approve the Lutheran Social Services Sioux Falls application at \$44,299.20, Chuck Freiberg. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt and Eric Anderson abstaining from discussion and action.***

DOC staff recommended denying the Hew Hope Worship Center application as written for \$82,000.

***Daniel Haggar moved to deny the New Hope Worship Center application as written for \$82,000. Angla Lisburg seconded.***

DOC staff recommended denying the Hew Hope Worship Center application as written for \$82,000.

***Daniel Haggar moved to deny the New Hope Worship Center application as written for \$82,000. Angla Lisburg seconded.***

Daniel Haggar voiced support for the Sioux Falls Boys and Girls Club expanding their services, but also expressed concern about the Minnehaha County's Diversion Coordinator job being impacted and diversion coordinators/programs competing with each other. Judge Bern inquired about Minnehaha County utilizing the position at the Boys and Girls Club. Haggar explained that the services would be utilized, but not to replace the Minnehaha County Diversion Coordinator position. Chief McNeil asked if taking action on the application was time sensitive. Haggar expressed his willingness to work with the Boys and Girls Club to get clarity. Kristi Bunkers spoke requesting input from Bridget Coppersmith on what protocol would be given

previous precedents. Coppersmith explained that the council could vote to defer action to the Executive Team at a later date. Coppersmith explained that the program would just have a shorter funding period in order to be kept in the same state fiscal year period. Haggar requested a month to coordinate things and have more clarity for the application to be presented again to the Executive Team.

***Chief McNeil moved to defer the Sioux Falls Boys and Girls Club application to the Executive Team on or after July 14<sup>th</sup>. Cindy Heiberger seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Daniel Haggar abstaining from action.***

DOC staff recommended approving the Lutheran Social Services Rapid City application for JDAI Coordination \$40,227. This is a reduction from the submitted amount of \$74,499 by lowering indirect costs to approximately \$3,657 and removing the costs for the Court Expeditor and Data Specialist positions.

***Sara McGregor-Okroi to approve the Lutheran Social Services Rapid City JDAI Coordination application at \$40,227, Chief McNeil seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt abstaining from discussion and action and Chief Judge Burns excused.***

## 10. STATUS REPORT

***DOC Updates:*** John Stewart reported that DOC has done some restructuring, and the Juvenile Justice Specialist, Compliance Monitor, and R/ED Coordinator duties are under the Juvenile Justice Specialist position now, occupied by John Stewart. Kristi Bunkers will continue to oversee the works as the Director of Juvenile Services.

***Budget:*** Stewart reported that South Dakota is still spending previous year's awards, mostly the 2022 award. Stewart noted that the FY2024 budget was recently approved by OJJDP for \$622,829 after fulfilling the SAG member requirements. Stewart noted that CJJ membership dues were paid using the SAG funds, R/ED line item is used for DOC staff costs working on R/ED efforts, Compliance line item is used for DOC staff efforts working on compliance.

***OJJDP Updates:*** Stewart shared that CYJT/CCAS/AIR had their TTA contract terminated with OJJDP. No new TTA provider has been named. Stewart shared that the Compliance Monitoring Tool is open, and DOC is working to submit compliance and

R/ED data to OJJDP by the July 8<sup>th</sup> deadline. Stewart gave a recap of the CJJ conference in Washington D.C. noting that there were more sessions highlighting Native American alternatives to detention and behavioral health efforts.

*Compliance:* Stewart outlined that there are 5 potential DSO violations and 1 potential jail removal violation. Surveys were sent out to law enforcement facilities to identify facilities that have security features that may cause the facility to be reclassified. Stewart noted the increase in reporting facilities due to reclassifications. Stewart noted that two of the violations were related to youth being held for behavioral health concerns. SDCL defines youth in this situation as a status offense and OJJDP confirmed they should be counted as violations. Stewart noted that one violation was due to a youth being held on charges from multiple counties with one county dropping the delinquent charges, but the other maintaining the status offense charges. Since the facility was not notified until after 24 hours of dropping the delinquent charges, a violation had to be reported. Stewart reported that the last two potential violations were the result of being sentenced to detention for more than 24 hours on status offenses. All potential violations have been addressed with the facilities and other personnel as appropriate. Chair O'Toole asked what it would take for South Dakota to be out of compliance. Stewart responded that 8 DSO violations would potentially put South Dakota out of compliance and could cost South Dakota 20% of future Title II funding. Stewart explained that the Mitchell PD, Sioux Falls PD, Yankton PD Sisseton PD, Butte County SO, Sanborn County SO, Potter County SO, Stanley County SO, Kingsbury County SO, Bennett County SO, Hutchinson County SO, and Tea PD were reclassified to secure lockups. Lawrence County Courthouse is classified as a Court Holding Facility.

## 11. JUVENILE JUSTICE UPDATES

Cindy Heiberger shared that the Juvenile Justice Center in Sioux Falls will be moving in October. Invitations will be sent to invite people to tour the facility. The youth housing units are phase one. Phase two involves tearing down the old JDC and building the rest of the new

building. Groundbreaking has begun for the new Minnehaha County Juvenile Detention Center. The juvenile housing is anticipated to be complete by summer 2025.

Council members expressed gratitude and excitement about the number of and variety of grants that were approved for FY2025 and reflected on how much improvement there has been to South Dakota's juvenile justice system in the last 14 years.

## 12. JUVENILE JUSTICE UPDATES

An executive meeting will be scheduled on or after July 14<sup>th</sup>. A full council meeting will be scheduled in the fall with exact date and location to be determined.

***At 11:44 AM, Cindy Heiberger moved to adjourn, Sara McGregor-Okroi seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

*Recorded by John Stewart, Juvenile Justice Specialist*

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