

Meeting Minutes DRAFT

South Dakota Council of Juvenile Services

June 25, 2026

Teams Video Conference

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Council of Juvenile Services Members Present: Beth O'Toole, Chair and Professor at the University of Sioux Falls; ; Eric Anderson, Department of Corrections Interim Director of Juvenile Services; 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; Ruth Burns, SWO Prosecutor; Becky Rasmussen, Direct of Call to Freedom; Doug Hermrmann, Executive Director of the Club for Boys; Angela Lisberg, Avera St. Mary's Central South Dakota Child Assessment Center; Amy Witt, Chief Program Officer Lutheran Social Services; Cassidy Frederick, Youth Member; Skylir Skipper, Youth Member; and Jamin McGray, Youth Member,

Council of Juvenile Services Members Absent: Sara McGregor Okroi, Vice Chair and Director of Aliive Roberts County; Melanie Boetel, DSS Division of Behavioral Health Director; Dadra Avery, Sturgis Brown High School Counselor; Daniel Haggar, Minnehaha County State's Attorney; Dave McNeil, former City of Aberdeen Police Chief; and Julian Woodward, Youth Member.

State Agency Staff Support: John Stewart, Bridget Coppersmith, and Brittnei Skipper, South Dakota Department of Corrections (DOC)

Others Present : Michelle Worden, Department of Social Services

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Beth O'Toole called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM on June 25, 2026. John Stewart took roll call and quorum was validated by Stewart at this time.

2. Open Meeting Law annual review

Stewart discussed the annual review of the open meeting laws and the Attorney General's explanation and asked if members had any questions. No questions were asked.

3. 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.

4. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Stewart identified the following conflicts of interest:

Sheriff Brad Howell – Codington County application
Amy Witt– Lutheran Social Services applications.
Eric Anderson – Strengthening Families applications.
Judge Tami Bern – Clay County/Vermillion Boys & Girls Club application
Charles Frieberg – any applications involving a JDAI site.

5. APPROVAL OF JUNE 12, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Chair O'Toole provided an overview of the June 12, 2025 meeting minutes.

Judge Bern moved to approve the June 12, 2025, meeting minutes; Cindy Heiberger seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

6. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 30, 2025 EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETING MINUTES

Chair O'Toole provided an overview of the July 30, 2025, Executive Team Meeting Minutes.

Amy Witt moved to approve the July 30, 2025, meeting minutes; Chuck Frieberg seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

7. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 29, 2026 EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETING MINUTES

Chair O'Toole provided an overview of the April, 29, 2026, Executive Team Meeting Minutes.

Judge Bern moved to approve the April 29, 2026, meeting minutes; Amy Witt seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

8. REAPPOINTMENT AND NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Stewart stated that there are no new members since the last meeting. Some council members are coming due for reappointment and would be contacted about the reappointment procedures.

9. STATE FISCAL YEAR (SFY) 2027 SUBGRANT APPLICATIONS

Stewart presented application overviews on behalf of subgrant applicants for the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027 funding period. Stewart explained that due to the FY2025 Title II award being delayed and change in UJS staffing as it pertained to the diversion programs, no new applicants had applied. All grant applications were returning applicants continuing the programs that had been approved last year.

Alternatives to Detention: Clay County Boys & Girls Club applied for a third year of funding for \$75,000 to continue the diversion efforts in Clay and Union County.

Alternatives to Detention: Lutheran Social Services in Rapid City applied for a second year of funding for \$53,573 to continue JDAI efforts at the ARISE West campus.

Alternatives to Detention: Lincoln County State's Attorney's Office applied for a fourth year of funding for \$52,500 to continue the diversion efforts for Lincoln County.

Alternatives to Detention: Northern Hills Diversion applied for a fourth year of funding for \$52,500 to continue diversion efforts in Butte, Meade, and Lawrence County. Funding will be used for diversion coordinator salary.

Alternatives to Detention: Sioux Empire Boys & Girls Club applied for a second year of funding for \$89,128.12 to continue to diversion efforts in collaboration with Minnehaha County. Stewart recommended removing some out of state travel expenses.

Native American Programs: Crow Creek applied for a fourth year of funding for \$30,000 to continue operating the tribal wellness court to help youth and their families.

Native American Programs: Oglala Lakota applied for fifth year of funding for \$95,754 to continue diversion efforts in Bennett County and within the Ogalala Lakota tribe. Program will operate under the Oglala Lakota Housing Authority instead of the Ogalala Lakota Behavioral Health.

Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities: Codington County Boys & Girls Club applied for a third year of funding \$19,450 to continue their efforts working with the Native American youth through the use of cultural advisors and Native American culture events.

Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities: Davison County State's Attorney's Office applied for a third year of funding at \$19,945 to continue efforts working with the Native American youth through Thrive Tribe. Stewart recommended removing some equipment purchase expenses.

Strengthening Families: Sioux Falls Lutheran Social Services applied for \$66,481.60 to continue the Strengthening Families program in Sioux Falls. This program supports DOC referred youth and their family.

Strengthening Families: Rapid City Lutheran Social Services applied for \$45,425.35 to continue the Strengthening Families program in Rapid City. Program is in its second year and still working to get everything established.

Discussion ensued following Stewart's presentation.

10. APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

DOC staff recommended approving the Clay County Boys & Girls Club Alternatives to Detention application at \$75,000.

Becky Rasmussen moved to approve the Clay County Alternatives to Detention application as written for \$75,000. Cindy Heiberger, seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Judge Bern and Chuck Frieberg abstaining from discussion and action.

DOC staff recommended approving the Lutheran Social Services JDAI Alternatives to Detention application for \$53,573.

Sheriff Howell moved to approve the Lutheran Social Services JDAI Alternatives to Detention application at \$53,573, Doug Herrmann. Motion carried unanimously with Chuck Frieberg abstaining from discussion and action.

DOC staff recommended approving the Lincoln County Alternatives to Detention application at \$52,500.

Amy Witt moved to approve the Lincoln County Alternatives to Detention application at \$52,500. Becky Rasmussen seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Chuck Frieberg abstaining from discussion and action.

DOC staff recommended approving the Northern Hills Diversion Alternatives to Detention application at \$52,500.

Eric Anderson moved to approve the Northern Hills Diversion Alternatives to Detention application for \$52,500. Doug Herrmann seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Chuck Frieberg abstaining from discussion and action.

DOC staff recommended approving the Sioux Empire Boys & Girls Club Alternatives to Detention application for \$85,500.12.

Angela Lisburg moved to approve the Sioux Empire Boys & Girls Club Alternatives to Detention application for \$85,500.12. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Chuck Frieberg moved to approve the Crow Creek Native American program application as written for \$30,000, Becky Rasmussen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DOC recommended approving the Oglala Lakota Native American program application as written for \$95,754.

Cindy Heiberger moved to approve the Oglala Lakota Native American program application as written for \$95,754, Ruth Burns seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DOC staff recommended approving the Codington County Boys & Girls Club Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities application for \$19,450.

Amy Witt moved to approve the Codington County Boys & Girls Club Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities application for \$19,450. Cassidy Frederick seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Sheriff Howell abstaining from discussion and action.

DOC staff recommended approving the Davison County State's Attorney's Office Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities application for \$18,845. Some equipment items were recommended to be removed from the submitted application.

Doug Herrmann moved to approve the Davison County State's Attorney's Office Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities application for \$18,845. Amy Witt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DOC staff recommended approving the Lutheran Social Services Sioux Falls Strengthening Families application for \$66,481.60

Angela Lisburg moved to approve the Lutheran Social Services Sioux Falls Strengthening Families application at \$66,481.60, Chuck Frieberg 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 Strengthening Families application for \$45,425

Doug Herrmann moved to approve the Lutheran Social Services Rapid City Strengthening Families application at \$45,425, Becy Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously with Amy Witt and Eric Anderson abstaining from discussion and action.

11. STATUS REPORT

Budget: Stewart reported that South Dakota is still spending in the FY2023 and FY2024 award. Stewart noted that the FY2025 award application was submitted, but has not been approved by OJJDP. Based on recent communication, no state has had their application approved by OJJDP.

Compliance: Stewart outlined that there are 7 potential DSO violations and 2 potential jail removal violations in FY2025. Stewart mentioned working with OJJDP to

get clarification on some of them and that the number could be reduced depending on their response. Stewart noted that there are 3 potential DSO violations and 1 potential Jail Removal violation for FY2026.

DOC Updates: Stewart reported that Kristi Bunkers has transitioned to the Unified Judicial System. Eric Anderson has been serving as the interim director. Tony Kozojed will start as the new director on August 24, 2026.

Other Updates: Stewart shared that the diversion fiscal incentive program starts July 1, 2026. Chuck Frieberg gave an update on the UJS restructure and noted he will not be working with the juvenile services side of UJS anymore and may no longer be on the council once the restructuring is complete.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date and time is to be determined but will be after Tony Kozojed has started so he can be introduced to the council.

At 4:37 PM, Becky Rasmussen moved to adjourn, Cassidy Frederick seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by John Stewart, Juvenile Justice Specialist