
Supervised Release Board Meeting Minutes

When: Tuesday, July 29, 2025
11:15am – 4:30pm

Where: Minn. Department of Corrections – Afton Room (Rm. 135) – ETC Building (West Entrance)
1450 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55108

Minutes prepared by: Aubrey Steckelberg

Call to Order & Roll Call

- ☒ Chair Commissioner Paul Schnell
- ☒ Member Christine Bray
- ☒ Member Jo Earhart
- ☒ Member Andrew Larson
- ☒ Member Sheryl Ramstad

Present only for Juvenile Offense Reviews:

- ☒ Juvenile Expert Member Jody Nelson
- ☒ Juvenile Expert Member Donald Streufert

Others Present: Andrew Karlsen, Assistant Director of Hearings and Release, Aubrey Steckelberg, Executive Assistant Hearings and Release

Review of Individuals

Quorum requirement met: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 members for non-Juvenile Offense cases

NAME	ID #	Type of Review
Gary Cooper	185978	3-year continuance
Motion by Commissioner Paul Schnell, 2 nd by Christine Bray: Deny parole, continue 2 years. Directives include remain discipline free, participate and/or continue involvement in long term offender group, engage more in restorative justice, potentially explore option of meeting with the victim survivors to gain insight (VOD) if they would want to participate, continue to work on comprehensive release plan, engage with behavioral health/mental health and/or psychological staff, continue working on sobriety, and increase support network.		

Chair Commissioner Paul Schnell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Christine Bray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Jo Earhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Andrew Larson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Sheryl Ramstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Jody Nelson	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
Juvenile Expert Member Donald Streufert	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

Motion prevails

Quorum requirement met: ☒ Yes ☐ No 4 members for Juv. Offense cases incl. 1 juvenile expert member

Donquarius Copeland 243219 Initial Juvenile Offense Case (JOC) Review – Non-life sentence

Motion by Christine Bray, 2nd by Jo Earhart: Deny parole, continue 2 years. Directives include remain discipline free, continue education endeavors, goal of working towards OPH program completions.

Chair Commissioner Paul Schnell	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Member Christine Bray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Jo Earhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Andrew Larson	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Member Sheryl Ramstad	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Jody Nelson	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Donald Streufert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion does not prevail

2nd Motion by Sheryl Ramstad, 2nd by Jo Earhart: Deny parole, continue 3 years. Directives same as previously determined by first motion.

Chair Commissioner Paul Schnell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Christine Bray	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Member Jo Earhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Andrew Larson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Sheryl Ramstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Jody Nelson	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Donald Streufert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion prevails

Ryan Pederson 200862 JOC – Life Sentence – 17-month continuance

Motion by Jo Earhart, 2nd by Christine Bray: Deny parole, continue 1 year. Directives include remain discipline free, continue to Work Release/step down and comply with Work Release conditions, participate in couples therapy as available.

Chair Commissioner Paul Schnell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Christine Bray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Jo Earhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Andrew Larson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Sheryl Ramstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Jody Nelson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Donald Streufert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion prevails

Luis Alford 222620 JOC – Non-life sentence – 18-month continuance

Motion by Christine Bray, 2nd by Sheryl Ramstad: Deny parole, continue at Work Release until original confinement release date (CRD) of March 30, 2026. Directives include remain discipline free, find mental health supports and an AA group.

Chair Commissioner Paul Schnell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Christine Bray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Jo Earhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Andrew Larson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Member Sheryl Ramstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Jody Nelson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile Expert Member Donald Streufert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion prevails

Public Comment – No public comments

New Business:

1. No new business

Action Items:

1. Motion to approve July 11, 2025, meeting minutes. Approved

Next Supervised Release Board Meeting: Friday, August 29, 2025, 11:15am-4:30pm,
Minn. Department of Corrections – Afton Room (Rm. 135) – ETC Building (West Entrance) 1450 Energy
Park Drive, St. Paul, MN 55108

Adjournment

Look for updates, minutes and upcoming agenda on the MN Dept of Corrections public website:
<https://mn.gov/doc/about/supervised-release-board/lifer-schedule/>