

Interim Committee Minutes

Government Operations and Audit Committee

The third interim meeting of the Government Operations and Audit Committee was called to order by Representative Marty Overweg at 9:00 AM on September 8, 2026, in Room 412 of the State Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota.

A quorum was determined with the following members answering roll call: Rep. Auch, Rep. Emery (remote), Rep. Lems (remote), Rep. Moore, Rep. Overweg, Sen. Grove, Sen. Howard, Sen. Karr (remote), and Sen. Otten. Sen. Foster was excused.

Staff members present included Mitch Honan, Senior Fiscal Analyst; Jacob Carlson, Senior Research Analyst; and Kaitlyn Baucom, Administrative Specialist.

NOTE: For the purpose of continuity, the following minutes are not necessarily in chronological order. All referenced documents distributed at the meeting are hyperlinked to the document on the Legislative Research Council website. This meeting was live streamed. Each section contains a hyperlink to the time stamp pertaining to that item in the archived live stream available at sdlegislature.gov.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Ernie Otten moved, seconded by Representative Julie Auch, to approve the minutes of the [July 21, 2026](#), Government Operations and Audit Committee meeting. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. [\(1:06\)](#)

Performance Management Reviews

Darin Seeley, Bureau of Human Resources and Administration; shared the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration's performance measures and proposed changes and answered questions from the committee. [2. BHRA Performance Measures FY26](#) [2. BHRA Performance Measures FY26 proposed changes](#) [\(2:09\)](#)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Representative Julie Auch, to acknowledge receipt of the performance management report submitted by the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration pursuant to SDCL 2-6-37. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. [\(1:06:41\)](#)

Michael Houdyshell, Department of Revenue; and Toni Richardson, Department of Revenue; shared the Department of Revenue's performance measures and a presentation and answered questions from the committee. [2. DoR Performance Measures FY26](#) [2. DoR Performance Measures slides](#) [\(1:08:01\)](#)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Representative Julie Auch, to acknowledge receipt of the performance management report submitted by the Department of Revenue pursuant to SDCL 2-6-37. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. [\(2:12:17\)](#)

Representative Julie Auch moved, seconded by Senator Taffy Howard, to strike Goal 4, Measure IV as a performance metric from the report for future use. The motion prevailed on a roll call vote with 7 AYES, 2 NAYS, and 1 EXCUSED. Voting AYE: Sen. Grove, Sen. Karr, Rep. Auch, Rep. Lems, Rep. Moore, Sen. Howard, and Rep. Overweg. Voting NAY: Sen. Otten, and Rep. Emery. Excused: Sen. Foster. [\(2:12:45\)](#)

Matt Althoff, Department of Social Services; shared the Department of Social Services' performance measures and a presentation and answered questions from the committee. [2. DSS Performance Measures FY26](#) [2. DSS Performance Measures slides](#) [\(2:15:28\)](#)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Senator Ernie Otten, to acknowledge receipt of the performance management report submitted by the Department of Social Services pursuant to SDCL 2-6-37. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. [\(3:03:30\)](#)

Report From the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration on Compiled Authorizations to Derive a Direct Benefit from a Contract

Gregg Engler, Bureau of Human Resources and Administration; shared the report from the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration on compiled authorizations to derive a direct benefit from a contract and answered questions from the committee. [3. BHRA COI Waiver Annual Report FY26 \(3:04:38\)](#)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Senator Ernie Otten, to receive and accept the report from the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration on compiled authorizations to derive a direct benefit from a contract pursuant to SDCL 5-18A-17.2. The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

Annual Report from the Obligation Recovery Center

Jason Kettwig, Bureau of Human Resources and Administration, Obligation Recovery Center; shared the annual report from the Obligation Recovery Center and answered questions from the committee. [4. BHRA Obligation Recovery Center FY2026 Report Presentation \(3:14:28\)](#)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Representative Julie Auch, to acknowledge receipt of the report from the Bureau of Human Resources and Administration on the Obligation Recovery Center pursuant to SDCL 1-55-16. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. (3:39:16)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Senator Ernie Otten, to go into Executive Session. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. (3:43:03)

Annual Report on Complaints from Youth in State Custody

The Government Operations and Audit Committee went into executive session at 1:15 PM. [\(3:43:20\)](#)

Marianna Pavlis, MWI Health; and Julie Johnson Dresbach, MWI Health; shared the annual report on complaints from youth in state custody and answered questions from the committee.

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Senator Ernie Otten, to come out of Executive Session. The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

The Government Operations and Audit Committee came out of executive session at 1:28 PM. [\(3:43:29\)](#)

Senator Taffy Howard moved, seconded by Representative Julie Auch, to acknowledge receipt of the annual report on complaints from youth in state custody submitted by the Department of Social Services pursuant to SDCL 26-6-52(5). The motion prevailed on a voice vote. (3:43:34)

Annual Report from the Public Integrity Unit

Brent Kempema, Office of the Attorney General; shared the annual report from the Public Integrity Unit and answered questions from the committee. [6. ATG Public Integrity Report 2025 \(3:44:36\)](#)

Representative Scott Moore moved, seconded by Senator Ernie Otten, to accept the annual report from the Public Integrity Unit pursuant to SDCL 3-6C-31. The motion prevailed on a roll call vote with 6 AYES, 3 NAYS, and 1 EXCUSED. Voting AYE: Sen. Karr, Sen. Otten, Rep. Emery, Rep. Lems, Rep. Moore, and Rep. Overweg. Voting NAY: Sen. Grove, Rep. Auch, and Sen. Howard. Excused: Sen. Foster. (4:24:41)

Public Comments

The following individuals offered public comments: [\(4:26:34\)](#)

Chad Bishop, Self
Renae Randall, Self
Julie Burgod, Self

Adjournment

Senator Ernie Otten moved, seconded by Senator Taffy Howard, that the Government Operations and Audit Committee be adjourned. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. [\(4:46:28\)](#)

The Government Operations and Audit Committee adjourned at 2:31 PM.