



LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Friday, September 4, 2026

3:30pm

Lincoln County Commission Chambers
Canton, SD

Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes of August 2026 Organizational Meeting

5. Public Defender Position – Job Description and Qualifications

- Discussion of proposed:
 - Position summary;
 - Duties and responsibilities;
 - Minimum qualifications;
 - Preferred qualifications and experience;
 - Leadership, management, and supervisory responsibilities;
 - Direct representation and caseload responsibilities;
 - Budget and administrative responsibilities; and
 - Professional independence and responsibility for operation of the Public Defender Office.
- Review of Minnehaha County Public Defender job description.
- Review of Pennington County Public Defender job description.
- Review and compare Lincoln County Human Resources draft Public Defender job description.
- Consideration of revisions to proposed job description.
- Possible action regarding recommendation of Public Defender job description and qualifications to the Lincoln County Commission.

6. Public Defender Compensation and Benefits

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- Discussion of appropriate salary or salary range for Public Defender.
 - Review of material from HR for office structure and compensation for Minnehaha, Lincoln and Pennington Counties
- Review of comparable positions and compensation.
- Review of County benefits applicable to the position.
- Discussion of compensation appropriate to recruit and retain qualified candidates.
- Possible action regarding recommendation to the Lincoln County Commission concerning Public Defender salary and benefits.

7. Public Defender Office – Preliminary Staffing and 2027 Budget Recommendations

- Review of proposed Public Defender Office budget.
- Discussion of anticipated initial staffing needs, including assistant public defenders and administrative/support personnel.
- Discussion of preliminary salary and benefit assumptions for anticipated personnel.
- Possible action regarding recommendations to the Lincoln County Commission concerning the 2027 Public Defender Office budget.

8. Public Defender Recruitment and Appointment Timeline

- Discussion of anticipated recruitment and selection schedule.
- Target of appointment of Public Defender before December 31, 2026.
- Target commencement date of January 1, 2027.
- Coordination with Lincoln County Human Resources concerning advertising and receipt of applications.
- Discussion of matters to be addressed at October 6 and November 10 meetings.
- Possible action regarding recruitment timeline and process.

9. Future Meetings

- October 6, 2026 @ 4:00 pm.
- November 10, 2026 @ 4:00 pm.
- Additional meeting(s), if necessary, for interviews, selection, or other Public Defender Office matters.

10. Public Comment

11. Adjournment

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