

CAPITOL COMPLEX RESTORATION AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting
Wednesday, August 20, 2025
10:00 A.M. (CT)

Commissioners present in person: Chair Tim Engel, David Gilbertson, Laurie Gill, Mayor Steve Harding, and Carla Bachand. Senator Chris Karr was excused.

Commissioners present via an internet application: Patricia Miller, Tom Hurlbert, and Val Simpson. Representative Jon Hansen joined the meeting at 10:37 a.m. and was not present for the action items.

Others present in person: Bureau of Human Resources and Administration (BHRA) Deputy Commissioner, Jason Kettwig; BHRA Special Projects Coordinator, Leah Haugan; BHRA Legal Counsel, Mallori Barnett; BHRA Deputy State Engineer, Kristine Day; BHRA Buildings and Grounds Director, Brent Gill; BHRA Executive Assistant, Rick Augusztin, Recording Secretary, Game, Fish, & Parks Secretary, Kevin Robling; President of Trail of Governors Foundation, Rick Jensen; Co-Founder of Trail of Governors Foundation, Leroy Foster; and Zach Nelson with KCCR Radio.

Others present via an internet application: Bureau of Human Resources and Administration (BHRA) Commissioner, Darin Seeley.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Engel called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., roll was taken, and a quorum was present.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Chairman Engel asked if any Commissioners had a conflict of interest related to any matter under consideration during the meeting. Commissioner Pat Miller disclosed her affiliation with the Trail of Governors Foundation as a member.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Gilbertson moved to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Harding. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Bachand moved to approve the draft minutes from the April 16, 2025, meeting as presented, seconded by Commissioner Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

Introduce New Members

Chairman Engel announced Senator Chris Karr (absent) has replaced Senator Helene Duhamel as a member of the Commission and introduced Val Simpson who replaced Peggy Stout. Commissioner Simpson briefly introduced herself to the Commission.

GFP Youth Urban Fishing Program

Leah Haugan introduced Secretary Kevin Robling to present an Urban Youth Fishing Program sponsored by SD Game, Fish, & Parks (GFP) which would allow folks with a valid South Dakota Fishing Permit along with their minor children to fish in Capitol Lake at designated locations. The purpose of this program is to encourage the younger generation to spend time outdoors and to promote fishing. Commissioner Gilbertson moved to approve the proposed Urban Youth Fishing Program as presented, seconded by Mayor Harding. The motion carried unanimously.

Governor Noem Statue Location, Trail of Governors

Leah Haugan introduced Rick Jensen, President of the Trail of Governors Foundation to propose a location for Governor Noem's bronze statue on the State Capitol Complex at the Church Street entrance to Hilger's Gulch. The statue will be unveiled in June of 2026. Commissioner Gill moved to approve the location as proposed, seconded by Mayor Harding. The motion passed unanimously.

Capitol Complex Project Updates (Informational)

Leah Haugan introduced Deputy State Engineer, Kristine Day, who gave an update the Commission on ongoing projects on campus as follows:

- a. Capitol Restoration
- b. Health Lab Addition

Commissioner Miller inquired about the Governor's Residence roof and siding project which was approved at the April meeting. Ms. Day informed the commissioners that the residence project has been postponed due to a higher priority HVAC issue in the Capitol.

Public Comments

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Gilbertson moved to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Harding. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

UNAPPROVED