

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
CO-OP Architecture  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
July 14, 2023**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees was called to order at 8:09 a.m. by President Tom Hurlbert in the CO-OP Architecture Office, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A quorum was present.

**Board members present in the CO-OP Architecture Office:**

Tom Hurlbert, John Fowler, Peggy Sanders, Billie Kingfisher Jr., David Patterson, Michelle Dennis, Lura Roti, Robert Kolbe, Brad Tennant, Jennifer Winter, Brian Sandvig

**State Historical Society Staff Present:**

Benjamin Jones, Catherine Forsch - SD Historical Foundation

**State Historical Society Staff Present via TEAMS Conference Call:**

Jamie Patton, Jenna Carlson Dietmeier, Dedra Birzer, Cassie Vogt, Chelle Somsen, Liz Almlie

**Others Present via TEAMS Conference Call:**

SDPB, Dean and Candice Lockner

**Welcome and Announcements:**

President Tom Hurlbert led in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a welcome to the members of the board, staff of the South Dakota Historical Society and guests.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Winter made a motion to adopt the agenda. Sandvig seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Board Minutes:**

The April 20, 2023, minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting were emailed to the members before the meeting. **Roti made a motion to accept the minutes. Patterson seconded motion.** The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment: (SDCL 1-25-1):**

There was none.

**Reports (No Action Needed):**

- **Administration: Benjamin Jones, State Historian and State Historical Society Director**  
Jones reported on the current renovation details, the Historical Society support o K-12 History education, the South Dakota teachers Road Trip, a new South Dakota History website for parents and teachers outlined by the new standards, national America250 kickoff campaign, and familiarizes the state statutes. Jones highlighted the recent creation of the America 250 SD Commission by [Executive Order 2023-11](#).
- **Archaeology: Cassie Vogt, Interim State Archaeologist**  
Vogt reported on research, GIS requests, NAGPRA and Burial Activities, Outreach, Repository and Archives, Mining Reviews and State Land Permits, and staffing. Vogt highlighted staff updates.
- **Archives: Chelle Somsen, State Archivist**  
Somsen reported on digitization projects, Archives outreach, Archives month and quarterly statistics. Somsen highlighted the programs outreach activities.
- **Historical Society Foundation: Catherine Forsch, CEO**  
Forsch reported on the Foundation's capital campaign, the oral history project, upcoming meetings and events, and the Heritage Store.
- **Museum: David Grabitske, Assistant Society Director**  
Grabitske reported exhibitions, collections, and interpretation.
- **Preservation: Jenna Carlson Dietmeier, Interim State Historic Preservation Officer & Director of Historic Preservation**  
Dietmeier reported on staff updates, National Register and National Historic Landmark Listings, budget items, contract projects, education and outreach projects, and City of Deadwood items. Dietmeier highlighted the Preservation summer internship details, and the Deadwood support agreement. A discussion was held on the Galena Creek Schoolhouse regarding its National Register nomination.
- **Research & Publishing: Dedra McDonald-Birzer Editor-in-Chief and Publisher**  
Birzer reported on staff updates, book awards, conference attendance, 2023 book releases, monthly History Talks, the *South Dakota History* journal, and *History Notes* newsletter. Birzer highlighted two new and free audiobooks that are now available.

**State Historical Records Advisory Board Member Discussion:**

There is one open position on the State Historical Records Advisory Board. Further discussion took place and President Tom Hurlbert asked Board of Trustees members to consider the position that will need to fill within the next few weeks.

### **State and Review Board:**

At 9:08 a.m. the board began the duties of the State Review Board to evaluate the National Register Nominations presented by the State Historic Preservation Office staff.

Presented by Jenna Carlson Dietmeier

- 39HD115 in the Ree Heights vicinity, Hand County: The nomination is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Ethnic Heritage: Native American and Criterion D for Archaeology: Prehistoric and Ethnic Heritage: Native American. Its level of significance is statewide. After discussion, a **motion was made by Tennant and seconded by Fowler**. The motion carried unanimously.

Presented by Liz Almlie

- Brookman House, Vermillion, Clay County: The nomination is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its Architecture. Its level of significance is local. After discussion, a **motion was made by Roti and seconded by Winter**. After Dennis recused herself from voting, the motion carried unanimously.

The State and Review Board completed their evaluation at 9:33 a.m.

### **Executive Session:**

**A motion was made to go into executive session for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel by Sandvig and seconded by Winter.**

### **Adjournment:**

**Sandvig made the motion for Adjournment. Dennis seconded the motion.** The Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

I, Benjamin F. Jones, Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, declare that these minutes are true, and an accurate reflection of the business conducted at the July 14, 2023, meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees.

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Benjamin F. Jones, Ph.D.  
State Historian and Director  
South Dakota State Historical Society

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Jamie Patton  
Administrative Assistant  
South Dakota State Historical Society