

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
Library Commons, MacKay Building
Pierre, South Dakota
September 8, 2023**

Call to Order:

The meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Tom Hurlbert in the Library Commons of the MacKay Building, Pierre, South Dakota. A quorum was present.

Board members present in the Library Commons:

John Fowler, Peggy Sanders, Michelle Dennis, Robert Kolbe, Jennifer Winter

Board members present via TEAMS Conference Call:

Tom Hurlbert, Lura Roti, Brian Sandvig

Board members absent:

David Patterson, Billie Kingfisher Jr, Brad Tennant

State Historical Society Staff Present:

Benjamin Jones, Jamie Patton, Jenna Carlson-Dietmeier, Liz Almlie, Catherine Forsch - SD Historical Foundation, Amanda LaCroix- Department of Education

State Historical Society Staff Present via TEAMS Conference Call:

Chelle Somsen, Dedra Birzer, Katy Schmidt, Cassie Vogt

Others Present in the Library Commons:

Kenneth Hargens, Matt Snyder, Lydia Austin, Sean Blanchette

Others Present via TEAMS Conference Call:

SDPB

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

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

Approval of Board Minutes:

The July 14, 2023, minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting were mailed or posted digitally to the members before the meeting. **Roti made a motion to accept the minutes. Sanders 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, Museum Design, America 250 SD, Historical Society History Conference planning, and a Partnership with the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra partnership.
- **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 and the volunteer excavation at Ft. Meade.
- **Archives: Chelle Somsen, State Archivist**
Somsen reported on digitization projects, outreach, Archives month, personnel, and quarterly statistics. Somsen highlighted the Archives month activities that are currently planned.
- **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. Forsch additionally highlighted several collections available to adopt.
- **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 listing of the Brookman House to the historic registry on August 28 and the Oahe Chapel Pie Social Sunday, September 10.

- **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 the republishing of *Giants in the Earth* with annotations.

State and Review Board:

At 9:34 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 Liz Almlie

- Zion Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Lane, Jerauld County: The nomination is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Religion and Social History. Its level of significance is local. After discussion, a **motion was made by Fowler and seconded by Kolbe**. After Dennis recused herself from voting, the motion carried unanimously.

The State and Review Board completed their evaluation at 9:40 a.m.

Galena Creek Schoolhouse, Custer County Discussion:

Almlie from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) presented the Galena Creek Schoolhouse (Custer County) topic for discussion asking for board guidance regarding whether to remove Criterion A in the area of Education from the National Register Listing, in response to concerns of the cabin's eligibility submitted to SHPO by S.D. Game, Fish and Parks (GF&P). Prior to the meeting, correspondence on the question from GF&P and Lease holder Kenneth Hargens were mailed and posted digitally for board members. After discussion, the majority of the board supported amending the current listing to incorporate additional research while retaining the Education significance.

Museum Deaccession:

Prior to the meeting, the board was sent a draft Record of Deaccession for a buffalo hide accessioned to the permanent museum collection. The hide is used as an education piece, to allow visitors the opportunity to touch. The record stated the item will be transferred to the education collection. **A motion was made by Sanders and seconded by Winter**. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

A motion was made to go into executive session at 11:10am for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel and Interim State Historic Preservation Office Jenna Carlson-Dietmeier by Sanders and seconded by Winter. Commencing executive session, a motion was made to return to regular session at 12:20pm by Sandvig and seconded by Dennis.

Adjournment:

Sandvig made the motion for Adjournment. Kolbe seconded the motion. The Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 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.

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

Jamie Patton
Administrative Assistant
South Dakota State Historical Society

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