

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
Downtown Sioux Falls Library, Cultural Heritage Center  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
September 12, 2025**

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by President Tom Hulbert at the Downtown Sioux Falls Library, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A quorum was present.

**Board members present in the Downtown Sioux Falls Library:**

Tom Hulbert, John Fowler, Robert Kolbe, Lura Roti, Jon Lauck

**Board members present via Teams Conference Call:**

Brian Sandvig, Aaron Mayer, Katherine Molnar, Michele Christian

**Board members absent:**

David Grettler, William Pearson, Francis Whitebird

**State Historical Society Staff present:**

Benjamin F. Jones, Braeden Kluver, Katie Wasley, David Grabitske, Garry Guan

**State Historical Society Staff present via Teams Conference Call:**

Dedra Birzer, Cassie Vogt, Maddie Ferrell, Chelle Somsen

**Others present in the Downtown Sioux Falls Library:**

Diane deKoeyer, Catherine Forsch

**Others present via Teams Conference Call:**

SDPB, Amanda LaCroix, Alex Halbach

**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 Historical Society, and guests.

## **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Sandvig made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of an executive session after item nine. Kolbe seconded.** The motion carried with Hurlbert, Fowler, Christian, Kolbe, Lauck, Sandvig, Molnar, and Mayer voting yes and Roti voting no.

## **3. Approval of Board Minutes:**

The July 11, 2025, minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting were mailed and posted digitally for board members before the meeting. **Roti made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Lauck seconded.** The motion carried unanimously.

## **4. Public Comment: (SDCL 1-25-1):**

None.

## **5. State and Review Board:**

The board began the duties of the State Review Board to evaluate Nominations for the National Register of Historic Places.

### **National Register Nomination, presented by Katie Wasley:**

Effting Grocery Store, Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County: The nomination is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Commerce. The nomination had previously been tabled. Discussion centered around expanding the integrity statement, clarification added to section 7, and emphasis on the interior's description. **Lauck made a motion to approve the nomination. Roti seconded.** The motion carried unanimously.

## **6. Archaeology Deaccession**

Cassie Vogt briefed the board on the deaccession requests of two American Indian remains to comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. **Roti made a motion to approve Deaccession No. 212. Lauck seconded.** The motion passed unanimously. **Kolbe made a motion to approve Deaccession No. 213. Fowler seconded.** The motion passed unanimously.

## **7. Administrator Reports**

**Archives** – Somsen had no changes to her written report. Somsen highlighted Archives Month and the open house tour planned for October 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Archaeology** – Vogt had no changes to her written report. Vogt proposed having a large-scale tribal consultation based on NAGPRA items housed at the Archaeological Research Center in the next 12-18 months.

**Foundation** – Forsch had no changes to her written report.

**Historic Preservation** – Guan had no changes to his written report. Guan mentioned his staff receiving an award for Excellence in Historic Preservation from the Spirit of the Prairie Chapter NSDAR, his attendance at the NATHPO Annual Conference in Reno, NV, and the Pheasant Restaurant & Lounge receiving an award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

**Museum** – Grabitske had no changes to his written report. Grabitske emphasized the Museum staff's visits to local historical organizations & and the anticipated construction in the gallery.

**Research and Publishing** – Birzer had two additions to her written report. Birzer presented two new books, *Badger Clark: Poetry Wrangler* & *Halhata na thathanka / Magpie and Buffalo*. She also announced the retirement of Craig Walters and the hiring of Taylor Blummer as associate editor.

**Administration** – Jones had no changes to his written report. Jones noted and thanked the various object, academic, and language advisors who have contributed their knowledge to the new museum. Jones asked the trustees to leave 1 July open on their calendars for an opening event.

## **8. Open Meetings Laws Training Requirements**

Jones explained that, according to SB74, all state authorities, boards, commissions, committees, councils, departments, divisions, offices, officers, and task forces that must follow open meeting laws must conduct an annual review of the attorney general's open meetings laws and acknowledge completion of their review in official meeting minutes. **Roti motioned that the requirement for the open meetings laws be taken at the first meeting of each year, and that the members of the trustees come prepared to ask questions or attest that they understand their roles and responsibilities. Sandvig seconded.** The motion passed unanimously.

## **9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am Central Time / 8:00 am Mountain Time in the Jay Vogt Education Room, Cultural Heritage Center, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501.

## **10. Executive Session**

At 10:10 a.m., **Kolbe made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Fowler seconded.** The motion carried with Hurlbert, Fowler, Kolbe, Lauck, and Sandvig voting yes and Roti voting no. Executive session ended at 10:27 am

**Adjournment:**

**Fowler made the motion for Adjournment. Roti seconded the motion.** The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

I, Benjamin F. Jones, Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, declare that these minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the business conducted at the September 12, 2025, 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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Braeden Kluver  
Assistant to the State Historian  
South Dakota State Historical  
Society