



**Governor's Tourism Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday January 20, 2026, 9:00AM to 10:00AM  
Ramkota Hotel  
920 W Sioux Ave, Amphitheater 1– Pierre SD 57501**

**Board Members**

Ann Lesch  
Julie Ranum  
Carmen Schramm  
Kristie Wagner  
Frank Smith  
Ivan Sorbel  
Caleb Arceneaux  
Val Rauch  
Gwyn Wathen

**Tourism Staff**

Jim Hagen  
Cole Irwin  
Kirk Hulstein  
Katlyn Svendsen  
Mike Gussiaas  
Bailey Tysdal  
Calvin Bloemendaal  
Ciarra Forest  
Teresa Tople

President Ann Lesch called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming to the conference.

Secretary Hagen welcomed the board to Pierre and the 2026 Governor's Conference on Tourism. He shared the excellent attendee numbers and highlighted some of the special events for the week. He also shared his thoughts on the department's recent successful Rose Parade float and outreach.

Bailey Tysdal updated the board members on their schedules and assignments for the conference.

President Ann Lesch led the election of officers.

Gwyn Wathen nominated Caleb Arceneaux to be President and Valentine Rausch for Vice President. Ivan Sorbel seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Secretary Hagen welcomed Caleb Arceneaux as the new president of the board and acknowledge our new vice president, Val Rausch. He thanked the board for all their support, wished them a fun and engaging conference, and encouraged them to reach out over the next few days with questions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45AM