

SOUTH DAKOTA ARTS COUNCIL

Minutes of the May 14, 2026 Meeting

10 a.m. CDT / 9 a.m. MDT

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Archived Audio at <https://www.sd.net/>

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Joanna Lawler called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. CDT.

Council members present: Joanna Lawler, Mary Bordeaux, Sara Mulder, Dohui Kim, Missy Sinner, John Mogen, Cristen Roghair, Tim Meagher, and Jim Walker.

Council members absent: Joshua Spies, and Greg Hansen.

Staff present: Patrick Baker, Sarah Carlson, Holly Briggs, and Kate Vandel.

Guests: Jane Rasmussen; Greta Rudolph of 8 Bridges Workshop.

A quorum was established.

II. Public Comment Period

Chair Lawler called for public comments. No public comments were offered.

III. Consideration of October 9, 2025 Minutes

The October 9, 2025 meeting minutes were presented for approval.

Action: Mogen moved to approve the minutes as presented. Roghair seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dohui Kim presented the FY26 financial overview. Kim reported that the South Dakota Arts Council secured approximately \$1.16 million in federal funding, matched one-to-one by the State of South Dakota, resulting in more than \$2.3 million in combined program support.

Board discussion highlighted improved operational efficiencies, staff workload management, and strong grant accountability practices.

V. Business of the Day

A. Proposed Changes to Roster Artist Grant Programs

Greta Rudolph of 8 Bridges Workshop presented six issue briefs related to proposed structural changes to the Artists in Schools and Communities and Touring Arts programs.

Rudolph reviewed the year-long engagement process, which included surveys, listening sessions, artist interviews, and comparison research with peer state programs. Working group members included John Mogen, Sara Mulder, Jane Rasmussen, and Mary Bordeaux.

Discussion focused on improving administrative efficiency, simplifying application processes, and strengthening communication between artists and host organizations.

1. Consolidation and Renaming of Programs

The board considered a proposal to merge the Artists in Schools and Communities and Touring Arts programs into a single program titled the “Visiting Artist Program.”

Action: Bordeaux moved to approve the consolidation and renaming proposal. Mogen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Application Timing Changes

The board considered establishing twelve monthly application deadlines for the Visiting Artist Program.

Action: Meagher moved to approve the application timing proposal. Sinner seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Payment Timing Changes

The board considered changing payment procedures so host organizations would pay artists directly and seek reimbursement from SDAC.

Action: Kim moved to approve the payment timing proposal. Mulder seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Touring Arts Structural Changes

The board considered revisions requiring host organizations, rather than artists, to apply directly for Visiting Artist Program funding.

Action: Bordeaux moved to approve the structural change proposal. Meagher seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Prior Confirmation Requirement

The board considered requiring written confirmation between artists and host organizations prior to submitting applications.

Action: Mulder moved to approve the prior confirmation proposal. Roghair seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Travel Payment Changes

The board considered proposed changes to artist travel reimbursement procedures, including allowing negotiated travel costs between artists and host organizations and increasing reimbursement rates for high-poverty counties.

Action: Mogen moved to approve the travel payment proposal. Meagher seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

Board members and staff expressed appreciation to Greta Rudolph, 8 Bridges Workshop, the working group, and SDAC staff for their extensive work on the program redesign process.

VI. FY2027 Grant Panel Recommendations and Budget

A. Grant Panel Review Summary

Kate Vandel presented a summary of the FY2027 grant panel process. Panel meetings were held April 13–22, 2026.

Staff streamlined the review process by reducing the number of applications assigned to each panelist and limiting panel sizes, resulting in more focused discussion and improved panel experiences.

Vandel reminded the board that discussion centered on approving the grants budget and panel recommendations rather than discussing individual applications.

B. FY2027 Grants, Initiatives, and Special Projects Budget

Patrick Baker presented the FY2027 grants, initiatives, and special projects budget.

VII. Consideration of FY2027 SDAC Grants, Initiatives, and Special Projects Budget

Board discussion emphasized the extensive panel review process, statewide impact of grants funding, and the value of SDAC partnerships and initiatives.

Action: Walker moved to approve the FY2027 grants, initiatives, and special projects budget as presented. Bordeaux seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Reports

The following reports were included in the packet:

- A Poetry Out Loud (National Endowment for the Arts/SDAC program)
- B U.S. Congressional Art Competition
- C SDAC Traditional Arts program
- D SDAC Creative Aging program
- E Art for State Buildings
- F SDAC website
- G National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
- H Arts Midwest return on investment
- I Arts South Dakota

VIII. Calendar

Baker reviewed upcoming events and meetings

IX. Adjournment

Board members welcomed new council members Missy Sinner and Tim Meagher.

Chair Lawler adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Vandel, Recording Secretary