



Siefkes writes about her SDSU China Ag Trip



Caitlin Siefkes

Caitlin Siefkes recently returned from a trip to China with the SDSU China Ag Travel Class. The trip was May 12-25, 2014. Caitlin writes about some of her experiences as printed below:

First stop on the first complete day in China was to Pioneer headquarters. We were provided with information about Pioneer's work in China, which is only in corn. Similar to what we do here, they also use hybrid seed. But the similarities stop there. Farmers in the United States buy their seed in bulk to plant their 100-200 acre fields. In China, farmers buy bags of seed about the size of a chip bag that plant 2 mu (1/3 acres). Each bag contains roughly 8,500 seeds. The number of seeds is known because farmers will count the seeds once they have purchased a bag to make sure there are 8,500 seeds.

One-third of an acre seems tiny in the United States, but in China, it's an average size because farms are only 1-2 acres in total size.

Pioneer in China is fighting two problems: counterfeit bags and piracy. The counterfeit bags uses Pioneer's bag design, but sells a non-Pioneer seed. The pirated hybrid seeds come from a parent plant like Pioneer's seeds do, but don't have the same results as Pioneer's. The demand on corn to be used as animal feed will increase because the growing middle class demands animal protein.

One of the stops that I looked forward to was the Femur Head Hospital. Here they treat and cure femur head necrosis using traditional Chinese medicine (acupuncture, herbal medicine, tuinal massage), Qigong (exercise and meditation), cupping and steam/hot water baths. We were greeted by some of the hospital's staff, their own

photographer and videographer. We were given a tour and even able to take pictures of patients during their treatment. Some patients even took pictures of us as we were taking their picture. We were shown a presentation documenting their successful cases and told their success rate was 97 percent. A normal treatment lasts 2-3 years and costs about 40,000 yuan (Chinese currency) or \$7,000US.

The one stop that we heard many things about from the previous year's class was the meat market. We had heard what they thought of it, but actually experiencing that it was taken to a new level. The market was in the middle of the city. We went to the meat division first and was surprised at what we saw. There were rows and rows of venders that had cuts of meat either hanging from the ceiling or laying on the counter with no refrigeration and flies were everywhere. The meat stays like his from 5 a.m., when the animal is slaughtered, to as late at 6 p.m. During the morning, the price is high because the meat is fresh. Towards the end of the day, the price is cheap because the meat has been sitting outside all day. We learned this is when many people buy their meat. There was also a fish division.

I know we are grateful for the food regulations and quality control we have in the United States.

Once we got onto the bus, everyone had hand sanitizer out and using it heavily.

Board approves use of cell phones in school

Monday night's Groton School Board meeting was about policy changes. While some were introduced last month, more received their first reading last night.

The proposed changes to the Elementary student handbook, student-athlete code of conduct, the Coaches Handbook and the changes to the school's alcohol/tobacco and the marijuana/controlled substance use policies all received their second reading and approval.

First reading changes included a changed in the guidelines to using private owned passenger vehicles and using volunteer drivers to transport students. These changes were mostly in the form used and changes in the language to make it more in-line with the insurance language.

Bigger changes were made to the middle school/high school handbook. Students will now be able to use cell phones during the school day, except while classes are in session. So students can use their phones before school, after school, lunch time and between classes. This is a change from the no cell phone policy of the past. The policy includes all forms of electronic devices not school sanctioned.

Another major change to the handbook is the requirement that the school be given a 24 hour notice by the parents if a student will be dismissed to attend an extra-curricular event. In the past the office has been flooded with phone calls at the last minute asking to dismiss students to go watch an event, such as the elementary Christmas concert or a soccer game.

All the Groton School District policies are now online at the district website: www.grotonarea.com. Just click on the "Board of Education" tab and then look under the "District Policy Manual" link. Most of the policies are listed; a few are still being formatted and will be available soon.

Also new to the website is a link to non-athletic events on the R-school online calendar. This calendar allows for notifications if events are changed or rescheduled. The link should appear on the home page of the website or go to www.northeastdsconference.com and click on Groton Area High School.

Board members approved the adoption of the Charlotte Danielson Framework for doing teacher evaluations. Groton has been part of a pilot program for the last year and will now use the program for the next school year with a few modifications. Instead of doing formal evaluations every year, teachers will be split into two groups, with different requirements. One year will be the formal evaluation while the other year will be more of a showcase to prove what was done in the classroom.

Monday's meeting marked the end of the fiscal year for the school district and Business Manager Mike Weber requested some contingency fund transfers to cover some end of the year funds. Approval was granted to transfer \$1,850 to the RtI fund from the general fund to cover some changes in salaries. Approval was also granted in the transfer \$4,150 within the capital outlay budget to different accounts within building and special needs accounts.

Weber reported that all the schools accounts were healthy. He also stated that local revenue will soon eliminate the need for state aid. It was projected that the school will no longer receive state aid sometime next year.

In other business: The school district locked in their Natural Gas price for the next year at 58 cents/therm and accepted the quotes from Duane's for the school district's fuel needs and the Groton Independent to be the official school newspaper.

Alexa Schuring was hired as a volunteer assistant volleyball coach for the next school year and approval was given for an open enrollment for a junior kindergartener.

The board also saw a presentation by the robotics program at the beginning of the meeting. This will be the third year that Groton has participated in the robotics program. The program now has two teams, a varsity and a junior varsity. The teams begin with a starter kit that contains various pieces and the students then must design and program the robot to perform the stated objectives. The objectives change from year to year. This year they are required to place objects at different levels.

Groton High School has been chosen as the host site for northeastern South Dakota and will be hosting competitions for other schools this coming school year in preparation for the state competition.

The board moved into executive session to discuss personnel and contracted issues.

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Groton holds Triathlon

Weather played havoc during the Groton Chamber Triathlon on Saturday. The 12 teams, consisting of four members, had to deal with rain on and off throughout the day and a strong wind blowing in from the south. Two of the events were held outside, the trap shooting and golf, while the third event, bowling, was inside and not affected by the weather.

Teams started the morning with the trap shooting at the Jerry Schley Farm, Stratford. Participants each shot at 50 clay pigeons for their score. Trap shooting is where a clay pigeon or target is launched from a machine away from the shooter.

Teams then moved to the second event, 9-holes of Best Ball golf, played at the Olive Grove Golf Course. Here about half the teams had to take shelter and wait out a downpour for 20 - 25 minutes before continuing the course.

The final event of the day was bowling at the Jungle Lanes. Team members each played three games.

The team from Schley Farms took the top honors with a combined score of 7723. Ketterling Farms finished second with a score of 7146.

Jerry Schley, Schley Farms, won the individual top spot in the trap shooting with a score of 960. The team of Scott Ketterling and Josh Anderson earned first place in the Best Ball Golf event and Brett Merkel, Freebob Farms, won the bowling event with an 826 score.

For the second year in a row, Tom Woods walked away with the Courage Award.

Team and individual event scores are as follows:
 -Char Telkamp

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Tom Woods lines up his putt on the second hole of the 9-hole Best Ball Golf portion of the Groton Chamber Triathlon on Saturday. Woods won the Courage Award for the second year in a row. (Photo #8177 by Char Telkamp)



Austin Schuelke bowled a respectable 574 in the bowling event of the Groton Chamber Triathlon on Saturday. (Photo #8189 by Char Telkamp)



Jerry Johnson shows his finger-pointing form that earned him a score of 747 in the bowling event of the Groton Chamber Triathlon on Saturday at the Jungle Lanes. (Photo #8193 by Char Telkamp)

	trap	golf	bowling
Schley Farms			7723
Jerry Schley	960	1028	653
Thad Albee	920	1028	474
Karl Alberts	740	1028	783
Reid Johnson	560	1028	577
Ketterling Farms			7146
Vance McInerney	640	806	597
Scott Ketterling	760	1028	640
Josh Anderson	940	1028	790
Josh Howlinson	460	806	486
Jungle Lanes			6965
Chris Kassube	740	833	679
Kevin Nehls	760	806	614
Scott Kampa	780	833	703
Zelos Johnson	380	806	660
Freebob Farms			6892
Brett Merkel	360	944	826
Justin Freeland	620	833	537
Blake Ronning	680	944	556
Conner Hanson	820	833	716
Full Circle Ag			6868
Larry Frohling	560	778	567
Lance Frohling	620	889	749
Ron Beldon	780	778	717
Ryan Sperry	520	889	689
Treeline			6522
Tyler Sperry	560	1000	775
Austin Schuelke	320	1000	574
Chad Kampa	620	833	594
Jerry Ray Johnson	500	833	747
North 40			6257
Chad Pray	520	778	726
Bob Pray	780	639	630
Eric Funk	520	778	490
Josh Gross	660	639	514
Voss Farm			5457
Gavin Voss	480	694	556
Tony Waage	380	750	611
Zach Herron	600	750	603
Jason Roberts	260	694	523
Spanier Harvesting and Trucking			5164
Brandon Spanier	360	833	466
Colin Herron	420	861	427
Dylan Hanson	360	861	439
Josh Heupel	500	833	459
Hecla Rockets			5030
Weston Dinger	480	444	476
Gentry Gauer	780	444	347
Levi Dinger	780	667	467
Shane Clark	380	667	431
H & H Fliehs			4940
Charlie Dirks	300	500	546
Blake Fliehs	500	694	360
Jon Jouannet	420	500	557
Chad Johnson	520	694	541
94.1 The Rock			4633
Tom Woods	380	500	401
Jayde Graves	320	500	630
Jason Schuanaman	200	389	757
Dean Schuanaman	520	389	536

Groton Independent

605/397-NEWS (6397)
 Fax: 1-775-459-6259
 Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher
 paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460
 Tina Kosel, Office Manager
 office@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7285
 Notices: legals@grotonsd.net
 News Items: news@grotonsd.net
 Deadline to submit items: Monday at noon
 Yearly Subscription Rates: 12 Month Rate: \$35
 Groton Daily Independent internet paper: \$31.80.
 Tax included in rates.
 The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440)
 is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid
 at Groton, SD.
Postmaster: Send address changes to
 Groton Independent
 110 N Washington St., Groton, SD 57445

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Brown County July 23 Joint Meeting



JUNE 23, 2014 - JOINT CITY/COUNTY MEETING

The Brown County Commission and the Aberdeen City Council met in joint session at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 225 Third Avenue SE, ARCC Building Alumni Room #101 Aberdeen, South Dakota. Present from City were Council Members Bunsness, Campbell, Johnson, Remily, Ronayne, Slight-Hansen, Swanson and Mayor Levens. Council Member Rux was absent. Present from County were Commissioners Kippley, Wiese and Sutton. Commissioners Hansen and Fischbach were absent.

ORDINANCE #14-06-01/434: On motion by Ronayne and seconded by Campbell, the City unanimously voted to approve First Reading of Ordinance #14-06-01/434. Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve First Reading of Ordinance #14-06-01/434, An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the following described property from its present zoning designation of (A-1) Agricultural District to (M-AG) Mini-Agricultural District: Proposed Brake Outlot 1 in the SE 1/4 of Sec 35-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (3516 387th Ave South). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #14-06-04/436: On motion by Campbell and seconded by Slight-Hansen, the City unanimously voted to approve First Reading of Ordinance #14-06-04/436. Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve First Reading of Ordinance #14-06-04/436, An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the following described property from its present zoning designation of (A-1) Agricultural District to (M-AG) Mini-Agricultural District: Proposed Lots 1-4, B & J First Subdivision in the NE 1/4 of Sec 15-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (2305-2521 8th Ave NW). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #14-06-03/435 AND ORDINANCE #14-06-05/437: No action was taken on Ordinance #14-06-03/435 and Ordinance #14-06-05/437, as recommended by the Joint Planning and Zoning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$20.03.

Brown County July 24 General Meeting



JUNE 24, 2014 - GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sutton at 8:45 A.M. in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Hansen, Kippley, Fischbach and Wiese. Chairman Sutton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Moved by Hansen seconded by Wiese to approve the General Meeting minutes of June 17, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims:

Professional Fees: Dependable Sanitation \$27,543.38; Christopher Dohrer \$3,839.28; Hub City Woodworking \$660.00; Christopher Jansen \$3,214.28; Kuck Law Office \$3,214.28; Richardson, Wyly, Wise & Sauck \$3,214.28; Gina Rogers \$3,214.28; Ronayne Law Office \$3,214.28; Schneider Corp. \$2,265.00; Schriver's Memo-

rial \$1,416.00; Christy Serr \$3,839.28.

Publishing: Dex Media \$52.00; Mailbox Mony \$1,000.00.

Rentals: Advantage Self Storage \$1,656.00; BOPA, LLC \$330.00; Dakota Square Operations \$310.00; Lee Imberi \$200.00; Liv Big, LLC \$230.00; P & H Investments \$200.00; Robert Schatz \$330.00; Wolfsong Apartments \$150.00.

Repairs & Maintenance: A1 Sanitation \$193.00; Asphalt Recycling Solutions \$19,430.40; Hoven Auto Repair \$198.68; Leidholt Electric \$681.20; Lien Transportation \$60,025.49; Midwest Pump & Tank \$12.70; Pierson-Ford \$1,318.55; US Bank \$647.01.

Supplies: A & B Business \$27.26; AMEE Central \$515.00; Best Business Products \$176.80; Joy Braun \$30.00; Custom Glass & Repair \$ 2,381.00; Dive Rescue International \$750.00; Gov-Connection \$359.56; Hansmeier & Son \$102.00; Jones Drug \$534.87; Kessler's \$70.74; Lar-Jo's \$139.00; Leidholt Electric \$378.81; Lien Transportation \$144,793.54; Marco \$570.66; Menards \$91.53; Micks Scuba \$4,995.61; Midwest Pump & Tank \$580.56; Mark Milbrandt \$102.11; NCFE-Warner Elevator \$13,871.42; Network Services \$464.24; Pharmchem \$21.00; Pitney Bowes \$5,000.00; Pro Ag Supply \$149.99; Runnings \$64.54; Share Corp. \$120.00; Taylor Laundry \$63.00; US Bank \$7,509.81; Zones \$2,716.24.

Travel & Conference: Stan Beckler \$19.74; Darwin Bettmann \$14.10; Tina Boldt \$12.88; Joy Braun \$19.00; Exec. Mgmt. Finance Office \$1,398.72; Sue Gates \$170.20; Joyce Grenz \$14.87; Patrick Keatts \$33.84; Dale Kurth \$71.44; David North \$107.16; SDAAO \$1,200.00; Jerome T. Streckfuss \$36.66; US Bank \$1,826.49; Aaron Walberg \$37.74.

Utilities: Aberdeen City Treasurer \$847.02; CenturyLink \$28.08; Dependable Sanitation \$165.00; Montana-Dakota Utilities \$317.87; NWPS \$296.02; US Bank \$506.09.

Other: Benita Ruhr or Leon Lane \$950.00; Pizza Ranch \$101.94. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to approve hiring Brandon Mills and Janice Moore for purpose of prisoner transport. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Fischbach seconded by Hansen to approve employee status change for Kathy Neitzel from Sheriff Clerical Step 10 to Sheriff Chief Office Deputy Step 7, effective June 23, 2014 at \$17.54 per hour (with additional \$1.00 per hour for added years of service earned). Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-aye, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Hansen to approve and authorize the Chairman sign the following agreements: South Dakota Snow Queen Festival for lease of the parking lot north of Centennial Village on June 28 and 29, 2014; SPURS for lease of 4 portable bleachers on July 14, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SPECIAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Hansen to approve the following application for Special Malt Beverage License, submitted by SD Snow Queen Festival: Brown County Fairgrounds (fenced area north of Centennial Village and west of the water tower) SW 1/4 Sec 1-T123N-R64W, effective June 28 and 29, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EM STATE & LOCAL AGREEMENT ADDENDUM: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to approve and authorize chairman to sign Emergency Management State and Local Agreement Addendum, with SD OEM providing grant funding in amount of \$59,123.49 to be used for salary and administrative costs related to the operation of the Brown County Emergency Management during FFY 2014 (October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014).. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RELIEF LIEN: Commissioner Kippley offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #35

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-14. WHEREAS, Brown County has filed a Poor Relief Lien against an individual (with no middle name listed) who resided at 918 S High and 1328 S Lawson, dated Feb 19, 1976 - August 11, 1976 with balance of \$701.57 (original amount @ \$716.57); and WHEREAS, another individual has the same first and last name as the poor relief recipient, but resided in Edmunds County until purchasing 418 S State Street, Aberdeen on June 24, 1975, which this individual's surviving spouse sold to two of the couple's children on December 27, 1997; and WHEREAS, Brown County has determined it to be in the best interest of the taxpayers to release certain property from the effect of said lien, upon condition that the lien remains filed against the individual who rented 918 S High and 1328 Lawson, N.W. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following real property, which is described as follows: The S 1/2 of Lot 8, all of Lot 9 and the N 3' of Lot 10, Block 95, Hagerty & Lloyd Addition to Aberdeen, Brown County, South Dakota is hereby released from the effect and force of said lien, upon condition that the lien shall stay filed against the individual. Seconded by Commissioner Fischbach. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-aye, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

LANDFILL UNIT 2 CELL 2 PAY REQUEST #2: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Hansen to approve and authorize Chairman to sign Pay Request #2 for Landfill Unit 2 Cell 2 Construction Project to B & B Contracting in amount of \$194,819.35. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PLATS: Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #36-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Lucian Jones Conservation Easement Tract 1 in the NE 1/4 of Sec 21-T125N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD", having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-aye, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #37-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "T Zeck Outlot A in SW 1/4 Sec 25-T123N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD", having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-aye, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW PROJECT UPDATE: SD Humanities Scholar Barbara Johnson gave a power point presentation compiled while on a tour of Classic Glass Ltd (Stained Glass Studio) in Fargo while the Company was cleaning and repairing the Courthouse stained glass window. The Commission thanked Dr. Johnson for the presentation and all contributors to the project.

BID DATE FOR COURTHOUSE LIGHTING PROJECT: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Wiese to authorize advertising for sealed bids for labor and material to replace all light fixtures in the Courthouse Second Floor Courtroom and the entire Courthouse Third Floor, to be opened and considered in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD at 8:45 A.M. on July 15, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RAILROAD SIGNALS: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to transfer the old Railroad Crossing Signals Robert Lathrop entrusted to the County for storage to the Railroad Museum in Hill City, SD, with consent from George Nikolas on behalf of Mr. Lathrop who now resides in the Philippines. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Hansen to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation, as per SDCL 1-25-2(3) with Gary Vetter in attendance. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the executive session closed, with no action taken as a result of the discussion:

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$112.80.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #41-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Kornmann-Daughters Subdivision in Block 2 Prairiewood Village in SE 1/4 Sec 33-T124N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD", having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-aye, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #42-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Brake Outlot 1 in the SE 1/4 of Sec 35-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD", having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Hansen. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-aye, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #40-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Lot 1, St John's Association in the NW 1/4 of Sec

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held on July 10th and July 11th at 2:00 PM. Bidders should meet in front of the courthouse on the south side. Bidders are encouraged to attend at least one pre-bid walk thru.

PROPOSAL GUARANTY: No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by a certified check, a cashier's check, or bank draft for 5% of the amount of the bid, such check to be issued by either a state or national bank and payable to Brown County, or in lieu thereof a bid bond for 10% of the amount of the bid, such bond to be issued by a surety company authorized to do business in South Dakota and payable to Brown County.

PERFORMANCE BOND: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted, and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities of irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

Electronic Specifications are on file at Mettler Sigmeller Engineering, 801 Railroad Ave. SE Aberdeen, South Dakota. Please call 605-225-4344 to request a copy by e-mail.

ATTEST:
By: Maxine Fischer
Brown County Auditor
(0702.0709)

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Groton School June 30 Meeting Minutes



UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
June 30, 2014

Vice-President Kjelden called the meeting to order at 7:30pm in the High School Conference Room. Members present: Hanson, Harder, Kjelden, Smith, Voss and Weismantel. Absent: Nelson. Others present: Superintendent J. Schwan, Principals Dalchow and A. Schwan, Business Manager Weber and board member-elect Grant Rix.

Moved by Weismantel, second Smith to approve the agenda with one amendment under New Business Item #8 – add executive session issue pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) for a contract issue. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Weismantel to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: North Central Special Ed Coop school of record agenda items and year-end bills, District minutes of June 9 and year-end District and Agency bills. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Aberdeen American News – advertising, 416.16; AC Supply – circuits and lights, 406.71; Agency Fund – advance pays, 12,023.13; ABC – fire services, 820.08; Bramble Park Zoo – entry fee, 252.00; City of Groton – utilities, 7,648.48; Cole Papers – repairs, cleaner, 387.66; Crossroads Hotel – lodging, 153.98; Dakota Supply – lamps, 30.84; Farnams – filters, 14.76; GCR Tires – tires, 240.00; Groton Schools – write-offs, admin fees, 2,385.88; Groton Chiropractic – bus physicals, 285.00; Hillyards – repairs, 68.38; Jacobson Electric – service work, 2,156.05; John Deere Financial – headlight, 28.58; Locke Electric – service work, 1,009.18; Menards – saw chain, 29.98; Mike-N-Jo's – windshield repairs, 360.63; Northwestern Energy – natural gas, 1,332.44; Pantorium Cleaners – robe and uniform cleaning, 923.90; Schwan, Joe – supplies, 60.74; Sewer Saver – cleaning services, 318.00; Wells Fargo – credit card charges, 1,330.70. Total – \$32,683.26.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Agency Fund – advance pays, 11.97; Connecting Point – computer drives, 850.00; Donley, Don – project work, 1,100.00; Matheson Tri-Gas – project materials, 46.58. Total – \$2,008.55.

SPECIAL ED: Agency Fund – advance pays, 497.28; Groton Community Transit – busing, 184.00. Total – \$681.28.

ENTERPRISE: Agency Fund – advance pays, 630.27.

AGENCY: Total – \$24, 608.16. Members of the public were allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members present to speak, the board proceeded with their remaining agenda items.

Jim Lane and members of the student Robotics team addressed the board on GHS Robotics.

There were no board committee reports given.

The board acknowledged first reading of amendments to Policy EEADA-A – Guidelines When Using Private Passenger Vehicles and Policy EEADA-AA – Volunteers Driver Form.

The board acknowledged 2nd reading of changes to the 2014-15 Elementary Student/Parent Handbook. Moved by Smith, second Voss to adopt changes as presented. Motion carried.

The board acknowledged 2nd reading of changes to the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct. Moved by Harder, second Weismantel to adopt changes as presented. Motion carried.

The board acknowledged 2nd reading of changes to the Coach's Handbook. Moved by Weismantel, second Hanson to adopt changes as presented. Motion carried.

The board acknowledged 2nd reading of changes to the 2014-15 MS/HS Student/Parent Handbook Section: Alcohol or Tobacco Use. Moved by Harder, second Hanson to adopt changes as presented. Motion carried.

The board acknowledged 2nd reading of changes to the 2014-15 MS/HS Student/Parent Handbook Section: Marijuana or Controlled Substance Use. Moved by Voss, second Smith to adopt changes as presented. Motion carried.

Principal A. Schwan presented Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teaching (Teachscape) aligned to the SD Teacher Effectiveness Model as a teacher evaluation system. Moved by Harder, second Weismantel to use the framework as the teacher evaluation process for 2014-15. Motion carried.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: school bus inspections, staffing update, policy manual online, Middle School electives, community internships, ICU proposal, quarterly family night, summer school, summer OST, GRASP grant, summer library usage, year-end fund balance and 5-year history, natural gas rates for 2014-15 and dental rates for 2014-15.

Moved by Weismantel, second Smith to approve the following:

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER CONTINGENCY FUNDS

WHEREAS: The General Fund Contingency Account consists of \$50,000.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved to transfer \$1,850 to RTI Programs.

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2014.

Dorene Nelson, President
M. J. Weber, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Hanson, second Smith to approve the following:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY

WHEREAS: The following budget function levels set by the Board of Education were not adequate to meet the operating needs of the District in Capital Outlay.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, in accordance with SDCL 13-11-3.12, following supplemental budget in Capital Outlay by allocating \$1,500 from Cash on Hand to Care and Upkeep of Buildings.

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2014.
Dorene Nelson, President
M. J. Weber, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Hanson, second Smith to approve the following:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

WHEREAS: The following budget function levels set by the Board of Education were not adequate to meet the operating needs of the District in Special Education.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, in accordance with SDCL 13-11-3.12, adopts the following supplemental budget in Special Education by allocating \$2,650 from Cash on Hand to Other Health Impaired (\$525), Preschool (\$275), and Transportation for Autism (\$1,850).

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2014.

Dorene Nelson, President
M. J. Weber, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Bids for fuel oil, diesel and gas were opened and read as follows: Duane's Sinclair - #2 Diesel – 3.3258, #1 Diesel – 3.4948, Ethanol – 3.133, Lead-Free – 3.4588, and E-85 – 2.105; Ken's - #2 Diesel – 3.58, #1 Diesel – no quote, Ethanol – 3.34, Lead-Free – 3.54 and E-85 – 2.84. Moved by Harder, second Hanson to award fuel contract to Duane's. Motion carried.

Quotes for official newspaper were opened and read as follows: Groton Dakota Press – legal line rate \$0.25 per line, newsletter publishing \$50/month, classified advertising \$0.10 per word with a minimum charge of \$3.00 for 20 words, local open display advertising \$3.00 per column inch and current subscribers 198. Groton Independent – legal line rate \$0.24 per line, newsletter publishing \$50/month, classified advertising \$0.10 per word with a minimum charge of \$3.00 for 30 words, local open display advertising \$3.00 per column inch and current subscribers 450. Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to award newspaper contract to Groton Independent. Motion carried.

The board acknowledged 1st reading of changes to the 2014-15 MS/HS Student/Parent Handbook.

Moved by Hanson, second Harder to approve Open Enrollment Application 15-05 for a student in Junior Kindergarten. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Smith to approve Alexa Schuring as volunteer assistant volleyball coach for 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Hanson, second Smith to go into executive session at 9:15 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) to discuss personnel issues and pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) to discuss a contract issue. Motion carried.

Kjelden declared the board out of executive session at 9:28 pm.

Moved by Hanson, second Smith to adjourn. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager
Dorene Nelson, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$52.95.

YBA Hosts 35h Anniversary Sessions

Pierre---Youth Business Adventure (YBA) recently completed its 35th anniversary sessions, hosting 180 high school seniors, along with educators and business executives from across the state of South Dakota during two week-long sessions. The first session was held at Black Hills State University in Spearfish while the second session was held at the University of South Dakota. Local participants included Maddie Colestock, Gabriel Dohman, Kaitlin O'Neill, Luke Sternhagen, Sydney Thorson and Kasey Waage.

At YBA, the students and educators gained vital information about the business world from those who work and live in that world, the business executives or "Company Advisors" and volunteer speakers. They also had the opportunity to gain college credits for their participation in the YBA sessions. In addition, the schedules included a tour of area businesses, Spearfish Forest Products in Spearfish and Kolberg Pioneer in Yankton. Companies competed in a business management simulation, a Business Quiz Bowl, produced a one minute TV commercials, designed a company logo, participated in a problem solving activity, and presented business plans before a panel of volunteer judges. Students also were entertained with evening activities of bowling, swimming, and a dance.

Colestock said of her week at YBA, "YBA was a great experience for me. It taught me so much about business. It taught me how to be a leader and gave me an idea on how to run a business and what it takes to succeed. This is a great program for younger classman to consider going to for further business knowledge. Thank you to all the sponsors who made it possible."

"YBA was great! It doesn't just teach you about business, but also teamwork and makes you friends you'll have for the rest of your life." stated Sternhagen.

Since its inception in 1980, Youth Business Adventure has been sponsored by the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce & Industry, a statewide business organization located in Pierre. The program is completely funded through contributions from generous South Dakota business, corporate, and individual sponsors.

Preparations are currently underway for the 36h annual sessions

of the Youth Business Adventure program. The first session will be held at Black Hills State University June 7 - June 12, 2015, and the second at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion June 21 - June 26, 2015.

For further information about Youth Business Adventure, contact the local participants, or call the YBA office at 1-800-742-8112.

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The Life of Gary A. Spencer

Gary A. Spencer, 63, formerly of Groton and Rapid City, SD, died suddenly June 18, 2014. Gary was a wonderful husband, father, son, brother, grandfather and friend.

Gary graduated from Groton High School in 1969. He received a degree in electrical engineering from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1973. He recently retired after 40 years in the IT field.

His is survived by his wife, Joy; son, Paul (Jennifer); daughter, Katherine; grandchildren, Taylor, Dylan and Zachary; mother, Virginia; sister, Kristine Ferrington

(Ken); two nieces; a nephew; and numerous cousins, aunts, uncles and friends. Gary was preceded in death by his father, Morris Spencer.

A celebration of Gary's life will be held at 11 a.m. CDT Wednesday, July 16, at Wooddale Church, 6630 Shady Oak Road, with visitation one hour before services.

Memorials are preferred to We Can Ride Inc., local A.R.C. or Wooddale Church Missions.



The Life of Kenneth Webb

The funeral for Kenneth Webb, 89, of Houghton will be 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 2 at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel in Groton with the Rev. Bill Duncan officiating. Private burial will take place at Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen.

Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Wednesday from 2 p.m. until time of services.

Kenneth died June 29, 2014 at Bethesda Home of Aberdeen with family surrounding him.

Kenneth Lyle was born on January 28, 1925 in Aberdeen to Delbert and Hannah (Tobiason)

Webb. He attended Hecla High School and began farming after school. On June 21, 1955 he was united in marriage with Geraldine "Jerry" Daly in Columbia and together they made their home and raised their family south of Houghton. Following his wife's passing in March of 2002, Kenny moved into Parkside Retirement Community in Aberdeen.

Kenny was a member of the Alliance Church in Houghton and Aberdeen and served as a deacon there. He was active on the Township Board, 4-H Club, and coached little league baseball and softball for many years. In earlier years, he played baseball and ran track. Kenny enjoyed Northern State basketball games, attending cattle shows and all of the grandchildren's activities. Kenny also loved spending time with his family and friends and will forever be remembered for his practical jokes and mischievous personality. His grandchildren were very special to him and he enjoyed time spent with them on the farm.

Celebrating his life are his children, Kathy Neitzel of Aberdeen; Karma (Bret) Olson of Aberdeen; Kent Webb (Ranae Ball) of Groton, eight grandchildren: Stephanie Lee, Angie Huff, Eric Olson, Brittany Olson, Shane Olson, Alicia Olson, Hannah Webb, Turner Webb, six great-grandchildren: Tanner Neitzel, Collin Huff, Brady Huff, Alaina Huff, Porter Olson and Beckett Olson.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his wife and his sister, Dorothy Koch.

Honorary Casketbearers will be the Koch family and all of his friends at Parkside Retirement Community.

Casketbearers will be his grandchildren.



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Covering the soil to reduce pest insects

Cover crops are all the rage these days, and may be a part of the solution for problems confronting the long-term sustainability of agricultural production in the U.S. Simply defined, cover crops are plant "place-holders", designed to cover bare soil during fallow periods and in between growing seasons. Their benefits are myriad, from reducing soil erosion, to replenishing soil nutrients, to suppressing weeds, to growing soil microbial communities. I would argue that another benefit of cover crops that is too often overlooked (arguably the most IMPORTANT benefit) is in reducing pest insects and growing beneficial insect communities.

Bare soil kills a lot of insects. Actually, bare soil kills most biology in a system. For this reason, farmers and entomologists alike have long touted that a good way to remove pests from a farm or garden is to till the heck out of it and get rid of any non-crop vegetation. And they are right: you can really kill a lot of pests this way. But the problem is that you remove all of the friendly insects from the system as well. Predators (things like lady beetles, ants, spiders, ground beetles, lacewings, pirate bugs, etc.), pollinators, and detritivores are also driven off the farm. And farms NEED these beneficial insects to function properly.

Then the farmer comes back in the spring and plants entire fields of a single plant species, and guess who the first to arrive is? The pest. And there is no biotic resistance to the pest's proliferation because all of the predators that keep those pests in check have been driven out of the system too. So the farmer sprays insecticides to replace the predation that Mother Nature normally gives for free, and further drives down the natural enemy communities, while temporarily suppressing the pests.

An alternative is to provide habitat for natural enemy communities so that they are there when the pests arrive in the spring. And cover crops are a great way to do this!

Research at the USDA-ARS laboratory in Brookings, SD has shown that cover crops preceding corn or soybean can have dramatic effects on natural enemy communities, sometimes increasing predator numbers by 10 times those found in insecticide-sprayed fields; these predators eat things like corn rootworms and soybean aphids.

And these predators DO eat the pests: this research shows that cover crops preceding corn (and their associated predators) reduce the abundance of corn rootworms and the damage that they cause to corn plants. Now we are testing whether cover crops could be economically competitive with "traits-based management" (Bt corn, neonicotinoid seed treatments, etc.) on farms throughout the Plains region.

But like any technology, cover crops need to be used correctly. Simply replacing one monoculture cash crop with a monoculture cover crop has been shown to foster pest populations like pea weevils and armyworms. The science is still rolling in, but it seems that diversifying the cover crop mix to include several plant species may help to overcome these unique and infrequent pest problems.

Using plant diversity to foster natural processes- especially those that foster soil health and biology- seems like a good alternative to constantly fighting for control against natural systems. Cover crops may dramatically reduce farming input costs for things like pesticides; now we need to get the science involved to make it as easy as possible for interested land owners and gardeners to implement these tools with predictable success.

Insect Spotlight

Jonathan Lundgren is a research entomologist at the USDA-ARS research facility in Brookings.

6 ♦ 397news.com ♦ Wed., July 2, 2014