

E Grooton Independent South Dakota Growing Families & Opportunities

Vol. 136 No. 47 \diamond Groton, South Dakota \diamond Wednesday, July 17, 2019 \diamond Established in 1889

Council debates Washington St. drainage issue

Paul Eckrich came before the council and asked to make sure his driveway is dry with all of the construction going on the street on Washington St. And Sixth Avenue. Mayor Scott Hanlon told the council that he and Terry Herron had talked with Ken Hier of Clark Engineering to discuss options. It would cost an additional \$1,600 to make the necessary changes for drainage. Councilman Jay Peterson said that he is perplexed about the whole situation, siting that there is also drainage issues on the east side of the street. "We paid them to fix the drainage," Peterson said. "I'm reluctant to throw more money into it without knowing all of the drainage issues are taken care of." He said that he had talked with Jeff Stolle who asked why there was work being done on the west side of the street and not on the east side. "Now is the time to get it right," Peterson said.

The council authorized a payment request for \$43,715.18 to H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction for work completed to date. Also, an extension was given for completion of the project which was approved for September 15, 2019, due to the rain.

The council rescinded the resolution to not install the east-west stop signs on Washington Street and West Fifth Avenue. It passed, 3-1 with Councilman David Blackmun voting no.

The council accepted the resignation of Damian Bahr as police officer with July 16 being his final date.

WEB Water has notified the city that the city's usage rate will increase by 20 cents per one-thousand gallons. The council will review passing on any rate increase to the September meeting.

Beer and wine will be allowed for a private party at the swimming pool on July 19th was approved by the council. The renters will also be responsible for clean-up.

After a short executive session, the council hired Lee Iverson has a grounds keeper. Also, David Hunter was hired as a temporary police officer until the full time position is filled. His wage will be what he made when he resigned.



Geist Bridal Shower Please join us for a bridal shower honoring Andee Geist, Bride-to-be of Kody Conlon Saturday, July 27th, at 1 pm **Aberdeen Senior Citizens Center** 1303 7th Ave SE Aberdeen, SD The couple is registered at Target, on Amazon.com, and Lori's Pharmacy

The Groton Area School District is hiring for the 2019-2020 School Year.

MS/HS Administrative Assistant/Study Hall Supervisor

Yearbook Advisor

Assistant Boys Basketball Coach

Applications are available at www.grotonrea.com under the employment tab. Contact Joe Schwan, Superintendent with questions at 605-397-2351.

> Applications should be sent to **Groton Area School District** Joe Schwan, Superintendent PO Box 410 Groton, SD 57445

The Groton Area School District is an Equal **Opportunity Employer.**

......

Olive Grove Golf Course Firecracker Tournament Championship Flight

- 69- Brad and Dar Larson
- 72- Tom and Pat Price
- 73- Jarod Fliehs and Ashley Fliehs
- 73- Joe and Ruth Gorneau
- 74-Mark and Kari Herman
- 74- Steve Millard and Lisa Shriver
- 75- Austin Schuelke and Elise Ferrell
- 75- Tim and Barb Gillick
- 75- Mark Paptsein and Susie Sonsa

First Flight

- 79- Brad and Brenda Waage
- 82- Rich and Tami Zimney
- 84- Kyle Spenser and Dee Kolb
- 84- Lorin and Julie Fliehs
- 85- Dave and Marcy Blackmun



Championship Flight Winner Dar and Brad Larson



85- Randy and Sue Stanley 85- Travis and JJ Johnson 86- Lance and Cindy Frohling 86- Tony and Brenda Madsen 88- Steve and Betty Dunker

Second Flight

82- Skip Kettering and Susie Easthouse 83- Jonathan and Mandilyn Fliehs 88- Les and Julie Hinds 91- Bob and Mavis Rossow 92- Tim and Jan Kearns 94- Rod and Arlys Kluess 97- Bob an Judy Sundling 100- Larry Frohling and Shirlee Briggs 102- Cody Kliever and Lexi Ferrell 118- Weston Dinger and Emily Fischer

Women's Closest to Pin #4: Barb Gillick Any Longest Putt Hole #9: Tim Gillick Men's Closest to Pin #8: Mark Papstein Putting Contest: Joe Gorneau

First Flight Winner **Brad and Brenda Waage**



Second Flight Winner Susie Easthouse and Skip Kettering



Position available for full-time **Police Officer**

"Position available for full-time Police Officer. Experience and SD Certification preferred. Salary negotiable DOE. Please send application and resume to the City of Groton, PO Box 587 Groton, SD 57445. This position is open until filled. Applications may be found at https:// city.grotonsd.gov/forms/ApplicationForCityEmployee.pdf For more information, please call 605-397-8422 Equal opportunity employer."

^前集 (0704.0718)



Classifieds and Card of Thanks

The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent, and posted online at www.grotonsd.net. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter 4th consecutive week is free

605/397-NEWS (6397) PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

FOR LEASE: Small town business café. On State Highway in North Central South Dakota in the heart of hunting haven and 60 miles east of Missouri River. Interested parties contact Hosmer City Office (605) 283-2748.

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED: Head Maintenance/Custodial at Haakon School District. Application online: philip.k12.sd.us salary negotiable. Contact Jeff Riekman 605-859-2679. Equal opportunity employer

SUPREME WELDING INC. Full-time Job Openings - Welders/Assemblers & Painter. Hiring experienced welders/assemblers & painter full-time, age 18+. Perform prefabrication layout/fitting, wire feed welding, repair jobs, bridges, scoreboards, etc. No jigs. Productivity, mechanical skills, teamwork, attendance, following instructions, reading blueprints, accuracy, knowledge of basic tools, & easily trainable required. Certification programs available, increased compensation for achievement. Small business atmosphere, competitive wages & benefits. Questions/Info: Duane, Supreme Welding Inc, Clear Lake, SD 605-874-8416, swi@itctel.com

HELP WANTED: Elementary (6-8) Math/ History Teacher- w/wo coaching (4 day school week) at the Edgemont School District starting the 2019-2020 school year. Position open until filled. For more information contact Amy Ferley at 605-662-7254 or email Amy.Ferley@ k12.sd.us.

SEEKING MS/HS ART teacher and MS/HS Instrumental Music teacher for the Mobridge-Pollock School District 62-6 for the 2019-2020 school year. Contact Tim Frederick at 605-845-9204 for more information. Certified Application and Resume can be mailed to: Mobridge-Pollock School District 62-6; Attn: Tim Frederick; 1107 1st Avenue East; Mobridge SD 57601. Open until filled. EOE.

HELP WANTED: PUBLIC WORKS. The City of Onida is seeking a public works employee. Full Time, with benefits. Salary is DOQ. City of Onida 605-258-2441.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE has an opening for a 70% ECSE preschool teacher at the Parker school site. Candidates should fill out an application at combeltcoop. k12.sd.us and submit it with their credential file. Open until filled. 1000 North West Ave Suite 240, Sioux Falls SD 57104. (605)271-0218. dean.kueter@k12.sd.us.

MISCELLANEOUS

SHOP~N~RUMMAGE GREGORY COUNTY August 9-11 sidewalk, bake, rummage sales, and more. gregorydallassd.com #gettogregory Gregory/Dallas Chamber of Commerce

FARMERS, LANDSCAPERS or GARDENERS, did you or a loved one use Roundup Weed Killer and were diagnosed with non-hodgkins lymphoma (Cancer)? You may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles Johnson 1-800-535-5727

Brown County July 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

JULY 9, 2019 - GENERAL MEETING

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

MINUTES:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the General County Commission meeting minutes from July 2, 2019. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL:

Moved by Feickert seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims:

Commission \$5,528.71; Elections \$0.00; Auditor \$8,556.75; Treasurer \$13,517.41; SA \$21,411.01; SWAVA \$1,193.49; Maintenance \$7,747.07; Assessor \$13,705.80; Register of Deeds \$8,771.40; VSO \$4,536.85; GIS \$2,367.50; IT \$8,090.47; HR \$3,397.45; Sheriff \$37,434.45; Jail \$50,548.04; Coroner \$0.00; Court Security \$6,219.96; JDC \$23,581.51; Welfare \$1,884.62; Muse-um \$25,498.45; Parks/Fairgrounds \$7,589.48; Fair Board \$4,432.62; 4-H \$1,365.39; Weed \$6,379.50; Planning & Zoning \$3,163.10; Highway \$49,861.24; Dispatch \$27,222.31; Emergency \$4,079.58; Teen Court \$596.16; 24/7 Sobriety \$3,349.11; Landfill \$11,791.21; Matching Benefits: Fica \$20,526.61, Medicare \$4,800.61, Health Savings Ac-count \$150.00. Professional Fees: Haar Law Office \$18.00; Helms & Assoc. \$1,272.80; Mark Katterhagen \$15.00; Kuck Law Office \$9.80; Dana Larson \$50.00; Lucy Lewno \$110.00; Darcy Lockwood \$15.00; SD DENR \$4,597.71; Kristi Spitzer \$600.00; Yankton Co. Sheriff \$50.00.Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$859.63; Ab-erdeen Magazine \$1,100.00; Groton Independent \$172.26. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Clean-All \$185.00; Aberdeen Plumbing & Heating \$2,051.98; Ace Refrigeration \$132.60; Dakota Electronics \$240.00; DFP \$686.57; Ecolab \$114.75; HF Jacobs & Son Construction \$465.00; Huff Construction \$1,185.13; Nelson Sales & Service \$40.00; OIson's Pest \$225.00; PowerPlan \$1,328.93; Ringgenberg Electric \$310.79. Supplies: Ameripride Services \$579.61; DT Pharmacy \$2,917.06; Ferguson Enterprises \$820.00; Geffdog \$1,835.72; GovConnection \$100.99; Heartland Paper \$1,990.80; Kustom Signals \$101.00; Lucy Lewno \$6.50; Menards \$235.71; Midstates Printing \$10.50. Travel & Conference: Mary Baird \$82.72; McKenzie Bierman \$28.20; Brandon Black \$302.68; City of Groton \$138.24; Jill Crosby \$512.61; Patricia Kendall \$78.02; Marianne Marttila-Klipfel \$82.72. Utilities: Aberdeen City Treasurer \$2,925.20; AT &T Mobility \$247.01; BDM Rural Water \$36.00; CenturyLink \$54.43; Midcontinent \$369.43; Northwestern Energy \$3,924.73. Other: Web Water Development \$100.00.All members present voting aye. Motion carried. HR RÉPORT:

Moved by Sutton seconded by Wiese to approve the following

UNCOLLECTABLE TAX LIST: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to acknowledge uncollectible tax list (4 parcels), as submitted by Sheila Enderson, Brown County Treasurer. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried. QUARTERLY INTEREST:

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to accept for filing the Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 interest statements in the following amounts: Quarter 1 \$20,491.81 and Quarter 2 \$23,247.14, as submitted by County Treasurer Sheila Enderson. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

ABATEMENTS:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the following abatements: Parcel Key # 15258 @ \$183.59; Parcel Key 4461 @ \$674.69, Parcel Key 22634 @ \$233.03, Parcel Key #28606 @ \$5.17. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

LEASES:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to approve the following lease agreements: Sonja Hauck for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp September 6-8, 2019; Anchors Away for lease of stage July 5-6, 2019, Gate House Media South Dakota Holdings, Inc DBA The American News for lease of the Expo Building September 20-21, 2019. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STATE AND LOCAL AGREE-MENT

Moved by Weise, seconded by Kippley to approve and authorize the Chair sign the Emergency Management State and Local agreement, quarter three report. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

COMMUNITY ACCESS GRANT: Commissioner Feickert offered the following resolution: RESO-LUTION # 33-19

Resolution for Financial Commitment, Responsibility for Road Maintenance, and Support for Project WHEREAS, Brown County is

applying for a Community Access Grant through the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) fro Brown County, and WHEREAS, the SDDOT requires a 20 percent local match for the construction costs of a project up to a specified amount; and WHEREAS, the SDDOT required the local government agency to be responsible for the maintenance of improved road; and WHEREAS, Brown County is in full support of this project and grant application; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Brown County will provide the local match needed to supplement their portion of the SDDOT grant. This match will be 20 percent of the construction costs, as shown in the grant application. THERE-FORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Brown County expresses their full support and cooperation to the road improvement project and the SDDOT Community Access Grant Application. Approved this 9th day of July 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Kippley. Roll call vote: Commissioners Feickert-aye, Sutton-aye, Wieseabsent, Kippley-aye, Fjeldheimaye. Resolution adopted. 2020 BUDGET - MAINTE-

NANCE DEPARTMENT:

Judy Dosch, building superintendent, met to discuss maintenance department 2020 budget and courthouse repair needs. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Sutton seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown

lishing, 53.93; WSSW: Helms and Associates, wastewater improvement design, 7,218.00; NWE, water, 104.08; NWE, sewer,163.42; BDM, water used 921.40; First State bank, final payment on water meters, 905.89; Rural Development, water loan, 576.00; A motion to accept Soil Technologies, Inc. to conduct soil investigations and reporting for the wastewater pond reconstruction at the existing wastewater treatment lagoon pond site in the town of Claremont by seconded by Rasmussen .With no further business before the board a motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer to adjourn. Motion carried.

C.Rye F.O. Published once at the total approximate cost of \$14.40. 17688

Groton City July 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes July 16, 2019

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:05pm at the Community Center for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Blackmun, Peterson, Wells, Babcock via telephone, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Hope Block, Stacy Mayou, Paul Kosel, Kathy Sundermeyer, and Paul Eckrich.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, and Eckrich explained that he would like his driveway to stay dry, and would like this to be addressed in the street project being done this year. There have been several drainage problems in his area for a long time. The location will be reviewed and options will be discussed. Eckrich left the meeting at 7:21pm.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Peterson. All mem-

bers voted aye. Moved by Wells and seconded by Peterson to authorize the following bills for payment. All members voted aye.

Payroll, \$29,453.44, Employ-ee salaries; Executive, \$161.60, ; Administrative, \$3,179.68, ; Public Safety, \$8,492.72, ; Public Works, \$877.38, ; Culture & Recreation, \$16,742.06, ; First State Bank, \$3,783.31, SS and WH ; First State Bank, \$499.98, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$950.00, Employee savings; Coca Cola, \$2,146.50, Soda for resale; City of Groton, \$300.00, Utility deposit refund; Jim Gerdes, \$59.31, Utility de-posit refund; Norman Anderson, 316.52, Utility deposit refund; Inited States Postal Service, 198.10, Utility billing postage; Clark Rotary Club, \$225.00, Legion tournament fee; Web Water, \$15,164.32, Water 6/19; McGannon Heating and Plumming, \$500.65, Snaked toilet, a/c services at various places; Angerhofer Concrete, \$100.00, Pool bricks; Farmers Union, \$707.56, Fuel for cemetery and ball field; Diesel Machinery \$2,565.00, 4 week roller rental SD One Call, \$53.55, Message fees; Galls, \$115.26, Uniforms; MJ's Sinclair, \$922.09, Gas and tube repair; Dakota Pump and Control, \$2,076.53, Rebuild Aspen lift pump with new bearings, seals, and lower seal plate; Groton Area School, \$323.45, White striping paint and toilet paper; Associated Supply Pool .0, \$688.19, cnemicals Ameripride, \$45.60, Rug rent; April Abeln, \$569.42, Dep flex; James Valley, \$589.09, Utilities; Heartland Waste, \$7,834.33, Garbage hauling 6/19; Western Area Power, \$18,678.03, Power 6/19; Heartland Consumer Power, \$48,751.48, Power 6/19; RDO, \$69.73, Hydraulic diagnostics and labor; Stan Houston, \$18.90, Cut off wheel; Badger Meter, \$780.00, 6 months support; Cannon Technologies, 1,295.70, Replacement logic board; Groton Ford, \$64.71, 07 Ford broken belts in rear tires; GDI, \$53.81, Publishing min-utes; Avera St Luke's, \$125.00, Employee physical; Lori's Pharmacy, \$145.96, First aid kits for ball field; Dairy Queen, \$124.00, Concession resale ; Banyon Data, \$3,390.00, Timecard module, annual support, 3 hours training; Dakota Electronics, \$94.65, Replace cable; Chief Supply, \$349.98, Lights; Locke Electric, \$1,772.89, Load management replacement, pump panel work, dig up and fix broken wires, dig power in for street light, replace exit signs at community center; Groton Vet Clinic, \$1.80, Syringe for sweeper oil; Darrel's Sinclair,

\$846.70, 12 Ford tires and lawn mower tire; Harves Sport Shop, \$149.84, Umpire shirts, clean cleaner mat, baseball line up cards; Full Circle Ag, \$189.00, Herbicide; Schwan Welding and Boiler Repair, \$328.00, Cut off bases on poles for ballfield; Ken's Food Fair, \$1,576.78, Gas and concession resale; US Postal Service, \$120.00, Post office box rent; S&S Lumber, \$840.30, Markers, shop vac, paint, filters, hoses, tubes, keys, zip ties, gloves, glue; Hope Block, \$256.00, Travel reimbursement for budget training, debit/credit, and emergency management; Scott Hanlon, \$21.40, Travel reimbursement for emergency management meeting; A&B Business Solutions, \$243.61, Copier rent; Railroad Management Co, \$235.41, Power line crossing rent; Peggy Locke, \$295.22, Med flex; Clark Engi-neering, \$9,659.08, Engineer-ing for street project and water system; SD Retirement System, \$335.00, Employee retirement.

Payment request #1 from H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction for \$43,715.18 was approved on a motion by Peterson and seconded by Blackmun. All members voted ave

The September 15th time extension request from H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction for the street project was approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Wells. All members voted aye.

The June finance report was approved on a motion by Peterson and seconded by Wells. All members voted aye.

Moved by Peterson and seconded by Babcock to rescind Resolution 2019-5 regarding stop signs East and West bound on Washington Street and 5th Avenue. Peterson, Wells and Babcock voted aye, and Blackmun voted nay.

Moved by Blackmun and sec-onded by Babcock to accept Da-

Is It Fake **News?**

It is miraculous to consider how much access and exposure we have to information through our mian Bahr's resignation as of July 16th. All members voted aye. Web Water has informed the

city that the rate per thousand gallons of water will increase by twenty cents in October 2019. Moved by Wells and seconded by Babcock to table the decision on the item. All members voted ave.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Wells to allow beer and wine to be brought to the swimming pool for TJ Johnson's private pool party as long as the area is cleaned immediately after the party. All members voted aye.

Moved by Peterson and seconded by Wells to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:52pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:10pm

Moved by Peterson and seconded by Babcock to hire David Hunter (at the wage he was at when he retired) as a temporary police officer until the full time open positon is filled. All members voted ave.

Moved by Blackmun and sec-onded by Wells to hire Lee Iverson as a groundskeeper. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 8:16pm, All members voted aye. Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Hope Block, Finance Officer Published once at the total approximate cost of \$55.64.17689

Mofle Estate

Notice NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF

DECEASED SETTLOR Notice is given that on June 15, 2019, D. Gloria Mofle also known as Darlene Gloria Mofle,

died. Sandra Kay Ullrich, whose address is 1318 N. State St., Ab-

Delivery in the erdeen, SD 57401, is the named



By Richard P. Holm, MD ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

computers, televisions, radios and newspapers. Unfortunately, we need to be on guard because too much of this buzz can be false information. In an October 2017 article, the Pew Research Center found 43 per-

cent of people in 2016 received their news from Facebook listening for information that aligned with their world view (not necessarily with facts). Pew also found 23 percent had shared, by intention or accident, untrue political messages on social media. We need to be more critical of all sources of information around us. Almost as malignant as fake news are advertisements that pretend to be factually based.

Of course, marketing (sales) can be good and important as it moves commerce, and I'm not saying industry doesn't sponsor credible scientific research. However, marketing can be harmful when selling a weight-loss program that gives false hope, when peddling virility pills that are ineffective or when pushing an outrageously expensive drug that should be used only after first-line medicines are tried. Advertisements can and should be based on truth, but my cynical side sees the words "truth in advertising" as an oxymoron, like "seriously funny," "awfully good" or "found missing." Indeed, marketing motives can be as different from evidence-based science as corn syrup is to leafy green vegetables.

It has been our desire and goal at Healing Words Foundation to find and help spread health information that is not influenced by marketing or sales. What is known today as Prairie Doc® media started in the 1980s with newspaper articles, expanding in the 1990s with a local talk AM-radio show, in 2003 with a television show and in 2010 with social media. Prairie Doc® has been made possible with the help of volunteer physicians and experts, South Dakota State University and its students, our paid and voluntary Prairie Doc® production staff, our Foundation Board of Directors and, most importantly, the unrestricted underwriting of organizations and individuals like you. We feel blessed to have such wonderful talents and gifts allowing us to bring our unbiased and credible public health information to the people. The mission statement of the Healing Words Foundation and all Prairie Doc® programming is enhancing health and diminishing suffering by communicating useful information, based on honest science, provided in a respectful and compassionate manner.

Personal Representative under the Last Will of D. Gloria Mofle, dated January 6, 2005.

Creditors of the deceased Settlor must file their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or any claim or collection efforts which otherwise could have been asserted or enforced against the trust or assets thereof may be barred.

Claims may be submitted to Sandra Kay Ullrich by mailing a written statement of the claim to her at the address above. Dated this 17th day of July,

2019. /s/ Sandra Kay Ulrich Sandra Kay Ullrich 1318 N. State St. Aberdeen, SD 57401 (605) 380-3089

PREPARED BY: Thompson Law, P.C. 5027 S. Western Avenue

Sioux Falls, SD 57108 (605) 362-9100 www.cathompsonlaw.com

(0717.0731) Published three times at the total approximate cost of \$37.35.

17690

Latex and

Mylar

Balloons

Groton Daily Inde-

pendent

21 N Main

605-397-NEWS

(6397)

Groton area

HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes: Approve hiring Joshua Ulmer as full-time Highway, labor grade 3 effective July 24, 2019 @ \$18.5/hr. Approve hiring Matt Heupel as full-time Highway, labor grade 3 effective July 22, 2019, @ \$18.5/hr Approve hiring Damian Bahr as full-time Highway, labor grade 3 effective July 22, 2019, @ \$18.5.hr Approve hiring Spencer Heupel as Highway summer help effective July 8, 2019, @ \$12.29/hr and acknowledge denial of offer of Jacob Howard from June 11th, 2019 minutes. Approve hiring Abby Jung as part-time Brown County 24/7 effective June 27, 2019, @ \$13.94/hr. Approve the following employee step increases effective July 14, 2019: Tonya Walth @ \$20.24 per hour, Teresa Mann @ \$18.99 per hour, Mike Janes @ \$16.26 per hour, Alexus Storm @ \$16.74 per hour. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. FAIR CONTRACT:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Feickert to approve the following fair contract: Tayler Wolff (4-H judge) @ \$40. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

County Commission at 9:20 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$69.94. 17687

Claremont Town July 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes The board of trustees for the

town of Claremont met in regular session on 7-9-19 at 8:00p.m. at city hall. President Johnson called the meeting to order with Trustees Spencer and Rasmussen present. The minutes of the June meeting were approved on a motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer. On a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen the following warrants were allowed: General: IRS, 2nd quarterly report, 586.05; NWE, lights, 326.62 Full circle Ag, chemicals, 242.02; Brown county treasurer, mosquitos, 925.84; James valley, phone and internet, 85.29; Missi smith, mowing 22 hrs, 203.17; Charla Rye, wage, 305.00; GDI, pub-

This is a call for all of us to be careful and critical. We don't have to be influenced by fake news but rather need to choose our sources of information carefully. Let this be a time of truth.

For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit www. prairiedoc.org and follow

Prairie Doc® on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPTV most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

Is the Groton Swimming Pool a 10-year or 20-year opt-out?

Believe it or not, you would think this was an easy question. But due to confusion in documents, it is not quite so easy to figure out.

Yes, the plan at the time was for a 10-year opt-out of \$130,000.

In the February 4, 2008 minutes, Resolution 8-24 stated: We therefore OPT OUT of such tax limitation in the amount of \$130,000 for the calendar year 2008-2028 taxes payable in the calendar year 2009-2029.

That same sentence was posted on the Notice of Election and was also put on the ballot.

Even though the resolution was not referred to a vote, the council decided to send the matter to the city voters any way.

Now the confusion arrises when the city council had a special meeting on April 9, 2008 to canvass the ballot (which stated for years 2008-2028). In the last minute of the special meeting, it was stated that the Opt Out for Swimming Pool Funding was for \$130,000 for 10 years. In fact, news articles printed in the Groton Independent also had the opt-out for 10 years. But that's not what the voters voted on.

Now, when the letter from then finance officer Anita Lowary is sent to the Brown County Auditor, Maxine Taylor, you will notice that it has written 10 years. However, someone crossed out 10 and wrote 20 years is in place.

According to Lowary, "The 20 year time period was on all the original documents. When the time came to do the financing, the Council accepted the 10 year proposal (which you will notice in the canvassing minutes). The City was told that we could accept a lesser time for finance, but we could not lengthen the original time. Since the 10 year period was accepted, the opt out was set to close with the 2018 taxes."

Thanks to Sara Swisher, Chief Deputy Auditor, for supplying the Independent with the documents on this issue. Swisher said, "Unfortunately, I wasn't here in the office when this opt out took place but from the documentation that we have on file (see attached), which was also sent to Department of Revenue, the opt out is for 20 years.

As you can see in the documents that one publication says 20 yrs and another says 10 yrs, but the ballot that was provided to the voters was for the 20 years and the resolution adopted was for 20 years as well. Our records are indicating that this opt out will run for 20 years 2027 payable 2028."

April 9, 2008

The Groton City Council met on the above date at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. for special meeting to canvass the election with the following members present: Heitmann, Brotherton, Hendrickson, Nyberg, Hamilton, Anderson, and Mayor

Olson presiding. The April 8, 2008 election was canvassed and following results were accepted on a motion by Anderson and seconded by Nyberg. All members present voted aye.

Opt Out for Swimming Pool Funding -\$130,000 for ten years

Yes - 260 No - 124 Rejected Ballot - 1 Meeting adjourned. Roy L. Olson, Mayor Anita Lowary, Finance Officer



City of Groton

209 North Main Street

PO Box 587 Groton, South Dakota 57445-0587

Phone 605-397-8422

to years

August 28, 2008

Maxine Taylor Brown County Auditor Brown County Courthouse 25 Market St Aberdeen, SD 57401

Dear Maxine:

\$130,000

Enclosed please find the affidavits of publication for our Opt Out of \$130,000 to pay for our swimming pool. Although it was not referred to the voters, our City Council chose to have an election to confirm the support for this project. We had a 39.6% voter turn out at the April 8 election and it passed at over 2 to 1 in favor.

If there are any other records you need for your file on this opt out, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, Anita Lowary Finance Officer

OFFICIAL TAX LEVY OPT-OUT ELECTION BALLOT GROTON, SOUTH DAKOTA April 8, 2008

The following tax levy opt-out was passed by the governing body and submitted to the voters. The tax levy opt-out will not become effective unless approved by majority vote.

IN THE AMOUNT OF \$130,000 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2008-2028 TAXES PAYABLE

from the Feb 4, 2008 Minutes

*

installation of this curb and gutter

Such special assessment shall be payable in ten (10) equal annual installments in accordance with the accepted bid and cost incurred, and the said assessment and installments shall be payable under Plan 2, "Collection by the Municipal Treasurer" as provided by SDCL 9-43.

Section 3 The estimated linear foot cost of said curb and gutter is \$33.00

Discussion was held on the swimming pool funding for different terms and funding sources. A bond or lease purchase with sales tax repayment would still require an Opt Out from the property tax freeze of \$130,000 for ten years. Moved by Hamilton and seconded by Nyberg to pass the following resolution and put it on the municipal election ballot. All members present

Resolution 8-24 RESOLUTION TO OPT OUT OF TAX LIMITATION

The Governing Board of the City of Groton does state that the City of Groton is unable to operate under the tax limitation measure currently in statute. We therefore OPT OUT of such tax limitation in the amount of \$130,000 for the calendar year 2008-2028 taxes payable in the calendar year 2009-2029. This action has been taken by the board and approved by at least a two thirds vote of the board.

A vote on this question will be held at the municipal election April 8, 2008. Upon passage of this measure, this resolution authorizes the county auditor to spread an excess levy to raise tax dollars in the above state amount.

Discussion was held on replacing the police vehicle. Moved by Anderson and seconded by Heitmann to bid the police vehicle on March 17. All members present voted

4 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., July 17, 2019

IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2009-2029.

To vote use a cross (X) or check mark ($\sqrt{}$) in the square in front of "Yes" or "No".

YES

A vote "Yes" will increase the tax levy by the amount of the opt-out.

20 yond

> NO A vote "No" will leave the tax levy as it is without the amount of the opt-out.

U



Answers on back page

Groton Independent \diamond Wed., July 17, 2019 \diamond 5

State officials scramble to respond after zebra mussels found in Lake Sharpe By: Nick Lowrey

Lake Sharpe has become the second major Missouri River reservoir in South Dakota to be infested with invasive zebra mussels, raising fears that millions of dollars in mitigation may be needed and that new restrictions could be placed on those who use the lake for boating, fishing and recreation.

The infestation was announced in a news release from the state Game, Fish & Parks Department on July 12. The mussel discovery shocked state GFP officials and came in spite of more than four years of work and \$400,000 in spending aimed at preventing boaters from inadvertently spreading zebra mussels and a host of other harmful, non-native species from spreading further into South Dakota.

On July 13, GFP Chief of Aquatic Resources John Lott told South Dakota News Watch that senior GFP staff plan to meet soon to begin reevaluating how the state handles aquatic invasive species management.

South Dakota faces staggering mitigation and repair bills as a result of zebra mussel infestations. Little can be done to reverse the infestation in Lake Sharpe, which is located on the Missouri River between Pierre and Fort Thompson. There is no known way to completely remove zebra mussels from a lake without either draining it or using poison to eradicate the mussels, which is not an option for a river-based waterway.

"We'll be recommending regulation changes at the [GFP] commission meeting in September," Lott said, though he did not provide any specific potential rule changes.

For now, the rules have not changed for boaters using Lake Sharpe, Lott said. Still, he wanted to remind the public that the only way for mussels to move from lake to lake is if people accidentally carry them in or on their boats.

Zebra mussels, native to Eastern Europe, have been the bane of waterway managers and users across the country.

South Dakota already faces steep mitigation and repair bills on public waterways and related infrastructure as a result of ongoing zebra mussel infestations, including at Lewis and Clark Lake on the Missouri River near Yankton.

The mussels can clog or damage water treatment and power-generation systems on lakes and rivers. When the mussels have been in a water body long enough, the sharp shells of dead mussels start to accumulate on beaches, fouling recreation access points and potentially cutting the feet of users. When water levels are drawn down, massive mussel die-offs release strong odors. The mussels can darken lake waters and make fishing more difficult. So far, zebra mussel infestations haven't been found to destroy fisheries, but the potential does exist, Lott said.



Invasive zerba mussels have been found in Lake Sharpe on the Missouri River in South Dakota, shocking state officials and creating potential for waterway damage, problems with power and water plants and more restrictions on boaters.

but many farmers, ranchers, cities and rural water systems draw water from the state's portion of the Missouri River. Costs to the state and potentially to private landowners increase if mussels spread to new lakes and rivers.

Zebra mussels cause damage by attaching themselves to nearly any hard surface in the water. Juvenile zebra mussels, which are known as veligers, are nearly microscopic and float free in the water for about a month. During that month they can be sucked into boat ballast tanks, live wells and motors, which is how they move from lake to lake. Not only does that allow zebra mussels to spread easily, it also means they can get into some pretty surprising places. Zebra mussels also tend to form colonies which can clog intake and outflow pipes at water treatment facilities.

Lewis and Clark Lake, the first Missouri River reservoir in South Dakota where a zebra mussel infestation was found, has suffered extensive damage and hefty repair bills. At Gavins Point Dam, which forms the reservoir, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had to reduce the amount of electricity the hydroelectric dam produces in order to clean mussels out of generator cooling tank water intakes every two weeks, officials said. Prior to the zebra mussel invasion, the intakes were cleaned about every six months.

"They'll attach to piping. If it's really small piping they'll completely block it up, stop the and Clark Lake on the Missouri River near Yankton. They have since been found in Lake Yankton, which is just outside of Yankton, in McCook Lake in Union County near North Sioux City and in the Missouri River below Gavin's Point Dam. Lake Sharpe is the newest addition to the list of infested South Dakota waters.

GFP Commission Chairman Gary Jensen said he is concerned about the potential for damage and repair costs to Lake Sharpe and is working to schedule an emergency commission meeting to form a response.

His goal for the meeting was to get a more detailed report on the Lake Sharpe situation and determine what, if any, mitigation steps can be taken.

"We've been trying to prevent this from happening since I started on the commission," said Jensen, a commissioner for about a decade.

The first adult zebra mussels found in Lake Sharpe were discovered recently by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff members doing maintenance on Big Bend Dam, which forms the lake at Fort Thompson. It is impossible to know exactly how the mussels got there, but the most likely scenario is that juvenile zebra mussels were carried into the lake by a boater.

So far, adult mussels have only been found on structures close to the dam. GFP staff will be working to determine the full extent of the infestation in the coming days, Lott said. They will also monitor Lake Francis Case, which is immediately downstream of Lake Sharpe, for signs of zebra mussel infestation. Lake Oahe, which is immediately upstream of Lake Sharpe, also will see more monitoring for mussels, Lott said.

Little can be done to immediately reverse the infestation in Lake Sharpe since there is no known way to completely remove zebra mussels from a lake without either draining it or using poison to eradicate the mussels, which is not an option for a river-based waterway.

However, the GFP commission can strengthen state anti-aquatic invasive species rules and step up enforcement among boaters and recreational users to prevent or slow the further spread of zebra mussels. The commission also could declare Lake Sharpe an invasive species containment water, a designation that carries



Mussel mitigation a costly process

A January 2019 report by the University of Montana gave a glimpse of what an expanded zebra mussel infestation could cost South Dakota.

A study done at the university's Flathead Lake Biological Station estimated the potential yearly cost of zebra mussel infestation solely to irrigation systems along Montana's portion of the Missouri River at \$25 million to \$53 million. The potential cost of mussel removal and mitigation at water treatment plants was estimated at up to \$5.8 million, the study found. A similar report does not exist for South Dakota

6 \diamond Groton Independent **\diamond** Wed., July 17, 2019

flow through it. They reduce the amount of flow through the system, they can completely block the heat exchangers or reduce the flows, which of course starts to make our unit temperatures creep up, forcing us to shut a generator down to clean it out," Gavins Point Dam senior mechanic Michael Schnetzer said in a June news release announcing a new antimussel water filtration system.

The filtration system the corps announced in June cost about \$1.45 million and works by bombarding free-floating juvenile zebra mussels with a powerful UV light, which kills them. The first discovery of zebra mussels in the U.S. was made in 1988 in the Great Lakes. Within a few years, nearly every submerged surface in the Great Lakes was covered in the mussels. Since being discovered in the U.S., zebra mussels have spread outward through the country by way of river currents and in boat ballast tanks, live wells and motors.

The first confirmed discovery of zebra mussels in South Dakota occurred in 2015 at Lewis

A pair of South Dakota conservation officers inspect Pierre resident Jeff Carr's boat July 14 as part of a temporary law enforcement check station near Oahe Dam a few miles north of Pierre. Carr had been fishing on Lake Oahe and officers checked to make sure the boat's drain plug was out, which is required under the state's aquatic invasive species rules. Regional Conservation Officer Supervisor Steve Rossow said enforcement of the rules has taken on new urgency as Lake Sharpe, immediately downstream from Lake Oahe, was confirmed to be infested with invasive zebra mussels on July 12. Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch.



Zebra mussels are generally small and can be identified by the distinctive stripes on their shells. If not contained, zebra mussels reproduce quickly and can damage waterways and boats and clog water treatment facilities and power plants. Photo: Courtesy U.S. Geological Survey

a set of additional significant restrictions on boat movement and cleanliness.

"There are still a lot of water bodies out there to be protected," Jensen said.

New boating rules and enforcement likely

The state's current invasive species rules first were written in 2015 following the discovery of zebra mussels in Lewis and Clark Lake. The rules were updated again in 2017. Boat owners are required to pull their boats' drain plugs before leaving a boat ramp parking lot. Boaters and anglers also are not allowed to transport lake water past a boat ramp parking lot. Any boat launched into a lake or river designated by the GFP Commission as an invasive species containment water and that can't be completely dried out by pulling a drain plug must be decontaminated by cleaning the boat's hull with 140-degree water and flushing its internal compartments with 120-degree water.

Right now, there are four invasive species containment waters in South Dakota, making up the only waterways other than Lake Sharpe where zebra mussels have been found in the state. The containment waters are Lewis and Clark Lake, the Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam, Lake Yankton and McCook Lake near North Sioux City.

Any boat that has been used on an out of state lake or river known to have invasive mussels also must be decontaminated before it can be launched in South Dakota. GFP staff can inspect boats for compliance with the rules but, so far, most enforcement efforts have been focused around Lewis and Clark Lake.

Jensen wouldn't say whether he thought the state's current approach toward invasive species control had been aggressive enough.

He also couldn't offer any details on changes that might be in the works but he did say that he wanted to move as quickly as possible. Any rule changes the commission chooses to make would be subject to a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing. Rick Jorgensen, a boater from Fort Pierre who spent a recent afternoon cruising up and down Lake Sharpe with friends, wasn't happy to hear about the zebra mussel infestation. "Now that they're here we've got a real problem," Jorgensen said. He said he was frustrated at the inability of state officials to keep a closer eye on all the boats coming into South Dakota from Minnesota and Iowa where there are dozens of lakes infested with zebra mussels. "I don't think GFP has enough people to do anything about it," Jorgensen said. At least part of the urgency from GFP officials has to do with the popularity of Lake Sharpe and its downstream neighbor, Lake Francis Case. Lake Francis Case likely will be infested with zebra mussels soon, if it isn't already, because juvenile zebra mussels will be sucked through Big Bend Dam. Lake Francis Case is crossed by Interstate 90, making it an easy destination for anglers and boaters from Rapid City or Sioux Falls to make weekend visits.

"When you look at a state like ours and how mobile our boaters and anglers are, it can be really hard to control the spread of aquatic invasive species," Lott said.

A big part of GFP's job over the next few months will be to convince boaters, anglers, cities and irrigators to start working together on efforts to prevent zebra mussels from spreading any further. The only way the invasive mussels can move past a dam or to another lake is if someone inadvertently carries them, Lott said.

"We need to get people to think about how aquatic invasive species impact them directly," Lott said.

Paul Lepisto, an angler and boat owner from Pierre, said the discovery of zebra mussels was a "gut punch." Lepisto, who is the regional conservation director for the Izaak Walton League, has been working on the invasive species issue for 11 years. He said he thought GFP's approach to the issue had been sensible.

"I thought the message would have sunk in; we can't recreate the way we used to," Lepisto said.



Lake Sharpe, shown here from the beach at Griffin Park in PIerre, is one of South Dakota's most popular fishing and recreation destinations. The popularity and prominence of the Missouri River reservoir is one reason the Game, Fish & Parks Department is worried about the recent discovery of invasive zebra mussels in the lake. Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch

Rapid reproduction and vast movement

Zebra mussels are actually native to the Caspian Sea region of eastern Europe.

The mussels spread through Europe's growing canal system during the 1800s and 1900s. Eventually they made their way to busy, freshwater ports that often saw ocean-going ships. Those ships picked up juvenile zebra mussels, which are known as veligers, as they pumped water into their ballast tanks before making their way across the Atlantic Ocean.

A few of those ships went through the St. Lawrence Seaway system, which connects the

Rick Jorgensen of Fort Pierre said he keeps his pontoon on the water all summer at a dock on Lake Sharpe near his home. He said he's tried to follow the zebra mussel issue and doesn't think the discovery of the destructive mussels will affect him too much



but he was disappointed to learn of the recent discovery. Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch

"Now that they're here, we've got a real problem." -- Fort Pierre boater Rick Jorgensen

Zebra mussels feed by filtering water and collecting algae in their siphons. Algae are the base of most aquatic food webs, so there's some worry that zebra mussels, which have few natural predators in North America, can cause irreparable harm to fisheries. While scientists worry zebra mussels can compete with native species that rely on algae, and thus alter food webs, it hasn't happened yet.

The mussels can and do alter water clarity which can encourage the growth of aquatic plants and make fishing more difficult.

By far, the biggest danger zebra mussels pose is to infrastructure. National estimates peg the annual cost of mitigation, repairs and education about invasive mussels at about \$1 billion.



The South Dakota Game Fish & Parks Department has placed signs at public boat ramps across the state as a visible reminder of the rules against moving lake water and making sure all drain plugs on boats are open when leaving a lake. Restrictions on boating in the Missouri River could be tightened now that invasive zebra mussels have been discovered In Lake Sharpe. Photo: Nick Lowrey,

Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes. At some point along their journey through the Great Lakes, transatlantic ships carrying zebra mussels dumped their ballast tanks and almost immediately, the Great Lakes became infested. Zebra mussels are small, filter feeding mussels that latch onto hard surfaces in infested lakes.

They grow fast and reproduce by broadcasting reproductive cells into the water. A single female can release up to 40,000 eggs during a spawning cycle and up to 1 million eggs during a summer spawning season.

Juvenile zebra mussels are nearly microscopic and float free in the water for about a month. They can be sucked into boat ballast tanks, live wells and motors. After about three weeks in the water, the veligers find something to latch onto, grow a shell and enter their adult stage of life. Zebra mussel colonies have been found on everything from golf balls to live turtles. Once attached to something, it takes a female about two years to start reproducing. South Dakota News Watch

ABOUT

NICK LOWREY

Nick Lowrey, based in Pierre, S.D., is an investigative staff reporter for South Dakota News Watch. A South Dakotan for more than 20 years, he is a former editor of the Pierre Capital Journal.

Groton Independent \diamond Wed., July 17, 2019 \diamond 7



Hill has Yard of the Week The Yard of the Week last week belonged to Jason and Tara Hill at 907 N. 1st St. Also pictured are their children, Hank and Hazel. The Yard of the Week is sponsored by members of the Groton Garden Club. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Low Water Pressure

The City of Groton experienced low water pressure late Saturday afternoon/early evening. The controls for the water tower malfunctioned which also affected the alert system. Residents started to alert the public works employees about the problem. Basically, the water tower



Last Sunday Edition

This last Sunday marks the final Sunday edition of the Aberdeen American News. Starting this weekend, they will be publishing a "beefed up" Saturday edition.

The elimination of the Sunday paper leaves only the Rapid City Journal, Sioux Falls Argus Leader and the Groton Daily Independent as the only publications in the state publishing seven days a week.



Dedicated to Community Health Right Here in Groton That's Avera.

When you need quality health care close to home, count on your friends and neighbors — the dedicated health care professionals at Avera Medical Group Groton. Your hometown clinic provides convenient services for your family with a caring, compassionate touch.



Avera **Medical Group**

Avera Medical Group Groton 8 E. Highway 12 | Groton, SD 57445

Schedule an appointment by calling 605-397-4242 or learn more at Avera.org/groton