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The Groton Independent

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Groton Jr. Legion is off to state!

The Groton Junior Legion Baseball Team took first place at the regional tournament and will be heading off to state in Clark next week. Pictured in back, left to right, are Assistant Coach Seth Erickson, Braxton Imrie, Ryan Groeblichhoff, Logan Ringgenberg, Kaleb Hoover, Colby Dunker and Head Coach Dalton Locke; in front, left to right, are Brevin Flihs, Dillon Abeln, Kaleb Antonsen, Korbin Kucker and Teylor Diegel; not pictured is Braydin Althoff. (Photo by Mike Imrie)

Fun was had by all at the Summer Downtown Sip & Shop event

Some vendors included the Wage Memorial Library, Frank with his Schwan's truck, Next Level Nutrition, Beth Hendrickson, The Johnson Littles, Beauty Brew, Groton Chamber, Lori's Pharmacy, Base Kamp Lodge, Kate's Confections and several more!

The Jungle and American Legion Post #39 also had drink specials along with pizza slices at The Jungle!

Photos by April Abeln



Street Seal Project gets done

Photos by Paul Kosel



The oil is put down.



Then the chips are dropped on the oil.



The chips are packed down.



Some raking on the edge.

Signal Work Scheduled for U.S. Highway 12 and Melgaard Road in Aberdeen

ABERDEEN, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has begun signal work on U.S. Highway 12 and Melgaard Road in Aberdeen.

The work consists of installing a new traffic controller. Traffic at the intersection will be controlled with a four-way stop.

Motorists should be prepared for suddenly slowing and stopped traffic and be aware of construction equipment and workers adjacent to the roadway. The contractor on this \$5.6 million project is Ti-Zack Concrete, Inc. of Le Center, Minnesota.

No paper next week.

I will be going to Plymouth, Minn., next week. I will be attending a week-long class at the Summer Institute of Theology on the campus of Free Lutheran Bible College. It's my continuing education for serving at Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, rural Eden.

- Paul

Maybe we should go easier on the athletes

I was delighted to see my friend walk into my office last week looking good after a rare stroke that usually takes out lesser men. The doctors were amazed, he said, that his speech and cognitive abilities remained intact. "Well, if anything was affected," I responded, "I hope it has something to do with your judgement in fantasy football." That's what passes for compassion in Ashley, ND, especially in a league swimming with sharks.

Through a series of miracles, I emerged champion last year after an extended and humbling hiatus. Now, they're all gunning for me, so I've already been contemplating quarterbacks, the most important position in our touchdown league.

I've been thinking, too, about how hard on them we as fans can be—specifically North Dakota's own Carson Wentz and Baker Mayfield who was unceremoniously exiled to Carolina, as if playing in Cleveland hadn't been exile enough.

Maybe I have a soft spot for Wentz because he's a local kid—and that's really what most of them are, kids, with the weight and the scrutiny of the world on their sore shoulders—but also because a few years ago, 'the big ginger,' as India called him, was her seatmate on a flight back from Pennsylvania. He was wearing an NDSU jersey. And he was nice. North Dakota nice.

After being bounced out of Philadelphia, one of the toughest places in the world to play with a rabid fan base, he spent a year in Indianapolis before being traded to Washington. He's got a lot to prove. A career on the line. Statistically, he had fine year for the Colts, but the rap on him is he's stubborn. North Dakota stubborn, and not beloved in the locker room. And, frankly, I was disappointed that he shunned the COVID vaccine, and that cost him playing time and hurt the team. Maybe it was founded on religious beliefs or suspicion borne of a thousand misplaced conspiracy theories. But he's still young. Aaron Rodgers did the same thing, but when you win, all is forgiven. So, I'm pulling for him. He's got immense talent and inadvisably sometimes, the mentality of a linebacker. Carson, if your reading this, it's okay to step out of bounds.

Mayfield is another guy I appreciate. He's got charisma and a gutty attitude. He played the season with a torn labrum and fractured humerus in his non-throwing shoulder, a knee injury, and the usual brutal bruises that come from as sport that amounts to a se-

ries of car wrecks every week. You might not perform well, either, if you were crazy enough to play as wounded as he was. Geez, does he get no credit for putting his body on the line? Isn't that the guy you want next you in a foxhole? Like Wentz, there were whispers about locker room issues. But he's young. You learn. Or you don't. But I think he will. And has. To replace him, the Browns brought in DeShaun Watson who claims innocence in 24 civil cases against him from massage therapists. If he is, it's the biggest conspiracy since COVID. He's going to be your locker room leader? What message does that send?

Fans send messages, too, and not always good ones. I've walked high school sidelines for decades and I still cringe at some of the critical fan behavior, often from the parents themselves. Sure, they make mistakes, but they're teenagers. It's easy, with the benefit of experience and time, to better understand the game and the situation, but man, things are moving pretty fast when you're 15.

It didn't dawn on me for years why my baseball coach was upset when I tried to steal third with two outs in a tight tournament game and our weakest hitter at the plate. My logic was that I'd score with a passed ball, which was not uncommon in those games. His was that we didn't want to start the last inning with our weakest batter. I was out by an inch by a perfect throw. And we lost.

We had a South Border football team last year that rebounded from years of losing to have a remarkable season—one of the years when the kids, coaches, and the stars align—and the poise they showed was exceptional. In retrospect, I think they taught some would-be critics about grace under pressure. Quite an achievement for those so young.

Mistakes, fumbles, interceptions, missed tackles, happen at every level. But, by God, they're trying. It's hard work. I think we, as fans, have some work to do, too, involving understanding and compassion. Okay?

Now, let the games begin.

© Tony Bender, 2022



That's Life

by Tony Bender

Weekly Vikings Recap

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

As we enter the last week of the offseason for the Vikings, we finish up our analysis of the different position groups. We'll look at any competition that might occur, as well as make our predictions for who will make the final 53-man roster. For the last week, we will look at the cornerbacks.

Cornerbacks:

Lock to make the 53-man roster: Patrick Peterson, Cam Dantzler, Chandon Sullivan, Andrew Booth, Akayleb Evans, and Kris Boyd

Slowly, but surely, the Vikings have started to rebuild their cornerback room. Although it is not what it was in 2017, the cornerback room is much better than it was over the past two seasons in Minnesota.

The Vikings brought back veteran Patrick Peterson for another season. Despite not being what he was in his Arizona days, Peterson is still a solid cornerback. Moreover, he provides the veteran leadership in the cornerback room filled with many young cornerbacks.

After Peterson, the rest of the starting cornerback spots are open to competition. The leaders in the clubhouse are probably Cameron Dantzler and Chandon Sullivan, merely because of their experience. Dantzler, who lacks the typical high-end speed of a cornerback, has been decent in his first two seasons in Minnesota. However, some experts think Dantzler has real potential to be a good cornerback, while others are unsure if his lack of speed will allow him to cover the elite wide receivers in the NFL.

Sullivan will likely be the starting slot cornerback for the Vikings. Sullivan, who played three seasons in Green Bay, is an average cornerback at best. However, given the youth and inexperience in this cornerback room, having a guy who can be a reliable player at the cornerback position might be something the Vikings need at the start of the season.

As for the remaining players on this list, Andrew Booth is probably the best bet to crack the starting lineup this season. Booth was a good cornerback at Clemson and was projected by some experts to be good enough to be a first-round pick in this past year's draft. However, Booth fell to the second-round, and the Vikings traded up to grab him. Booth has stated that he played hurt through most of his years at Clemson. That might concern some people, but it also might show that Booth has the potential to be very good once he gets fully healthy.

Akayleb Evans was the favorite draft pick of Vikings' GM, Kwesi Adofo-Mensah. There is some potential there with Evans, but I do think he is still a very raw player who will need time to develop into a reliable starting cornerback.

And, despite what others think, I believe Kris Boyd will likely make the Vikings' final roster because he is continuing to develop into a solid cornerback. Furthermore, Boyd is entering the final season of his rookie contract and might have extra motivation to make an impact in order to ensure a new contract next season.

Players competing for the final spot on the cornerback group: Harrison Hand and Parry Nickerson

Harrison Hand is entering his third season with the Vikings and has yet to really break out into anything more than a depth cornerback. Perhaps if he excels during training camp, he could jump a guy like Kris Boyd on the depth chart. However, I think there are too many guys in front of him to make the Vikings' final roster.

The same can be said for Parry Nickerson. Nickerson has found himself to be an NFL journeyman, playing for five teams in five seasons. Maybe he will decide to play on the Vikings' practice squad if he gets cut to provide depth in case of injury.

Likely to be cut or placed on the practice squad: Tye Smith and Nate Hairston

53-man roster predictions:

Jack Kolsrud's prediction

Patrick Peterson, Cam Dantzler, Chandon Sullivan, Andrew Booth, Akayleb Evans, and Kris Boyd

Duane Kolsrud's prediction

Patrick Peterson, Cam Dantzler, Chandon Sullivan, Andrew Booth, Akayleb Evans, and Kris Boyd

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Amateur Regions

Locke Electric Takes Victory Over Northville Merchants in a High-Scoring Affair

Bats were blistered as Locke Electric defeated Northville Merchants 13-7 on Monday.

Locke Electric got things started in the second inning when Jonny Israel singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, Northville Merchants tied things up at four. Schipke drove in two when Schipke singled.

After Locke Electric scored one run in the top of the third, Northville Merchants answered with one of their own. Locke Electric scored when Cody Jensen singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run. Northville Merchants then answered when Lefforge singled on a 0-1 count, scoring one run.

Locke Electric pulled away for good with two runs in the fifth inning. In the fifth Wilson Bonet hit a solo homer and Jensen's sac fly scored one run for Locke Electric.

Locke Electric notched four runs in the seventh inning. Locke Electric put the pressure on, lead by singles by Austin Jones and Carlos Camacho and a double by Jackson Cogley.

Northville Merchants scored three runs in the fourth inning. Northville Merchants batters contributing to the big inning included Jaragoski and Schipke, who each had RBIs in the inning.

Israel took the win for Locke Electric. Israel allowed nine hits and five runs over five and a third innings, striking out three and walking zero. Cogley threw three and two-thirds innings in relief out of the bullpen.

Waltman took the loss for Northville Merchants. The hurler lasted six and two-thirds innings, allowing ten hits and ten runs while striking out four.

Locke Electric socked one home run on the day. Bonet had a four bagger in the fifth inning.

Locke Electric had 16 hits in the game. Dylan Frey, Bonet, Heath Giedt, Cogley, Jones, and Jensen each collected multiple hits for Locke Electric. Frey led Locke Electric with three hits in five at bats.

Northville Merchants collected 11 hits on the day. Lefforge and Simes each managed multiple hits for Northville Merchants. Lefforge went 3-for-5 at the plate to lead Northville Merchants in hits.

Redfield Pheasants Runs Away With Early Lead in Victory

Locke Electric watched the game slip away early and couldn't recover in a 6-0 loss to Redfield Pheasants on Tuesday. Redfield Pheasants took the lead on a fielder's choice in the second inning.

The Locke Electric struggled to put runs on the board and had a tough time defensively containing Redfield Pheasants, giving up six runs.

Redfield Pheasants got on the board in the second inning when Aaron Severson induced Drew Masat to hit into a fielder's choice, but one run scored.

One bright spot for Locke Electric was a single by Heath Giedt in the second inning.

Gregg earned the win for Redfield Pheasants. The fireballer went nine innings, allowing zero runs on five hits and striking out six.

Severson took the loss for Locke Electric. The pitcher went five and a third innings, allowing six runs on seven hits, striking out three and walking one.

Giedt led Locke Electric with two hits in four at bats.

Redfield Pheasants tallied eight hits in the game. Kuehn and Barrett Wren all managed multiple hits for Redfield Pheasants. Kuehn went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead Redfield Pheasants in hits. Redfield Pheasants didn't commit a single error in the field. Wren had ten chances in the field, the most on the team.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Edward Jones: CARES Act Provides Investors, Business Owners with Opportunities

For Edward Jones financial advisors, passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act has been a jolt of good news in an otherwise deeply unsettling time.

"Obviously, our biggest concern is for the well-being of everyone in our community," Travis Schuring says. "And we hope everyone is practicing social distancing and doing everything they can to keep themselves, their loved ones and their neighbors safe and healthy. But beyond the physical worries caused by the coronavirus, there have been deep economic concerns, and the CARES Act is an important move toward addressing some of these."

Direct payments - Individuals will receive a one-time payment of up to \$1,200; this amount is reduced for incomes over \$75,000 and eliminated altogether at \$99,000. Joint filers will receive up to \$2,400, with this amount reduced for incomes over \$150,000 and eliminated at \$198,000 for joint filers with no children. Plus, taxpayers with children will receive an extra \$500 for each dependent child under the age of 17.

"One possible idea for this money is to use it as part of an emergency fund," Schuring says. "By putting it in a low-risk, liquid account, you'll have it available when you need it for any large, unexpected expenses during the next several months."

Expanded unemployment benefits - The CARE Act provides \$250 billion for extended unemployment insurance, expands eligibility and provides workers with an additional \$600 per week for four months, in addition to what state programs pay. Unemployment benefits will also be extended through Dec. 31 for eligible workers. And the provisions also cover the self-employed, independent contractors and "gig economy" workers.

"These benefits can provide a lifeline to many workers," Schuring says. "And they may be able to help people avoid liquidating some long-term investments earmarked for retirement just to meet their daily cash flow needs. So, in that sense, the money can help individuals feel more secure today and in the future."

No penalty on early withdrawals - Typically, individuals must pay a 10% penalty on early withdrawals from IRAs, 401(k)s and similar retirement accounts. Under the CARES Act, this penalty will be waived for individuals who qualify for COVID-19 relief for distributions up to \$100,000 in aggregate from IRAs and plans that allow COVID-19 distributions. Withdrawals will still be taxable, but the taxes can be spread out over three years.

"Waiving the 10% penalty is a positive move during times like this," Schuring says, "but we would still advise our clients that, if they really have a need for the money, to look at other sources first, because IRAs and 401(k)s are long-term vehicles designed to help support people during their retirement years."

Suspension of required withdrawals - Owners of traditional IRAs and 401(k)s are usually required to start taking withdrawals from these accounts once they reach 72. The CARES Act waives these required minimum distributions for 2020.

"Of course, if people need the money, they can still tap into these funds," Schuring says. "But, if not, this provision gives the money even more time to grow on a tax-deferred basis."

Increase in retirement plan loan limit - 401(k) investors who qualify for COVID-19 relief can now borrow up to \$100,000 from their accounts, up from \$50,000, provided their plan allows loans.

"We recommend that you exhaust some of the other provisions associated with the CARES Act first, such as mortgage and student loan relief, or using the direct payment to bridge the gap on current expenses before taking a distribution or loan from your retirement account," Schuring says. "If you decide to take a withdrawal or loan we recommend you work with your financial advisor to consider developing strategies to recontribute/pay back these funds over time to reduce any long-term impact to your retirement goals."

Another key part of the CARES Act provides \$349 billion to help small businesses - those with fewer than 500 employees - retain workers and avoid closing up shop. A significant part of this small-business relief is the Paycheck Protection Program. This initiative provides federally guaranteed loans to small businesses that maintain their payroll during this emergency. Significantly, these loans may be forgiven if borrowers use the loans for payroll and other essential business expenses (such as mortgage interest, rent and utilities) and maintain their payroll during the crisis.

"Small businesses are really the economic backbone in many of the communities in which we have our offices," Schuring says. "I would certainly encourage our clients who are business owners, and any business owner, to explore this opportunity."

Ultimately, Schuring says, the CARES Act may be seen as another steppingstone on the road back to recovery, from a financial standpoint.

"We've still got some major challenges, but it's encouraging to see our lawmakers coming together to offer some concrete steps to provide relief to investors and business owners," Schuring says. "We all need to work together to get through this challenging time, and I'm confident we'll do just that."

Edward Jones, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in St. Louis, provides financial services in the U.S. and, through its affiliate, in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the investments its financial advisors offer to the location of its branch offices, caters to individual investors. The firm's 18,000-plus financial advisors serve more than 7 million clients and care for \$1.3 trillion in assets under management. Visit our website at edwardjones.com and recruiting website at careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.

East Hanson Notice to Vacate Alley

Resolution of the Township Board of Supervisors of the township of East Hanson, County of Brown, State of South Dakota; vacating 25.02 feet of alley in the Town of Ferney, South Dakota.

RESOLUTION
The petition to vacate has been presented before this public body this 18th day of July, 2022. Petitioning for the vacation of a portion of an alley more specifically described as follows:

Commencing at the NE property corner of "Harry Implement Second Addition to the Town of Ferney" in the SW 1/4 of Section 31-T122N-R60W on the 5th PM, Brown County, South Dakota

139.95" S 01°10'06" E, then 25.02" S 88°37'15" W, then 20.0' N 01°09'54" W, then 25.02' N 88°37'15" E back to point of beginning to close.

And further said Petition being in proper form and executed by Steve Harry the authorized signer for Harry Implement Company, and owner of adjacent land to the roadway and alleyways being vacated; and further it having been determined that vacating said existing public right-of-ways, which includes the dedicated right-of-ways, alleyways and any right-of-way acquired by deed(s) will better serve the public convenience; and that no one appearing in opposition; and said township members having considered said matter and being fully advised in the premises and considering it

advisable to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

That the petition to vacate a portion of the alley hereinabove described be hereby affirmed and approved and that title to said property be hereby assigned and vested in Harry Implement Company, Steve Harry authorized signer. It is further ORDERED that said resolution shall be published in the official /legal newspaper of the respective Township of East Hanson once per week for two consecutive weeks; and that after such publication, such right-of-ways shall be, after a lapse of thirty days after the last publication thereof, vacated without further

proceedings unless appealed as provided by law; and that the Township Chairperson herein is further ordered and directed to cause to be recorded a true and correct copy of this Resolution and Order in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for Brown County, South Dakota.

Dated this 18th day of July, 2022

Jeff Harry, Chairman
Lynn Miller, Clerk
Damien Krueger
Nicholas Munson
Justin Harry

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Groton Legion Region Games

Groton Legion Post #39 Grabs Lead in Fifth Inning to Defeat Wessington Springs

Groton Legion Post #39 is battling back to the championship game after eliminating Wessington Springs in the Legion Region game played Wednesday evening in Redfield, 26-13. Groton took the lead late in the game to secure the win. Groton will play Clark/Willow Lake at 1 p.m. today in Redfield.

The game was tied at seven with Groton Legion Post #39 batting in the top of the fifth when Cole Simon singled on a 2-0 count, scoring two runs.

Andrew Marzahn led Groton Legion Post #39 to victory by driving in four runs. Marzahn went 2-for-3 at the plate. Marzahn drove in runs on a single in the fifth, a in the fifth, and a walk in the sixth.

Wessington Springs opened up an early lead in the first inning when Landon Cleveland singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run.

Dillon Abeln took the win for Groton Legion Post #39. The pitcher went four and a third innings, allowing 12 runs on 15 hits, striking out four and walking zero. Kaleb Hoover threw one and two-thirds innings in relief out of the bullpen.

Blake Larson took the loss for Wessington Springs. Larson lasted four and a third innings, allowing six hits and eight runs while striking out four.

Groton Legion Post #39 had 13 hits in the game. Pierce Kettering, Hoover, Ryan Groeblichhoff, and Marzahn all managed multiple hits for Groton Legion Post #39. Marzahn, Groeblichhoff, Hoover, and Kettering each managed two hits to lead Groton Legion Post #39.

Wessington Springs saw the ball well, racking up 17 hits in the game. Mason Schelske, Cade Mohling, Camden Jost, Clay Olinger, Cleveland, and Blaze Herdman all managed multiple hits for Wessington Springs. Schelske went 5-for-5 at the plate to lead Wessington Springs in hits.

Pierce Kettering Drives in Four as Groton Legion Post #39 Defeats Clark/Willow Lake Senators 18U

Pierce Kettering wasted no opportunities at the plate on Thursday, driving in four on two hits to lead Groton Legion Post #39 past Clark/Willow Lake Senators 18U 23-6 on Thursday. Kettering drove in runs on a in the second, a double in the third, a double in the fourth, and a walk in the fifth.

The base paths were crowded in this high-scoring game. Groton Legion Post #39 collected 11 hits and Clark/Willow Lake Senators 18U had five.

Groton Legion Post #39 notched eight runs in the fifth inning. Groton Legion Post #39 big bats were led by Andrew Marzahn, Kettering, Cole Simon, Bradin Althoff, Ryan Groeblichhoff, and Kaleb Hoover, all driving in runs in the frame.

Clark/Willow Lake Senators 18U scored three runs in the fourth inning. Clark/Willow Lake Senators 18U scored its runs on a double by Lucas Kannegieter.

Groeblichhoff was credited with the victory for Groton Legion Post #39. The pitcher surrendered six runs on five hits over five innings, striking out six.

Jack Bratland took the loss for Clark/Willow Lake Senators 18U. The pitcher surrendered 15 runs on seven hits over three and two-thirds innings, striking out three.

Groton Legion Post #39 saw the ball well today, racking up 11 hits in the game. Kettering, Groeblichhoff, and Althoff all had multiple hits for Groton Legion Post #39. Althoff, Groeblichhoff, and Kettering all had two hits to lead Groton Legion Post #39.

Groton Legion Post #39 Drops Game to Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser After Late Score

Groton Legion Post #39 stayed in it until the end, but Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser pulled away late in a 13-10 victory on Thursday in the region championship game. The game was tied at ten with Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser batting in the bottom of the sixth when Seth Siebrecht grounded out, scoring one run.

Groton Legion Post #39 collected 13 hits and Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser had 15 in the high-scoring affair.

Groton Legion Post #39 got things moving in the first inning. Bradin Althoff drove in two when Althoff singled.

Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser scored five runs in the fourth inning. Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser's big inning was driven by singles by Kellan Hurd, Nolan Gall, and Eli Morrisette and a double by Keaton Rohfls.

Siebrecht was the winning pitcher for Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser. The fireballer surrendered zero runs on zero hits over one-third of an inning, walking one. Camden Osborn threw one inning in relief out of the bullpen.

Pierce Kettering took the loss for Groton Legion Post #39. The pitcher surrendered nine runs on eight hits over three and a third innings, striking out one.

Rohfls started the game for Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser. The pitcher lasted five and two-thirds innings, allowing 13 hits and ten runs while striking out one

Groton Legion Post #39 collected 13 hits. Kettering, Dillon Abeln, Cole Simon, Althoff, and Andrew Marzahn all collected multiple hits for Groton Legion Post #39. Abeln and Kettering all had three hits to lead Groton Legion Post #39.

Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser totaled 15 hits. Rohfls, Gall, Hurd, Osborn, and Morrisette all managed multiple hits for Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser. Rohfls led Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser with four hits in four at bats.

Jr. Legion Region Games

Three Pitchers Combine in No-Hitter as Groton Post 39 Jr Legion Takes Victory Over Redfield jr legion

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion's three pitchers didn't allow a single hit, as Groton Post 39 Jr Legion defeated Redfield jr legion 14-0 on Monday. Caden McInerney struck out Hunter Binger to get the last out of the game.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion got things started in the first inning when Colby Dunker grounded out, scoring one run.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion scored seven runs in the fifth inning. Groton Post 39 Jr Legion put the pressure on, lead by singles by Dillon Abeln and Teylor Diegel, a home run by Dunker, a fielder's choice by Braxton Imrie, and a double by Kaleb Hoover.

Bradin Althoff took the win for Groton Post 39 Jr Legion. Althoff lasted two and two-thirds

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innings, allowing zero hits and zero runs while striking out three and walking zero. Korbin Kucker and McInerney entered the game out of the bullpen and helped to close out the game in relief.

Noah Johnson took the loss for Redfield jr legion. The pitcher went four and two-thirds innings, allowing 14 runs on 12 hits and striking out two.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion launched one home run on the day. Dunker went deep in the fifth inning.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion racked up 13 hits in the game. Diegel, Abeln, Dunker, Hoover, Imrie, and Logan Ringgenberg all collected multiple hits for Groton Post 39 Jr Legion. Ringgenberg, Imrie, Hoover, Dunker, Abeln, and Diegel each collected two hits to lead Groton Post 39 Jr Legion. Groton Post 39 Jr Legion didn't commit a single error in the field. Abeln had the most chances in the field with nine. Groton Post 39 Jr Legion tore up the base paths, as two players stole at least two bases. Hoover led the way with three.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion Takes Early Lead in Victory Over WIN

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion jumped out to an early lead over WIN and took home a 12-3 victory on Monday. Groton Post 39 Jr Legion scored on a single by Bradin Althoff in the first inning, a single by Brevin Flihs in the second inning, and a single by Colby Dunker in the second inning.

In the bottom of the first inning, WIN tied things up at two when Quinton Fischbach doubled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring two runs.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion pulled away for good with three runs in the second inning. In the second Flihs singled on a 1-1 count, scoring one run and Dunker singled on a 2-2 count, scoring two runs.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion tallied six runs in the fifth inning. Groton Post 39 Jr Legion offense in the inning was led by Teylor Diegel, Ryan Groeblichhoff, Althoff, and Kaleb Hoover, all driving in runs in the inning.

Dillon Abeln earned the win for Groton Post 39 Jr Legion. The righthander surrendered three runs on eight hits over six and a third innings, striking out ten and walking zero. Hoover threw two-thirds of an inning in relief out of the bullpen.

Ashton Remily took the loss for WIN. The bulldog lasted four and a third innings, allowing eight hits and ten runs while striking out four.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion saw the ball well today, racking up 11 hits in the game. Althoff, Dunker, and Groeblichhoff all had multiple hits for Groton Post 39 Jr Legion. Groeblichhoff, Dunker, and Althoff all had two hits to lead Groton Post 39 Jr Legion.

WIN racked up eight hits in the game. Remily and Noah Fishbach each managed multiple hits for WIN.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion Claims Blow-Out Victory Over Hamlin Jr, 12-1

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion had all cylinders firing on offense on Tuesday, winning big over Hamlin Jr Post 37 / 217 12-1, in the championship game.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion got things moving in the first inning, when Ryan Groeblichhoff singled on a 1-2 count, scoring one run.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion tallied six runs in the third inning. Groton Post 39 Jr Legion put the pressure on, lead by singles by Groeblichhoff, Braxton Imrie, Dillon Abeln, and Korbin Kucker and a groundout by Colby Dunker.

Groeblichhoff pitched Groton Post 39 Jr Legion to victory. The righty went four innings, allowing one run on one hit, striking out one and walking one. Kucker threw one inning in relief out of the bullpen.

Watson Grantham took the loss for Hamlin Jr Post 37 / 217. Grantham went four and two-thirds innings, allowing 12 runs on 14 hits, striking out one and walking one.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion smacked one home run on the day. Kaleb Antonsen had a four bagger in the fifth inning.

Groton Post 39 Jr Legion totaled 14 hits. Kaleb Hoover, Teylor Diegel, Dunker, and Groeblichhoff each had multiple hits for Groton Post 39 Jr Legion. Hoover went 3-for-3 at the plate to lead Groton Post 39 Jr Legion in hits.

Sam Gigov led Hamlin Jr Post 37 / 217 with one hit in two at bats.

Brown County July 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes

JULY 19, 2022 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chair Sutton at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Feickert, Fjeldheim, Wiese, and Gage. Commissioner Weise led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Moved by Gage, seconded by Feickert to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commission was informed of the Republican Party meeting being held in Bristol South Dakota.

PIPELINE MORATORIUM:
Dan Lederman, Summit Carbon Solutions, spoke against signing the Moratorium. Con-

cerns were heard from landowners supporting signing the moratorium.

PIPELINE MORATORIUM:
Commissioner Feickert offered the following Resolution:
RESOLUTION #33-22

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS AND BUILDING PERMITS ON HAZARDOUS WASTE PIPELINES IN BROWN COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.

WHEREAS, to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the County, the Board of Commissioners for Brown County adopted Title 4 Brown County Zoning Ordinances for the purpose of establishing zoning regulations upon all land within the unincorporated areas of Brown County, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Title 4 otherwise known as the Brown County Zoning Ordinance, categorizes all land within the unincorporated

areas of Brown County into Districts with each District having its own unique set of permitted uses, conditional uses, and prohibited uses; and

WHEREAS, Title 4.0102 of the Brown County Zoning Ordinance defines a conditional use as a use that would not be appropriate generally or without restriction throughout the zoning division or district, but which, if controlled as to number, area, location, or relation to the neighborhood, would promote the public health, safety, welfare, morals, order, comfort, convenience, appearance, prosperity, or general welfare, and such uses may be permitted in a zoning district as conditional uses, as specific provisions for such exception are made Brown County zoning regulations, and conditional uses are subject to evaluation and approval by the Board of Adjustment and are administrative in nature. (Ord. 2004-1); and

WHEREAS, Title 4.0102 of the

Brown County Zoning Ordinance states a transmission pipeline may mean a pipeline that transports hazardous liquid or gas within a storage field or transports hazardous liquid or gas user or operates at a hoop stress of twenty percent or more of the specified minimum yield strength and that a "water service main" or a natural gas service main are meant as smaller mains, service lines and utility lines for servicing buildings or individual parcels and would not qualify as a transmission pipeline; and

WHEREAS, Transmission Pipelines, particularly those requiring the approval of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, can impact the public health, safety, welfare, morals, order, comfort, convenience, appearance, prosperity, or general welfare of a large portion of Brown County's population; and

WHEREAS, Brown County has enacted an ordinance establishing siting, or performance standards necessary for the granting of transmission pipeline conditional use permit, but said ordinance may need to be revised to ensure it is consistent with South Dakota and Federal law The Brown County Zoning Board of Adjustment requires time to begin the process of studying, reviewing South Dakota and Federal law, and the siting and performance standards that it believes are necessary to safeguard the health, safety, and general welfare of the public prior to the issuance of a transmission pipeline conditional use permit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Brown County Commissioners does hereby impose a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, or approvals for the construction, installation, or use of any transmission pipeline requiring the approval of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, traversing those lands contained within the unincorporated areas of Brown County, South Dakota, including the construction of any transmission pipeline related infrastructure, with said moratorium running for such a length of time that will give the Planning and Zoning Commission an opportunity to complete their review process or one year from the date of this Resolution is enacted.

Dated this 19th Day of July 2022.

Seconded by Commissioner Gage. Roll call vote: Commissioners Fjeldheim-aye; Gage-aye; Weis-aye; Sutton-aye. Resolution Adopted.

RICHMOND LAKE ROADS:
Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, gave an update on Richmond Lake Roads and options for improving roads. No action taken.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, gave updates on Bridge Inspection Resolution and Highway Department.

MINUTES:
Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of July 12, 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES 219- REZONE-FIRST READING:

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Feickert to approve first reading of Proposed Ordinance 219, Applicants Clarence and Lori Habeck requesting to rezone from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.14 Highway Commercial (H-C) : Proposed Lot 1, "Bim and Lori's Venture Addition" in the NW ¼ of Section 9-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 220 – REZONE – FIRST READING:

Moved by Gage, seconded by Weise to approve first reading of Proposed Ordinance 220, applicants Done and Christine Brunnes requesting to go from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini Ag District (M-AG): "Brunnes' Outlot 1" in the SE1/4 of Section 28-T122N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE 221 – REZONE – FIRST READING

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve first reading of Proposed ordinance 221, applicants Jeremy and Lindsey Lesnar requesting to rezone from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "Hagemann First

Subdivision" in the SE1/4 of Section 26-T124N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS:

Professional Fees: ACE REFRIGERATION LLC \$418.20; CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIONAL LLC \$744.15; Child's Voice Route #6361 \$435.48; DEAN SCHAEFER COURT REPORTING \$354.00; FIRE SAFETY FIRST, LLC \$183.00; KRISTI BRANDT \$80.00; MICHELLE GAIKOWSKI \$121.80; NE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER \$2,262.00; Saber Shred Solutions, Inc. \$12,524.15; SANFORD HEALTH \$2,100.00; SANFORD HEALTH OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE ABERDEEN \$378.00; SD DEPT OF HEALTH \$620.00; SD DEPT OF REVENUE & REGULATIONS \$1,016.76; SD NETWORK AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT \$200.00; SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP \$1,067.80; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC \$260.00; WEST PUBLISHING CORP. \$1,417.08; WEST PUBLISHING CORP. \$1,142.03; WEX HEALTH INC. \$170.70 Publishing: GateHouse Media South Dakota Holdings, Inc. \$1,137.59; HUB CITY RADIO \$5,910.00; LEE ENTERPRISES \$19.42; NORTHWEST BLADE \$54.75 Repairs & Maintenance: CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS \$16.01; DOUBLE D BODY SHOP INC \$18,751.31; HOUSE OF GLASS \$180.57; IMEG CORP \$20,249.75; POMPS TIRE SERVICE, INC \$1,107.00; SEWER DUCK INC \$65.00; SHOWTIME INVESTMENTS, INC \$2,560.36; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$993.82 Supplies: ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$717.57; ADTEGRA COOPERATIVE \$11,052.87; ASHLEY FARRAND DUNHAM \$40.00; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$21.80; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS \$2,121.18; CHARM-TEX \$136.02; CREATIVE PRODUCT SOURCING, INC. \$1,094.88; EARTHGRAINS BAKING CO. INC. \$948.76; ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE LLC \$127.00; Ellie Weinmeister \$42.17; FIRE SAFETY FIRST, LLC \$451.00; JENSEN ROCK & SAND INC \$18,458.56; KESSLERS \$145.52; LIEN TRANSPORTATION COMPANY \$98,572.99; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc. \$334.71; MAC'S INC \$509.82; MENARDS \$182.99; MIDWEST ALARM \$279.26; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$26.76; PHARM-CHEM \$103.00; PIERSON-FORD-LINCOLN -MERCURY \$166.98; PLUMBING & HEATING WHOLESALE, INC. \$92.23; POMPS TIRE SERVICE, INC \$1,022.35; PRO AG SUPPLY, INC \$115.83; RIXSTINE TROPHY COMPANY \$1,956.60; RUNNINGS \$139.96; SCHWAN WELDING \$1,429.10; SHARE CORP \$303.00; STAN HOUSTON EQUIPMENT CO. \$222.95; Talent Buyers Network \$1,000.00; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$79.46; TRI STATE WATER \$35.00; WEST PUBLISHING CORP. \$2,397.11 Travel & Conference: REGENCY MIDWEST VENTURES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP \$390.64; SDSU EXTENSION \$64.68 Utilities: DEPENDABLE SANITATION INC \$348.00; JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS \$218.30; MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS \$127.52; NORTHERN ELECTRIC COOP, INC \$495.73; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$5,275.28; NORTHWESTERN ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS \$90.27; QWEST CORPORATION \$1,207.81; STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA \$140.61; VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES LLC \$40.03; WEB WATER DEVELOPMENT ASSOC. INC. \$85.53 Rentals: Linde Gas & Equipment Inc. \$47.62; PANTORIUM CLEANERS INC. \$207.36

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DESIGNATE AUDITOR SIGNATURE:
Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to appoint Chief Deputy Auditor Brock Hoyle as signatory for documents requiring Auditors Signature until an interim County Auditor is sworn in. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT MALT BEVERAGE PERMIT:
Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve temporary Malt Beverage permit for Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area during the Brown County Fair Grandstand Concessions August 15 – 21st, 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:
Moved by Gage seconded by Feickert to approve the following Human Resource Report:

Acknowledge Resignation of Nicole Phillips, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, Full Time; effective July 7, 2022. Request to fill.

Approve Hiring of Heather Kulwicki as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, Full Time; effective July 26, 2022, starting wage \$19.58/hr.

Approve Hiring of Dawn Owens as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, Full Time, Starting Wage \$18.87/hr, effective July 26, 2022.

Approve Hiring of Cody Richards as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, Full Time, Starting Wage \$18.87/hr, effective July 26, 2022.

Increase the wage of Kelsi Vinger with the Brown County State's Attorney Office to \$52,000/year plus \$7,000/year for the new grant, for a total of \$59,000/year, effective July 1, 2022. For 2023, the COLA increase will be calculated from \$52,000. The new grant is scheduled to end on 6-30-23, at that time the \$7,000 will be subtracted from the annual wage.

Acknowledge the following personal miles driven for April, May & June while using county owned vehicle to be taxed at \$.585 per mile: Kendall Titze 294miles @ \$171.99; John Florey 342 miles @ \$200.07; Dirk Rogers 1,995 miles @ \$1,167.08; Mike Scott 590 miles @ \$345.15

LEMPG QUARTER 3 REPORT:
Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to Approve LEMP Quarter 3 Report. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chair Sutton, presented the promo list for carnival tickets for approval. Moved by Feickert, Seconded by Fjeldheim to approve. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUEST:
Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Weise to approve out of state travel request for Scott Madsen, GIS Coordinator to attend ND Geospatial Summit September 14-15, 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to go into executive session to discuss personnel, legal and contracts per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Gage to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 11:00 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Brown County Auditor Published July 27, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$122.52 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21409

Groton Garden Club
The Groton Garden Club met at the home of Pam Rix on July 25 at 6:30 p.m. Laurie Mitchell called the meeting to order. Nine members answered roll call with their favorite tree. Business discussed planting trees in memory of Arlys Kluess and Ann Rix next spring. The group will have a weeding day for the park circle next month. The next meeting will be at the home of Bev Sombke and Pam Rix will give the program on August 15, at 6:30 pm. Following the meeting Linda Gengerke gave the program, "the Bloom," about a woman in Castlewood, SD raising cut flowers for sale. She also gave a quiz on flower names,

Frederick Area School July 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Annual Budget Hearing
Reorganizational Meeting
July 11, 2022

A regular meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education was called to order on July 11, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Rich Achen, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Kosters, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg and Business Manager Shauna Severson. Absent was board member Jon Ellwein

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

No one was present for public comment.

Motion 2023-001 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the agenda with the addition to discuss Open Enrollments. All aye, carried.

Motion 2023-002 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve Resolution 2023-002 - 2021/2022 Contingency Transfers. Upon roll call, all present voting aye, motion carried. Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-002

2021/2022 Contingency Transfers

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of the Frederick Area School District that the contingency budget amount be transferred to the following budget line items:

Other Non-Consumable - Fitness Center.....	\$56.00
Yearbook	\$1.00
Repairs & Maintenance - Fitness Center	\$1.00
Other Pro & Technical Services -OI	\$66.00
Employee's Retirement System - FCCLA.....	\$90.00
Social Security - FCCLA	\$115.00
Registration Fees - FCCLA	\$133.00
Salaries - Transportation	\$82.00
NonTech Supplies - Female Activities Coop	\$3.00
NonTech Supplies - Female Activities	\$26.00
Travel - Female Activities Coop	\$21.00
Retirement - Female Activities Coop.....	\$32.00
Retirement - Female activities.....	\$3.00
Social Security - Female Activities Coop.....	\$57.00
Social Security - Female Activities	\$4.00
Salaries - Female Activities	\$40.00
Dues & Fees - Male Activities Coop	\$31.00
Travel - Male Activities Coop.....	\$86.00
Retirement - Male Activities Coop.....	\$31.00
FVFP supplies.....	\$39.00
Concessions Purchased Food.....	\$420.00
Concessions Purchased Services	\$250.00
Transportation Dues & Fees.....	\$18.00
Transportation Pro Services.....	\$1.00
Transportation Retirement.....	\$52.00
Maintenance Health Insurance.....	\$34.00
Employee's Retirement - ESSER II.....	\$137.00
Social Security - ESSER II.....	\$174.00
Misc	\$2.00
Non Consumable Supplies - BM	\$1.00
Non-Tech Supplies - BM	\$207.00
Retirement - BM	\$17.00
Admin Salaries - BM.....	\$275.00
Dues & Fees - Princ.....	\$8.00
Non Consumable Supplies - Princ. - ESSER II.....	\$1.00
Non Consumable Supplies - Princ.	\$76.00
Group Health/Life/Vision - Princ.....	\$19.00
Employee's Retirement - ESSER II.....	\$27.00
Social Security - ESSER II.....	\$35.00
Social Security	\$10.00
Classified Staff Salaries	\$21.00
Classified Staff Salaries - ESSER II	\$450.00
Travel - Supt	\$112.00
Reg. Fees - Supt.....	\$83.00
Health Insurance - Supt.....	\$55.00
Other Compensation - Supt.....	\$75.00
Admin Salaries - Supt.....	\$1.00
Professional Services - Legal.....	\$819.00
Communication - Election.....	\$89.00
Registration Fees - BOE.....	\$25.00
Tech Non-Consumable Supplies	\$19.00

Tech Travel.....	\$88.00
Tech Health Insurance	\$605.00
Library Non-Consumable Supplies	\$36.00
Library Non-Tech Supplies	\$95.00
Library OT Salaries	\$85.00
Registration Fees- REAP	\$10.00
Group Health/Life/Vision - Counsel.....	\$471.00
Retirement - Counsel.	\$183.00
Social Security - Counsel.	\$200.00
Annuities - Title II	\$133.00
Retirement - Title II.....	\$106.00
Social Security - Title II	\$135.00
Non Consumable Supplies - HS.....	\$150.00
Registration Fees - Perkins	\$85.00
Social Security - ESSER III - HS	\$11.00
Salaries - ESSER III - HS.....	\$133.00
Travel - JH.....	\$139.00
Annuities - JH.....	\$219.00
Social Security - ESSER III - JH	\$11.00
Salaries - ESSER III - JH	\$135.00
Sub Salaries - JH	\$379.00
Non-Consumable Supplies - Elem.....	\$198.00
Instructional wkbks & subscriptions - ESSER II	\$489.00
Wkbks & Subscriptions - Elem	\$109.00
Non-tech supplies - ESSER II - Elem	\$34.00
Travel - ESSER II - Elem.....	\$1.00
Travel - Elem	\$139.00
Workers Comp - Elem	\$1.00
Retirement - ESSER II - Elem	\$189.00
Social Security - ESSER III - Elem	\$46.00
Salaries - ESSER III - Elem.....	\$601.00
Social Security - ESSER II - Elem	\$242.00
Total Contingency Transfers.....	\$9,888.00

Dated this 11th day of July, 2022.

Rich Schlosser, Chairman

ATTEST: Shauna Severson, Business Manager

Motion 2023-003 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to approve Resolution 2023-003 - 2021/2022 Supplemental Budget. Upon roll call, all present voting aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2023-003

2021/2022 Supplemental Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of the Frederick Area School District that the budget in the General, Capital Outlay, Special Education and Food Service Funds be supplemented as follows:

FCCLA.....	\$1,927.00
Music Trip	\$5,264.00
Non-Tech Supplies - Combined Activities.....	\$558.00
FCCLA Travel	\$529.00
Coop Travel.....	\$880.00
Combined Activities Travel.....	\$2,798.00
Certified Salaries - FCCLA.....	\$1,500.00
Certified Staff Salaries - Coop	\$552.00
Professional Services - Female Act. Coop.....	\$1,819.00
Non-Tech Supplies - Male Activities	\$523.00
Professional Services - Male Act. Coop	\$2,477.00
Social Security - Male Activities Coop	\$448.00
Salaries - Male Activities Coop	\$5,100.00
FFVP.....	\$734.00
Transportation - Motor Fuel	\$8,982.00
Non-Tech Supplies ESSER II	\$8,974.00
Public Utility Services	\$3,807.00
Overtime Salaries - ESSER II	\$2,270.00
Vehicles Repairs & Maintenance.....	\$684.00
Pro & Tech Services - ESSER II	\$2,114.00
Group Health/Life/Vision	\$1,050.00
Employee's Retirement System	\$778.00
Admin Salaries - Princ.	\$3,040.00
Registration Fees - Title II.....	\$1,149.00
Certified Staff Salaries - Counsel.....	\$3,036.00
Instructional Wkbks & Subscriptions.....	\$1,235.00
Certified Staff Salaries - Title II.....	\$1,756.00
Sub Salaries - HS.....	\$1,717.00
Health Insurance - JH	\$1,441.00
Sub Salaries - Elem.....	\$1,283.00
Certified Salaries - Elem	\$3,150.00
Equipment - Female Activities.....	\$6.00
Computer Software - Food Services	\$623.00
Equipment - ESSER II	\$10,494.00
Care/Upkeep of Building.....	\$5,936.00
Building Construction/Improvements.....	\$2,160.00

Non-Consumable Supplies - BM	\$2,730.00
Non-Consumable Supplies ESSER II- Princ.	\$2,850.00
Non-Consumable Supplies - Supt	\$2,730.00
Computer Equipment	\$874.00
Other Equipment - ESSER II - HS.....	\$1.00
Other Equipment - HS	\$1.00
Computer Equip (Non-Cap) - ESSER II - HS	\$7,200.00
Rentals - HS.....	\$133.00
Other Equipment - ESSER II - JH	\$1.00
Computer Equip (Non-Cap) - ESSER II - JH	\$7,200.00
Library - JH	\$6.00
Rentals - JH	\$133.00
Equipment - ESSER II - Elem.....	\$7,779.00
Computer Licensing Fees - ESSER III	\$2,400.00
Computer Equip - ESSER III	\$39,395.00
Rentals - Elem.....	\$133.00
Mileage Pd to Parents	\$189.00
OT.....	\$2,682.00
Social Security - Early Childhood.....	\$371.00
Salaries - Early Childhood.....	\$85.00
Para Salaries - Early Childhood	\$4,758.00
Non-Tech Supplies - Severe	\$67.00
Registration Fees - Severe.....	\$750.00
Health Insurance - Severe	\$16.00
Retirement - Severe.....	\$904.00
Social Security - ESSER II - Severe	\$21.00
Social Security - Severe.....	\$1,169.00
OT Salaries - Severe	\$5.00
Sub Salaries - Severe	\$704.00
Para Salaries - Severe	\$19,232.00
Certified Salaries - Severe	\$266.00
Non-Consumable Supplies - Mild.....	\$15.00
Wkbks & Subscriptions - Mild.....	\$43.00
Communication - Mild	\$38.00
Travel- Mild	\$1,134.00
Registration Fees - Mild.....	\$1,479.00
Retirement - Mild.....	\$66.00
Social Security - ESSER II - Mild	\$83.00
OT Salaries - Mild	\$52.00
Sub Salaries - Mild.....	\$105.00
Certified Salaries - ESSER II - Mild	\$1,085.00
Drivers Ed Non-Consumable Supplies.....	\$61.00
Non-Consumable Supplies-ESSER II-Food Service	\$50.00
Purchased Food - USDA	\$4,157.00
Cost of Sales Purchased food.....	\$9,823.00
Non-tech Supplies - ESSER II	\$1,554.00
Group Health/Life/Vision	\$17.00
Food Service Salaries OT.....	\$68.00
Sub Salaries - Food Service	\$132.00
Total Supplements	\$215,541.00

Supplements will be funded by the General, Capital Outlay, Special Education and Food Service revenues.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2022

Rich Schlosser, Chairman

ATTEST: Shauna Severson, Business Manager

Motion 2023-004 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the transfer of \$1388.00 from the General Fund to the Driver's Education Fund.

Motion 2023-005 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2022 Athletic Cooperative meeting and the June 13, 2022 school board meeting. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-006 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the contract to Shauna Severson, Business Manager. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-007 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to remove outgoing Business Manager, Janel Hettich, from bank accounts and credit cards effective June 30, 2022

Motion 2023-008 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to add incoming Business Manager, Shauna Severson, to bank accounts and credit cards effective July 1, 2022. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

This being the time and place as advertised, at 7:00 p.m. the Annual Budget hearing was held. Printouts of each fund's revenue and expenditures by chart of account were passed out by Business Manager. The budget was published in the paper on June 27, 2022. The budget will be approved in September.

President Schlosser administered the Oath of Office to Shauna Severson for her title as Business Manager.

President Schlosser dissolved the present board and called a re-

Continues on next page

Frederick Area School District Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, Cash Balances and Payroll For the Month Ended June 30, 2022

	GENERAL FUND (10)	CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND (21)	SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (22)	FOOD SERVICE FUND (51)	DRIVERS ED FUND (53)	GOVERNMENTAL & ENTERPRISE FUND ACCOUNT TOTALS	Custodial Fund (71/77)	Ovid J Stevens Scholarship (76)	FIDUCIARY FUNDS ACCOUNT TOTALS
Beginning checking Balance	\$431,321.23	\$597,516.67	\$144,000.28	\$4,629.94	\$42.15	\$1,177,510.27	\$4,051.49	\$1,000.85	\$11,418.41
Receipts:									
Local Sources	\$594.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$594.00	\$3,709.61	\$0.00	\$3,709.61
County Sources	\$148,722.25	\$75,444.40	\$33,894.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$258,061.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
State Sources	\$81,293.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$81,293.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Federal Sources	\$10,273.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,199.64	\$0.00	\$16,472.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest	\$50.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Receipts	\$240,933.19	\$75,444.40	\$33,894.71	\$6,199.64	\$0.00	\$356,471.94	\$3,709.61	\$0.00	\$3,709.61
Disbursements									
Bills	\$53,690.49	\$20,553.51	\$3,757.28	\$827.10	\$0.00	\$78,828.38	\$1,421.65	\$1,000.00	\$2,421.65
Payroll	\$112,658.48	\$0.00	\$17,136.41	\$1,641.03	\$1,363.80	\$132,799.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Disbursements	\$166,348.97	\$20,553.51	\$20,893.69	\$2,468.13	\$1,363.80	\$211,628.10	\$1,421.65	\$1,000.00	\$2,421.65
Total checking balance	\$505,905.45	\$652,407.56	\$157,001.30	\$8,361.45	(\$1,321.65)	\$1,322,354.11	\$6,339.45	\$0.85	\$6,340.30
Beginning investment balance	\$274,776.51	\$1,933,634.20	\$1,446,175.05			\$3,654,585.76		\$26,437.99	\$26,437.99
Interest	\$582.69	\$0.00						\$0.00	
Total investment balance	\$275,359.20	\$1,933,634.20	\$1,446,175.05			\$3,655,168.45		\$26,437.99	\$26,437.99
Ending Fund Balance	\$781,264.65	\$2,586,041.76	\$1,603,176.35	\$8,361.45	(\$1,321.65)	\$4,977,522.56	\$6,339.45	\$26,438.84	\$32,778.29

Check Reconciliation Report			
	Governmental/ Enterprise	Fiduciary	Ovid J Stevens Scholarship
Bank Statement balance 6/30/2022	\$1,375,441.79	\$10,728.18	\$1,000.85
Outstanding journal entries/deposits			
Outstanding checks	(\$53,087.68)	(\$4,388.73)	(\$1,000.00)
Reconciled balance 6/30/2022	\$1,322,354.11	\$6,339.45	\$0.85

Governmental Investments			
FNB Money Market	\$1,014,166.71	24 mo CD FNB	\$541,132.06
SD FIT	\$779,816.72	30 mo CD FNB	\$251,376.89
12 mo CD FNB	\$318,676.07	36 mo CD Plains Commerce	\$750,000.00
		TOTAL	\$3,655,168.45

Frederick School Continued from Previous Page

cess to begin annual organizational and regular meeting at 7:06 p.m. Business Manager Severson called the annual organizational meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and administered the Oath of Office to Alex Hart for a three-year term.

The new board resumed at 7:06 and held an election for Board President and Vice President for 2022-2023.

Motion 2023-008 Severson asked for nominations for board president. Achen nominated Rich Schlosser as Board President. Hart moved, Sumption seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Schlosser as president. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-009 Achen nominated Jon Ellwein as Vice President. Hart moved, Sumption seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Ellwein as vice president. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2023-010 Hart moved, Achen seconded to approve Conflict of Interest Disclosures per SDCL 23-3 presented to the board by Jeff Kosters and Eric Sumption. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The following reports were presented:

Jeff Kosters: Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director
Jessica Ringgenberg: K-8 Principal
2023-011 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the following reorganizational consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

a. Establish Date, Time, and Place of Regular Monthly Meetings (2nd Monday of Month at 7:00 PM at the School Library)

b. Appoint Business Manager Severson as Custodian of all district funds and to serve as School Board Secretary and Investment Officer

c. Authorize Business Manager to continue existing funds and establish new accounts and to invest/reinvest funds in local institutions which serve the greatest advantage to the District

d. Establish Custodial Accounts

e. Designate First National Bank of Frederick and Plains Commerce Bank in Aberdeen as Official Bank Depositories.

f. Authorize participation in the South Dakota Public Funds Investment Trust

g. Authorize Electronic Fund Transfers

h. Authorize for prepayment of bills to avoid late fees and to make monthly credit card payments

i. Authorize the Board President to counter sign checks

j. Authorize Business Manager to Act as Official Representative of all federal funds

k. Authorize transfer of interest earned of all funds, including Custodial, to General Fund

l. Designate Groton Daily Independent as official newspaper

m. Authorize Business Manager to publish 2022-2023 staff salaries

n. Designate Rodney Freeman Jr. as 2022-2023 school attorney

o. Set school board member meeting salary at \$60.00 per meeting plus mileage at current state rate

p. Set substitute teacher salary at \$100/day for non-certified and \$125/day for certified (includes current or lapsed, but not revoked); and substitute secretary, kitchen and custodian salaries at \$13.00/hour

q. Set 2022-2023 school lunch prices: Grades K-6 \$3.05, Grades 7-12 \$3.40, Adult \$4.05, Seconds \$1.00 and Milk \$.35

r. Identify Frederick Area School Dist #6-2 as an Equal Opportunity Employer

s. Approve Public Notices of Non-Discrimination and Federal Programs Assurances

t. Authorize Superintendent as:

i. representative for Special Education and to administer all federal programs

ii. Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth

iii. truancy officer

iv. Public Records officer

v. Asbestos Compliance officer

u. Authorize K-8 Principal as Coordinator of Federal Law/Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended

v. Authorize Business Manager as Title IX officer

w. Designate Superintendent and/or Business Manager in the purchase of federal and state property

x. Designate Superintendent and/or Principal to cancel and/or close school due to inclement weather or other emergencies

y. Set travel reimbursement rate per state rates for mileage and meals, and lodging at state or best possible rate for staff and students

z. Designate Superintendent to authorize DOE Child and Adult Nutrition Service application

aa. Appoint board members to the following committees:

i. Negotiations: Rich Schlosser and Jon Ellwein

ii. Athletic Co-op: Alex Hart and Rich Achen

iii. Voting member of the North Central Special Education Cooperative Governing Board for 2022-2023 school year: Eric Sumption

iv. ASBSD delegate: Rich Schlosser

bb. Designate Division of Criminal Investigation as background check provider

cc. Adopt Handbooks:

i. 2022-23 Technology Handbook

ii. 2022-23 Student Handbook

1. With an addition under "Bus Citizenship" to state "If parents want their children to ride on a different bus, or bring a friend on the bus, the child's parents must contact the office no later than noon on the day of the change. (Aberdeen route has a capacity of 40 riders. Additions to this route will be accepted on a first come-first served basis.)

iii. 2022-23 Titan Student Activity Handbook

iv. 2022-23 Leola/Frederick Sports Coop Agreement.

State law required the wages of School District employees to be published in the month of July. FY 2022-2023 salaries and wages are as follows: Certified Staff: Taylor Achterberg \$41,665.00, Jennifer Anliker \$45,446.00, Crystal Arthurs \$42,636.00, Janelle Barondeau \$53,428.00, Jennifer Dallmann \$44,884.00, Morgan Hoffman \$41,665.00, Christine Kosters \$49,892.00 + \$5,150.00 (Special Education Director), Sharon Langley \$47,490.00, Jennifer Little \$42,729.00, Melissa Meidinger \$44,271.00, Marty Morlock \$50,362.00, Brock Pashen \$44,756.00, Jennifer Pashen \$42,942.00, Caitlin Podoll \$44,577.00, Ashley Schmidt \$47,030.00, Shauna Severson \$5,200.00, Sarah Sumption \$49,749.00, Paula Tschosik \$48,318.00, Maggie Ulmer \$44,603.00, Tonya Zinter \$58,122.00. Extra-Curricular: Crystal Arthurs \$1,548.75 (FCCLA), Brock Pashen \$2,712.51 (Yearbook), Sarah Sumption \$743.68 (Science Fair). Coaching Staff: Janelle Barondeau \$5,847.84 (Head Cross Country) + \$4,071.26 (Asst. Track), Wayne Haas \$3,724.34 (Asst. Track), Alura Johnson \$3,258.13 (Asst. Volleyball), Jeff Kosters \$5,402.49 (Head Golf) + \$5,774.82 (Head Girls Basketball) + \$6,483.67 (Head Football), Marty Morlock \$4,696.75 (Asst. Football) + \$5,620.75 (Head Track), Don Nickelson \$2,214.01 (JH Boys Basketball), Brock Pashen \$4,737.37 (Head Boys Basketball), Troy Podoll \$2,123.04 (JH Girls Basketball), Megan Russo \$3,200.75 (Asst. Track), Alex Sumption \$3,224.00 (Asst. Boys Basketball) Sarah Sumption \$3,902.94 (Asst. Girls Basketball) + \$3,200.75 (Asst. Cross Country), Warren Sumption \$1,074.56 (Asst. JH Boys Basketball), Bryson Thorpe \$1,074.56 (Asst. JH Boys Basketball), Leesa Ware \$4,114.86 (Head Volleyball). Admin and Other: Julie Brotzel \$47,848.00 (Tech Coordinator), Jeff Kosters \$86,100.00 (Superintendent/9-12 Principal) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$5,150.00 (Athletic Director), Jessica Ringgenberg \$63,000.00 (K-8 Principal) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Shauna Severson \$56,800.00 (Business Manager) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Stacey Sumption \$32,000.00. Employee Agreements: Richard Bakeberg \$45.00/bus route + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Mark Christianson \$45.07/bus route + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance, Thersia Cox \$45.07/bus route + \$14.37 (Asst. Custodian/Concessions Manager) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Michelle Dosch \$13.00/hr (Highly Qualified Paraprofessional), Janet

Elsen \$23.93/hr (Highly Qualified Paraprofessional), Ashley Gunther \$13.06/hr (Asst. Cook), Faye Gunther \$19.71/hr (Head Cook), Marie Knutson \$15.84/hr (Highly Qualified Paraprofessional), Jeff Kosters \$45.07/bus route + \$2000.00 Drivers Ed Classroom + \$20.00/hr Drivers Ed Driving, Zachary Kosters \$17.79/hr + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Marty Morlock \$13.00 (Grounds Maintenance), Lance Podoll \$5,000.00 (Bus Supervisor) + \$46.81/bus route + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance, Traci Reineke \$13.72/hr (Highly Qualified Paraprofessional), Michelle Sumption \$15.82/hr (Highly Qualified Paraprofessional), Keith Underberg \$28.81/bus route + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance.

2023-012 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve the following consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

a. June 2022 Financial Report, Custodial Accounts and Investments
b. Fiscal Year 2022 July bills and June 2022 Payroll
c. ..Fiscal Year 2023 July bills

Claims approved: June 2022 Payroll – General Fund salaries 63,927.42; Special Education salaries 10,509.98; Food Service salaries 579.46; Driver's Education 1,015.23. EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 21,016.61; AFLAC, supplemental insurance 1,229.69; American Funds, retirement 1,361.18; Delta Dental, insurance 1,858.90; The Standard, life insurance 292.09; Security Benefits, retirement 1,248.22; Optilegra, vision insurance 397.56; Wellmark, health insurance 17,402.00; SD Retirement 12,083.34; SD Retirement Supplemental, 353.22.

FY2022 July Bills approved:

General Fund: Aberdeen Awards, awards, \$ 158.00; Blumhardt Chevrolet Inc, repairs, \$ 158.00; Brotzel, Julie, travel reimbursement, \$ 87.20; Derksen Floors Inc, gym floor refinish, \$ 19,000.00; DSS Image Apparel, cross country apparel, \$ 365.85; First National Bank, stop payment fee, \$ 8.00; GDI News, publishing, \$ 162.71; Fgraves IT Solutions, online backup, \$ 400.00; Langley, Sharon, travel reimbursement, \$ 416.00; Main Street Station, repairs, \$ 527.40; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co, electric, \$ 2,473.61; Pomp's Tire Service Inc, repairs, \$ 189.14; US Postal Service, po box fee, \$ 130.00; General Total, \$ 24,512.72

Capital Outlay Fund: Innovative Office Solutions LLC, desks, \$ 5,459.85; Staples, student laptops, \$ 14,399.70; Capital Outlay Total, \$ 19,859.55

Special Education Fund: Achterberg, Taylor, meal reimbursement, \$ 100.00; Avera St. Luke's, occupational therapy, \$ 2,233.80; Geffre, Wendy, mileage, \$ 33.60; Hoffman, Morgan, meal reimbursement, \$ 100.00; Knutson, Marie, meal reimbursement, \$ 100.00; Kosters, Christine, meal reimbursement, \$ 100.00; Ulmer, Maggie, meal reimbursement, \$ 100.00; Zinter, Tonya, meal reimbursement, \$ 100.00; Special Ed. Total, \$ 2,867.40

Food Service Fund: Brotzel, John, lunch money refund, \$ 9.65; Cutler, Dillon, lunch money refund, \$ 40.65; Hinz, Dennis, lunch money refund, \$ 10.40; Mehlhaff, Chris, lunch money refund, \$ 35.30; Food Service Total, \$ 96.00

JULY 2022 (FY22) TOTAL, 47,335.67

FY2023 July Bills approved:

General Fund: Agetegra, fuel, \$ 1,151.87; ASB Property Liability Fund, property/liability premium, \$ 35,924.00; ASB Workers' Comp Fund, workers compensation, \$ 5,725.00; ASBSD, 22-23 dues, \$ 900.98; Custodial Fund - FASD, Imprest Reimbursement, \$ 941.50; Dakota Broadcasting, radio ads, \$ 500.00; Dakota Electronics, alarm monitor maint., \$ 240.00; eBOARD Solutions, policy manual, \$ 600.00; GDI News, publishing, \$ 159.46; Hub City Radio, radio ads, \$ 500.00; James Valley Telecommunications, Telephone, \$ 237.43; Kosters, Jeff, coach training, \$ 35.00; Merchant Services, lunch processing fees, \$ 2.00; Pantorium Cleaners, Inc., supplies, \$ 240.00; Pioneer Athletics, FB field paint, \$ 201.80; Risk Program Administrators, cyber liability, \$ 6,554.77; SASD, principal/supt dues, \$ 1,007.00; SD Teacher Placement Center, 22-23 teacher placement services, \$ 435.00; TIE, 22-23 dues, \$ 1,000.00; Town of Frederick, utilities, \$ 610.00; Visa, June credit card, \$ 87.60; Costco, fuel \$62.99; Uber, FCCLA travel \$24.61; General Total, \$ 57,053.41.

Capital Outlay Fund: A&B Business Solutions, managed print services, 693.96, CommTech, tech equipment, 972.00, EMS Linq Inc., food service software, 895.00, Interior Design Concepts, Supt basement carpet, 5,357.53, Precision Floors & Interiors, carpet installation, 1,200 - supt house floor install - school, 2,234.00, Pro Vision, cameras, 1,126.03, Renaissance, online curriculum, 2,400.00, Riddell, FB practice jerseys, 243.76, SHI, annual software licensing, 2,282.12, Software , accounting software, 6,050.00, Unlimited Universal Athletic, LLC, GBB practice jerseys, 383.70, Capital Outlay Total: \$23,838.10

Special Education Fund: AmeriCinn, rooms for training, workers compensation, 315.52, ASB Workers' Comp Fund, 663.00; Total Special Education Fund: \$978.52.

Imprest Checks: Sumption, Michelle, FCCLA national conference meals, 430.00, Brown Co. Treasurer, fingerprinting, 20.00, Dickey Co. Sheriff, fingerprinting, 5.00, Division of Criminal Invest., fingerprinting, 86.50, Midstates Group, Community banners, 400.00, Imprest Total: 941.50.

Food Service Fund: ASB Workers' Comp Fund, workers compensation, 675.00; Food Service Total: 675.00

Drivers Ed Fund: ASB Workers' Comp Fund, workers compensation, 66.00; Drivers Ed Total: 66.00

Custodial Fund: DSS Image Apparel, CC shirts, 480.15; Custodial Total: 480.14.

JULY2022TOTAL: \$84,032.68

2023-013 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve the following coaching and teaching contracts: Troy Podoll – JH Girls Basketball and Shauna Severson – HS Computers. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The FY2023 Audit Engagement letter from Eide Bailly was tabled; will be discussed at August meeting when a quote from Cahill Bauer & Associates is also received.

2023-014 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to approve the North Central Special Education Cooperative Comprehensive Plan. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2023-015 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve the Financial Statement for Ovid Stevens trust account. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

LiveTicket TV was discussed. The board agreed to receive 25% profits and pay a \$100 equipment fee rather than purchase the equipment.

Bus routes were discussed.

2023-016 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to declare surplus 126 laptops and appraise each at \$50.00. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2023-016 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve Open Enrollment application #SY2223-8 and deny application #SY2223-9. All aye, carried.

The school board would like to congratulate Morgan Sumption for placing Top 10 in her category at National FCCLA Conference, as well as, Mrs. Arthurs for a successful first year with a FCCLA chapter. They would also like to thank Anthony Kocher for donating labor and parts for the school's weed eater.

2023-017 Motion by Achen, second by Sumption to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. All aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President.....

Shauna Severson, Business Manager

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Frederick Town July 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Town of Frederick

July 13, 2022 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday, July 13, 2022 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board members Troy Millard and Jeff Kosters, Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer Diane Bruns and Mariah Heine, and Frederick Volunteer Firefighters Chief Kevin Barton.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the June meetings were read and approved with a motion by Millard/Kosters; motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried. The July accounts payable were approved excluding the bill from JM Electric with a motion by Kosters/Millard; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/Sts/Swr/EBL \$1,026.41; Amerian Solutions FO \$176.81; Bower Tree Service storm cleanup Gen'l \$2,110; Bower Tree Service storm cleanup Gen'l \$527.50; BC Sheriff's Dept deputy svcs Gen'l \$1,041.67; Century Bus Products printer Gen'l \$93.31; Community Store supplies Gen'l/SP \$63.45; D. Bruns CC \$86.87; D. Bruns wage FO \$1,434.95; Doug Burkhart reimburse exp Swr \$399.38; Dependable Sanitation Grbg \$1,292; EFPTS taxes Gen'l/FO/CC/EBL/Sts/Wtr/Swr/Cmty \$1,055.96; USDA-RD loan Swr \$3,763; FDC Econ Dev \$1,200; FU Oil propane EBL \$483.30; J. Kosters wage Gen'l \$92.35; JVT phone/svc FO/EBL/Wtr/Gen'l \$349.48; M. Cox wage EBL \$621.92; M. Heine wage FO \$1,126.37; M. Morlock mowing wages Gen'l \$170.85; Menard's supplies SP \$61.37; R. Bakeberg wage St/Wtr/Swr \$893.85; R. Bakeberg exp SP \$23.42; R. Bakeberg veh. allow. St/Wtr/Swr \$75; R. Bakeberg wage Cmtry \$253.96; R.S. Campbell reimburse Mun Bldg \$115.44; Readi Tech tech support FO \$87.50; SD Dept of Rev sales tax Grbg \$75.63; T. Millard wage Gen'l \$138.52; Visa fee Gen'l \$5; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; WEB Water Wtr \$4,289.65; USPS stamps Wtr/Swr/Grbg \$174

OLD BUSINESS

The board is going to research which trees to plant this fall in Simmons Park to replace lost trees. Many of the properties that were in violation of the city ordinances were sent letters abated the nuisances.

NEW BUSINESS

The Emma Burnham Library 2nd quarter report was accepted with a motion by Millard/Kosters; motion carried. WEB Water will be increasing their rate again this fall, and the board will need to increase water rates. Kevin Barton noted that the estimated cost of labor from assisting in clean up from the June 14 storm totaled about \$46,000. It was noted by a county official that it may be advantageous for the city to adopt a disaster plan.

Motion to enter executive session made at 7:53 made by Millard/Kosters; motion carried. Campbell declared the board out of executive session at 8:16.

Motion to adjourn made by Kosters/Millard at 8:19 PM; motion carried.

M. Heine

Assistant Finance Officer

Published July 27, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$30.35 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21406

Brown County Indigent Defense Services Bid

NOTICE FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Ste. 1, Aberdeen, SD, until the hour of 8:45 A.M. on August 2, 2022. At said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for qualified Indigent Defense Services with expertise in all phases of legal services that fulfill statutory obligations as set forth in SDCL 23A-40-7 and other such instances in which the appointment of legal counsel at the expense of the County has been mandated by statute.

Envelopes containing bid shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Ste. 1, Aberdeen, SD, and shall be marked on the envelope "Indigent Defense Services for Brown County". Bids will be opened on August 2, 2022. The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

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Claremont Town June 14 2022 Meeting Minutes

The board of trustees for the town of Claremont met on 6-14-2022 in city hall. President Johnson called the meeting to order with trustees Spencer and Rasmussen present. Also present were Matt and Jennifer Traylor, Lesia Thomas and Kaen Scraeffers from Help and Asso. The minutes of the May meeting were approved on a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen. The following warrants were allowed on a motion by Rasmussen, and seconded by Spencer. General: Post Office, stamps, 58.00; James Valley, telecommunications, 91.36; GDI, publishing, 13.25; Full Circle Ag, propane, 172.50; Shane Johnson, fuel mower, 51.82; Don VanderVorst, spraying and weed eating, 27.50; Dacotah Bank, city hall loan, 573.55; Missi Smith, mowing 25 hrs., 253.97; Frank Rasmussen, 9 meetings, 623.37; Jason Spencer, 9 meetings, 623.37; Carla Rye, wage, 350.00; NWE, St. lights 230.50; WSSW: DANR, drinking water fee, 60.00; Helms and Asso. Sewer/grant, 14,950.90; BDM, water purchased, 944.40; NWE, sewer lift, 334.85; NWE, 6th Ave Lift, 53.79; Rural Development, water Loan, 576.00; Karen Schafers was present to go over the change order on sewer project. Johnson had some concerns on billing. Karen will double check on them and get back to the board. With no further business before the board a motion was made by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn.

CRye F.O.

Published July 27, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$14.90 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21410

Pharis, Gauer named to LATI President's List

WATERTOWN, SD... Lake Area Technical College President, Mike Cartney, announces the current President's List. The President's List is a record of outstanding students who, through their initiative and ability, have indicated a seriousness of purpose in their educational program. The President's List is limited to full-time students who have achieved a semester grade point average of 3.5 to 4.0. Kale Pharis and Alicia Gauer from Groton were named to the President's List.

Groton Independent ♦ Wed., July 27, 2022 ♦ 7

Groton School July 11, 2022

Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
July 11, 2022

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Fliehs, Gengerke, Pharis, and Weismantel. Absent: Harder, Rix and Smith. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal Sombke and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to approve the agenda with two amendments under Old Business Item #7a – approve resignation of Jasmine Schinkel and under New Business Item #11 – approve hire of Jesse Haaland. Motion carried.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, there was no potential conflict disclosure reported.

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to approve consent agenda items June 13, 2022, minutes, and bills. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Salary – 391,484.52; FIT – 39,583.40; Medicare – 14,938.16; FICA – 63,873.42; American Funds – 1,524.00; SDRS – 67,290.34; HSA – 300.00; Fiduciary Trust – 1,800.00; Horace Mann – 1,856.83; Thrivent – 750.00; AFLAC – 6,463.51; Delta Dental – 8,757.52; SD Supplemental – 3,872.22; Division of Child Support – 365.79; U.S. Dept of the Treasury – 252.04; Groton School Lunch – 323.22; Wellmark – 126,704.74; Standard Life – 1,490.03; Wage Works – 3,020.72; Avesis – 638.14; BK Custom T's – shirts, 136.28; Custodial Fund – advance pays, 38,239.97; Decker Equipment – supplies, 652.89; Matchbox Recreation Center – shoes, 230.00; Nehls, Mike – fee refund, 46.06; Stan Houston – supplies, 53.85; Taylor Music – repairs, 115.00. Total General Fund – \$774,762.65.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Custodial Fund – advance pays, 3,503.97; Guthmiller, Joel – shirts, 320.00; Liens – lot repairs, 24,062.50; SHI – software, 3,647.52. Total Capital Outlay – \$31,533.99

SPECIAL ED: Salary – 66,388.07; FIT – 6,620.22; Medicare – 2,502.62; FICA – 10,700.72; SD Retirement – 10,969.40; Fiduciary Trust – 300.00; AFLAC – 1,098.65; Delta Dental – 1,529.14; SD Supplemental – 300.00; Wellmark – 17,989.00; Standard Life – 385.56; Wage Works – 174.99; Avesis – 175.02; Custodial Fund – advance pays, 9,640.33. Total Special Ed – \$128,773.72.

ENTERPRISE: FS Salary – 2,776.13; FIT – 274.36; Medicare – 103.32; FICA – 441.80; SD Retirement – 479.74; AFLAC – 218.49; Wellmark – 1,641.00; Standard Life – 3.84; Avesis – 19.63; Custodial Fund – advance pays, 472.00; Groton Area Schools – refund, 8.00; Total Food Service – \$6,438.31. OST Salary – 7,849.85; FIT – 461.05; Medicare – 273.42; FICA – 1,169.28; SD Retirement – 752.32; AFLAC – 163.93; Wellmark – 705.00; Standard Life – 23.28; Custodial Fund – advance pays, 221.32. Total OST – \$11,619.45. Total Enterprise

Moved by Fliehs, second Weismantel to approve resignation of Jordyn Bortnem, MS/HS Special Education Teacher, for the 2022-23 school year with liquidated damages for breach on contract.

MONTHLY DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6

For the reporting period beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022

Description	General Fund	Assigned Gen Funds	Capital Outlay	Special Education	Bond Redemption	Enterprise Fund	Custodial Fund	Total for District
1. Beginning Balance	1,552,676.37	149,575.03	1,624,948.69	314,149.50	0.00	73,605.96	142,940.60	3,857,896.15
a. checking	1,552,676.37	149,575.03	1,624,948.69	314,149.50	0.00	73,605.96	142,940.60	3,857,896.15
b. petty cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2. Transfers in	5,122,280.96	25,626.35	1,851,712.34	924,209.88	1,225.88	369,692.28	986,550.78	9,281,298.47
3. Revenue to date	6,674,957.33	175,201.38	3,476,661.03	1,238,359.38	1,225.88	443,298.24	1,129,491.38	13,139,194.62
4. Total accounted for	12,227,634.66	324,776.41	5,098,610.72	2,472,508.88	2,451.76	812,994.20	2,118,982.06	27,067,091.92
5. Transfers out	5,192,305.33	31,878.73	1,786,701.42	901,324.42	1,225.88	294,537.46	976,058.69	9,184,031.93
6. Expenditures to date	5,192,305.33	31,878.73	1,786,701.42	901,324.42	1,225.88	294,537.46	976,058.69	9,184,031.93
a. encumbrances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b. disbursements	5,192,305.33	31,878.73	1,786,701.42	901,324.42	1,225.88	294,537.46	976,058.69	9,184,031.93
7. Ending Balance	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	(0.00)	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69
a. checking	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	(0.00)	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69
b. petty cash	(0.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)
June Receipts	698,923.33	0.00	190,658.53	100,312.74	0.00	32,221.79	162,861.76	1,184,978.15
June Expenses	820,509.65	1,915.28	456,967.19	167,326.73	1,225.88	25,584.39	67,692.77	1,541,221.89
Custodial Checking	153,432.69							
District Checking	3,817,395.42							
USDA Supply Chain Defer	(15,665.42)							
Total all Funds	3,955,162.69							

Funds – \$18,057.76.

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes – 548,647.82; Other Local Sources – 188,027.14; County Sources – 2,816.93; State Sources – 2,794.27; Federal Sources – 91,466.11; Other Sources – 351,225.88. Total Receipts – \$1,184,978.15.

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members requesting to speak, the board proceeded with their agenda items.

Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to approve June 2022 financials, custodial accounts, and investments. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to approve:

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER CONTINGENCY FUNDS

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

THEREFORE: Be it resolved to transfer \$100 to Title I Professional Development and \$8,000 to Athletics for a total of \$8,100. Date of Resolution, June 30, 2022.

Deborah Gengerke, President M. J. Weber, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Pharis, second Weismantel to approve:

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, adopts the following supplemental budget in Capital Outlay by allocating \$13,150 from Cash on Hand to Culturally Different ELL (\$300), Counseling Services (\$50), Debt Services (\$3,800), and Athletics (\$9,000). Date of Resolution, June 30, 2022.

Deborah Gengerke, President M. J. Weber, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to approve June 2022 School Lunch Report. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to approve June 2022 Transportation Report. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, second Weismantel to approve resignation of Jordyn Bortnem, MS/HS Special Education Teacher, for the 2022-23 school year with liquidated damages for breach on contract.

Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve resignation of Jasmine Schaller, MS/HS Special Education Paraprofessional, for the 2022-23 school year. Motion carried.

The board discussed 5-year district-wide capital outlay planning. No action was taken.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: elementary roof update, NSLP Supply Chain Assistance, school accountability model changes, legislative study on property tax structure and tax burden, SASD/ASBSD Joint Convention, SDHSA coaches education and foundation distribution, fall athletics meeting and staffing update.

With no further old or continuing business remaining it was moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to adjourn the final 2021-22 school board meeting at 7:58 pm. Motion carried.

After a short recess, Weber convened the first meeting of school year 2022-23 at 8:00 pm and read Oath of Office statements to install Tigh Fliehs, Deborah Gengerke and Travis J. Harder for three-year terms as school board members.

Weber took nominations for 2022-23 School Board President. Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to nominate Gengerke. Motion carried.

Gengerke opened the floor for Vice-President nominations. Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to nominate Weismantel. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to table action on appointing board committee assignments. Motion carried.

Gengerke read a potential conflict disclosure statement from Superintendent Joe Schwan pursuant to SDCL 23-3. Mr. Schwan's wife serves as the Opportunity Room Counselor for the school district and receives a contract for pay. Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to authorize a waiver on the disclosure statement on the grounds that the terms of the contract are fair, reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest. Motion carried.

Gengerke read a potential conflict disclosure statement from Business Manager Mike Weber pursuant to SDCL 23-3. In addition to contractually serving the Groton Area School District, Mr. Weber also serves as the Business Manager for the North Central Special Ed Coop. Moved by Weismantel, second

Pharis to authorize a waiver on the disclosure statement on the grounds that the terms of the contract are fair, reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest. Motion carried.

Weber presented the 2022-23 District Budget. No action was taken.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve the following consent agenda items: July 2022 District bills; Rodney Freeman, Jr. and his associates of Huron as official school attorney; Groton Independent as official newspaper; Weber as custodian of all district accounts; Eide Bailly to conduct FY22 school district audit; Weber to continue existing funds, establish new accounts and continue to invest reinvest in local institutions which serve the greatest advantage to the District;

Weber to publish staff salaries; Dacotah Bank as official bank depository; Groton Area School

District Policy Manual with such revisions as previously approved; Special Education Comprehensive Plan; office personnel to administer Custodial Funds and National School Lunch

Program funds with oversight by Weber; J. Schwan to administer or direct federal programs with Consolidated Applications for Title Programs and related ESSA compliance issues assigned to the building principals; J. Schwan to act as Asbestos Compliance Officer; J. Schwan or his designee to close school in emergency situations or inclement weather; J. Schwan or designee to institute NSLP and School Breakfast Agreement; Food Safety Plan, HACCP-Based Standard Operating Procedures; J. Schwan or designee to institute ASBSD school bus mutual assistance pact; Weber to transfer petty cash and incident payment funds in accordance with SDCL 13-18-16/17; and peripheral sports and other volunteer school workers such as chain gang, line judges, Booster Club/PAC workers, assistant coaches, volunteer coaches, volunteer drivers, school board members etc., to be included in the school's worker's compensation insurance coverage. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Advanced Auto – parts, 353.30; ASBSD Worker's Comp – insurance, 18,430.41; ASBSD – dues, 1,366.67; Dependable Sanitation – services, 1,238.00; Diamond Cleaning – services, 144.00; Dollar General – supplies, 7.50; EMC – insurance, 110,630.00;

Full Circle Ag – oil, 1,754.65; Groton Area – bank fee, 76.85; Midstates – fee, .75; Midwest Bus Parts – parts, 400.00; Northside Implement – repairs, parts, 7,795.11; Northwestern Energy – utilities, 1,912.85; rSchoolToday – fee, 1,243.87; SASD – dues, 2,674.00; SD Teacher Placement – dues, 435.00; SDACTE – fee, 602.00; SDCA – dues, 130.00; TIE – dues, US Postal Service – rent, 226.00, Webster Legion – fee, 200.00. Total General Fund – \$151,270.96.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Amazon – adapters, 247.25; Apptegy – fee, 6,255.00; D2L – software, 10,000.00; Donley, Don – project work, 3,600.00; Hewlett-Packard – leases, 55,220.60; High Plains Tech – software, 749.00; Renaissance – software, 3,065.25; Riverside Tech – laptops, 63,870.00; SUI – software, 6,150.00; Teacher Innovations – software, 636.00. Total Capital Outlay – \$149,793.10.

SPECIAL ED: ASBSD Worker's Comp – insurance, 4,095.65; Dollar General – supplies, 125.35; Erickson, Rebecca – expenses, 859.32; , 81.89; Kurtz, Sydney – expenses, 840.00, S & S Lumber – supplies, 32.47; SD Dept of Human Resources – services, 2,406.58; Volunteers of America – tuition, 142.80. Total Special Ed – \$8,502.17.

ENTERPRISE: ASBSD Worker's Comp – insurance, 511.96; Helvig, Aaron – refund, 11.25; Total Food Service – \$523.21. ASBSD Worker's Comp – insurance, 255.98. Total OST – \$255.98. Total Enterprise Funds – \$779.19.

CUSTODIAL FUND: Total – \$67,817.77.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve administrative negotiated agreement and signed administrator contracts for 2022-23. Motion carried.

Quotes for official newspaper were opened as follows: Groton Independent – legal line rate \$0.342 per line, classified advertising free, local open display advertising \$3.00 per column inch, current subscribers 192; Since there were no other quotes it was moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to award newspaper contract to Groton Independent. Motion carried.

Quotes for fuel oil, diesel and gas were opened as follows: MJ's Sinclair/Fuel Stop: #2 Diesel – 4.646, #1 Diesel – 4.676, Ethanol – 3.746, Lead-Free – 4.286, and E-85 – 2.063; Ken's Shell Express: #2 Diesel – 4.7496, #1 Diesel – 4.8295, Ethanol – 4.1141, Lead-Free – 4.6808 and Premium – 5.0558. Moved by

Weismantel, second Pharis to award fuel contract to MJ's Sinclair/Fuel Stop. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to set time and date for regular school board meetings on the second Monday of each month and additionally on fourth Monday for the months of September, March and April, to be held in GHS Conference Room at 7:00 pm, with consideration to reschedule other dates, times and places when deemed necessary or appropriate. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to appointed Rix as voting member of the North Central Special Education Governing Board for the 2022-23 school year.

Moved by Pharis, second Weismantel to set board member salaries at \$50 per meeting and board president salary at \$75 per meeting, with mileage if applicable. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, second Weismantel to set rate for substitute teacher pay at \$130/day. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, second Weismantel to set substitute bus drivers rate at \$90/day. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to approve admission & lunch prices: Admission – Adults \$5, \$6 for doubleheader, \$45 for 10-punch ticket, \$75 for all-season pass, Grades 1 through 12, \$4; Activity Tickets – Grades 6 through 12, \$30, Grades 1 through 5, \$25; Breakfast – Adults, \$3.25, Grades 6 through 12, \$3.00, Grades JrK through 5, \$2.50; Lunch – Adults, \$4.50, Grades 6 through 12, \$3.75, Grades Jr. K through 5, \$3.25, 2nds on meal – Grades 6 through 12, \$1.25, Grades JrK through 5, \$1.00 and 2nds on milk – \$0.50. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Pharis to set OST rates at \$2.75/hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to hire Jesse Haaland as special ed paraprofessional with salary to be published in July. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to adjourn at 9:33 pm. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Deborah Gengerke, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

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Groton City

July 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2022

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Wambach, Cutler, Babcock, Wells, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich, Paul Kosel, Terry Herron, Ashley Bentz, and Tom Bentz.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.

A Special Event Alcoholic Beverage License for the Downtown Sip & Shop event on Main Street on July 21, 2022, was approved on a motion by Bahr and seconded by Babcock for the purpose of permitting a special exception of Ordinance 6-2-2 to allow the

public to possess and consume alcohol on Main Street from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM for the event. All members voted aye. Ashley and Tom Bentz exited the meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Wambach and seconded by Wells. All members voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Bahr to authorize the following bills for payment. All members voted aye.

Payroll, \$45,091.85, Employee salaries; Administrative, \$4,183.04; Public Safety, \$7,858.10; Public Works, \$12,779.37; Culture & Recreation, \$20,271.34; Parker Ballpark Association, \$378.00, State Tournament Shirts; Clark Rotary Club, \$275.00, Legion Entry Fee; Dacotah Bank, \$8,920.15, SS/Withholding/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Employee Savings; Dacotah Bank, \$576.24, HSA contributions; USPS, \$242.43, Utility Billing Postage; SD State Treasurer, \$11,549.76, Sales and Excise Tax - June 2022; Web Water, \$25,829.89, Water Services - June 2022; Ron Breedlove, \$1,082.92, Curb & Gutter Refund; Brady Klemm, \$399.65, Utility Deposit Refund; Audrey Insland, \$138.66, Utility Deposit Refund; Jason Mettler, \$30.60, Utility Deposit Refund; Roland Rivera, \$9.66, Utility Deposit Refund; City of Groton, \$921.08, Utility Deposit Refunds Applied to Bills; Groton Ford, \$69.72, Rear Lamp Assembly - 2012 Ford F250; Dacotah Bank, \$3,678.22, SS/Withholding/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; Stacy Mayou, \$110.95, Med Flex; Heartland Consumer Power, \$57,551.37, Power Services - June 2022; Nelson Sales & Service, LLC, \$449.99, Weed Eater for Cemetery; Colonial Research, \$346.65, Sparkle Glass Cleaner; Dairy Queen, \$108.00, Buster & Dilly Bars for Resale - Baseball; Coca-Cola Bottling, \$1,811.50, Soda for Resale - Baseball & Pool; WAPA, \$19,392.03, Power Services - June 2022; Lien Transportation Company, \$3,914.49, Hot mix; Avera Medical Group, \$35.00, Drug Screen Collection Fee; MJ's Sinclair, \$1,736.90, Fuel Purchases; James Valley Telecommunications, \$860.26, Telephone & Internet Services; Railroad Management Company, \$626.60, Water pipeline crossing fee; Dakota Supply Group, \$79.80, Wire Splice Kit; South Dakota 811, \$94.50, Message Fees - April through June 2022; Aberdeen Awards, \$22.00, Jr. Teener Region Trophy; SD Supple-

mental Retirement, \$240.00, Supplemental Retirement; Heartland Waste, \$10,109.59, Garbage hauling; Altac Capital Services, LLC, \$136,869.93, Digger Truck Lease; Used 2015 Kenworth T370 Bucket Truck; Ecolab Pest Elimination, \$106.00, Rubble Site Rodent Control; Susan Fjeldheim, \$216.53, Mileage Reimbursement - U12 Softball; IMEG Corp., \$6,504.57, Professional Services - 6/6/22 to 7/10/22; Groton Daily Independent, \$91.73, Publication Fees; AutoZone, Inc., \$6.38, Oil Filter; Darrell Hillestad, \$568.29, Wind Sock materials for Airport; Anna Fjeldheim, \$150.24, Mileage Reimbursement - U10 Softball; NW Energy, \$13.60, Natural Gas Service - Water Tower; Ken's Food Fair, \$5,028.18, Fuel, bottled water, food for resale; Wesco Distribution, \$150.00, Red Safety Paint

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wells to approve the June finance report. All members voted aye.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Babcock to approve the updated Community Center fees with the added requirement of a \$150 security deposit to cover expenses for unreturned keys. Council also expressed interest in acquiring keypad entry. All members voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to allow Stacy Mayou to attend the NESD Family Violence Prevention Conference on September 28 & 29, 2022, in Aberdeen, SD. All members voted aye.

Announcement – Water Restrictions – Absolutely No Outdoor Watering Beginning September 1, 2022.

Terry Herron and Paul Kosel exited the meeting.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Cutler to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:40 PM. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:15 PM.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Cutler to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor, Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

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80th Birthday Sharon (Raap) Busch
 Sharon will celebrate her 80th birthday on August 2nd. The family is requesting a card shower in her honor. Cards can be mailed to:
Sharon Busch
423 Main St. S.
Bristol, SD 57219



Celebration of Life

Arlene Anderson

Monday, Aug. 1, 2022
Paetznick-Garness
Funeral Chapel
112 N. 3rd St., Groton

Lunch served following celebration

CLASSIFIEDS

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

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you everyone for the beautiful cards and notes. The years passed quickly, and God blessed us with wonderful family and friends. You all had a wonderful part in our lives. God bless you all.

Carroll and Pearl Dean

AUCTIONS

INTERSTATE AUCTION CENTER: August 13 10:00am. 3 miles east of Sioux Falls exit 402 Brandon SD. Consignment vehicles, tractors, trucks, trailers, livestock, farm equipment. Call 605-331-4550, auctionzip.com

BIDS

MOTOR GRADER FOR SALE: Faulk County Auditor's office will receive sealed bids on (1) 2016 140M3 AWDB CAT Motor Grader. Bids will be accepted until 5:00 pm on August 1, 2022. Faulk County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids for the best interest of the county. For more information call 1-605-598-6233.

EMPLOYMENT

SATURDAY CLEANER NEEDED IN FERRENY, SD, 830 am to 130 pm. \$15 an hour. Must be dependable and be willing to work around customers coming into the family owned business. Please call Stephanie at 605-381-1758.

FULL-TIME DEPUTY SHERIFF, Hyde County Sheriff's Office, Highmore, SD. Applicants must be certified in law enforcement or willing to be trained and certified within one year of hire date. Experience preferred. Request applications from Hyde County Auditor's Office, 605-852-2519 or hydeaud@venturecomm.net. Submit completed application to Hyde County Auditor's Office, 412 Commercial Ave. SE, Highmore, SD 57345. Open until position filled. Hyde County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

FULL-TIME HIGHWAY WORKERS (3), Hyde County Highway Department, Highmore, SD. Class A CDL required for this position or applicant must be able to obtain a Class A CDL within one year of employment. Request applications from Hyde County Auditor's Office, 605-852-2519, or hydeaud@venturecomm.net. Submit completed application to Hyde County Auditor's Office, 412 Commercial Ave. SE, Highmore, SD 57345. Closing date: Open until filled. Hyde County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: OLD BARN WOOD of all kinds, also rusty corrugated tin. Will pay cash! Jerry 605-360-2484.

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL UPCOMING SALES & FULL DETAILS:

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Governor Kristi Noem has declared October 8 in South Dakota as "Jim Anderson Day" in honor of his lifelong dedication of auctioneering in the Huron, SD area. We will be celebrating Jim on Oct. 8. Watch our website for details.

CONTACT US TO SEE HOW WE CAN BE OF SERVICE TO YOU!

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 Jason Wells (605) 881-7824 | Cauby Hofer (605) 350-0193

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LAND AUCTION

4,467.58 ACRES OF CONTIGUOUS CROP LAND
IN SULLY COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA
TO BE SOLD IN 14 TRACTS
 LIVE AUCTION WITH ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2022 • 1:00 PM CT

AUCTION LOCATION: "83 AG" SALES AND SERVICE
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DEAN A. NELSON FARMS, INC.

Auctioneers Notes:
 Do not miss this extraordinary sale of the land legacy of Dean Nelson. In the offering --an incredible 4,467.58-acres of prime farmland! This land is all contiguous and bodes solid County road access. It is a rarity to find such productive ag land --farmed from one end of the field to the other without interruption or impediment! Ample grain marketing opportunities are available. Sully County, SD, is home to two large grain elevators, an 80 million gallon/yr ethanol plant, and a 10,000 head cattle feedlot-- all within a few miles of this property. This once in a lifetime offering will be parceled into fourteen tracts, providing prospective buyers opportunity to buy acres that fit their needs.

To obtain complete details, a personal showing or a bidder's packet, contact:

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South Dakota churches suffering decline in affiliation and attendance

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

Anyone who attends church in South Dakota is probably already aware of a troubling trend afflicting religious organizations and churches across the state and nation: the slow but steady decline in church membership and attendance.

It may be fewer cars in the parking lot, fewer people in the pews or fewer volunteers at charitable outings. It might be a pastor or priest who serves more than one congregation or is in a temporary post as a fill-in. It could also be the closure of a local church or growing concerns that closure could be imminent.

Those are some of the outward signs of what religious leaders and experts say is a dramatic decline in religious affiliation and church attendance that began in the late 20th century, picked up pace during the COVID-19 pandemic, and remains a growing cause for concern in the post-pandemic era.

Membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, one of the largest churches in South Dakota, is down 40% over the past 30 years nationally and has fallen by almost 10% in South Dakota over roughly the past decade. Attendance at Lutheran churches in South Dakota is down about 14% since 2013, and the ELCA recently closed churches in Newell and Bradley, S.D.

Catholic and Methodist churches are also seeing declines.

In the Sioux Falls Catholic Diocese, which serves all of East River South Dakota, records indicate that church attendance in 2022 is down 26% compared with 2010 and that membership has also fallen.

The decrease in church affiliation and attendance follows other patterns that show Americans are turning away from organized religion and many of its tenets. Surveys show that among Americans, belief in God is lower than ever; that trust in religion is way down; and that fewer people believe the Bible to be the true word of God and instead see it as a book of only fables or legends.

Perhaps most worrisome for church leaders in America and South Dakota is that in recent surveys, the people who do not affiliate with any religion, the so-called "nones," are the fastest-growing segment of the national population as indicated in surveys about religion, faith and beliefs.

Religious scholars and church leaders say the decline in church membership and attendance is being fueled by many factors, most of them cultural shifts within society at large. They include demographic changes that are reducing rural populations where churches are a cornerstone; greater political and cultural divisions within modern society that are driving people apart; generational changes that have made young people less willing to join groups; and self-inflicted wounds within organized religion in the form of sexual and financial crimes and scandals.

On a practical level, a decline in church membership and attendance reduces church revenues and availability of human capital, and can thus weaken a church's ability to bring people together and perform charity work and other good deeds that help individuals and a community survive and thrive. It can also eliminate or reduce the effectiveness of a long-relied-upon way that people in cities

large and small come together to get to know one another, to commune and form lasting personal relationships that strengthen communities.

On a spiritual level, some church leaders feel they are in a fight for the soul of the state, of the nation and of individual human beings.

Zach Kingery, a pastor at two United Methodist Churches in southeastern South Dakota, said it is impossible to overstate the important role churches play in communities and the lives of individuals. To Kingery, attending church is one important way people learn not only to get closer to God, and to live together in harmony and mutual support, but also to live a more godly life that makes the world a better place.

"Every week we close the service and I tell people that they are sent out into the world to share the word of God and be the light of Christ, to be more like Christ, to reach out to others and to help people," he said. "Peace, patience, joy, love, goodness, kindness, all the fruits of the spirit; those are meant to be shared with people."

Richard Swanson, a religion professor at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, said the drop in religious affiliation and attendance is troubling because now, perhaps more than ever, people need a place to gather, to share in triumphs and tragedies, to commune with other humans and a higher power, and to seek and perhaps find deeper meaning in their lives and in the world.

Swanson said the reduced interest in religion and church attendance in America could have the long-term effect of making individuals and communities more callous to the pain and suffering of others and less willing to help.

"I get up believing that in the universe, it is expected that little kids would not go to bed hungry, or that other basic problems must be solved," he said. "To me, losing a religious community would take away the place where I would learn social responsibility. Church communities have been one of the places where that sense of social responsibility has been fostered."

Religious leaders in South Dakota are well aware of the declining interest in and engagement with churches across the state, and they are taking steps to reverse the trend.

On a national level, the Catholic Church just kicked off a three-year effort that will trickle down to the diocese and parish levels and include a detailed look at attendance and membership trends while also seeking local solutions to increase church membership that can be duplicated across the country. The Sioux Falls diocese recently created a new position to foster growth of churches and to more assertively seek new church members.

The ELCA in South Dakota recently created a rural liaison position to aid small towns in protecting the church populations they have, but also to listen closely to the needs of rural churchgoers or potential members and respond to any desires or concerns to spur greater membership.

Church leaders in various denominations across the state are acknowledging they must adapt to the cultural changes happening outside the church. While still sharing the scripture and promoting the virtues of Christianity, church leaders say they must be more welcoming and upbeat, listen more to the needs of individuals and communities, and foster an



Even as membership in many churches in South Dakota has fallen, holidays and special events can still fill the pews, including at this Christ Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Sioux Falls. Photo: Courtesy Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

environment of encouragement and support within the church.

"As the world keeps turning and changing around us, we expect the church to always be the same ... well, nowhere in scripture does it say the church will be the same," said Constanze Hagmaier, bishop of the ELCA South Dakota Synod of the Lutheran church. "God will be the same, but nowhere does it say the church must be the same. If we can't hear the voices that are out there and respond with faith, then we're emptying the church on our own; we're just helping them pack and go out the door because we refuse to open ourselves up to actually listen."

Those kinds of changes, Swanson said, will be critical to the future of churches and organized religion. "Without soul searching and without honesty, the church has no future at all," he said.

And the loss of a church, or decline in its reach or influence, can hasten the demise of small towns in South Dakota that are already suffering population loss or languishing economically.

Swanson said the loss of a church, especially in a small town, can be seen as one more reason for some residents to move away.

"Does it matter to the town if there's a grocery store or a church? Well, yes, it matters a great deal," Swanson said. "The town I grew up in lost its last grocery store, and now people say the town is hollowed out and there's nothing left. The loss of a religious community in a small town has that same impact because no longer is there a space where you sit with people, sing with people or think with people and explore spirituality with people."

Survey data reveals depth of decline

The downward slide in church attendance, affiliation with religion and trust in religious organizations are well documented in national Gallup polls taken over the past few decades.

The number of Americans who self-report as having no religious affiliation nearly tripled in the past 20 years. The number of so-called "nones" rose from 8% in 2001 to 21% in 2021. For several years in the 1950s, only 1% of Americans reported no religious affiliation.

The importance of religion in the lives of individuals, and religion's influence on the country as a whole, are also falling. Individu-

als who said religion is very important in their lives fell from 58% in 2001 to 49% in 2021. Gallup polling in 2001 showed that only 39% of Americans felt the influence of religion was falling in the United States, compared with 78% who said its influence was falling in 2021.

Poll results also show a decline in belief in the Bible, God, angels, heaven and hell.

Those changing beliefs have resulted in lower religious affiliation and reduced church membership and attendance, according to Gallup.

In 2001, 66% of Americans said they were a member of a church or synagogue, but in 2021, only 47% said they were members of a church, falling below a majority for the first time in the 80 years Gallup has asked that question. As recently as 1970, church membership was at 70%, where it hovered for more than six decades.

Meanwhile, attendance at churches (either in person or virtually) has also fallen significantly in the past 20 years.

In 2001, 42% of Americans said they attended church weekly or almost weekly and 41% said they had attended church in the past seven days. Only 15% said they never attended church.

Twenty years later, the slide in church attendance was clearly evident. In 2021, only 31% attended regularly only 29% attended in the past week. The number who never attend church services doubled to 31% in 2021.

During that 20-year period, faith in the Bible also fell. In 2001, 20% of respondents considered the Bible to be only fables or legends, but by 2021, that number had risen to 29%.

In addition, satisfaction in the role of religion in America has also declined, with 64% of people satisfied with the role of religion in the country in 2001, compared with only 48% in 2021.

All of these results come against the backdrop that Americans still believe religion is a generally positive force in the country. In a 2013 poll, Gallup found that 75% of respondents said the country would be better off if more people were religious, and only 17% said greater religious affiliation would be a negative factor for the country.

Recent national polling also provides insight into why fewer people are engaging with religion or attending church. The most common reasons people gave for not attending church were preferring to worship on their own (44%); disliking organized religion (36%); or simply not considering themselves very religious (33%). Other factors leading to non-attendance include not wanting to be asked for money (16%), health problems (10%), and not feeling welcome (9%).

The factors in why people do attend church regularly appear to indicate that the message delivered is far more important than who is delivering it, where it occurs or the communal nature of church gatherings.

According to a 2017 Gallup poll, three-quarters of churchgoers said the top factors were related to the content of sermons, including those that brought them closer to understanding scripture or those that were somehow made relevant to their individual lives. Conversely, vibrant social activities, a dynamic leader or a good band or choir were far less influential in attracting people to a church.

While religious affiliation in South Dakota is higher than the national average, the state is experiencing many of the same declines in church membership and attendance, according to the Pew Research Center.

According to a 2014 national Pew survey broken down by state, almost 60% of poll respondents in South Dakota described themselves as evangelical or mainline Protestant, which includes Lutherans, who make up about 25% of total churchgoers in South Dakota, and roughly 22% said they were Catholics. No other religion had more than 1% affiliation in South Dakota.

Regular weekly church attendance was at 36% in South Dakota in 2014, compared with a national figure of 30% that same year but below the 41% who said they attended every week in 2007.

The percentage of state residents who rarely if ever attend church in South Dakota was 17% in 2007, but had jumped to 27% in 2014.

About 18% of South Dakotans described themselves as "nones," or having no religious affiliation, more than double the percentage from a 2001 survey that showed only 8% of state residents reporting no religious affiliation.

Causes of decline not easily reversed

Swanson said demographic changes, especially in rural areas, are playing a large role in declining church membership and attendance.

As rural populations have shrunk, and young adults have increasingly fled small towns where they grew up to reside in larger cities, churches have suffered a generational break in attendance patterns, Swanson said.

"For people that grew up in small-town South Dakota, going to church was something they just grew up with; going to church was for them simply as ordinary a part of life as going to the grocery store or going bowling," he said. "People have been fleeing rural communities for a century, and when they land in big cities, they discover they don't have the same patterns there, and that population has become significantly disconnected from churches."



George Tsakiridis

Another reason for the declines in organized religion is the influence of politics within individual congregations as well as national religious denominations, said George Tsakiridis, a professor of religion at South Dakota State University.

From strong positions on abortion, sexuality or even the response of governments and individuals to the COVID pandemic, the more that political and cultural views permeate the church, the less likely some people will be to attend regularly, Tsakiridis said.

"You have political emphases within those denominations that then affect people in the pews. It allows people to say, 'Hey, I don't agree with this political stance the church is now taking, so therefore I don't feel comfortable here anymore,'" he said.

The decline in church attendance can be traced in part to divisions in American society that have deepened in recent years, whether based on political party, liberal versus conservative thinking or in regard to religious beliefs, said Tsakiridis.

Swanson also sees the divide in politics and culture in America oozing into churches and hurting their ability to appeal to a wide range of people from differing backgrounds or ideologies.

"People have commented on the decreasing ability of Americans to talk to one another with civility," he said. "People in church organizations, just as people in political discussions, have found themselves engaging in vitriol more than in conversation, and that's a piece that has split some congregations, and it drives some people away."

Meanwhile, the sometimes binary approach to good and evil, and worthy and unworthy, that can arise in religious preachings, does not create a welcoming feeling among churchgoers or those who may consider joining a church,

SYNOD SNAPSHOT: LUTHERAN CHURCH IN S.D AND U.S. IN DECLINE

Here is a look at some key data points from the past seven years for the South Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or Lutheran church, and below find statistics on the national ELCA Lutheran church system. Other organized religions in the United States are seeing similar declines.

South Dakota ELCA

Category	2013	2020	% change
Churches	208	202	— 3%
Members	106,000	96,700	— 9%
Avg attendance	28,480	24,476	— 14%
Member giving	\$47.0 mill	\$42.6 mill	— 9%
Total income	\$56.3 mill	\$49.2 mill	— 13%
Operating costs	\$32.9 mill	\$36.2 mill	+ 10%

National ELCA

1990: 11,100 congregations; 5.24 million baptized members
2020: 8,895 congregations; 3.14 million baptized members
30-year change: congregations down 19%; membership down 40%

Sources/notes: Membership numbers for SD and US are for baptized members; average church attendance shown for South Dakota is for 2013 and 2019; operating costs do not include debt payments, capital improvements or mission support. Source is ELCA reports.

Swanson said.

"If people are done with politics, people are also done with religion in the same way because they're tired of the yelling and the blaming and the rigidity that goes with religion," Swanson said.

Swanson said religion, like other social groupings, has historically attracted leaders who are narcissistic or who have the capacity to abuse or disregard others, and he theorized that the church in America has been slow to recognize that fact and to take steps to protect churchgoers or better screen for potentially troubled leaders. The abuse of children and vulnerable adults by priests and others in the Catholic Church, and the cover-up of the abuse and transfer of abusive priests from one place to another, has caused a distrust of religion in general in America that is hard to shake, Swanson said.

Religious organizations are not alone in having abused human beings, Swanson said, noting that sports, education, entertainment and business and industry have all had to face improper behaviors from people in power. But the damage done to the church in such cases creates a deeper sense of pain that has turned some people away from organized religion in a general sense, Swanson said.

"People approach a community of faith, and somewhere deep in their being, they expect it to be a safe place," he said. "When that safety is compromised, and people are assaulted in a religious context, it affects us deeply, more deeply than if that occurred someplace else."

Meanwhile, the average age of churchgoers is rising, and people who eventually die or become unable to attend church are not being replaced by younger adults, Tsakiridis said.

"You have a lot of older churches. So many of the people in those churches are 60, 70 or 80 years old, and those mid-aged families that are missing often formed the heart of churches," Tsakiridis said.

Some people who never attended church or no longer do so may have a hard time making sense of the role religion is supposed to play in their lives, he added.

"My own theory is that many people shy away from organized religion either because they struggle with the problem of evil ... they wonder why a good God would allow all the bad things we see in the world," he said. "Or they struggle in a personal sense in that they grow up in a church that was very restrictive or hypocritical in their view, so they moved away from it."

Tsakiridis said people who are spiritual may feel that they can do better on their own without the support of a church to tell or guide them how to live.

"They still have some spirituality in that they

believe in God or a higher power, and they live their life according to that, but they don't feel the need to attend church as part of that belief," he said. "They think to themselves, 'If I'm focused on just being a good person or helping my fellow human beings, I don't see the need for the church to create that within me.'"

On a basic level, Tsakiridis said, many people would like to see the church as a place to feel better about themselves and the world around them, and the sometimes didactic approach of religion has turned some of those people away.

"When people go to houses of worship and are made to feel bad about themselves ... they wonder why am I being treated this way," he said. "They're not thinking about whether this church has the proper theology or not, they're going to gauge how they are treated and how they feel in that community."

Swanson and Tsakiridis both said one big danger of the decline in religious affiliation and church attendance is that some people may fill the gap religion once played in their life by joining groups with far less noble motives.

"If people don't feel loved, that's not good for a society because there's suddenly a bunch of people who are not having a key need met in their lives," Tsakiridis said. "Whether it is social gatherings or intimate faith relationships in spiritual life ... something is lacking and is going to create problems for our society."

For example, individuals who have unmet spiritual needs may be more likely to turn to alcohol, drugs, violence or radical political views either to cover up their pain or seek solace with others who feel alone or who think alike, Tsakiridis said.

"Religion is one of the roots of our community that we're losing because we don't have that stable place to go to to meet those needs," he said. "That affects the rootedness of individual human beings, and if there's a need that's not being met, that can start to take uglier forms."

Churches react and adapt to reverse declines



Constanze Hagmaier

Hagmaier said declining membership and attendance led to the recent closure of Lutheran churches in Newell, in Meade County, and in Bradley, in Clark County. The pastorship at Grand River Lutheran Church in Buffalo is one of several Lutheran churches without a pastor, she said.

In some rural regions of South Dakota, Lutheran pastors have taken on "poly-site" leadership roles for two or more congregations at the same time, Hagmaier said.

The church is also looking at new ways of keeping communities engaged, including using technology to allow for remote attendance or encouraging lay church members to take a more active role in spreading the gospel outside the walls of the church.

Hagmaier said churches of all denominations need to be more flexible in the messages they deliver and how they are shared, and can only do so through a deep examination of what people are seeking in their lives in an ever-changing world.

Hagmaier, elected bishop in 2019, acknowledges that changing the messaging and message delivery in churches will not be easy or quick. In some ways, the church must provide to potential members the sense that religion is a way to help not only oneself but also the community and the world as a whole.

"Oftentimes, when we look at civic resources and civic engagements, it's all about what can I do, it's all about me, me, me, me, me, and how we need to save ourselves, and if we can't do that, we get frustrated and all these things bubble up and we start pointing fingers and conflict arises," Hagmaier said. "But the

church, ideally speaking, has this other voice, this countercultural voice, where if we take ourselves out of the picture and put God at the center, and that's part of our message, then we can take our own differences away and look at life from a different lens, and work for communal good."

That new reality — and a subsequent effort to align church messages more closely with the needs and desires of individuals — is true for middle-aged or older people, but is especially true among children and young adults, who may, or may not, form the backbone of churches and religion in the future, Hagmaier said.

Changing and adapting is critical in reaching and attracting the next generation of Americans and South Dakotans, who look at the world and institutions with a more critical eye and demand more payback for the time and energy they invest in a church or any organization, Hagmaier said.

"If we still think we live in the times that we lived in when our forefathers founded the land and the church, and these young people have all the pressing issues that we are not able to talk about, then they won't be interested," she said. "If the church is not relevant in their lives, they won't participate in church or be part of a church. They're very selective in how they engage."

For example, Hagmaier said, trying to use traditional methods to collect offerings at church may not work for children or young adults.

"If all I do is pass a basket ... I'm not sure my kids would make an offering," said Hagmaier, who has three children. "My kids, they never owned a checkbook and I don't know that they even carry cash."

Churches need to adapt and react to changing trends in church attendance very soon due to a breakdown in generational church attendance that could have grave long-term consequences for organized religion, Hagmaier said. "We're coming now to a generation where the parents never went to church," she said. "Right now, 7-year-old children are like, 'Church, what is that?'"

Yet Hagmaier added that the church cannot and should not be so reactive to cultural changes in society as to lose focus on the core values and tenets of Christianity and the Lutheran church.

"The church has a clear and profound message at which the true God is at the center and from there we reach out to offer an alternative way of life. But if the church loses the focus we become fear driven and operate from a preservative mindset," she said. "If we believe that in everything God's at the heart of things we are free to engage in our culture and offer an alternative."



Scott Traynor

Father Scott Traynor holds a new position within the Sioux Falls Catholic Diocese called the Vicar for Lay and Clergy Formation, which puts him at the center of new efforts to invigorate church membership and attendance in the diocese. Traynor said that when Bishop Donald DeGrood took office in 2020, he immediately sought to

reduce the trend of declining engagement with the Catholic Church in eastern South Dakota, and Traynor's new position was part of that effort.

Traynor said the Catholic Church throughout its history did not need or desire to be too evangelistic in its approach to attracting new members.

"The bishop put forth a very clear vision statement for the diocese: to build a culture of lifelong Catholic missionary discipleship through God's love," Traynor said. "That is a very clear and organizational focus for the efforts of our diocese to build up that culture precisely to disrupt that culture of de-

cline in attendance and belief."

Traynor said the missionary effort will be based largely on work at the local congregational level in order to show support and take advice from Catholics who know what their communities and individual churches need to thrive.

Traynor said the Catholic Church for centuries relied on generational support in which parents attended church with their children, who then attended church with their children and so on. But Traynor said that process has been disrupted by foundational changes in society in which people are less interested in and attuned to the tenets of Christianity.

"We are in not just a generational change, but a change of epochs, from Christian to a newly resecularized culture ... in Western civilization," he said. Forty to 50 years ago, the Catholic parish was really the center of community activities, in that families had their entire social network organized through the parish, and that's just not true today."

Traynor said his role is to learn what existing and potential Catholics want in a church, and to seek out new, innovative ways of connecting people to the church and to God.

"People are drifting along with the mainstream culture today; they're going to tend to go further and further away from the church," he said. "If parents desire to pass on their faith to their children and their children's children, it takes a very focused, intense and sustained effort to make headway because it is not occurring naturally. It's not enough to just have a church building and expect that people will show up."

Traynor said that in South Dakota, about 30% to 40% of people who identify as Catholic attend mass weekly, which is 10% to 15% higher than the rest of the country but still not a number to be celebrated. One goal of the church's new missionary efforts will be to encourage churchgoers to share their passion for God and scripture with Catholics who have stopped attending in order for them to return to the church.

Traynor said the Catholic Church in the United States in June launched a 3-year growth effort called the Eucharistic Revival, which is aimed at renewing the church through personal encounters with Jesus. The program invites creative initiatives first at the diocesan level, then at the parish level, finally culminating in a National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis in July 2024.

In the Sioux Falls Diocese, officials have gathered data on births, first communions, confirmations and marriages within the church and are comparing it to demographic data to look for places where the church might be weak or strong, and then adapt missionary strategies accordingly.

When it comes to the sexual-abuse scandal and cover-ups that have rocked the worldwide Catholic Church, Traynor said the church has embarked on a major effort to enact safeguards that will prevent such abuse in the future.

"The church has become a very proactive and exemplary leader in creating safeguards for children and vulnerable adults," Traynor said. "The church can never do too much to ensure the safety of children, so I would never say the church has done enough. But I would also say that in the world today, the Catholic church or school or parish is



"Without soul searching and without honesty, the church has no future at all."
-- Richard Swanson, professor of religion at Augustana University

probably the safest environment of any public organization for any child.”

And yet, Traynor acknowledges that the stain of abuse may not have yet been cleared in the minds of many Americans, and that it may have led in part to reduced Catholic Church membership and attendance.

“We’re very focused and aware of this problem, and when it comes to that group of ‘nones,’ the person who may have lost that basic trust in either God or organized religion or the church, if they have lost that, there’s been a rupture of trust and the best thing you can do to evangelize or help them take another step closer to Jesus and the church, is just to be a good human being to them and show that you are there to serve people’s real needs, and share that the Catholic Church has a rich tradition of feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, caring for the sick, educating people and giving them health care, and visiting the imprisoned and marginalized.”

Priest and pastor shortage a concern

Some religions, the Catholic and Lutheran churches among them, are also seeing a decline in the number of new priests and pastors who can run churches, and the shortage is more acute in rural areas. Officials from both churches told News Watch, however, that while recruiting and preparing new priests and pastors is a concern, the nationwide shortage of new church leaders has not yet become a major factor in church declines in South Dakota.

And yet, recruitment of new leaders and church employees overall is an ongoing part of efforts to stabilize religious organizations. Hagmaier said the South Dakota Lutheran church offers new employees who move to the state an incentive in which the church pays off their student loans.

But finding pastors to commit to churches in sparsely populated rural areas remains a challenge, Hagmaier said.

Hagmaier said working as a pastor provides solid if not spectacular pay and benefits; starting pastors receive a salary and benefit package ranging from \$40,000 to \$60,000 a year in value, she said.

Rural positions become less attractive if pastors have to worry about the viability of a small-town congregation, she said.

“If your rural area is emptying out, with just a few people there, it’s hard to support a pastor’s salary, and if there’s nothing left for ministry, that’s a concern,” she said.

Hagmaier said 75% of the ELCA congregations in South Dakota are considered rural, which creates challenges in filling open pastor positions or meeting unique needs of rural residents who want to attend church.

That problem led the synod recently to create the new rural liaison position to work with small communities, to keep the local Lutheran church viable and to learn what residents want and need from their church.

In communities where the church doesn’t have a pastor or faces some other type of uncertainty, the liaison visits the town for two weeks to talk to church members and others in the community to stabilize the church and also find solutions to local problems, Hagmaier said.

The liaison recently visited the towns of Trent and Revillo in East River, and Hot Springs and Edgemont in West River, to help those churches maintain stability while they search for new pastors. In Edgemont, where there is no pastor, the rural liaison stepped in to aid in the burial of a church member and provide support to the community after the death.

The new approach to strengthening rural congregations, which Hagmaier refers to as “presence and accompaniment,” is an example of how the Lutheran church is trying to respond to declining church membership and attendance in a collaborative rather than heavy-handed way.

“I don’t even like my kids to tell me what to

do, so why would I want a bishop to tell me or my community what to do?” she said.

Hagmaier remains optimistic that with some innovation and new focus on listening and adapting to the needs of rural communities, the Lutheran church can continue to thrive in South Dakota.

“I’m very excited about the future of the church and rural ministry, but it most certainly will look different than it did before,” she said.

Young pastor takes positive approach



Zach Kingery

Kingery, 34, is a Kansas native who has been the pastor of two United Methodist churches in Jerauld County in east-central South Dakota for nearly six years.

Throughout his tenure as pastor, Kingery has been aware of the declining church membership and attendance across the country, but he has taken numerous steps to

grow his congregations in Alpena and Wessington Springs.

“Going to church just for the sake of going to church, that cultural obligation to go to church isn’t present anymore,” Kingery said. “There is a cultural decline in attending church, and it’s easier to walk away from church when it’s seen just as an institution, something we’re just supposed to do when it doesn’t really fit into your daily life and there’s no connection with it.”

Kingery said he has tried to create an atmosphere of positivity and encouragement in his congregations; he has developed close personal relationships with churchgoers; he has adapted sermons to be relevant to the small-town, rural congregations he serves; and he has taken the approach that Sunday sermons are a chance to put people on a path to living and spreading the word and ways of God after church services end.

“There is an increase in attendance at a life-giving church, those that are very present in their community, and very active. We’re trying to shift the narrative from a church you just go to once a week to being a place you come to that encourages you for the week ahead.”

Kingery said he knows that people come to church in part to feel more upbeat and more supported in their lives, even in times of pain or sorrow, and also to gain insight into the word of God that can help them live better, more complete lives.

While he often challenges church members to change and improve their lives, even if it takes conviction and hard work, he knows churchgoers do not sit in pews and listen to sermons to be made to feel guilty or bad about themselves.

“Church isn’t a place for condemnation, but is a place for conviction and encouragement,” he said. “If I stand up and tell you you’re a sinner and scream at you, you’re not going to be encouraged to change your life.”

Instead, Kingery uses scripture as a conduit to share the word of God in a way that encourages church members to think deeply about problems and challenges in their lives, and to find a path toward improvement. And, he said, he asks them to share their positive religious experiences and belief in God with others, which can hopefully lead to greater church membership and attendance.

Kingery said that at the roughly 240 Methodist churches in South Dakota and North Dakota, the average weekly attendance is about 40 people. Even in two towns with small populations, Kingery said he has seen an increase in attendance during his six years as pastor, to about 45 people a week in Alpena and 65 to 70 each week in Wessington Springs. At Christmas and Easter services, he sometimes counts more than 200 people in attendance.

Kingery said he was encouraged this year to

confirm 13 youths into the Methodist church in Alpena and another seven in Wessington Springs.

In order for churches to thrive and grow attendance long-term, Kingery said, church leaders must do more to engage with youth and make religion a larger, more integral and valued part of their lives.

“There was this movement that if we serve pizza and play games, that young people will come to church. Then they get older,” Kingery said.

Instead, Kingery said he invests his time and energy in creating deeper, most honest connections with youth in order to show them the power of God but also to provide an opportunity to listen and work through the difficult questions young people have about their lives and the world around them.

“The teenagers I’m seeing be more invested in church are asking important questions and I’m doing my best to give them answers, even if sometimes the answer is that I don’t know,” Kingery said. “The ones that are responding the most are those who are finding connections and community through church. They ask hard, tough questions, and when you work with them through it and try to find answers together, then they want to be there.”

Kingery refused to be daunted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges it created in enabling people to gather safely. Starting in March 2020, he watched as church attendance fell by more than half, and then dwindled even further as the virus spread.

In response, Kingery bought an FM transmitter and began offering weekly sermons over the radio. In an unusual take on the drive-in movie concept, as many as 85 church members would pull up to the church, remain in their cars, and listen to the sermons on the radio together while safely separated.

“They parked like how they sat in church, a few feet apart, and everybody turned their radio on,” Kingery said. “They got to wave at each other and say hello from a distance.”

Kingery also offered his sermons through online video platforms such as YouTube and on Facebook, a practice he continues to use in the post-pandemic period. The online sermons allow people to hear his preaching even if they cannot attend in person, and enable former church members who have moved to tune in from other states or from outside his pastoral area in South Dakota.

Kingery said turning the tide back toward greater church participation and attendance — and a stronger connection to God — will require pastors and other leaders to be more mindful of what people are seeking in their lives, and to deliver important messages in a way that inspires and encourages others to join.

“That’s what the churches are kind of catching onto. Are we inviting people to church, am I being the church outside of these doors, how am I connecting with God during the week and connecting with others?” Kingery asks himself. “It has become more of an inviting process where other people in the community are catching on and being involved.”



Wessington Springs United Methodist Church Pastor Zach Kingery, at left, plays bass with the Praise Band during a community event at Shakespeare Garden in 2019. With Kingery are band members, left to right, Kirk Luymes, Lila Hoffman, Jessie Baker, Jessica Kingery and Lisa Edwards. Photo: Courtesy Lynda Luymes, UMC

Dear EarthTalk: How are reptiles faring these days in the face of climate change and other environmental threats?

— L.M. Smith, Boston, MA

Reptiles, like other animals and plants, face growing threats as human influence on the environment increases. Certain reptiles are especially threatened; some 61 percent of turtles are threatened or extinct. Tracking the exact consequences of human activity on reptiles, however, has been difficult as research has primarily focused on mammals and birds, which draw more public attention, although evaluations have found reptiles to be more threatened than birds.

A recent study that observed 10,196 species determined that 21.1 percent of reptiles are at risk of extinction. These species contain an estimated 15.6 billion years of phylogenetic diversity (PD). This science uses a phylogenetic tree, which shows how closely related species are, to describe the amount of biodiversity in an ecosystem and obtain a more useful measurement than just counting numbers of species. In addition, the adaptations of reptiles to ecological conditions perform help sustain ecosystems, including supporting food chains. Threats to reptiles include habitat loss and environmental damage, invasive species, diseases, pollution, exploitation, poaching and global climate change.

Habitat destruction is the largest threat. As urban sprawl, overgrazing and desertifica-

tion—which in turn prompt expansion of logging and agricultural operations—put greater pressures on land, reptile habitats have been overtaken by humans, creating increasingly stressful conditions for reptiles. Shrinking habitats increase edge effects—which are the effects of separating habitats (like with a road) such that animals cannot reach resources or mates in other parts of the habitat. Now climate change is exacerbating these pressures. Since many reptiles are ectothermic—they cannot generate internal heat and instead rely on external conditions (e.g. sunlight) to warm themselves—temperature increases due to climate change affect them significantly. Many arid-climate reptiles (e.g. lizards and geckos) are already experiencing extremely high temperatures, and minor increases could make their already limited habitats unlivable.

Furthermore, reptiles are particularly prevalent in regions of Southeast Asia, where disruptions to monsoon cycles can obstruct development of reptiles in embryo. Many species—turtles, crocodiles and alligators, for example—lay eggs in wet conditions. Newly-dry and disrupted regions threaten their abilities to survive, cause slow development or growth and skew the natural selection of sex ratios.

Some good news is that methods implemented to protect other types of animals—reducing tropical deforestation, controlling illegal trade and improving productivity in agriculture



Almost two-thirds of all turtle species known to science are either endangered or recently extinct. Credit: Roddy Scheer.

such that agricultural lands do not need to be expanded—benefit reptiles similarly. However, the current crisis behooves more action to improve conditions for reptiles in particular.

Readers should encourage their representatives to take action. Reptiles play a crucial role in the Earth's ecosystems, and concerted solutions have the potential to make all the difference.

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Cancer screening saved my life - Twice

As a physician with 45 years of practice, I've seen my share of diseases. I have usually been on the physician side of the diagnosis-treatment paradigm. However, knowing the rationale for diagnostic screening tests, I fortunately did not shirk my own.

Testing too much or too frequently leads to insignificant findings that may have no long-term consequences yet create worry and further testing. Too often, this can lead to surgery that does not save lives but carries pain, disability, unnecessary expense, and sometimes post-op infection that occasionally is fatal. Knowing what and when to test is a crucial conversation to have with your doctor.

Although annual prostate-specific antigen, or PSA testing is no longer recommended, periodic testing may raise suspicion if a rising pattern is seen. As luck would have it, this turned out to be my dilemma, so I retested six months later, and when my PSA continued to climb, I went in for a biopsy. The biopsy showed a very aggressive type of cancer, the type that metastasizes very quickly to bone. Surgery was scheduled and computed tomography or CT scans ordered to help with staging my surgery.

Even though I had had three colonoscopies in the preceding 25 years, the CT scan showed a tumor inside my colon that was only about one millimeter from breaking through the wall and spreading to other organs. An extra year of procrastinating would almost certainly have found me with two cancers that would have already spread. Catching them early, surgery was curative, and I was one of the lucky ones who did not have to undergo months of radiation or chemotherapy.

So, please, have this discussion with your doctor, and review the American Cancer Society's screening guidelines, as these vary with age, family history, and your unique set of risk factors. Go to www.cancer.org and be proactive. Catch it early and you too can go on enjoying life with your family for years to come.

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