



City Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich shows off his hockey skills as he poses with one of the six hockey sticks donated by S & S Lumber. In addition, the Chris Frost family donated a box of hockey pucks to the city's skating rink. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Adjustments made to school calendar **By Joe Schwan Groton Area Superintendent**

At the board meeting on Monday night, after much discussion, the decision was made to do the following to attempt to make up for some of our lost instructional time in an educationally relevant manner:

We will be IN SESSION on Monday, February 20.

We will be IN SESSION on Monday, April 10. IF we miss another day between now and March 1, THEN we will be IN SESSION on Thursday, March 16.

A decision on the when the last day of school will be is going to be made at a later date. I expect that additional days will be added to the end of the calendar but that number will

Jones among Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation Golden Apple Recipients The Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation announced the seventh annual Golden Apple

Awards, recognizing individuals that are dedicated, inspiring, and making a difference in the Aberdeen School District. This year's honorees are Kim Aman, Jeremy Schutter and Mendy Jones. Each received \$500 and an engraved golden apple.



Mindy Jones

Being understanding, respectful, professional, supportive, and committed are all terms that come to mind when one thinks about excellence in the field of education. These are a few of the terms used to describe Mendy Jones, Special Education Coordinator.

Jones began her career by working in several school settings for at-risk students. While handling the extreme behavioral and academic challenges that come with teaching in that setting, she also worked to obtain her Master's Degree. While working in this setting, she built lifelong friendships with the employees but more importantly with the clients that she worked with. One client had so much respect and trust in Jones that, at a young age, asked her to be his payee. She agreed and assisted this student with managing his finances but what is more admirable is that she continues to do this today, over 20 years later.

When transitioning to the public schools, her caring, supportive, and enthusiastic demeanor was evident in Jones's daily interactions with her students. She was a huge advocate for her students and went above and beyond in helping them be academically and behaviorally successful. Her ability to connect with them along with her high classroom expectations created a welcoming environment where students felt safe in expressing their thoughts, ideas, opinions,

and feelings. Jones was a strong voice for her students who lacked the skills to speak up and advocate for themselves. Her collaboration with parents, teachers, and administrators always put the student needs first.

Regardless of her extremely busy schedule, Jones will make time to assist staff whenever needed. She played an essential role in developing the Basic Classes at Central High School as she saw a need for more classes that would specifically fit the academic needs of students which improved the graduation rate of students with special needs. When we started seeing a need for more behavioral support for students, Jones proposed making a room where the students could go and process through their behavior instead of going straight to the office. The processing room has been very successful in lowering office referrals and suspensions. In an effort to assist families with making connections with adult service agencies, Jones started an adult service provider night at the high school. This allowed parents to meet many of the adult service providers and find out more about them all in one night.

Jones's giving nature doesn't end in the workplace. She has bought homecoming t-shirts, graduation tassels, paid for students to get into games or activities so they can have the same high school experiences as their peers. She has visited students in jail and written students in prison so they know they have someone in their corner and encouraging them to make good choices. She has gone to homes after hours to complete testing, get permission slips signed, and taken students shopping to get necessities such as coats. Jones serves on the Mayor's Advisory Committee that assists with the acceptance and integration of people with disabilities in our community. She also serves on the SAT, SNT, and the RDA committees throughout the depend on how the rest of the winter plays out. school district and was a CPI staff trainer for many years.



Junior Miss Groton Talli Wright was picked as the third runner-up at the South Dakota Snow Queen Festival. Pictured are her family: Adam, Talli, Tatum and Nicole Wright. (Photo courtesy Bev Sombke)

Anna Bisbee was one of the four winners in the senior talent division of the South Dakota Snow Queen Festival. (Photo from South Dakota Snow Queen Festival Facebook Page)

One of the good guys needs a hand

One of the dirty little secrets about the he knew to be untrue, American legal system is that might, that is money, often makes "right." Those with the wherewithal can legally and financially exhaust others, effectively punish them with frivolous lawsuits. That seems to be the case with one fall of 2021, when he was of the unsung good guys in North Dakota, Jim Fuglie.

Jim is a former reporter for the Dickinson Press, a writer for many magazines, former North Dakota Tourism Director, a Navy veteran, and the guy we had in mind, idealistically, when the Internet was born—a citizen journalist who has the training, integrity, and heart to make a difference.

And that's what got him in trouble.

Some folks don't like difference-makers. Especially when they're on the right side of the angels.

Jim and I share a Hettinger connection where his roots are and where I published the Adams County Record for the better part of a decade. He reached out many times over the years, offering encouragement and support, the lifeblood necessary to survival in weekly newspapering. A well-timed pat on the back can make your day.

I was fortunate to spend some time about a year ago in the Badlands with Jim and numerous other "activists" for lack of a better word. Folks from all political persuasions gathered for one purpose, to discuss ways to make life in North Dakota better. Among the attendees was Clay Jenkinson, North Dakota's acclaimed historian, and like Jim, an advocate for our state's natural beauty and resources.

I'll let Clay provide some background:

"In his writings (in The Prairie Blog), Jim has occasionally mentioned people who were doing things he felt were harmful to the landscape and air quality of western North Dakota. This includes companies like Meridian Energy, which wants to put an oil refinery next to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and county commissioners who want to build a bridge and truck freeway through the Little Missouri River Valley.

Groton Chiropractic Clinic Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C. 1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204



"In all of his writings, I know he has been careful not to publish anything slanderous, or libelous about anyone. He had never been accused of slander or libel until the sued for defamation of character by a wealthy former Billings County Commissioner.

"In the end, it was a frivolous but expensive lawsuit, purely harass-

ment with no merit, and eventually dismissed. But the battle continues. The wealthy county commissioner has now appealed the dismissal to the North Dakota Supreme Court, and legal bills continue to mount, expected to be at least \$15,000. That's a big bite for a retired guy on a fixed income."

So Clay has done what loyal friends do; he created a GoFundMe drive for Jim's defense. I'll provide the link at the end of the column.

Here's why I think it's important, and it's not just because I like Jim and admire the work he does to inform, enlighten, and defend our interests in the Badlands. It's because I hate bullies. Despise 'em.

In my line of work, it's a given that we're going to run into threats and intimidation, but we have company and industry attorneys who are called upon from time to time to defend us-and, more importantly, you-because, democracy doesn't work without people like Jim Fuglie shining a light in the dark corners where the rats are at work. But Jim's excellent and critical journalism isn't affiliated with anyone. Except hopefully you. I've got Jim's back. How about you?

These kinds of lawsuits are designed to send a message. They don't just want Jim to stop airing the facts. They want to intimidate others, as well. They want to make an example of people like Jim. Kinda like the Mob: "Nice retirement account you got there. Be a pity if something happened to it..." Journalists know that even if we're letter-perfect in our reporting, someone with deep enough pockets can punish us for exercising the First Amendment. It costs money to prove you're right. It doesn't seem fair, but that's the situation.

Yes, there should be protections against libel and slander. Our system is bound together by checks and balances. But sometimes the system is abused, and along with it, good people doing important work.

This is our opportunity to send a message, too, to get as many names and donations on the list to let the bullies know we're not just going to roll over. The plaintiff is trying to make an impression. Let's make a bigger one. There's an axiom about paying it forward. In this case, you're paying it back.

Here's the link: https://www.gofundme. com/f/svur3-jim-fuglies-legal-fees-badlands-de

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Weekly Vikings Recap By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

With a victory over the Chicago Bears this Sunday, the Minnesota Vikings finished the regular season with an impressive 13-4 record. This is only the third time in franchise history that the Vikings have won at least 13 games in a season (2017, 1998). Now, the hope becomes that the playoff performance of this year's team will not match their playoff performances as both those Vikings' teams lost in the NFC Championship game.

Coming into the game, there was a lot of discussion on whether the Vikings would play their starters during the game. With the 2nd seed in the NFC playoffs still in play for the Vikings, Kevin O'Connell decided to play most of the starters for the first half of the game to at least give the team enough cushion before the backups came in. However, Harrison Smith, Brian Asamoah, Cam Dantzler, and Za'Darius Smith were all given the game off to rest up for the playoff game against the New York Giants next week.

For the most part, the game provided little to no excitement as both teams did not need to win the game Sunday. The Vikings did not need to win as they had already locked up a home playoff game when they clinched the NFC North title a few weeks ago and the Bears wanted to lose so they could secure a top 2 pick in this year's NFL Draft. It was evident from the lack of atmosphere in Soldier Field Sunday that even the Bears' fans knew this game meant nothing to either of these teams.

The main notable thing from this game was the performance of the Vikings' running back, Alexander Mattison, who finished the game with two rushing touchdowns. Throughout the whole season, it was clear that Dalvin Cook is the #1 running back for the Vikings as he had almost 200 more carries than any other running back on the team. However, it has also been clear that Cook is not what he used to be from a performance standpoint. Cook, who has been one of the best running backs in the NFL since he was drafted in 2017, has struggled to break tackles or get any extra yards when needed throughout the entire season. In my opinion, if I was Kevin O'Connell, I would consider leaning on Alexander Mattison in the playoffs as he seems to run the ball more effectively than Cook does anymore.

Of the backups who played for the Vikings, Jalen Nailor and Josh Metellus impressed. Nailor, who has played almost entirely on special teams this season, has caught seven passes for 151 yards and a touchdown over the last two games when given the opportunity. Metellus, who has been a special teams star this year with two punt blocks over the past two games, looked so confident on the field Sunday as he made multiple pass breakups and wore the "C" on his jersey as a substitute captain.

Looking ahead to the playoffs, the Vikings will host the New York Giants next week in the Wild Card Round. It will be the second matchup between them this season as the teams faced each other on Christmas Eve, with the Vikings coming out on top thanks to a game-winning 61-yard field goal by Greg Joseph. The Giants, who rested their entire starting lineup in their final game of the regular season Sunday, will come into U.S. Bank Stadium well-rested and ready for their first playoff game since 2016. For the Vikings, the key to the game will be for the offense to be consistent enough to put together good drive after good drive. This Vikings' team cannot afford to have multiple three-and-outs and fall behind this Giants team with three elite defensive linemen in Dexter Lawrence, Leonard Williams, and Kayvon Thibodeaux waiting to take advantage of the Vikings' offensive line. For the Vikings' defense, the key will be taking away the middle of the field and making Daniel Jones beat you not with his legs but with throws toward the sidelines. It should be a fun one!



by Tony Bender







The South Dakota Humanities Council is making available a weekly column -- "We the People" -- that focuses on the U.S. Constitution. It is written by David Adler, who is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality, and civic education.



Powell v. McCormack: **Confining Congress to the Constitution**

Congressman-Elect Ron Santos's (R-NY) sweeping distortions of his personal and professional biography have triggered nationwide calls for the House of Representatives to prevent him from assuming his seat in the 118th Congress. Americans have recoiled from his many false claims, including that he is Jewish and that his grandparents fled Nazi persecution, that he is a graduate of Baruch College and that he worked for Goldman Sachs and Citigroup.

By David Adler

The rising demands to block him from Congress raise anew a question of monumental importance for our nation: Does Congress have the authority to refuse to seat a duly elected candidate for reasons other than the constitutionally enumerated qualifications of age, residency and citizenship?

The answer is no. In 1969, in Powell v. McCormack, a case that resurrected fundamental constitutional conflicts between England and Colonial America two centuries before, the Supreme Court held that the House lacks authority to prevent elected candidates from assuming a seat, unless they fail to meet the standing qualifications stated in Article 1, section 5 of the Constitution: 25 years old, a citizen of the United States for seven years and a resident of the state in which they are elected.

Congressman from Harlem, Adam Clayton Powell, who was reelected in 1966 to a House seat that he had held since 1942. After Powell's victory, and on the eve of his becoming Chair of the House Labor and Education Committee, allegations arose about his improper use of congressional funds. A select investigative committee concluded that Powell met the requisite constitutional qualifications but recommended a fine and denial of the chairmanship as penalties for his improprieties. The House ignored the recommendation and voted, 307-116, to exclude him from the 90th Congress and declared his seat vacant.

Rep. Powell sued the Speaker of the House, John McCormack, contending that Congress could not lawfully exclude duly elected candidates who met the standing qualifications enumerated in the Constitution. Meanwhile, the House invoked as authority Article 1, section 5: "Each house shall be the judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own members." While the suit was underway, Powell was reelected to the 91st Congress but was fined and stripped of his seniority and chairmanship.

The House contended that the Court could not review its decision to deny Powell his congressional seat since the "Qualifications Clause" in Article 1, section 5, represented a non-justiciable "political question," that is, a "textually demonstrable commitment of the issue to a coordinate branch of government."

The Supreme Court, in an 8-1 opinion authored by Chief Justice Earl Warren, held that the Political Question Doctrine did not block the Court from determining whether Congress had "added" an additional qualification to hold office beyond age, citizenship and residence. The Court ruled that the House had done precisely that in determining that Rep. Powell's improprieties justified exclusion from the body. The Court's prohibition on congressional addition of constitutional powers, a principle that applies to all three branches of government, dates to Marbury v. Madison in 1803 and has been reaffirmed numerous times.

Congress, however, is not powerless to punish its members for improprieties. Indeed, it may "expel" members for misconduct. Article 1, section 5, clause 2 provides that each house may punish its members for rules violations and, "with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member." Rep. Powell was not expelled and served in the House until 1971. The issue of excluding a lawfully elected candidate from the House renewed fears harbored by the colonists in the runup to the American Revolution. The issue, as it was framed, involved the fundamental issue of the right of the people to choose their representatives, that is, the question of who should decide who would speak for the people in their own branch of the legislature. The concern was registered in various ways including, most prominently: "No taxation without representation" and "tyranny begins where frequent elections end." Alexander Hamilton observed that a fundamental principle of our democracy is "that the people should choose whom they please to govern them." In the Constitutional Convention, James Madison declared that this principle is undermined as much by limiting whom the people can select as by limiting the franchise itself. The founders' fears, as Madison pointed out, were drawn straight from the records of the John Wilkes Affair in 1768. For the colonists, Wilkes was not merely a hero, but a living symbol that what was happening to him could happen to them. In a word, Wilkes opposed the insidious acts passed by Congress that threatened the colonists' liberties: the Stamp Act, acts designed to weaken constitutional protections,

the seizure of private property and, among others, the deployment of officials who enforced warrantless searches of homes and businesses.

When Wilkes was again elected to the House of Commons and then for a second, third and fourth time denied his seat by powerful and corrupt agents, the colonists watched with dismay as the fundamental right to choose one's representatives was eviscerated by a powerhungry government. Wilkes declared the constitution was being torn up by its roots. By the winter of 1769, prescient colonists understood that "the fate of Wilkes and America must stand or fall together."

Groton Chamber of Commerce January 4, 2023

12pm City Hall

 Individuals present: Christine Hilton, Kellie Locke, Katelyn Nehlich, Carol Kutter, April Abeln, and Doug Heinrich

 Minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Locke and seconded by Nehlich. All members present voted aye.

 Treasurer's report was given. Dacotah Bank checking account balance is \$30,633.95. \$2150.00 is in the Bucks account. Report was approved by Abeln and seconded by Locke. All members present voted ave. \$7,700.00 has been received for 2023 dues.

 Motion by Abeln and seconded by Heinrich to do a \$50 Facebook boosted post to encourage members to pay dues by February 1. All members present voted aye. Post will list member benefits and mention our live Facebook hwy 12 sign drawing to be held February 15th The landmark case of Powell v. McCormack featured a flamboyant at 12pm at City Hall. A Facebook event will be created for the drawing.

 All orders from the Chamber shirt reorder are done and have been delivered except for a special order due to sizing issues.

 It was suggested a picture of the golf course be added to the rack cards. Cards have not been ordered until a picture is found.

 Motion by Abeln and seconded by Heinrich to continue with Dakota Broadcasting radio ads for 2023 for \$160/month. All members present voted aye. Ads will run Tuesdays and Wednesdays and a generic ad will also be created. Nehlich will continue recording ads.

 Teri Foertsch was the winner of the \$50 Chamber Bucks from the Next Level Nutrition Christmas giveaway.

 Hilton reported on the Shop with a Cop event. 50 children received \$150 gift cards and shopped with 60 police officers. Breakfast was served at Wings & Rings for all prior to shopping and Santa was present.

 Heinrich was elected as Vice President. Locke will be Email Coordinator and Abeln will stay as Advertising Coordinator. New members are encouraged to attend meetings.

 Magnet advertising was not discussed further because representative was not present.

 Jim Lane has been contacted about wood sign lighting, but repairs have not been made.

 Kutter will reach out to Charity Hinman about her new "in home" daycare to see about a welcome visit. Josie Hoffman is opening an in-home daycare as well.

 Nehlich will send a list of 2023 Chamber members to Kay Daly to update our website after February 1.

• Next meeting:

o February 1st at City Hall 12-1pm BYOL

Upcoming events

o 01/29/2023 Groton Robotics Pancake Feed at the Community Center 10am-1pm

o 01/29/2023 85th Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Jan. 12: Basketball Double Header at Tiospa Zina. Girls JV at 4 p.m., Boys JV to follow, then girls varsity and boys varsity. Friday, Jan. 13: Elementary Christmas Program, 2:30 p.m., GHS Gym (rescheduled from Dec. 22)

Saturday, Jan. 14: Wrestling Invitational at Gettysburg, 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 15: Open Gym: Grades JK-8; 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. Grades 6-12; 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Monday, Jan. 16: MS Wrestling at Redfield.; Girls Basketball at Langford, JV game starts at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 17: MS Wrestling Tournament at Aberdeen Civic Center, 4 p.m.; Wrestling Tri-Angular at Willow Lake, 6 p.m. with Clark/ Willow Lake and Hamlin

Thursday, Jan. 18: Basketball double header at Milbank: Boys C game at 4 p.m. in the elementary gym followed by Girls C game. In the main gym, Girls JV at 4 p.m. followed by Boys JV, then Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity.

Friday, Jan. 20: Dual wrestling in Groton with Deuel, 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21: Wrestling Tournament at Arlington High School, 10 a.m.; Girls Basketball at Great Plains Lutheran in Watertown with C game at 11 a.m. followed by JV and Varsity.

Sunday, Jan. 22: Open Gym: Grades JK-8; 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. Grades 6-12; 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Groton Independent \diamond Wed., Jan. 11, 2023 \diamond 3

The Groton Independent

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The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent. 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)

BIDS

THE MOBRIDGE-POLLOCK SCHOOL is accepting quotes for a 6+ passenger minivan, good used, low mileage. Please forward quotes to tim.frederick@k12.sd.us. Quotes will be accepted thru January 13, 2023.

EMPLOYMENT

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Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League

Team Standings: Chipmunks – 8, Jackelopes – 8, Foxes – 6, Coyotes – 5, Shihtzus – 5, Cheetahs – 4

Men's High Games: Brad Waage – 221, Mike Siegler – 201, Ron Belden – 191

Women's High Games: Vicki Walter – 183, Lori Giedt – 173, Alexa Schuring – 168

Men's High Series: Brad Waage – 550, Mike Siegler – 536, TJ Sperry – 505

Women's High Series: Vicki Walter – 454, Alexa Schuring – 445, Sam Bahr – 428

Fun Game: Most Spares – Cheetahs with 47!

Conde National League

Jan. 9 Team Standings: Braves 9, Tigers 8, Pirates 7, Giants 6, Cubs 4, Mets 2

Men's High Games:

Ryan Bethke 210, 209; Chad Furney 192; Butch Farmen 191.

Men's High Series: Ryan Bethke 600, Chad Furney 476, Russ Bethke 463

Women's High Games: Sam Bahr 170, Michelle Johnson 160, Vickie Kramp 150

Women's High Series: Michelle Johnson 453, Sam Bahr 440, Vickie Kramp 426



Everyone knows what I want to happen. Do I really need a plan?

Sustaining the Legacy Estate Planning and Farm Transition for Farms and Ranches

> Pierre, South Dakota February 7, 14, and 21, 2023

Early registration closes January 24, 2023 Register at extension.sdstate.edu/events

Other dates and locations available: Aberdeen in Mar., and Mitchell in Apr

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Tuesday, January 17, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. CST CC Bar, 112 S. Exene Street, Gettysburg, SD 57442

AGENDA INCLUDES:

- Acid Soils on the Northern Great Plains? Toto, I think we really are in Kansas – John Breker, AqVise Laboratories
- Red Sunflower See Weevil and Other Insects of Concern in Central SD- Phil Rozeboom, SDSU Extension
- Open Agronomy & Soil Health Discussion-Lee Briese, PhD

For more details visit SDNoTill.com

Pre-registration is requested by Jan. 13. Please email pcconservationdist@gmail.com; or call 605-769-4431.

CCA credits will be available.

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Feb: 28 - March 2		te, Market & Management derations

REGISTER: extension.sdstate.edu/events

Groton Robotics Tournament Summary - Saturday, January 7th

Groton Area hosted its annual robotics tournament on Saturday, January 7th. Six towns competed: Mitchell (5), Harrisburg (4), Sioux Falls (1), Britton-Hecla (1), Valley City, ND (1) Groton(4). Groton Teams included: Galaxy 9050E-Logan Clocksene, Axel Warrington, Corbin Weismantel, Kianna Sanders. Gear Heads 9050B-Seniors-Ethan Clark, Jack Dinger. Gladiators 9050F-Garrett Schultz, Bradyn Wienk, not present: De Eh Tha Say. G-Force 9050A-(6th grade- Connor Kroll, Grant Cleveland, not present: Lincoln Shilhanek, Logan Olson)

The competition started off with 28 qualifying matches, each team competing seven times. At the end of the 28 qualifying matches against 16 teams Gladiators 9050F ranked 8th, Galaxy 9050E-9th and Gear Heads 9050B-10th, Galaxy 9050E-11th, G-Force 9050A-12th.

Anyone who has organized an event knows how much planning and work goes into it. Groton Robotics is blessed with exceptional parents that rolled up their sleeves Friday night to help set up and came back on Saturday morning ready to jump in. The robotic kids also contributed a lot of their time with setting up and taking down the field and

frustration in unknown territory.

A famous quote: 'Volunteers don't necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.' Volunteers are the magical ingredient to the success of an event! Aberdeen 3M continues to support Groton Robotics every year by providing volunteer judges. Teams have the opportunity to receive a JUDGES, DESIGN, and EXCELLANCE award based on engineering notebooks, team interviews, sportsmanship, and robot design. If a team wins one of these awards it qualifies them to head down to the national tournament in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Thank you to 3M employees: Kyle Weber-Head Judge, Josh and Jeannie Hadler, TJ Schaefer, Jonathon Bartlett, and Tyson Remy.

Huge thank you to our other batch of volunteers Ryan Tupper (Head Referee-Mitchell), Dan Rosenbaum, Daniel Shine, Jakobe Hughes, Gentry Gauer and Brody Sombke. These guys were a very integral part of scorekeeping, assisting with refereeing, running the skills field and helping with miscellaneous technical tasks.

What started out as a well-oiled machine Saturday morning year 6th graders - Connor had a little unexpected technical glitch that bumped the tour- Kroll and Grant Cleveland nament about an hour behind schedule. Like it or not, life runs **poise with 9050A.** (Picture on technology and when it's down life stops in its tracks. The courtesy robotic parent) stress and pressure falls on the tech crew to get it up and run-

ning again. Thank you to our lead tech guy Weston Dinger and crew for keeping it together and troubleshooting through the unpredictable world of technology.

G-Force 9050A- Special shout out to Connor Kroll and Grant Cleveland! Although they did not receive an award the 3M Judges wanted to note how impressed they were during the interview. At the time of the interview Connor was the only one from his team working on the robot and getting ready to run his first match as other team members were sick or had prior obligations. 9050A, still mainly used as a 'push bot' to play defense, but also able to turn rollers and score points by pushing disks in 'low goals', unfortunately their day ended in the quarter finals.

Gear Heads 9050B ran into random miscellaneous difficulties that all added up to just having a rough day and did not make it past the quarter finals. During one match a wire got wound around a wheel causing driving issues. Gear Heads is working on another robot between tournaments focusing more on getting points with their End Game expansion mechanisms.

Galaxy 9050E constructed a new robot for this tournament, but after running it found out they had to make some more adjustments before the next tournament in a couple weeks. They were able to make some adjustments to it throughout the day and got their 'End Game' expansion feature to work, but also did not advance further than the quarter finals.

Gladiators 9050F had some bad luck with the 'End Game' expansion going off too soon, but Jack Dinger driving their robot trying to did make it to the semi-finals. Hoping to work on the robot again between games and try turn a roller to their alliance color. (Picture another attempt at earning their way to the finals.

Tournament champions were from Mitchell(Vexinators) and Harrisburg(KnotBot). Runner ups will also advance and earn their spot at the national robotic tournament in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Congratulations to our runner up teams from Mitchell(Kinetic Energy) and Harrisburg(Capten).

Groton's next robotic tournament will be in Valley City, North Dakota on Saturday, January 28th. PANCAKE FEED! Groton Robotics will be teaming up with Groton Lions Club for the Annual Pancake feed on Carnival of Silver Skates Sunday, January 29th at the Groton Community center, typically starting at 10:00 am - free will donation. For more information check out the vex VRC robotics website, download the VEX via app and follow Groton Tiger Robotics on Facebook. Thanks to all who support Groton Robotics! Commonly used VEX Robotic Definitions:



Gear Heads 9050B-Ethan Clark and Jack Dinger driving gym. Truly a learning experience in assembly that comes with a lot of their robot trying to turn a roller to their alliance color. (Picture courtesy robotic parent)





axy 9050E-Corbin Weismantel, Axel G-Force 9050A- first Warrington, Kianna Sanders waiting for a match to start. (Picture courtesy robotic parent)



Gear Heads 9050B-Ethan Clark and courtesy robotic parent)



Alliance - A pre-assigned grouping of two (2) Teams that are paired together during a given Match. Autonomous Period - A time period (15 seconds) during which Robots operate and react only to sensor inputs and commands pre-programmed by the Students into the Robot control system.

Controlled Period - A time period (1 minute 45 seconds) during which Drive Team Members operate their Robot via remote control.

Endgame Covering: 'As the clock winds down, it's time for the Endgame. At the end of the Match, Alliances will receive a 3-point bonus for each tile their Robots are Covering. So, during the last 10 seconds of the Match, there are no horizontal expansion limits.' Imagine casting out your fishing pole like

as far out as you can get it! Now imagine lines being shot off robots to cover as many tiles as necessary!

Low Goal - A region of the field where Robots can Score Discs(1 point/disk). The Low Goal is defined as the space in each corner of the field directly beneath each High Goal, bordered by white tape lines, the field perimeter, and the Barrier. The white tape lines and Barrier are considered part of the Low Goal, and the color of the Barrier indicates which Alliance receives points for Discs Scored in that Low Goal. Source: VEX ROBOTIC SPIN-UP 2022-2023 Manual



Reluctantly posing for a picture- Vol-Submitted by Groton Robotics unteer moms: Laura Clark, Gretchan Cleveland and Liz Bahr. (Picture courtesy Melissa

Gladiators 9050F -Garrett Schultz, Bradyn Wienk and 9050F hanging out in the pits between matches. (Picture courtesy robotic parent)

Frederick Area School Board tables co-op vote

Published by Frederick Forward on January 10, 2023 | -Story and photos by Heidi Marttila-Losure

After a strong showing of opposition from members of the public, the Frederick Area School Board voted to table a motion to dissolve the co-op with Leola for volleyball and girls and boys basketball at its meeting Jan. 9.

The board sent out a letter first to families of students involved in the affected sports on Jan. 5. "Like many small schools, we are trying to figure out ways in which we can try to increase our enrollment numbers while doing what is best for our current students," the letter said. "We feel we may possibly be able to draw more students to our district if we aren't in an athletic coop and all our practices and games are held here in Frederick."

It further stated that the decision to dissolve the co-op would be formalized at the Jan. 9 meeting.

The meeting had been moved to the gym from the regular location of the school library to accommodate the roughly 100 people in attendance. Fourteen people spoke during the time allowed for public comment, all speaking against the proposed dissolution of the coop, or at the least asking for more time and a more inclusive process before the decision is made.

While most speakers were Leola residents, many had ties in both communities. Several former and current coaches spoke, and one student athlete gave her opinion.

ReEtta Sieh, president of the Leola School Board, started the meeting with a statement from the Leola School Board stating that the board opposed the dissolution. "We would also like the public to know that at no time was this brought to our attention. Every joint board meeting, it was said that both sides were committed to making the Leola-Frederick co-op work," Sieh said. "We feel the abrupt timing of the motion to dissolve is not in the best interest of either school or community."

Sieh added that the plan outlined in the Jan. 5 letter from the Frederick Area School Board—that the co-op would remain for football but would be dissolved for the other sports—was not acceptable to the Leola School Board.

"It is the position of the Leola School District that this is an all-or-nothing agreement. We will not co-op for football if we are not co-oped in basketball and volleyball," Sieh said.

Sieh asked what reason was being given for dissolving the co-op on the application to the South Dakota High School Activities Association. No answer was provided during Sieh's comment period. (Board members typically make no comment during the public comment period.)

Themes address process as well as the proposal itself

The public comment period lasted about 45 minutes. While the speakers emphasized different things, some common themes emerged: The co-op has been successful. Troy Podoll, former head girls basketball coach who coached junior high girls this fall and his helping with the varsity and JV teams currently, pointed out the banner on the wall from the 2015-16 team he coached, which was the most recent girls team to go to the state tournament. He spoke about the excitement and electricity that was generated during that team's season. "I can tell you with absolute certainty that that banner would not be there if not for Leola," he said. Neil Geffre described the friendships that were formed among athletes during the years that he coached. "They still do things together," he said. David Clark of Frederick said that while he has tried to learn more to understand the reasoning of the dissolution plan, he cannot



The Frederick Area School Board listens to public comment during the meeting Jan. 9, 2023. A Leola-Frederick Titans logo hangs above them. Pictured from left are Eric Sumption, Alex Hart, Jon Ellwein, Rich Achen, and Rich Schlosser.

at this time support it. "The co-op's been a very positive experience for our kids," he said.

Residents of the community, and especially kids, have been hurt by the decision. "Gentlemen, you've formed a rift here," said Leola resident Mark Lapka (who introduced himself as "Holly's husband") to start his comments.

Leola resident Chad Weiszhaar said he had a difficult conversation at home. "My kids come up to me last night, 'Dad, what are we going to do? What's going to happen to us? Are we gonna get to play sports with our other friends?" he said. "I'm like, 'I don't know, guys. Time's gonna tell, we're gonna see what happens.' It's hard to look at a 10- and 13-year-old and tell them that."

Bryson Thorpe, who went to school in Leola and who now coaches junior high in Frederick, saw the kids he coaches upset by the decision. "I've always coached those boys as Titans— I've never coached them as Leola. I've never coached them as Frederick. And it hurts to see them hurt," he said.

Kristi Spitzer, a member of the Leola School Board, said the dissolution of the co-op would force difficult decisions for student athletes. "The sad thing is, one of the assumptions is that we're competing for some of the same students. And if that's accurate, again, keep in mind what's best for the students," she said. "Why would you have students choose between their love of sports and staying with their friends and their loyalty to their own community? I think that is an impossible thing to ask students and families to do. And if that's the case, then shame on you." The timing between the notice and the vote was too short. "We felt like we just got hammered," said John Bender of Leola. Current student athlete Trinity Lechner of Leola urged the board to take more time in making the decision. "This is going to affect all of us," she said. "Don't make decisions rashly." Chad Weiszhaar was one of several who spoke using the metaphor of severed relationships. "For me, it's really simple. The time given was not enough," he said. "I think I'll speak for everybody here—four or five days to



Bryson Thorpe addresses the Frederick Area School Board on Jan. 9, 2023.



Anna Wyly addresses the Frederick Area School Board on Jan. 9, 2023.

Carli Flemmer, who said she considers herself a part of the Leola and Frederick community together, asked the board to postpone the decision to allow for more time to gather information and to clear up assumptions and rumors.

The decision-making process should have included input from stakeholders. This idea generated some of the more pointed comments of the evening. "Perhaps most infuriating was when I asked (board members) what feedback was gathered from your community of Frederick via survey, a poll, or open discussion, I was told, 'We didn't have to ask.' Frederick School District, those were the actual words of your elected school board members," said Leola resident Anna Wyly. She then cited a guide for school boards that stated board members have a responsibility to communicate with their staff, students, and community members. "As boards, you represent your communities." You cannot represent your community when you do not have their input. You should have brought the stakeholders into the discussion." Mark Lapka made a request for more conversation. "Communication is the solution to all forms of conflict. And there was no communication. This was delivered cold," Lapka said. "It's not a good look." In a different process-related concern, Nathan Hoffman of Leola asked the board to forgo the decision in part because he said

Continues on next page





ReEtta Sieh, president of the Leola dresses the Fred- at Leola, speaks to erick Area School the Frederick Area Board on Jan. 9, 2023.

Trinity Lechner, School Board, ad- a student athlete School Board on Jan. 9, 2023. Kristi Spitzer assists with the microphone.

Continued from previous page

"there's a strong argument to be made" that three of the board members have a conflict of interest because they are fathers of student athletes who might benefit from the decision with additional playing time and so, according to board policy, should not vote on the decision.

Logistics seemingly haven't been considered. "We have one gym that we're in right now," Bryson Thorpe said. "Who wants to send their kid out on the road at five o'clock in the morning for basketball practice? Because that's how it's gonna be. You're gonna have one practice in the morning, and one's gonna be at night. And I don't feel that that's very attractive (to potential open-enrolled students)."

Two small schools need one another and may need one another more in the future. Trevor Zantow, a member of the Leola School Board, said the two communities are in essentially the same situation. "The Leola School District doesn't need Frederick. The Leola athletic teams need Frederick. You are far and away our best option. And I don't think I'm wrong in saying the Frederick sports teams need Leola. We are your best option as well," Zantow said. "If you divide us, that's going to make a very deep divide amongst two very small neighboring communities. I don't think that's a good idea for anybody. We need each other. You need us just as much as we need you."

Mark Lapka sees the greater concern coming in a decade or two. "We're not going to be talking about if we have enough kids between schools to have a sports team. We're going to be talking to do we have enough kids between the two towns to even have a school," he said. "That's where Leola and Frederick mesh very well together. We're close enough, we have an

established relationship because of this sports formula and support teacher salary increases with co-op to potentially move forward. If you tear that all down, you're going to take that rift and tear it into a giant divide that I'm afraid there's no coming back from."

The Frederick Area board did not directly address any of the comments made by community members and moved on to the action item of dissolving the co-op. A motion to table the item was made, seconded, and carried. When the board might raise the issue again was not stated. Many of those in attendance applauded after the decision was tabled.

Teacher shortage worsens in South Dakota due to politics, low pay and lack of respect **Stu Whitney** South Dakota News Watch

Concern over the future of the teaching profession in South Dakota has led to more aggressive efforts by education officials to train and inspire a new generation of classroom leaders, with particular emphasis on elementary school classrooms.

The push comes as kindergarten through 12th grade teacher shortages worsen across the state, a trend driven by below-average salaries and dissatisfaction in the teaching ranks following the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent politicization of social studies standards and crackdown on so-called "inherently divisive" or race-based curricula under Gov. Kristi Noem.

Noem proposed a 5% increase in state aid to education for the 2024 fiscal year as part of her \$7.2 billion budget plan, on the heels of a 6% increase in 2023.

That would put \$24 million in new money into public schools for the 2023-24 school year, 44% less than the nearly \$43 million in new funding allocated in the 2022-23 school year, according to the Associated School Boards of South Dakota. School districts can determine how much to allocate for salaries, but the money is also needed for expenses such as utility costs, food services, transportation, technology and extracurricular activities.

State Rep. Linda Duba, D-Sioux Falls, who serves on the House Appropriations Committee, told News Watch that she plans to work with fellow legislators to push for more education funding in the 2024 budget to help recruit and retain teachers and meet the demands of inflation. The former teacher expressed concern for the profession amid the current political and cultural climate in South Dakota.

"An element of trust and respect has been lost," Duba said. "There are a lot of like-minded folks who understand what undervaluing teachers and setting low-budget targets has done to state education over the last four or five years."

There were 176 statewide teacher openings at the end of December 2022, compared to 111 at the end of December 2021, a result of teacher retirements but also a rise in K-12 enrollment in South Dakota from 128,000 to 141,000 students over the past decade. The current openings include 36 in special education and 34 in elementary education.

The state's largest school district, Sioux Falls,

a half-penny sales tax increase.

Despite those efforts, South Dakota's average teacher salary of \$49,547 currently ranks 50th in the nation, according to the National Education Association, well below the national average of \$65,293 and neighboring states Minnesota (\$66,561), Wyoming (\$60,234), Iowa (\$58,831), Nebraska (\$56,463), North Dakota (\$54,837) and Montana (\$53,133). South Dakota ranks 39th in per-student state spending at \$11,102, according to the NEA.

The Sioux Falls schools increased the average teacher salary within the district from \$53,200 to \$57,160 over the past year to try to attract and retain employees, as well as seeking to expand benefits and insurance programs. Some of the top school districts in average teacher pay according to the South Dakota Teacher Compensation Review Board's 2021 report were Brandon Valley (\$73,177), Yankton (\$72,687), Huron (\$66,723) and Mitchell (\$66,555)

But with the national inflation rate at 7.1%, administrators are concerned about their ability to offer competitive salaries to retain skilled teachers or recruit recent college graduates who can make as much as \$10,000 more annually by taking a job across the state border.

Asked if the teacher shortage will lead Noem to call for a reexamination of school funding akin to Daugaard's Blue Ribbon Task Force in 2015, Duba said: "No, I do not. It's been glaringly apparent the last four years of her administration that teacher pay is not a priority. It's important to keep in mind that teachers are professionals, and we need to respect their profession by encouraging them to stay here and reward them for their efforts. Being ranked 50th in teacher pay is not exactly a badge of honor."

While much attention is focused on the demand side of the teacher shortage issue, universities and K-12 administrators are searching for ways to ensure a future supply of teachers at a time when many faculty members are expressing frustration with the state of education.

A survey by the American Federation of Teachers released in January 2022 found that 55% of the 3,600 members polled are thinking about leaving the profession earlier than they had planned, almost double the percentage from two years earlier. Reasons cited included burnout, general stress from the pandemic, low pay and lack of respect from the public. Eighty percent said that unfulfilled job openings have led to more work for the educators who remain.

Gina Benz, an English teacher at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, cited the political and cultural landscape in South Dakota as one of the reasons for teacher disenchantment.

As part of the Teacher Pathway program in Sioux Falls, which started in 2018, Benz aims to encourage a new generation of educators by putting high school students on an earlier path to earning a teaching degree and entering the workforce, preferably in their home state. The partnership with University of South Dakota is open to juniors and seniors and includes about 140 students who shadow and assist teachers at elementary schools and earn college credits at an affordable rate.

And starting in the fall of 2023, USD will offer its elementary education degree at the USD-Sioux Falls satellite campus to accommodate students who might not be in position to pursue a traditional college experience in Vermillion. One of the goals is to make the profession more accessible to minority or nontraditional students who can help make the district's teacher pool more reflective of the demographic makeup of its student body. Student enrollment in Sioux Falls is 58% white, 14.7% Hispanic and 12.5% Black, compared to a faculty that is roughly 95% white. "What we've been doing as a state hasn't filled our teacher pipeline needs," said Jay Perry, vice president of USD-Sioux Falls and a former policy advisor for the South Dakota Board of Regents.



The Frederick Area School Board votes to table the decision of the dissolution of the Leola-Frederick co-op for three sports on Jan. 9, 2023. Pictured from left are Eric Sumption, Alex Hart, Jon Ellwein, Rich Achen, and Rich Schlosser.

had 25 open teaching positions in June 2022, according to Assistant Superintendent Jamie Nold.

"We're getting calls from schools looking for teachers in the middle of the year," said Amy Schweinle, dean of the University of South Dakota School of Education. "These are unprecedented times, and it seems like elementary education is one of the biggest needs."

Administrators say chronic vacancies can erode the educational experience due to schools having to combine classrooms (increasing studentto-teacher ratio) or hire less-qualified applicants to fill positions. Sioux Falls has dealt with some classroom openings by hiring long-term substitute teachers or bringing back retired teachers to fill the void, Nold said. If the current teacher workforce and student population trends hold true, the student-to-teacher ratio could rise to 20:1 by 2025, above the target ratio of 14:1 in South Dakota.

Wade Pogany, executive director of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, said the number of statewide teacher vacancies is greater than 2015, when then-Gov. Dennis Daugaard formed the Blue Ribbon Task Force that spurred a legislative effort to reform the school funding

- This article was produced by South Dakota News Watch, a non-profit journalism organization located online at SDNewsWatch.org.

Groton Independent \diamond Wed., Jan. 11, 2023 \diamond 7

Lady Tigers beat Aberdeen Christian

Groton Área's girls basketball team posted a 53-25 win over Aberdeen Christian. The game was played Tuesday at the Aberdeen Civic Center.

The Tigers led at the quarters tops at 13-10, then scored 17 unanswered points to take a 30-12 lead at half time and led, 39-14, after the third quarter.

Coach Matt Locke told viewers on GDILIVE.COM that Senior Gracie Traphagen will be out for the season after suffering a knee injury during practice on Friday. She will continue to be involved with the team.

Jerica Locke led the Tigers with 11 points, seven rebounds, two assists and two steals. Sydney Leicht had 10 points, three rebounds, one assist and two steals. Aspen Johnson had six points, three rebounds, two assists and three steals. Jayden Penning had six points, seven rebounds and two steals. Laila Roberts had six points, one assist and two steals. Brooke Gengerke had five points, four rebounds, one assist and two steals. Brooklyn Hansen had five points and two rebounds. Rylee Dunker had four points, one rebound and one steal. Kennedy Hansen had two rebounds, three assists and one steal. Faith Traphagen had one rebound. Elizabeth Fliehs had one steal and Emily Clark had one rebound.

Groton Area made 19 of 50 two-pointers for 38 percent, two of 13 three-pointers for 15 percent, made nine of 13 in free throws for 69 percent, had 31 rebounds, nine turnovers, 10 assists, 16 steals and 13 team fouls.

Chloe Bosma led the Knights with 11 points while Chloe Holt and Sophia Fogarty each had seven points.

Groton Area is now 5-2 on the season while the Knights fall to 0-8. Groton Area won the junior varsity ame, 42-3, leading at the quarters tops at 9-0, 19-0 and 32-1. Rylee Dunker led Groton Area with 10 points followed by Brooklyn Hansen with nine points which was made by three three-pointers, Laila Roberts and Kennedy Hansen each had eight, McKenna Tietz had four and Talli Wright had three points.

Jolie Fogarty had two points for the Knights and Sophia Eichler had one free throw.

Both games were carried live on GDILIVE.COM. The varsity game was sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting. Larry and Val Fliehs sponsored the junior varsity game.

- Paul Kosel

Larson posts first double-double of the season against Clark/Willow Lake

The Groton Area boys basketball teams traveled to Clark Friday night, winning two of the three games that were played.

The afternoon started with the C team winning its game, 22-12. Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 5-4, 13-6 and 14-10. Gage Sippel led the Tigers with eight points followed by Keegen Tracy with six, Blake Pauli four, Logan Warrington two and Karter Moody and Turner Thompson each had one point. Will HOvde and Mato Denoyer each had four points to lead Clark/Willow Lake.

Teylor Diegel powered in three three-pointers to lift the Tigers to a 45-33 win in the junior varsity game. Diegel finished with 13 points while Keegen Tracy had eight, Logan Ringgenberg seven, Ryder Johnson and Braxton Imrie each had five, Gage Sippel four and Colby Dunker three. Tracy added two three-pointers while Imrie, Dunker and Johnson each made one.

Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 13-9, 30-14 and 43-24.

Tate Larson had a double-double night, the first for any team member this year, with 15 points, 12 rebounds and had th red assists in Groton Area's loss to Clark/Willow Lake, 51-43.

Groton Area jumped out to a 10-2 lead, but then got stuck at 10 as the Cyclones whirled off 11 straight points to take a 13-10 lead. Groton Area got back on top and led at the first quarter break, 17-13. Groton Area had a 19-15 lead before the Cyclones would score 10 straight points to take a 25-19 lead. Clark/Willow Lake would lead at half time, 30-23. Kaplan Felberg went on a hot scoring drive for the Cyclones, hitting four three-pointers, as Clark/Willow Lake opened up a 17-point lead, 43-26 en route to a 45-32 lead at the end of the third quarter. Groton Area battled back in the fourth quarter and closed to within seven, 48-41, with two minutes left in the game. Miscues would thwart the rally and the Cyclones would pull out the Northeast Conference win. Lane Tietz had 13 points, three rebounds, two assists and two steals. Cole Simon had six points and two steals. Taylor Diegel had four points, two rebounds and one steal. Ryder Johnson had three points, one rebound, one assist and one steal. Logan Ringgenberg had two points and one rebound. Jacob Zak had five rebounds and two steals. Groton Area made 11 of 21 two-pointers for 52 percent, four of 15 three-pointers for 69 percent, had 24 rebounds, 15 turnovers, six assists, eight steals and 16 team fouls. Tietz made two three-pointers while Diegel and Johnson each made one. Kaplan Felberg would lead the Cyclones with his seven three-pointers, tallying up 25 points. Brady Jordan and Trey Huber each had 11 points and Cole Brenden added four points. All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. Grandpa sponsored the C game, the Groton Chiropractic Clinic sponsored the junior varsity game, and the varsity sponsors were Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting. - Paul Kosel

Tietz powers in 32 points in hoop win over Sioux Falls Lutheran

Lane Tietz scored 32 points to lead the Groton Area boys basketball team to a 66-14 win over Sioux Falls Lutheran. The game was played Saturday in Groton.

Groton led at the quarter stops at 13-6, 41-8 and 57014. At one point, the Tigers scored 25 unanswered points.

Tietz also one rebound, one assist and six steals. Cole Simon had 10 points, one rebound, two assists and seven steals. Jacob Zak had four points, four rebounds, four assists and four steals. Tate Larson had four points, two rebounds and one assist. Ryder Johnson had four points, two rebounds, one steal and one block. Keegan Tracy had four points, three rebounds, one assist and one steal. Logan Ringgenberg had three points, three rebounds, one steal and one block. Cade Larson had two points, two rebounds and one assist. Taylor Diegel had two points, three assists and three steals. Colby Dunker had one point. Dillon Abeln had one rebound.

Groton Area made 24 of 32 two-pointers for 75 percent, one of 17 three-pointers for 6 percent, 15 of 19 free throws for 79 percent, had 19 reheured a six turney are 12 pasieta 22 steals 12 fauls and two blocks

rebounds, six turnovers, 13 assists, 23 steals, 12 fouls and two blocks. Ethan Olson led Sioux Falls Lutheran with six points followed by Grant Prouty with four and Kaden Roben and Muoch Jud each had two points. The Eagles made six of 16 total field goals for 38 percent, two of seven free throws, had 19 team fouls with Roben and Prouty fouling out, and had 29 turnovers.

The boys won the junior varsity game, 57-4, leading at the quarters tops at 21-0, 37-1 and 45-4. Colby Dunker led Groton Area with 16 points followed by Ryder Johnson with 13, Braxton Imrie, Keegan Tracy and Gage Sippel each had four points, and adding two points apiece were Dillon Abeln, Jayden Schwan, Caden McInerney, Blake Pauli, Holden Sippel, Turner Thompson, Logan Ringgenberg, Taylor Diegel and Logan Pearson.

Kaiden Fjelstad had three points for Sioux Falls Lutheran and Jonathan Jeseritz had one point.

The girls junior varsity team won its game, 40-11, leading at the quarters tops at 14-3, 20-3 and 28-3. Jaedyn Penning led the Tigers with 12 points, Laila Roberts, Brooklyn Hansen and Jerica Locke each had six points, Rylee Dunker had four and Faith Traphagen, Elizabeth Fliehs and Emily Clark each had two points.

Elyse Prouty and Anesha Bright each had three points for the Eagles, Julia Crotty and Anika Bjordahl each had two points and Kiersten Bjordahl added a free throw.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. Mr. Anonymous sponsored the girls junior varsity game, Craig and Tasha Dunker sponsored the boys junior varsity game, and the varsity game sponsors were Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

- Paul Kosel

Groton Area boys beat Sisseton

Groton Area defeated Sisseton in boys basketball action played Monday in Groton, 73-20. The Tigers led at the quarters tops at 16-4, 44-8 and 63-11.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 22 points, three rebounds, three assists and seven steals. Jacob Zak had 18 points, six rebounds, four assists, three steals and one block. Tate Larson had nine points, six rebounds, one assist and one steal. Ryder Johnson had nine points, two rebounds, two assists and three steals. Cole Simon had six points, three rebounds, five assists and two steals. Keegan Tracy had six points and two rebounds. Logan Ringgenberg had two points, three rebounds and one steal. Cade Larson had two rebounds, one assist, two steals and one block. Taylor Diegel had one rebound, one assist, two steals and one block. Colby Dunker had one point, one rebound and one assist. Gage Sippel had five rebounds. Holden Sippel had one rebound.

Groton Area made 28 of 47 two-pointers for 60 percent, two of 13 three-pointers for 15 percent, 11 of 18 free throws for 61 percent, had 35 rebounds, 12 turnovers, 18 assists, 21 steals, 11 team fouls and three blocks.

Mason Herzon led the Redmen with seven points followed by Christian Shephered with five, Ethan DeSpiegler had four, Dana BraveBull two and Nate Tchida and Carter Stickland each had one. The Redmen made six of 24 field goals for 25 percent, seven of 11 free throws for 64 percent, had 12 team fouls and 30 turnovers.

Groton Area's junior varsity team led at the quarter stops at 19-0, 39-0 and 50-5 en route to a 55-5 win. Ryder Johnson and Keegan Tracy each had nine points, Gage Sippel had seven points, Logan Ringgenberg and Taylor Diegel each had six, Braxton Imrie had five, Holden Sippel and Colby Dunker each had four, Caden McInerney and Logan Pearson each had two and Carter Simon added a free throw. Dana BraveBull made the five points for Sisseton.

Both games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The varsity game was sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting. The junior varsity game was sponsored by Mike and Dawn Imrie.

Ehresmann, Zoellner place at Garretson Wrestling Tournament

Christian Ehresmann took first place at 138 pounds and Walker Zoellner placed fourth at 120 pounds at the Jesse James Invitational Tournament held Saturday in Garretson. As a team, Groton Area tied for seventh in a field of 12 teams.

106: John Bisbee (0-6)

Champ. Round 1 - Brody VanRoekel (Elk Point-Jefferson) 13-10 won by fall over John Bisbee (Groton Area) 0-6 (Fall 1:42)

Cons. Round 1 - Talon Miller (Garretson) 1-2 won by decision over John Bisbee (Groton Area) 0-6 (Dec 5-3)

120: Walker Zoellner (10-6) placed 4th and scored 15.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 10-6 won by fall over Kasen Voss (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 1-5 (Fall 1:52)

Quarterfinal - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 10-6 won by fall over Cody Lofswold (Tri-Valley) 4-5 (Fall 3:20)

Semifinal - Owen Effling (Tri-Valley) 10-7 won by decision over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 10-6 (Dec 7-0)

Cons. Semi - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 10-6 won by fall over Tate Lyle (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 4-10 (Fall 4:27)

3rd Place Match - Matthew Gangestad (Luverne) 13-5 won in sudden victory - 1 over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 10-6 (SV-1 12-3)

132: Tristan McGannon (2-4) scored 5.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Keaton Prehiem (Marion/Freeman/Freeman Academy/Canistota/Menno) 12-4 won by fall over Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-4 (Fall 1:09)

Cons. Round 1 - Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-4 received a bye Cons. Round 2 - Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-4 won by decision over Josh Christensen (Lennox) 1-6 (Dec 4-3)

over Bracken Sharpe (Tri-Valley) 1-2 (Fall 2:54)

Cons. Semi - Jack Aashiem (Lennox) 8-13 won by fall over Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-4 (Fall 3:31)

138: Christian Ehresmann (8-1) placed 1st and scored 28.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 8-1 won by forfeit over Forfeit Forfeit (Tri-Valley) 4-5 (For.)

Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 8-1 won by fall over Ty VanHolland (Garretson) 0-2 (Fall 0:22)

Semifinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 8-1 won by fall over Ashton Bach (Lennox) 7-9 (Fall 0:50)

1st Place Match - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 8-1 won by fall over Preston Bohl (Garretson) 2-3 (Fall 5:25)

145: Isaiah Scepaniak (1-6) scored 3.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-6 received a bye Quarterfinal - Justin Klein (Flandreau) 13-9 won by fall over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-6 (Fall 0:55)

Cons. Round 2 - Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-6 received a bye Cons. Round 3 - Levi Simonsen (Viborg-Hurley) 6-3 won by fall over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-6 (Fall 1:31)

152: Easten Ekern (3-6) scored 7.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Lucas Hueser (Elk Point-Jefferson) 16-5 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 3-6 (Fall 0:00)

Cons. Round 1 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 3-6 received a bye

Cons. Round 2 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 3-6 won by fall over Cian Smith (Lennox) 2-11 (Fall 2:31)

Cons. Round 3 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 3-6 won by fall over Mason Marx (Elk Point-Jefferson) 2-8 (Fall 2:52)

Cons. Semi - Robert Watkins (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 12-9 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 3-6 (Fall 0:28)

170: Cole Bisbee (4-4) scored 8.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 4-4 received a bye Quarterfinal - Karter Headrick (Flandreau) 18-7 won by decision over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 4-4 (Dec 3-1)

Cons. Round 2 - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 4-4 won by fall over Jaksen Olson (Viborg-Hurley) 5-7 (Fall 2:48)

Lady Tigers have clean sweep over Clark/Willow Lake

Groton Area came from behind to edge past Clark/Willow Lake in girls basketball action played Thursday in Groton, 30-27.

The Tigers jumped out to a 9-0 lead, and then went on a big drought as the Cyclones scored 12 points in the second guarter and the Tigers were scoreless as Clark/Willow Lake took a 12-9 lead at half time. Clark/Willow Lake had a seven point lead in the third quarter, 22-15, and led at the break, 22-18.

The Tigers tied the game with 1:56 left in the game at 26 and took the lead with less than a minute to go with a Jerica Locke to Aspen Johnson feed under the basket and Johnson made the shot to give Groton a 28-27 lead. Gracie Traphagen made two free throws with seven seconds left for the 30-27 win. A last second three-point shot at the buzzer failed to go in.

Sydney Leicht led the Tigers with 13 points, three rebounds and made three three-pointers. Gracie Traphagen had seven points, 14 rebounds, one assist, one steal and two blocks and one three-pointer. Jaedyn Penning had four points, three rebounds, one assist and one steal. Aspen Johnson had two points and two rebounds. Brooke Gengerke had two points, four rebounds, one assist and two steals. Kennedy Hansen had two points, one rebound and three assists. Jerica Locke had four rebounds and three assists. Faith Traphagen had one rebound.

Groton Area made eight of 24 two-pointers for 33 percent, four of 23 three-pointers for 17 percent, two of two free throws, had 32 rebounds, 18 turnovers, nine assists, four steals, 11 fouls and two blocked shots. They Vig led the Cyclones with eight points followed by Musonda Kabwe with seven, Alicia Vig had five,

Haylee Tormanen three, and Kayla Jordan and Shay Michalski each had two points. Clark/WIllow Lake made 10 of 39 field goals for 26 percent, made four of seven free throws, had 11 team fouls and 11 Cons. Round 3 - Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-4 won by fall turnovers. The Cyclones made eight points off of Groton Area's turnovers while the Tigers made two points off of

Clark/Willow Lake's turnovers.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm

Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric , Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheet- ing. Shane Clark provided the play-by-play commentary.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 39-26. Laila Roberts led the Tigers with 12 points followed by Jaedyn Penning with 11, Faith Traphaghen had five, Kennedy Hansen and Rylee Dunker each had four and Elizabeth Fliehs had three points. Brynn Roehrich and Sami Brenden led the Cyclones with eight points apiece. Mr. Anonymous sponsored the broadcast on GDILIVE.COM.

The C team jumped out to a 10-0 first quarter lead en route to a 28-11 win. Rylee Dunker and Taryn Traphagen each had six points, McKenna Tietz had five, Brooklyn Hansen and Talli Wright each had four points, Laila Roberts had two and Kella Tracy made a free throw. Hayden Broke made six points for the Cyclones. Weber Landscaping sponsored the broadcast on GDILIVE.COM.

Groton City Jan. 3, 2023

Meeting Minutes January 3, 2023 The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. at 120 N Main Street for their irst monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Babcock, Wambach, Wells, Cutler, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson and Finance Of-ficer Douglas Heinrich.

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

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Wells. All members present voted ave.

Moved by Babcock and sec-

Superior Cleaning, \$240.00, Commercial Cleaning Services -December of 2022; Verizon Wire-December of 2022; Verizon Wire-less, \$40.01, Wireless Router; Irby, Inc., \$5,785.75, Electric supplies & FR clothing; Harry Implement, Inc., \$1.12, Pipe for Salt Truck; Farmers Union Co-op Association, \$2,550.00, #1 Dyed Diesel; Share Cor-poration, \$855.85, Snow plow coating, orange nitrile gloves; SD coating, orange nitrile gloves; SD Department of Health, \$274.00, Water & sewer testing; Cole Papers, Inc., \$81.02, Garbage bags; Groton Daily Independent, \$68.00, Publishing Fees; NW Energy, \$12.63, Natural Gas Ser-vice - PD; SD DANR, \$1,500.00, Annual Discharge Permit; Harve's Sport Shop, \$1,368.56, Base-ball Supplies - chest protector, baseballs, leg guards, plates, scorebooks, umpire indicators; Drew Johnson, \$1,000.00, Legal

ter Superintendent, Dwight Zerr \$30.61/hour. Assistant Street
Superintendent, Branden Abeln
\$28.30/hour. Technology Specialist, Paul Kosel - \$29.92/hour.
Electric Superintendent, Todd Gay - \$54.59/hour. Electric Lineman, Landon Johnson - \$32.47/ hour. Police Chief, Stacy Mayou \$33.72/hour. Police Officer and Assistant Chief, Justin Cleveland - \$30.57/hour. Police Officer Level 1, Thomas Strickland -\$29.21/hour. Police Officer Level 2, Anthony Garcia - \$26.78/hour. A complete list of volunteers will be kept at City Hall. Discussion took place regard-

Water Superintendent, Terry Herron - \$34.42/hour. Wastewa-

ing the Economic Development Meeting from December 7, 2022. Council stated they would like the topic of economic development to remain on the agenda ncomina mee

Paul Kosel

Cons. Round 3 - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 4-4 won by fall over Cash Bonnett (Luverne) 2-3 (Fall 2:50)

Cons. Semi - Mason Hendrickson (Tri-Valley) 9-5 won by decision over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 4-4 (Dec 6-3)

220: Gavin Englund (2-6) scored 4.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 2-6 received a bye Quarterfinal - Kane Akkerman (Luverne) 7-7 won by fall over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 2-6 (Fall 2:12)

Cons. Round 2 - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 2-6 received a bye Cons. Round 3 - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 2-6 received a bye Cons. Semi - Drew Pederson (Garretson) 4-4 won by fall over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 2-6 (Fall 0:36)



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the following bills for payment.

All members present voted aye. Payroll, \$25,390.34, Employee salaries; Executive, \$550.73, ; Administrative, \$4,311.58, ; Public Safety, \$9,166.74, ; Public Works, \$11,361.29, ; Dacotah Bank, \$5,358.79, Withholding/ SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00. Employee sayings: \$730.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$576.24, HSA Contributions; Dahme Construc-tion, \$203,083.19, Pay Request #3; Groton Daily Independent, \$53.25, Annual Subscription Fee; SD Retailers Association, Fee; SD Retailers Association, \$150.00, 2023 Member Dues; S&S Lumber Co., \$119.07, Chain connectors, air coupling, air chuck, cut keys, coax cable, coax coupler, bushing, valve, glue; Aflac, \$275.52, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee insurance: Guardian Employee insurance; Guardian Insurance, \$38.49, Employee insurance; Employer's Mutual Insurance, \$85.20, Employ-ee insurance; Dacotah Bank, \$3,291.88, Withholding/SS/ Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA Contributions; Accounts Management, Inc., \$75.00, Wage Assignment; Hauge As-sociates, Inc., \$250.00, Wage Assignment; AutoZone, Inc., \$455.20, Oil & oil filters; SD Sup-plemental Betirement \$240.00 plemental Retirement, \$240.00, Supplemental Retirement; J's

Services - December of 202 Dollar General, \$231.25. Bottled water, toilet paper, cleaning spray, tissues, coffee, plates, batteries, light bulbs; Plastic Works, \$410.00, Sander truck materials; Moved by Wells and seconded by Bahr to approve the department reports. All members present voted aye.

Council thanked the Street Department for their great work

with plowing the snow. Pursuant to SDCL 6-1-10, the list of employee salaries and volunteers is as follows: Scott Hanlon - \$625/month, \$125/special meeting, \$300/full-day meeting, \$100/half-day meeting. Board of Equalization - \$200/year. Council Members: Brian Bahr, Karyn Babcock, Shirley Wells, Jon Cutler, Kevin Nehls, and Jason Wambach - \$3,000/year, \$125/special meeting, \$300/yeal, \$125/Special meeting, \$300/full-day meeting, \$100/half-day meeting. Planning and Zoning Commission - \$35/ meeting, \$70/special meeting. Finance Officer, Douglas Heinrich - \$26.20/hour. Deputy Finance Officer, April Abala, \$26.627 Officer, April Abeln - \$26.63/ hour. Ássistant Finance Officer, Kellie Locke - \$22.50/hour. Public Works Coordinator, Street/

The 2023 Election Date will be April 11, 2023. The following in-dividuals have terms ending: Jon Ward 2, Karyn Babcock – Ward 3, and Jason Wambach – Ward 3.

REMINDER: Applications for Baseball Coordinator, Softball Coordinator, Legion Coach, Jr. Legion Coach, and Jr. Teener Coach are due by January 16,

2023, at 5:00pm. Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wells to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:26pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:05pm.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wells to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. All members present voted ave.

Scott Hanlon, Mavor

Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

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Groton Independent \diamond Wed., Jan. 11, 2023 \diamond 9

Frederick School Jan. 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL

DISTRICT #6-2 Regular Board of Education

Meeting

January 9, 2023

A regular meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education was called to order on January 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Other members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Also present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/ Athletic Director Jeff Kosters, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg and Business Manager Shauna Severson. Ninety-five others were also in attendance from the Frederick and Leola communities; a list of those in attendance can be seen upon request.

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

Motion 2023-064 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the agenda with the following amendments: addition of "Statement by the Leola School Board", addition of "Approval of Keith Underberg's Contract Amendment", and moving action item "Approve Dissolution of Leola/Frederick Sports Coop (VB and Boys/Girls BB)" after Public Comment, All ave, carried,

ReEtta Sieh made a statement on behalf of the Leola School Board.

The following individuals spoke during public comment: Neil Geffre, Jon Bender, Trinity Lechner, Chad Weiszhaar, Mark Lapka, David Clark, Bryson Thorpe, Anna Wyly, Nathan Hoffman, Trevor Zantow, Kristi Spitzer, Troy Podoll, Carli Flemmer. Each speaker was allotted 3 minutes.

Motion 2023-065 Motion by Achen, second by Sumption to table the motion to approve the dissolution of Leola/Frederick Sports Coop (VB and Boys/ Girls BB). All voted Aye. Motion carried.

No conflict of interest disclosures.

Motion 2023-066 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the following consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

• December 12, 2022 Minutes December 2022 Financial Report, Custodial Accounts and

Investments

 December 2022 Payroll January 2023 Bills

Financial Report:

General Fund- Checking: Bal 12-1-22: \$393,198.29; Receipts: \$195,405.22; Disburse-ments: \$164,215.68; Transfers out; \$15,000.00; Bal 12-31-22 \$409,387.83. Investments: Bal 12-1-22: \$288,880.70; Interest: \$4.99; Bal 12-31-22: \$288,885.69. Ending Fund Balance: \$698,273.52.

Imprest Fund: Bal 12-1-22: \$5,000.00; Receipts: \$0; Dis-bursements: \$775.08; Bal 12-31-22 \$4,224.92.

Capital Outlay Fund- Checking: Bal 12-1-22: \$583,826.53; Receipts: \$71,153.98; Disbursements: \$7,001.20; Bal 12-31-22 \$647,979.31. Investments: Bal 12-1-22: \$1,933,634.20; Interest: \$0; Bal 12-31-22: \$1,933,634.20. Ending Fund Balance: \$2,581,613.51.

Special Education Fund- Checking: Bal 12-1-22: \$112,122.35; Receipts: \$31,982.45; Disbursements: \$26,644.54; Bal 12-31-22 \$117,460.26. Investments: Bal 12-1-22: \$1,446,175.05; \$0: Bal Interest 12-31 \$1,446,175.05. Ending Fund Balance: \$1,563,635.31. Food Service Fund: Bal 12-1-22: \$641.12; Receipts: \$4,086.67; Transfers in; \$15,000.00; Disbursements: \$11,561.76 Bal 12-31-22 \$8,166.03

1,333.22; Optilegra, vision insurance 422.72; Wellmark, health insurance 18,059.00; SD Retirement 16.388.80: SD Retirement Supplemental, 4,478.22. Total: \$178,216.63.

Bills approved: General Fund: Agtegra-fuel, 3,654.82; ASBSD-school law webinar, 25.00; Bledsoe Family Chiropractic-DOT physical, 90.00; CWD-concessions/FFVP. 1,050.55; Century Business Products-copier overage, 592.44; Cole Papers-supolies, 380.13; Corner Pantry-fuel, 64.25; FASD Imprest Fund-misc, 775.08 Farmers Union Oil-bus maintenance, 359.15; Fire Safety First-extinguisher maintenance, 359.00; Flinn Scientific-science supplies, 229.84; iBoss-core cloud renewal, 1,800.00; JVT-telephone, 230.41; Kensconcessions, 282.59; Kesslers-FACS supplies, 9.74; McLeod's Printing-checks/W2 supplies, 139.83; Menards-maintenance supplies, \$224.81; Merchant Services-lunch processing fees, 120.08: Mid-American Research Chemical-maintenance supplies, 1,965.80; MDU-utilities, ,017.69; Pantorium Cleaners supplies, 92.93; Price, John-bus fuel, \$31.94; Price Plumbing-plumbing service, 100.00; Region 4 Music-contest fees, 135.00; Runnings-bus supplies, 58.24: SD DOL & Regulationreemployment benefits, 167.00; Town of Frederick-utilities, 629.45; Universal Athletic-GBB supplies, 20.02 Capital Outlay Fund: Century Business Products-copier lease, 613.32; JM Electric-new lights/bus cam, 5,687.44; Special Education Fund: Avera-OT/PT, 6114.88; Food Service Fund: CWD-food/ supplies, 2,019.60; Cash-Wa Direct-food, 130.62; Community Store-food, 35.94; Pantorium Cleaners-supplies, 201.60

Imprest Fund: Donat, Eric-BB ref. 120.00: Frericks, Kris-BB ref. 120.00: Rozell, Paul-BB ref/mileage, 147.54; Steinwandt, Tim-BB ref/mileage, 147.54; Wanner, Andrew-BB ref, 120.00; Witlock Scott-BB ref, 120.00; Custodial Fund: Aberdeen Awards-LRC, 384.00; Amazon-teacher slush, 99.98; Arthurs, Crystal-FCCLA 127.25; Cox, Chandler-powerlifting club, 125.00; First National Bank-FCCLA, 100.00; Kesslers-FCCLA, 363.55; Midstates Grouppowerlifting club, 213.30.

The following reports were presented:

Jeff Kosters: Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director

Jessica Ringgenberg: K-8 Principal

Motion 2023-067 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to amend the 2022/2023 calendar to reflect a school make-up day on February 17, 2023 instead of Enhancement. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-068 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to approve the five-year service agreement to Johnson Controls for the Fire Alarm System. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-069 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to declare the following item surplus at a value of \$160.00: HP Probook 450. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-070 Motion by Ellwein, second by Achen to amend Keith Underberg's contract to \$45.07/route with the additional bus driver cell phone and cleaning/maintenance stipends. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-071 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. All voted ave, carried

Columbia City Liquor License Transfer Notice

Notice of Hearing Upon Applications for Sale of Alcoholic everages

On February 1, 2023, 7:00 p.m. the Columbia City Council Regular meeting will consider the application of transfer for The Lodge- on and off sale liquor licenses to a new location. The Lodge will be located at 18 S Broadway. Any person interested in the approval or rejection of the application may appear at the city meeting and be heard.

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Frederick Town Dec. 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Town of Frederick

December 21, 2022 Minutes Town of Frederick's board meeting was held on Wednesday December 21, 2022 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board member Troy Millard and Finance Officer Jennifer Morlock.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting. The Supplemental Appropria-

tion Ordinance was reviewed for the second time. No changes were made. Motion was made by Millard/Campbell; motion carried Motion to adjourn made by

Millard/Campbell at 7:20pm; motion carried.

J. Morlock

Finance Officer Published January 11, 2023,

at the total approximate cost of \$8.83 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 21843

Frederick Town Jan. 4, 2023 **Meeting Minutes**

City of Frederick January 4, 2023 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday, January 4, 2023 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board member Troy Millard, Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer Jennifer Morlock and Mariah Heine, Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg, and Volunteer Frederick Fire Department Chief Kevin Barton.

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

The minutes of the December meetings were read and approved with a motion by Millard/ Campbell: motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried. The January accounts payable were approved with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/Sts/Swr/EBL \$1,461.08; Century Bus Products printer Gen'l \$81.98: Dependable Sanitation Grbg \$1,668; EFPTS taxes Gen'I/FO/CC/EBL/Sts/Wtr/Swr/ Cmty \$755.68; USDA-RD loan Swr \$3,763; Econ, Dev \$1,200; GDI minutes Gen'l \$46.88; J. Kosters wage Gen'l \$92.35; J.

\$12/hr; Asisst. Librarian \$10/ hr. Motion to approve wages for 2023 made by Campbell/Millard; motion carried. Motion to accept the Library 4th Quarter/Annual report made by Millard/Campbell; motion carried. Barton asked about burning the dump soon as weather allows.

Motion to adjourn made by Millard/Campbell at 7:28 PM: motion carried. M. Heine

Assistant Finance Officer

Published January 11, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$26.77 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21844

Brown County Jan. 3, 2023 **Meeting Minutes** JANUARY 3, 2023 – REORGA-NIZATION MEETING

Meeting called to order by

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Drew Dennert, Doug Fieldheim, Mike Gage and Duane Sutton. Commissioner Mike Wiese was Absent. Commissioner Sutton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pastor Lou Whitmer, North Highland Methodist Church opened the meeting with a Prayer.

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

SWEARING IN: Drew Dennert, Mike Gage and Doug Fjeldheim were sworn in as Brown County Commissioners and Dave Lunzman was sworn in as Sheriff and Interim Coroner by Lynn Heupel, Auditor.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2023: Lynn Heupel, Auditor called for nominations for Brown County Commission Chair for year 2023, pursuant to SDCL 7-8-15. Commissioner Gage nominated Duane Sutton as 2023 Chairman, which was seconded by Dennert, Nominations ceased. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Sutton called for nominations for Brown County Commission Vice-Chair for 2023. Commissioner Gage nominated Doug Fjeldheim as 2023 Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Dennert. Nominations ceased. All members present voting ave. Motion carried.

UPDATE BOARD BOOK: Commission Committee Appointments will be as follows: Commissioner Dennert - Weed & Pest Control, NE Mental Health Center, County Buildings, Alter-nate Union Negotiations, Grow SD NESDCAP, Fair Board and Legislative Contact; Commissioner Sutton - Aberdeen Development Corp., Communications Council, Fair Board, SD Public Assurance Alliance, Dacotah Prairie Museum, Alternate Liaison 4-H Leaders Association/ Promotion & Expansion Committee, SDACC Catastrophic Legal Board; Liaison Centennial Village and Edwards Preserve Nature Area; Commissioner Wiese - Range Fire Suppression, Communication Council, Union Negotiations, LEPC, Liaison to Welfare, Alternate Aberdeen/ Brown County Regional Railroad Authority, Glacial Lakes; Commissioner Fjeldheim - Sick Leave Bank, Aberdeen/Brown County

Jason Kuntz, Brian LaCroix, Alexnadra Little, Jared Little, Douglas Mayer, David McGuire, Cathy McNickle, Wendy Mehlhaff, Carla Meints, Trevor Meints, David Meyer, Maria Meyer, Mark Musel, Roberta Nichols, Gayle Opp, Barb Paepke, Tom Paepke, Cindy Pigors, Rick Pigors, Nancy Radke, Bryan L Rau, Trenia Rexinger, Bonnie Robinson, Freddie Robinson, Mark Shishnia, Shane Schlichenmayer, Kim Schneider, Donna Sharp, Gary Sharp, Brian Sharp, Gretchan Sharp, Dale Smid, Pam Smid, Amanda L Steckelberg, Mike L Steckelberg, Sara Street, Jeff Swank, Karen Swank, Lowell Swanson, Sara Swisher, Mike Ullrich, Jason Villhauer, Janice Waltman, Thomas Wanttie and Scott York. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following Chaplain volunteers: Brad Kingsiter; Brain LaCroix; Father George Parmeter; George Shaver; Jay Rossman; Joann Lehrkamp and Jon Droege. All members present voting ave. Motion carried. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Citizens Corp Council volunteers for three-year terms: Terms Expire: December 31, 2025 - Hub Area Radio Club Representative: Roland Moerke; First Responder: Mark Stoks; At Large Representatives: Trevor Meints & Freddie Robinson. die Robinson. Terms Expire: December 31, 2024 – Salvation Army Representative: Tony Jones; At Large Representatives: Becky Berreth, Brian Sharp and Thomas Wanttie. Terms Expire – December 31, 2023 – Law Enforcement Representative: Dave Lunzman; American Red Cross Representative: Heather Allemang; Emergency Management Representative: Scott Meints; At Large Representative: Josh Halsey. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following Dive Team volunteers: Trent Anderson; Casey Bade; Rodney Bade; Clayton Blachford; Cody Bonn; Michael Dunbar; Mike Kost; Dave McGuire; Brett Toennies and Jason Vilhauer. Team Leaders are Scott Meints and Dave Lunzman. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the following Fair Board volunteers: Michelle "Shelly" Eisenbeisz; Catherine Friesen; Dwight Guthmiller; Nichole Hacker; Jeff Kippley; Randy Mages; Stephanie Mages; Greg Markley; Suzanne Moen; Katie Moulsoff Mike Nehls; Joni Napton; Adam Butcher: Nancy Radke: Mike Russell; Clint Sombke; Ryan Swenson; Jayson Tollefson; Conald Burgard; Rhonda Retzlaff; Brodie Mueller; Karen Treeby and Joyce Voeller. Manager is Rachel Kip-Commission Representapley. tives: Duane Sutton and Drew Dennert. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FSA APPOINTMENT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve Doug Fjeldheim as FSA Representative. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

HOMELAND SECURITY RE-GIONAL REVIEW BOARD: Moved by Commissioner Fieldheim. seconded by Gage to reappoint Scott Meints, Director of Emergency Manager and Dave Lunzman, Sheriff to Homeland Security Regional Review Board. All members present voting aye.

tor - Kent Jones and Assistant Director - Sarah Jesz. All members present voting aye. Motion carried

Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Dacotah Prairie Museum Board member for 1st three-year term: Alan Neville. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the 2023 Planning and Zoning Board which consist of Stan Beckler, David North, Darwin Bettmann, Patrick Keatts, Dale Kurth, James Meyers and Carrie Weisenburger. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve appointing Darwin Bettmann and Patrick Keatts to a 4th term effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2028 on the Planning & Zoning Board. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fieldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the 2023 4-H Promotion and Expansion Committee as follows: 4-H Adults: Kristin Johnson, Nathan Miller, and Sadie VanderWal: 4-H Youth: Noah Miller, Anna Johnson, Sophia Fogarty, and Logan Warrington; Non-4-H Adults: Adam Franken, Becky Erickson and Mikayla Weisser; Ag Representative: Connie Groop. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Sutton to approve the Weed & Pest Board which consists of Dennis Wiedebush, Duane Jark, Troy Knecht, and Tyler Bierman. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DESIGNATION OF DEPUTIES: RESOLUTION #1-23

Commissioner Dennert brought the following resolution: WHEREAS, SDCL Chapter 7-7-20 mandates the designation of the number of deputies and clerks for various offices by the Board of County Commissioners, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following deputies and clerks are authorized at the discretion of the County Officials for County offices: Auditor - 2 Chief Deputies, 2 Senior Deputies; Treasurer - 2 Chief Deputies, 6 Deputies (1 part-time); Register of Deeds - 1 Chief Deputy, 4 Deputies. All extra help hired by County Officials must first be approved by the County Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Fjeldheim. All members present voting aye. Resolution adopted.

INVESTMENT POLICY:

RESOLUTION #2-23

Commissioner Fjeldheim brough the following resolution: WHEREAS, the nature of tax collections and other revenue is such that cash on deposit in the County's depositories at times exceeds the requirement for current expenditures; and WHERE-AS, it is in the best interest of the County to invest these monies not required for immediate expenditure. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brown County Treasurer is hereby directed to invest Brown County public funds at the highest rate of interest possible at said time on available monies at financial institutions, as designated by the Brown County Commission, and FURTHER, to furnish quarterly reports detailing same, as autho-rized by SDCL 4-5-8. Seconded by Commissioner Dennert, Al

Drivers Ed Fund: Bal 12-1-22: 66.35; Receipts: \$0; Disburse-ments: \$0; Bal 12-31-22 \$66.35. Custodial Fund: Bal 12-1-22:

\$15,194.44; Receipts: \$7,852.37 Disbursements: \$1,614.44; Bal

12-31-22 \$21,432.37. Ovid J Stevens Scholarship: Bal 12-1-22: \$.85; Receipts: \$0; Disbursements: \$0; Bal 12-31-22 \$.85. Investments: Bal 12-1-22: \$26.462.12: Interest: \$9.46; Bal 12-31-22: \$26,471.58.

Claims approved: Decem ber 2022 Payroll - General Fund salaries 82,247.61; Special Education salaries 17,058.73. Food Service salaries 4,007.81 EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 28,809.07; AFLAC, supplemental insurance 1,564.29; American Funds, retirement 1,536.18; Delta Dental, insurance 2,056.14; The Standard, life insurance 254.84; Security Benefits, retirement

Rich Schlosser, President Shauna Severson, Business Manager

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Columbia Citv **Liquor License Application Notice**

Notice of Hearing Upon Ap-plications for Sale of Alcoholic Beverages

On February 1, 2023, 7:00 p.m. the Columbia City Council Regular meeting will consider the application for Karen's Bar & Grill on and off sale liquor licenses. Karen's Bar & Grill will be located at 9 S Broadway in the current log cabin building. Any person interested in the approval or rejection of the application may appear at the city meeting and be heard.

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Morlock wage FO \$1,423.78; JVT Gen'l/Wtr/EBL/FO \$240.56; M. Cox wage EBL \$440.68; M. Heine wage FO \$1,126.38; Olivia Morlock CC clean CC \$26 55 S Campbell wage Gen'l \$115.44; R. Bakeberg wage Sts/Wtr/Swr \$188.39; R. Bakeberg veh. allow. St/Wtr/Swr \$75; SD Dept of Rev sales tax Grbg \$77.61; SD Dept of Health samples Wtr \$30; T. Millard wage Gen'l \$92.35; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; VISA fuel & stamps Sts/Swr/Wtr/Grbg \$495.57 OLD BUSINESS

Rich Bakeberg provided a utility report. The board has been approached about salvaging items from the house at 303 2nd Ave, but it is a safety hazard to allow anyone to enter the residence

NEW BUSINESS

The salaries for 2023 will be paid as follows: Chairman of the Board \$25/chairman + \$50/mtg; Board Members \$50/ mtg; Mowing wage \$12/hr; Cemetery Salary \$550/yr (semiannually); Utility Manager \$100 base salary + \$16/hr + \$75/mo vehicle allowance; Finance Officer \$1,650/mo; Assist. Finance

nal Railr NECOG, Airport Board, CART and FSA Representative; Commissioner Gage – Risk Management Committee, Alternate Legislative Contact, Planning & Zoning, JDAI (Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative), Senior Citizen's Board and Liaison 4-H Leader's Association/Promotion & Expansion.

Moved by Commission Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to reappoint Dirk Rogers Highway Superintendent for two-year term (January 1, 2023 – De-cember 31, 2024). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to reappoint Aaron Walberg, Veteran's Service Officer for four-year term (January 1, 2023 December 31, 2026). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

VOLUNTEERS FOR WORK COMP PURPOSES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following Cert volunteers: Erin Bacon, Clayton Blachfod, Bethany Curtis, Scott R Grebner, Joshua Halsey, Janet Herman, Tina Hubert, Weylin Hubert, Charla Imrie, Michele Johnson,

Motion carried.

HOUSING AND REDEVELOP-MENT COMMISSION: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the fol-lowing members of the Housing and Redevelopment Commission of Brown County: Marty Sabolo, term expires 12/31/23; Paula Langteau, term expires 12/31/24 and Kathy Zerr, term expires 12/31/25. Lynn will contact Jodi Zueger to see who the two new officers are. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS:

Moved by Commissioner Fieldheim, seconded by Gage to designate the following as the official Brown County newspapers for 2023 (SDCL 7-18-3): Aberdeen American News, Aberdeen, SD and Groton Independent. Groton, SD. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following appointments to the Communications Council: County Commission Chair Duane Sutton and Vice- Chair Doug Fjeldheim, per agreement. Overseer of Communications Center – Dave Lunzman: Direc-

members present voting aye. Resolution adopted.

INTEREST POLICY: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Policy in regard to interest earned from deposits and investments: State law allows income from deposits and investments to be credited to either the General Fund or the fund making the investment. The County's policy is to credit all income from deposits and investments to the General Fund during the year, except for interest earned on specific certificates of deposits for the Solid Waste Fund. USGAAP requires income from deposits and investments to be reported in the fund whose assets generated that income. Where the governing board has discretion to credit investment income to a fund other than the fund that provided the resources for investment, a transfer to the designated fund is reported when authorized by the Commission. Fund transfers of investment earnings to the General Fund shall not occur in 2023, all funds shall receive the income generated from the assets of the

Continues on next page

10 Groton Independent Wed., Jan. 11, 2023Officer \$1,250/mo; Librarian

Continued from previous page

fund. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXPENSE POLICY - EMPLOY-EES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to set the following expenses rates for Brown County employees for year 2023:

Meal Reimbursement made only for out of County travel

-	-	•		
	In-State	Out-of-State	Leave Before	Return After
Breakfast	\$6.00	\$10.00	5:31 AM	7:59 AM
Lunch	\$14.00	\$18.00	11:31 AM	12:59 PM
Dinner	\$20.00	\$28.00	5:31 PM	7:59 PM
	\$40.00	\$56.00		

Lodging reimbursed at actual cost, receipt required (if possible, have direct billing, as County tax exempt)

Reimbursement for use of personal vehicle for County business, as follows: All county employees and officials, except the Sheriff shall be paid for traveling expenses for each mile traveled in the discharge of their official duties at 51 cents per mile. Miles to be determined by the assistance of Map Quest or similar web site; Odometer readings required for all destinations not available on web site; Odometer reading only required once to establish routine destination routes, i.e., per diem for board members. All members present voting ave. Motion carried.

(PENSE POLICY - ELECTION OFFICIALS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to set \$250.00 as the one-day fee for vote center officials working on Election Day, \$15.00 per hour for absentee vote center officials working on Election Day, \$20.00 for vote center officials attending Election School, set minimum mileage at five miles when claimed by vote center/absentee ballot official. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXPENSE POLICY - BROWN COUNTY BOARDS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following expense policy for County Boards: Dacotah Prairie Museum and Fair Board - No Per Diem: Planning and Zoning Board - \$50.00 for each meeting attended and if reside outside City Limits of Aberdeen, paid mileage at 51 cents per mile and have expenses paid for by Brown County Planning and Zoning Department if attend the State Conference; Weed & Pest Board - \$40 for each meeting attended and if reside outside City Limits of Aberdeen, paid mileage at 51 cents per mile. All members present voting aye.

Motion carried. TAX DEED NOTICES

RESOLUTION #3-23

Commissioner Gage brought the following resolution: WHEREAS, Brown County has acquired tax certificates on property with delinquent real estate taxes for which tax deeds and notices can be served. THERE-FORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brown County Commission authorizes the County Treasurer, Patty VanMeter to request States Attorney, Ernest Thompson and States Attorney Office personnel to act as agents to process said tax deeds and notices.Seconded by Commissioner Dennert. All members present voting ave. Resolution adopted.

FAIRGROUNDS RENTAL RATES: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to establish the following Fairgrounds rental rates

FAIRGROUNDS RENTAL RATES - EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

Winter Storage Space Rental: October 15 to April 1st - Prepaid Lease -No Refunds - \$12.00 per Arena: 174' x 240'...\$75.00 per show. Smaller groups will be charged on an individual basis. Portable Stage: Not to go out of County-except for Governmental Agencies -Per event \$175.00. Lessee liable for any damages occurring between pickup and return by lessee, plus \$1.00 per mile round trip transportation cost. People Movers - \$100.00 per event. Lessee liable for any

damages occurring between pickup and return by lessee, plus \$1.00 per mile round trip transportation cost. Trail re-quired for transport out of town. Bleachers – Bleachers won't leave the Fairgrounds. \$25 per set per event. Benches: \$3.00 per bench per event. Benches will not go out of county. Lessee liable for any damages occurring between pickup and return by lessee, plus \$1.00 per mile round trip transportation cost. Picnic Tables: \$25.00 per table. Picnic tables will not go out of county. Lessee liable for any damages occurring between pickup and return by lessee, plus \$1.00 per mile round trip transportation cost. Campgrounds: \$25.00 per day or \$150.00 per week cost. for pads with power and water. \$30.00 per day or \$180.00 per week for pads with power, water and sewer drops. This includes a 5% State Sales Tax. 232 pads with water and power and 36 with power, water, and sewer. All south campgrounds have both 50-amp and 30-amp plug-ins. Event Weekly Camp-Special ground Rates: \$100 Primitive; \$180 4-H, Centennial, Go-Kart & Sunflower; \$200 Cottonwood & Back 40; and \$225 4-H Plus, Evergreen and West Hill (availability based on event). Daily rate for non-reservation camping - \$35 full hook-up and \$30 water/power only. All members present voting aye. Motion

carried. RICHMOND YOUTH CAMP RFNTAL RATES: Moved by Gage, seconded by Dennert to establish the following Richmond Youth Camp rental rates

RICHMOND YOUTH CAMP RENTAL RATES - EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

Booking fee in the amount of \$150.00 and proof of insurance must be submitted at least 60 days prior to date of occupancy. Dorm only: \$100.00 per dorm per night. Lodge Only: \$225.00 per day. Infirmary Cabin: \$50.00 per day. Youth Groups: \$7.00 per person per day (Ages 17 and under.) Adult Groups: If 30 people or under will pay daily rates. If over 30 people \$10.00 per person per day. (Ages 18 and older) Deposit: A \$150.00 deposit is required to guarantee all dates. This deposit will only be refunded if the camp is left in a clean and orderly manner and there is no damage done to the camp. If the cleaning costs and damage costs exceed the amount of the deposit, any additional repairs or cleaning costs will be billed. Signed lease, deposit and proof of insurance shall be sent to the Brown County Auditor at 25 Market Street, Ste. 1, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Cleanup: \$100.00 for the Lodge and \$100.00 for the dorms. Absolutely no pets allowed in any of the buildings allowed in any of the buildings. All members present voting aye.

Motion carried. DEPT, OF EOUALIZATION CLOTHING ALLOWANCE: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the request submitted by Gene Loeschke, DOE for 2023 clothing allowance of \$150.00 per employee.in the Equalization Office per Employee Policy Section C-12. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. DEPT. OF EQUALIZATION (DOE) FEES: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following fees for DOE: Copies: Rate is 25 cents per page. Receipt will be issued for of each set of copies. Property owners may receive complimentary copies if they are of or about their own parcel. Proceeds will be deposited with the County Treasurer into the general fund. Transfer of Mass information to outside entity: \$469.50 + 6.5% tax =\$500. Information Technology downloads pertinent information from BC Connect or DEVNET to a flash drive, which is mailed to the requesting entity or uploaded to their site upon receipt of payment. Payment is deposited with the County Treasurer into the general fund. We typically get two of these requests annually but have had as many as four requests in a year. This will also include smaller data dumps that are sorted for the recipient. Beacon Subscriptions: See be-

low Web access agreement. We currently have 76 active paying Beacon accounts, accounting for \$25,687.80 received annually. This money is deposited with the County Treasurer into the general fund. Tax estimates for real estate transfer closings: These are tax estimates we perform for our local title company and realtors so they can calculate appropriate tax credits between buyers and sellers upon real estate transfers. If we receive a request to do a tax estimate, we will have it ready by five (5) days after we receive the request. These will be charged \$23.47 plus tax (a total of \$25.00) to perform the request. If the reuest is needed with less than days-notice, the charge will be \$37.56 plus tax (a total of \$40.00). These fees will need to be paid at the time the estimates are returned to the customer, as we are not allowed to maintain accounts receivable status.

Website Access Agreement: The Brown County website provides real estate information from the convenience of a personal computer 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. Access is allowed by a username and password. There is a fee for access, which covers the expense to provide this service. Fees are based on the number of users and must be paid in advance. Fee Schedule/ Annual Fee: (Based on number of users): 1-5 people/\$319.50; 6-10 people/\$511.20; 11 + people/\$766.80. Temporary User: 1 Month/\$106.50. \$26.63 Setup Fee. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING FEES: Moved by Commissioner Fieldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the fees for Planning & Zoning remain the same as 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Brandi Schaefbauer, District 3 House Representative shared with the Commission that she has a rough draft of legislation in the works for appointing County Coroner. She has given copies to Julie Johnson and Kris Jacobsen to review

TRUANCY COURT: Kelsi, Vinger - Diversion Coordinator, Ernest Thompson - State's Attorney and Karla Nelson – Deputy State's Attorney met to propose and asking that the budget that was approved for Teen Court (which we no longer have) be moved to the establishment of a Truancy Court. Judge Porta will handle the Truancy Court cases Team is set in place and would probably be March before having any court cases, starting fresh for the 3rd quarter. It will be a family style court, implementing some ideas from Watertown that has a system in place. Commissioner Gage wanted to Thank all of them for all their hard work to get to this point and feels it's a step in the right direction. Motioned by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to move the funding from Teen Court to Truancy Court. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) TO UPGRADE CAMP-GROUNDS AT FAIRGROUNDS: Rachel Kippley, Fair Manager met to discuss the proposal of updating 141 Campground sites to add electrical in Primitive Campground A and C and ask for Authorization of Public Notice on the RFP. Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to authorize the publication and set date of January 24th to open proposals. All members

voting aye. Motion carried. MINUTES: Moved by Comissioner Gade secc

\$63.91; Century Business Products \$8,077.52; Cole Papers \$1,730.34; Crawford M S & F Inc \$392.15: Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$18,295.04; Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equipment Inc \$458.00; Fastenal Co \$241.62; Floor To Ceiling \$307.36; Gillund Enterprises \$258.40; McLeods Printing & Office Supply \$130.97; Mid-states Printing \$1,465.00; Nelson Sales & Service, LLC \$1,449.00; Pomps Tire Service, Inc \$571.50; Town & Country Building Supply \$463.17; West Publishing Corp. \$1,839.44. Travel & Confer ence: International Assoc. of Fairs & Expositions \$825.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$140.54; Lumen \$128.06; Midcontinent Communications \$129.58; Montana Dakota Utilities Co \$50.45; Northwestern Energy & Communications \$10,610.14 Richmond Lake Sanitary Dist. \$2,988.00. Machinery & Equipment: RDO Equipment Co.-Ag \$398,675.00. Jury: Alexan-der R. Morris \$260.20; Bradley J. Erhardt \$1,377.54; Carol Stellner \$1,248.96; Derek Rekow \$12.04; Dianne J. Spitzer \$1,248.96; Donald A. Soderlund III \$1,454.00; Jackie Haskell \$1,432.60; Jeff D. Price \$955.08; Jerold Feist \$11.02; Kennan K. Bauer \$1,457.12; Larry Ding-man \$12.04; Lavonne Kruse \$11.02; Renee Hansen \$11.02; Ruth Logan \$12.04; Shelby A. Young \$1,224.48; Susanne Wente \$11.02; Veronica L. Mer-

cer \$1,157.10. Payroll: Commission \$4,503.96; Auditor \$9,143.41; Treasurer \$14,167.48; SA \$31.053.33: Maintenance \$9.877.39; Assessor \$15.275.89; Register of Deeds \$8,157.60; VSO \$4,143.28; GIS \$2,483.72; IT \$5,711.59; HR \$4,061.37; Sheriff \$39,639.74; Jail \$55,993.44; Coroner (Voucher) \$7,050.00; Court Security \$6,179.18; JDC \$26,964.77; Welfare \$2,161.43; Museum \$7,827.89; Parks/Fairgrounds \$1,761.68; Fair Board \$4,790.80; 4-H \$638.80; Weed \$1,198.14; Planning & Zoning \$5,728.35; Highway \$56,838.98; Dispatch \$30,903.89; Emer gency \$4,285.81; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,171.21; Landfill \$11,055.03. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Com mission Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following Human Resources Report: Acknowledge the following: End of term, Dennis Feickert, Brown County Commissioner, effective December 31, 2022; End of term, Mark Milbrandt, Brown County Sheriff, effec-tive December 31, 2022; Dave Lunzman, Brown County Sheriffelect; wage \$48.08/hour; effective January 3, 2023; Mariann Malsom, Brown County Register of Deeds-elect; wage \$38.46/ hour; effective January 3, 2023; Drew Dennert, Brown County Commissioner-elect; wage \$913.85 bi-weekly; effective January 3, 2023; Employment ending for Madeline Ellerbusch, Brown County JDC Sergeant, full-time; effective December 28, 2022. Request to fill; Resignation of Cortney Paul, Brown County, States Attorney Victim Specialist, full-time; effective January 6, 2023. Request to fill; Reclassification of Tonya Walth, from Brown County, 911 Shift Supervisor to Communication officer; wage \$26.46/hour; effective December 29, 2022; Reclassification of Kyle Price, Brown County Assistant Building Maintenance Superintendent from salary to hourly; effective December 25, 2022.

Approve the following: Com-Kampa made a motion to as-**Meeting Minutes** bining the GIS office with the sign Dacotah bank as the city's financial institution. Trevor Zoning offi AREA SCHOOL tive January 9, 2023; Sheriff's DISTRICT #6-2 office, Transport employees, Special Board of Education new hourly wage \$23.97=G16, Meeting A; effective December 25, 2022. Will no longer receive the lump January 4, 2023 A special meeting of the Fredsum per trip; Maximum hours erick Area Board of Education for Mitchell trips are 6 hours; Maximum hours for Yankton was called to order on January in favor – motion carried. FINANCIAL REPORT – 4, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present trips are 9 hours; Any transport hours about the maximum hours were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, will need to be approved by the Sheriff; Sherriff's office, Armed Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Others present were Superin-Security employees, new hourly tendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic wage, \$23.97 = G16, A; effective December 25, 2022; Employ-ment for John Weig, Brown Director Jeff Kosters, Business Manager Shauna Severson, Jim Holbeck and Brock Pashen. County Fairgrounds worker; as needed for snow removal effeccarried. December 31, 2022 balanc-es: SF - \$192,294.75\$; GF -The meeting began with all resent reciting the Pledge of tive December 12, 2022; Hiring of Alaina Perry, Brown County Dacotah Prairie Museum Guest Allegiance. Motion 2023-062 Motion by Cash on hand - \$0 Services, part-time; starting Achen, second by Sumption Trevor Meints made a motion to adjourn. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were wage \$16.42/hour; effective January 4, 2023; Payment of to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, carried. in favor – meeting adjourned. Next City Council Meeting - February 1, 2023 7:00 p.m. No one was present for public retirement award for Kathy Schlecht in the amount of \$150 comment. No conflict of interest disclobefore taxes: the requirement was met. All members present sures. voting aye. Motion carried. CLAIM ASSIGNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, Finance Officer Governance Academy for Visionary Education Leadership Published January 11, 2023, at the total approximate cost of Training by Jim Holbeck from seconded by Gage to authorize ASBSD took place. and approve the Auditor sign of charge at www.sdpublicno-The Leola/Frederick Sports the Claim Assignment against an individual to Credit Collections tices.com. 21848 Coop was discussed. The Board advised Mr. Kosters to inform Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members pres-Groton Independent & Wed., Jan. 11, 2023 & 11

ent voting ave. Motion carried. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to go into executive session to discuss Personnel per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, sec-onded by Gage to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:37 a.m. All members present voting ave. Motion carried. Lynn Heupel, Brown County

Auditor Published January 11, 2023 at the total approximate cost of \$275.16 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21845

Brown County Electricians

Bid Notice NOTICE TO ELECTRICIANS Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota; until the hour of 8:45 A.M. on January 24, 2023, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for: Wiring 45 camp sites in Primitive A Campground and wiring of 96 camp sites in Primitive C Campground according to code. To include 45 single pedestals for Primitive A Campground and 44 double pedestals and 8 single pedestals for Primitive C Campground. As per 2020 code with the spacious site footage, doubles are allowed and preferred. Questions can be directed to Inspector Tom Kelly at 605-290-2121.

Northern Electric will perform Aid to Construction to prep the campground for wiring. For specific questions on their layout plans, contact Russ Ulmer at 605-225-0310. Include all labor, materials, trenching, inspection fees, and excise tax in bid total. Job must be completed by July

CONTRACT: Brown County will aive notice to the success ful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax. Copies of the specifications

can be obtained at no charge and are on file at the following locations:

• Brown County Website: Brown.SD.US

• Brown County Fair Office: 400 24th Ave. NW, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Phone: 605-626-7116

Brown County Auditor's Of-fice: 25 Market Street, Ste. 1, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Phone: 605-626-7110

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published January 11 and 18. 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$41.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 21846

Frederick School Jan. 4, 2023

Leola and our patrons of the intention to approve the dissolution of the Sports Coop for basketball and volleyball at the January 9, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Motion 2023-063 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. All voted aye, carried

Rich Schlosser, President Shauna Severson, Business Manager

Published January 11, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$16.46 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno-tices.com. 21847

Columbia City Jan. 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting – January 4, 2023 CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints, Jeremy Dosch Community -Rod Tobin, Kiera

Leddy

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed out from the December 7th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor - motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: SDML 191.07; Agtegra - 574.15; JVT -206.44; Cara Dennert - 1235.25; Jeremy Dosch – 419.99; Emily Eichler – 255.28; Corey Mitch-ell – 529.96 ; Trevor Meints – 667.04; Cole Kampa – 619.98; Meghan Butler – 214.11; GDI News – 47.73; Corey Mitchell -500.00; Dacotah Bank - 771.83; US Treasury -903.56 ; SD Unemployment Insurance -43.42 ; Menards – 32.73; Petty Cash – 450.00; Dakota Resources

– 3920.00; Runnings – 20.34; DANR – 150.00. Cara stated that the Dacotah Bank bill was posted incorrectly -771.33 is the correct amount.

Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the vouches as corrected. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORESPONDENCE - greeting card from B&B Contracting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - the ball park account will be transferred to the Columbia Baseball Committee – they are in the process of attaining the proper documentation to take it over.

Nuisances - Rod was brought up to date on what needs to be done with ordinances & code enforcement

Streets - looking good

Parks -

Lagoon/sewer -Rubble Site -

NEW BUSINESS - Tyler and Karen Kampa were at the meeting to ask for on and off sale liquor licenses. Emily Eichler made a motion to approve the license for Karen's Bar & Grill. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried. Rod Tobin and Kiera Leddy were present to be updated on what needs attention. We have some park issues, problems with code enforcement, and there is a new building in town that we need to work on a sewer easement/ problems with plat lines. Corev is up for reelection and was given a petition. Anyone can request a petition. The board discussed salaries – they will be left the same this year. Cole

linear foot for each unit, including trailer hitch and any overhang. All lengths will be rounded to the nearest foot.

Barn Rental: Beef Barn \$300; Hog and Sheep Barn \$150; Open Class Sheep Barn \$100; West Sheep Barn \$100; Poultry Barn \$100. Half price for days after 2. Club House: 120' X 80' Per day \$400.00 - Per day for days over two \$200.00 - Clean-up additional \$100.00. Expo Addition: 90' x 240'- Per day \$300.00 - Per day for days over two \$150.00. If fairgrounds personnel needs to clean up after the activity...... Clean-up/horse shows \$300.00 - Clean-up/other activities......\$175.00. Holum Expo Building: 120' x 240' - Per day \$500.00 plus utilities - Per day for days over two \$250.00 plus utilities. If fairgrounds personnel needs to clean-up after the activity...Clean-up/horse shows and bull riding \$300.00 - Cleanup/other Activities...\$175.00. Horse Stalls: Set up fee - per stall \$12.00. Corral Panels: Trailer per day.... \$50.00 (Trailer holds 40 panels). Lessee liable for any damages occurring between pickup and return by lessee, plus \$1.00 per mile round trip transportation cost. Horse

Dennert to approve the Decem-ber 27, 2022 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by

Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve

the following: Claims: Insurance: SDML Workers' Compensation Fund \$155,372.00. Professional Fees: Devnet \$3,445.31; Houston Engineering, Inc. \$11,578.08; International Assoc. of Assess-ing Officers \$480.00; Mitch Vilhauer \$1,089.76; National Sheriff's Association \$66.00; Robert Bohm \$900.00; Schneider Geospatial, LLC \$2,703.00; SD Assoc. of County Commissioners \$6,976.00; SD Assoc of County Officials \$3,228.31; SD State's Attorney Assoc. \$2,247.00; State of South Dakota \$2,096.07; Tyler Technologies Inc \$217.50. Publishing: Groton Independent \$311.82. Repairs & Maintenance: Auto Glass Solutions Inc \$386.56; Boyer Trucks \$14.23; Crawford M S & F Inc \$1,555.00; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$6,500.97; Dakota Doors Inc \$4,183.68; Honeywell International Inc. \$28,058.15; Leidholt Electric LLC \$56.12; Lien Transportation Company \$798.75. Supplies: Boyer Trucks

Meints seconded the motion - all were in favor - motion carried. Emily Eichler made a motion to assign GDI News as the city's publication source. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were

Cara presented bank balances. 1099s are ready to be sent out. W2 forms were handed out. Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion

229,296.73\$; FÍT - \$ 14,155.02

Submitted by Cara Dennert,

\$32.84 and may be viewed free



Dear EarthTalk: Why haven't the governments of the world come together to ban or limit the production of plastics globally like they've done to reduce ozone depleting chemicals in the 1980s and greenhouse gasses more recently? -- Peter B., Wallingford, CT

Plastic, originally hailed for its longevity and hygienic single-use properties, is one of the newest battlegrounds for environmentalists and world governments. Though bans of some forms of plastic exist in more than 60 countries around the world, a global ban has proven to be elusive. In 2019, 170 countries voted to "significantly reduce" their use of plastic by 2030 at the United Nations' Environmental Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya. This agreement, though, was non-binding, and mostly targeted 'throw-aways' such as plastic bags, ignoring other forms of plastic pollution so as to serve more as a band-aid than a cure to this prolific problem.

The global scale of plastic pollution is mindboggling, but necessary to understanding the importance of a world-wide ban. Microplastics can give a sense of how entrenched plastic has become in the interwoven web that is our global food system. According to the United Nations' Environment Programme (UNEP), microplastics—pieces of plastic smaller than 5mm—can easily be ingested by animals such as fish, and end up on people's dinner plates

because of the prevalence of pollution in the world's oceans. Plastic can take 1,000 years to decompose, meaning that every piece of plastic that has ever been created still exists, and only continually gets smaller and smaller. National Geographic reports that even the Mariana Trench, the deepest spot in the world's oceans, has not been spared. A plastic bag found down there, far removed from any human activity, shows just how widespread plastic pollution is globally.

The sheer ubiquity of plastic has meant that even well-meaning and well-executed previous bans on plastics on a regional scale have hardly made a dent. The World Economic Forum notes that Canada's ban on single-use plastic, for example, promises zero plastic waste there by 2030, echoing the non-binding agreement of the United Nations in 2019. However, environmental advocates worry that 2030 is too far away a goal, and that may be part of the reason why, on March 2, 2022, the United Nations Environmental Assembly passed the world's first international and legally-binding agreement to end plastic pollution fully by 2024. Inger Anderson, Executive Director of UNEP, lauded the deal as "the most significant" environmental multilateral deal since the Paris Accord."

This treaty calls for regulation on the "full life-cycle" of plastic, from production to decomposition, and is the first of its kind to unite 173 nations in combating plastic pollution. "Against the backdrop of geopolitical turmoil, the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) shows multilateral cooperation at its best...pollution



Only time will tell if a 2019 agreement signed by 170 countries to "significantly reduce" their use of plastic by 2030 will hold water. Credit: mali maeder, pexels.com.

has grown into an epidemic," says Espen Barth Eide, Norway's minister for climate and environment, and president of UNEA. "With today's resolution we are officially on track for a cure."

Coming to a consensus around this agreement represents a unifying moment in world history for stepping towards a greener and healthier Earth. Of course, the treaty will take some time to be adopted widely, so proactive steps like using reusable bags and phasing out single-use plastics are still important when looking at decreasing our global use of plastics.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. To donate, visit https//earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@ earthtalk.org.



"The Other Skin Cancer" When people talk

about skin cancer the type that most people think about is melanoma. This skin cancer follows the ABCDE



rules for diagnosis. A – Asymmetry, B – irregular Border, C – more than 1 Color, D – Diameter more than 6 mm, and E – expanding in size. However, these rules will not help find the most common type of skin cancer called a basal cell carcinoma.

Unlike melanomas, basal cell carcinomas are often symmetric with regular borders in the early stages. They are usually one color, being the same as the surrounding skin, but with a pearlescent sheen, although they can also be reddish or bluish in color. On darker skin tones, they may appear lighter or darker than the overall skin tone. They often start off as bumps with a rolled border or can have a warty appearance. They are also fairly slow growing and can be smaller than 6 mm when forming. As you can see, the ABCDE rules are NOT helpful for diagnosing this type of skin cancer.

Basal cell carcinoma accounts for nearly 80% of all skin cancers and is the most common type of cancer in the world. However, they are rarely fatal, tend to grow slowly, and do not tend to spread to other areas of the body, although, if left untreated, may grow deep and spread out from where they started. They are commonly found on sun-exposed areas of skin - such as the neck, arms and face, especially on the nose and ears. Basal cell carcinomas are most common in elderly males, especially in fair skinned people with blonde or red hair. One example is farmers, who typically spend many hours out in the fields working in the sun. They often wear baseball hats which protect their foreheads and scalps but leave their neck, arms, nose and ears exposed to the sun where they are more likely to have a basal cell carcinoma occur. Another example would be truck drivers, they would most likely have a basal cell carcinoma on the left arm or the left side of their face versus the right due to that side more frequently being in the sun. As a basal cell progresses, they can develop a central depression that often scabs and bleeds. Oftentimes there are thin red lines visible on the edges of a basal cell carcinoma. Those thin red lines are small blood vessels that can bleed when bumped or scratched. When someone comes to the doctor and describes having a sore that does not seem to heal, a basal cell carcinoma is often on the list of possible causes to rule out. Do not just follow the ABCDE's for skin cancer detection. No matter what the spot on your skin looks like, if you are concerned, tell your doctor to take a look. It just could be one of the other types of skin cancer. Your skin will thank you. Jill Kruse, D.O. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices as a hospitalist in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show providing health information based on science, built on trust, broadcast on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.