

The Groton Independent

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Jailhouse has new owner, new machinery discussion continues at Groton City Council meeting

by Elizabeth Varin

A new jailhouse owner, budget adjustments and a new piece of equipment were all topics at Tuesday's Groton City Council meeting.

The council approved transferring ownership of the old jailhouse property to the Groton Community Historical Society. The quitclaim deed is set to be signed when a notary is available.

The request to transfer the property to the historical society has been in discussion since June, and the property had to be replat to separate the property that houses the city's original jailhouse and the open lot next to it.

While discussion of the jailhouse came to a quick conclusion at Tuesday's meeting, the council asked for a wider range of options for a new skid steer.



The jail building located on First Avenue in Groton. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Councilman Brian Bahr asked public works staff to see if any other skid steers would work better for the city.

"I would like to see them demo more brands," he said. "Instead of demoing one brand, I would like them to see what is out there. ...It doesn't hurt to check in to it and demo other brands."

Public Works Coordinator Terry Herron said staff were impressed with the Bobcat machine that they tested out.

"We rented the Bobcat," he said. "It was a very good machine."

Herron also told the council that the quote for the skid steer is time sensitive.

"This price isn't good for very long," he said. "It's already gone up 5 percent, but he's staying with this."

A new machine would also have to be ordered before September, or the machinery will be on back order by at least six months, he said.

Bahr admitted the price quoted for the machine is not bad, especially with the city's current machine traded in.

The quote, dated May 11, totals \$68,275.90 with the skid steer, torsion suspension and block heater included. The city's current machine, a 2013 Terex PT-80, has a trade in value of \$31,500. That would leave the city to pay about \$36,800 for a new skid steer.

Mayor Scott Hanlon asked staff to check out a couple more options before the city decided



Groton's Women's Softball Team Wins State Title

The Groton Women's Softball Team won the South Dakota State slow pitch softball tournament held over the weekend. The team is sponsored by K & H Electric, Lager's Inn and Dominos. Pictured in back, left to right, are Tasha Dunker, Chelsea Hanson, Sue Fjeldheim, Krystina McCollum and Rylee Dunker; in front, left to right, are Anna Fjeldheim, Aspen Johnson, Jackie Iverson, Tonya Senger, Alyssa Thaler and Stacy Kramer; not pictured is Rachael Crank. (Photo courtesy Craig Dunker)

on the piece of machinery.

"If you could try a few more, that would be appreciated," he said.

Park bathroom design discussion continues

The council also held off on deciding which park bathroom design to move forward with.

"Should we make a decision tonight?" Hanlon asked.

"I think we should wait," replied Councilman Bahr, citing a previous request made for a breakdown of costs and what could potentially be covered by a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant.

Council members decided to wait until more information was available before making a decision on the project.

City funding appropriation changes

The council approved the first reading of an ordinance to shift some money to cover projects and reflect some grant funding.

"This is just moving some stuff around," said Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich.

The curb and gutter project came in a little more than anticipated, he said. An additional \$7,547 will be moved to the project fund from contingency funding.

The ordinance also calls for appropriating \$2,190 to the basketball courts from an electrical grant used to improve lighting. Changes would also include moving \$5,500 to the library fund from library donations.

The appropriation ordinance also calls for transferring \$35,510 from the unassigned fund balance to repairs needed for the pickleball courts.

Some of the pickleball court costs will be repaid to the city through grant funding.

In other action:

- The council approved putting a temporary hold on ordinance 6-2-2, which prohibits people from carrying open containers of alcohol in public places. The ordinance will be paused for Summer Sip and Shop from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday.

- Phase two of water system improvements is nearing completion. The council approved a certificate of substantial completion for installation of all pipe line as a part of the water main extension. The council also approved a final payment to Dahme Construction for the project. That payment totals \$41,839.63, a part of the original \$1.2 million project.

- The council approved a raise for Electric Lineman Apprentice Landon Johnson after Johnson's recent completion of his journeyman's certificate. Johnson's wage will increase from \$35.79 per hour to \$40 per hour effective his next pay period.

2023 Public Presentation Day

Three Brown County 4-H Members participated in Public Presentation Day on July 6,

2023, at the Aberdeen Regional Extension Office. Participants gave illustrated talks, which are related to a 4-H project they were enrolled in. Each participant could receive a purple, blue, red or white ribbon placing. Receiving top purples were Logan Warrington, Ashlynn Warrington, and Greyson Warrington. All the participants will be giving their presentations at the Brown County Fair during 4-H Night on Thursday, August 17, under the Ken's Tent at 6:00 p.m. As well as, they have the option to give their presentations at the State Fair over Labor Day weekend.

Weekly Vikings Recap - Kirk Cousins

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

The talk around the NFL this week has been about Netflix's new show, "Quarterback", which follows Patrick Mahomes, Kirk Cousins, and Marcus Mariota throughout the entire 2022 NFL season. The show, which is produced by Peyton Manning's production company, Omaha Productions, offers a unique look into the daily grind that these quarterbacks endure each week in the NFL. As a warning, if you have not watched this show yet and are planning to, some spoilers of the show are written throughout this article.

For Vikings fans, "Quarterback" was the first time that we got a behind-the-scenes look at Kirk Cousins' daily life. We got to see him do things like take his kids to school, have his weekly appointments with a chiropractor, and endlessly study the opposing team week in and week out. However, the biggest takeaway from the show is Kirk Cousins' toughness. The show reveals that Cousins' suffered a rib injury when he got hit by Daron Payne in the Vikings' week 9 matchup against the Washington Commanders. Nevertheless, Cousins, like he always does throughout the show, got up from the hit, fought through the pain, and was able to pull out a victory for the Vikings.

As the weeks continued during the 2022 season, Cousins' continually dealt with this rib injury. Cousins' pain reached its climax in the Vikings game against the Buffalo Bills. In that game, the show plays a montage of Cousins constantly getting hit by Bills' defenders. However, Cousins keeps getting up, showing just how tough he is. As the game heads to overtime, it appears that Cousins is on his last legs. After the Vikings' opening drive of overtime gets stopped by a Cousins sack, the show shows Cousins running off the field in severe pain. When Kevin O'Connell asks Cousins how he is doing, Cousins screams back at him "No, I'm in pain!" You can hear the excruciating pain in his voice with that scream. It leaves you wondering, had the game continued and the Vikings' offense needed to go back on the field, would Cousins have returned? I think after watching this show, we can safely say that the answer is yes.

Who would have thought that Kirk Cousins would be the star of a show that also follows around Patrick Mahomes, the best quarterback in the NFL, and Marcus Mariota, the former Heisman trophy winner? However, that is the case with "Quarterback" mainly because of the player and person Cousins is shown to be. Cousins never complains, he never blames his other players, and he is always giving his very best. Not once during the season did we hear Cousins ever use his rib injury as an excuse for a mistake he made on the field. Cousins just

went out and did his job, and I think Vikings fans, including myself, respect him even more after this.

Looking ahead, the writing on the wall indicates that this will likely be Cousins' last season with the Vikings. This is the last season of his contract and with the Vikings likely to give Justin Jefferson and TJ Hockenson large contract extensions soon, it would make sense for the Vikings to look to draft an inexpensive quarterback in the 2024 NFL Draft.

If it does end up being Kirk Cousins last year in Minnesota, I hope it is one to remember. Was Cousins frustrating at times as the Vikings' quarterback? Of course, but that does not take away from the fact the guy never once missed a game with an injury, he never once was offended by the negative media comments made about him, and he never once did not give it his all for this franchise. In the future, when Cousins is no longer with the Vikings and he returns to US Bank Stadium as either an opposing player or just as a fan, I hope Vikings fans give him the biggest standing ovation because Cousins deserves it.

So long, squirrel

His full name was Squirrel The World's Grumpiest Cat. He was the boss around here for 19 1/2 years with a grating, tuneless, demanding meow.

For a long time we didn't know exactly how old he was. You see, we kept his records taped to the inside of kitchen cabinet, and when we pondered his age years ago, India mistook the date of a rabies shot as his birth date, so the running gag was that Squirrel was 19 1/2 rabies shots old.

India was a toddler and Dylan was in second grade when they brought that tuxedo kitten home from a pet store, complaining and shaking his head. "He's so squirrely!" Thus, his name. We soon discovered he had ear mites. Poor guy.

That would prove to be a constant battle over the years as Squirrel insisted on going out and brawling with the mite-ridden neighborhood strays. Orange The Outside Cat, who adopted us for several years, put a permanent notch in Squirrel's ear during one contest.

At one point, Squirrel was part of a veritable herd. Inside, we had Tiger Cat, a shy Bengal who eventually found happiness in a friend's barn, and Hunny Bunny, a sweet Persian who met a tragic end in an encounter with a stray dog. Before that was Phil, a short-lived tabby rescue who came to us with bad lungs, and

Orange's girlfriend, another stray, who was eventually exiled to the Eszlinger Ranch to hunt gophers. Squirrel was the last cat standing.

The joke was that in the divorce I lost the custody battle and had to keep the cat. Squirrel adored Julie but was somewhat indifferent towards me. We got off to a rocky start as bachelors when I observed him wheezing as he climbed the stairs. I put him on a diet, and in time had him in perfect condition. And he resented me for it even though it added years to his life.

When the kids moved out we were forced upon each other. He yelled at me each morning to be fed and again in the evening. I soon learned that it was necessary for me to talk back and acknowledge his abysmal treatment, otherwise he just wouldn't shut up.

He and Gus the Wonder Pug became fast friends, united in their bullying at feeding time. For a while it was just us boys. Then, Dylan returned to work with me at the newspaper, and India took a year off after college, much to Squirrel's delight. So much attention.

The last couple years were marked by the inevitable decline. Squirrel's bestie, his veterinarian, Emily Fox, explained that cat kidneys just aren't built to go that long. So there was that. Tooth and gum issues. Hearing loss. Arthritis, and possibly creeping cat dementia. Or maybe Squirrel just mellowed. He grew increasingly affectionate towards me. But he was drifty, sometimes staring off like he was at a Grateful Dead concert.

We wanted to give him one more summer. But he only went out a couple times, choosing instead to stay inside, sleeping more and eating less. You know how these things go. I assessed Squirrel daily. He was happy but on the precipice of misery.

Emily took it hard when we scheduled Squirrel's last visit. He was the oldest cat in the practice, and she loved that old man. The night before, India FaceTimed her mother so she could say goodbye to Squirrel, too.

Squirrel instinctively seemed to know. He was especially affectionate as he made the rounds between us in his last week. I struggled with it, wanted to call it off, but after watching him wobble from the arthritis as he walked by one day, I became secure in my decision.

He drifted away peacefully with the three of us, Emily, and an assistant, at his side.

We'd come in separate vehicles and I got home first. I stopped at the mailbox, mechanically going through the motions, still numb. Then, as I sorted through the letters, I began to smile and then laugh.

The kids saw me grinning at the top of the stairs when they arrived, still somber and red-eyed. I handed India a postcard. "A message from Squirrel," I told her, laughing.

It was a reminder. His rabies shot was due.

Squirrel visited me in my dreams that night. There was a tuft of black fur by Squirrel's food dish yesterday. Another gentle wink from beyond.

You know, 19 1/2 rabies shots old is a pretty good run.

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by Tony Bender

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We the People

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.



By David Adler

Constitution Does Not Shield Presidents from Defamation Suits

The Justice Department's announcement this week that the Constitution does not shield presidents from civil lawsuits stemming from a president's defamatory remarks represents two important victories—one for constitutionally limited government and the other for individuals who could be destroyed by the words of the nation's chief executive.

The DOJ's declaration clarified its position on the broad question of immunity for former President Donald Trump against a lawsuit filed by the writer E. Jean Carroll, who says that Trump raped her in a Manhattan department store dressing room decades ago.

For three years, the DOJ, under both Republican and Democratic leadership, had contended that Trump was acting within the scope of his presidential duties when he denied sexually assaulting Ms. Carroll. That position protected Trump, as it would other federal employees, from civil lawsuits when acting in their official capacity.

In this week's court filing, however, the DOJ declared that new evidence had surfaced since Trump left office, including the fact that the jury in a recent civil trial in New York found the former president liable for sexually assaulting Ms. Carroll 30 years ago.

The new facts indicated that Trump, in his derogatory comments against Ms. Carroll in 2019, was motivated by a "personal grievance," stemming from events that occurred many years before his presidency. His comments were, indeed, made through official channels often used by presidents in communicating with the media, and thus within the category of "work context." However, the DOJ emphasized that the allegations of Ms. Carroll that prompted Trump's response related to a "purely personal incident"—the alleged sexual assault in a department store. Trump's remarks did not reflect a desire to "serve the United States Government."

The question of whether former President Trump was engaged in "official acts" when responding to Ms. Carroll's allegations of sexual abuse is critical to the character and disposition of the case. After Ms. Carroll filed suit, the DOJ, under the leadership of Attorney General

William Barr, invoked a federal law that substitutes the government as the defendant when a federal official is sued for official acts, which leads to the dismissal of the case.

But the presiding federal district court judge, Lewis Kaplan, rejected the DOJ's invocation of the federal statute on grounds that Trump's remarks bore "no relationship to the official business of the United States." That seemed clear, of course, but Trump's legal team filed a round of appeals with the result that the case ultimately returned to Judge Kaplan.

Judge Kaplan asked the DOJ to weigh in a second time on the question of whether Trump's comments were related to official business, or merely an exercise in "personal grievance." The department's filing declared on the face of the new evidence that Trump was not covered by the federal statute.

The DOJ rightly cited two factors for its reversal. It invoked a D.C. Court of Appeal's clarification of the statute about what qualifies as "public work." The court held that it is determined in part by "the subjective state of mind of the employee," that official responses to press questions don't always qualify and that the professional purpose can be so "insignificant" as to be irrelevant. It also cited the recent verdict of a New York jury that found Trump sexually abused and defamed Ms. Carroll, and the fact that he has since been accused of defaming her again in response to the verdict.

It was relatively easy for the DOJ to conclude that there was little, if any official conduct in Trump's derogatory comments about Ms. Carroll. That conclusion represents a victory for constitutionally limited government and the rights and reputations of American citizens.

Imagine a different outcome, one that would permit the federal government to intervene and substitute itself in a civil lawsuit against a president who has defamed a citizen. In such a world, a president, acting with total immunity from liability, might destroy the reputations of men and women with impunity. In such a world, there would be little, if any, protection for critics of the president. Imagine the chilling effect on dissident speech and then imagine the effect on our democracy.

The Framers of the Constitution created a limited presidency that was subject to the rule of law, one devoid, as James Wilson declared, of "privileges not annexed to the character of any other citizen." This principle includes the denial to the president of authority to defame citizens of the United States.

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion Stymied By Brookings Junior Legion

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion had trouble keeping up with Brookings Junior Legion in a 15-0 loss on Saturday.

Brookings Junior Legion got on the board in the bottom of the first inning after #42 doubled, scoring two runs, #19 doubled, scoring one run, #10 singled, scoring one run, #11 singled, scoring one run, and a passed ball scored one run.

Brookings Junior Legion added to their early lead in the bottom of the second inning after #10 walked, and #5 singled, each scoring one run.

Brookings Junior Legion scored seven runs on four hits in the bottom of the third inning. #23 drew a walk, scoring one run, #17 drew a walk, scoring one run, #42 drew a walk, scoring one run, #19 drew a walk, scoring one run, and #5 singled, scoring two runs.

#11 earned the win for Brookings Junior Legion. They surrendered zero hits and zero runs over three innings, striking out one and walking none. Nicholas Morris took the loss for Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion. The starting pitcher went one and two-thirds innings, surrendering seven runs (six earned) on five hits, striking out two and walking three.

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion were sure-handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Braxton Imrie had the most chances in the field with three.

Brookings Junior Legion tallied 10 hits in the game. #11, #2, and #5 each collected two hits for Brookings Junior Legion. #5, the number seven hitter for Brookings Junior Legion, led the way with three runs batted in. The infielder went 2-for-2 on the day. #19 led Brookings Junior Legion with two walks. Overall, the

team had a strong eye at the plate, amassing eight walks for the game. #10 stole two bases. Brookings Junior Legion were sure-handed and didn't commit a single error. #42 made the most plays with two.

In Walk-Off, Groton Legion Post 39 Lose To Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser

A walk-off left Groton Legion Post 39 on the wrong end of an 11-10 defeat to Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser on Tuesday in the first round of Region 6. The game was tied at 10 in the bottom of the seventh when Brevin Fliehs induced Kellan Hurd to hit into a fielder's choice, but one run scored.

Despite the loss, Groton Legion Post 39 did collect 11 hits in the high-scoring affair. Unfortunately, Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser had nine hits on the way to victory.

Groton Legion Post 39 were the first to get on the board in the first when an error scored one run.

A double by Bradin Althoff, and a single by Dillon Abeln helped Groton Legion Post 39 extend their early lead in the third.

Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser jumped into the lead in the bottom of the fifth when an error scored one run, an error scored two runs, and Seth Siebrecht hit a sacrifice fly, scoring one run.

Groton Legion Post 39 took the lead, 10-7, in the top of the seventh thanks to singles by Althoff, and Colby Dunker.

Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser took the lead in the bottom of the seventh inning after Groton Legion Post 39 committed an error, and Hurd hit into a fielder's choice, each scoring one run.

Peyton Osborn earned the win for Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser. The reliever gave up five hits and four runs over one and one-third in-

nings, striking out two and walking two. Ryan Groeblichhoff stepped on the mound first for Groton Legion Post 39. The starting pitcher allowed eight hits and eight runs (one earned) over six innings, striking out four and walking one. Nolan Gall started on the mound for Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser. The righty gave up four hits and five runs (three earned) over five innings, striking out six and walking six.

Groton Legion Post 39 tallied 11 hits in the game. Althoff led Groton Legion Post 39 with three hits in five at bats. Fliehs and Abeln each collected multiple hits for Groton Legion Post 39. Tate Larson paced Groton Legion Post 39 with four walks. Overall, the team had patience at the plate, collecting nine walks for the game.

Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser piled up nine hits in the game. Gall and Owen Osborn each collected two hits for Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser. Erik Salmen led Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser with four runs batted in. The right-handed hitter went 1-for-4 on the day. Gall stole two bases. Redfield Post 92, Clay Kiser ran wild on the base paths, piling up six stolen bases for the game.

Legion drops second game in Legion Regions

Groton Post #39 dropped its second game of the regions in the double elimination tournament held in Northville. Groton held a 10-2 at the top of the third inning, but Faulkton-Highmore Hitmen scored four runs in each the third and fourth innings and added a run in the fifth and sixth as FH Hitmen won, 12-11.

Faulkton-Highmore had 11 hits compared to nine for Groton. Logan Ringgenberg and Tate Larson each had a double while Bradin Althoff had a triple.

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 21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)
 Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460
 Tina Kosel, Office Manager office@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7285
 Notices: legals@grotonsd.net
 News Items: news@grotonsd.net
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Brown County
July 11, 2023
Meeting Minutes
 July 11, 2023 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Mark Bossly wanted to share his concerns with the Commissioners that the pipeline is ignoring the Ordinance setbacks the County passed, so wanted to know whose responsibility it is to make them follow these. Also, mentioned that he feels the Companies should pay a bond to cover the expenses for repairing the roads for the damage they will be causing. Then Mark also stated he wanted to know where the State's Attorney is on the crimes being committed.

ARMY RESERVE REUNION: Freddie Robinson asked the Commission to waive the fee of the Clubhouse at the Fairgrounds for the Army Reserve Reunion like they have done in the past. Commissioner Sutton shared that after visiting with the Fair Manager, they did discuss charging a minimum fee to cover the expenses the County is still responsible for such as cleaning, utilities, etc. Suggested a discount of 50% for non-profits or another option is for the Group to volunteer at the week of the Fair to cover a Gate, which is Wednesday – Friday from 7am to midnight, then it would be considered an In-Kind donation then waive the fee. Commissioner Fjeldheim moved to waive the fee this time until a policy is put into place, seconded by Wiese. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SPEED ZONE CHANGE: Commissioner Wiese brought the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION #25-23
 WHEREAS, Chapter 6.03 Speed Zones of the Second Revision of Brown County Ordinances authorizes the Brown County Commission to change the speed limit or the extent of any such limited speed zones, at any time they may deem necessary, and

WHEREAS, all Speed Zones throughout the County were established by Resolution #46-05, as amended by Resolution #66-06, Resolution #39-08, Resolution #72-08, Resolution #101-08, Resolution #94-13, Resolution #69-14, Resolution #15-16, Resolution #27-17 and

WHEREAS, the Brown County Commission has recommended amending the speed zone on County Road 4, County Road 15, and County Road 13;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution #46-05, as amended by Resolution #66-06, #39-08, #72-08, #101-08, and #94-13, #69-14 and #15-16, and #26-17 be amended as follows:

AMEND: County Road #4 (North Dakota Street), beginning at the intersection of County Road #13 and County Road #4 (North Dakota Street) between the NE Corner of Section 1, Township 123N, Range 64W of the 5th PM and the NW corner of Section 6, Township 123N, Range 63W of the 5th PM, then south on County Road #4 (North Dakota Street) one-half mile, at 45 MPH. County Road #15, beginning at Aberdeen City Limits at the south quarter corner of Section 3 Township 123N, Range 64W of the 5th PM then west on County Road #15 one-half mile, at 35 MPH. County Road #13, beginning at the intersection of County Road #13 and 390th Ave located between the NE Corner of Section 5 and the NW corner of Section 4, Township 123N, Range 63 W of the 5th PM, then East one mile to the intersection of County Road #14, at 45 MPH.

Dated this 11th day of July 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Fjeldheim. Roll call vote: Dennert-aye; Fjeldheim-aye; Wiese-aye, Gage-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY – NORTHERN ELECTRIC: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve application, submitted by Northern Electric for occupancy of Brown County Hwy #14 in SW ¼ of Sec 34-T127N-R63W of the 5th P.M, Brown County, SD to provide primary electric services. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent gave the Commissioners an update on the

Projects they are working on: Rd 5 west of Frederick starting with the second mile; Elm Lake Project good portion of east-west part done already – it's progressing; Bridge 211 NE of Frederick will be opening today; and chip sealing 2 miles in Columbia and 6 miles North of the Bridge by Sand Lake. Dirk also shared about the Bridge Funding Program and that he plans to apply for six Bridges that are off-route in the County and there is no match: BR#6, BR#143, BR#81, BR#350, BR#85 and BR#148. Dirk also shared he'd like to purchase a New Holland Tractor from Titan for \$159,000.00 to replace a tractor that was lost due to damages after being tipped over at a soft spot along the road. He plans to use the Insurance money and funds from property/equipment he plans to surplus.

PAYLOADER PURCHASE FOR LANDFILL: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager presented the Commission with a Bid Tab for Payloader from the Sourcewell RFP #011723 Contract. There is a State Grant that will pay 20.1%. There were four bids: TranSource Volvo L120H for \$349,985.00; RDO John Deere 724P for \$348,491.41; Butler/Cat 962 for \$433,165.00 and DMI Komatsu WA380 for \$379,662.36. Mike recommended to accept the bid from RDO John Deere 724P for \$348,491.41, with \$70,046.77 from the State Grant. It is 6-8 months for availability. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to accept the bid from RDO John Deere 724P for \$348,491.41. Rejecting the bids from TranSource Volvo L120H @ \$349,985.00; Butler/Cat 962 @ \$433,165.00 and DMI Komatsu WA380 @ \$379,662.36. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

COURT RESOURCE HOME MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU): Kelsi Vinger, Deputy State's Attorney met with the Commission to ask they approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the MOU between Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and counties that are receiving the Council for Juvenile Services to support Court Resource Homes clarifying that LSS is responsible for licensing of the homes and change in mileage rate. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the MOU between Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and counties that are receiving the Council for Juvenile Services to support Court Resource Homes clarifying that LSS is responsible for licensing of the homes and change in mileage rate. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE & SALE OF PROPERTY – 2914 Industrial Ave.: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to go into Executive Session to discuss Contracts per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fjeldheim brought the following Resolution:
RESOLUTION #26-23
 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEASE AND SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2914 INDUSTRIAL AVENUE, ABERDEEN, BROWN COUNTY, SD FOR THE PURPOSE OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

WHEREAS, Brown County owns real property described as: Lot 2, ADC 2022-2 Addition to the City of Aberdeen, in the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 123 North, Range 63 West of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota, according to the recorded plat thereof.

Subject Property is situated at 2914 Industrial Avenue, Aberdeen, Brown County South Dakota.

WHEREAS, The Aberdeen Development Corporation ("ADC") is an enterprise incorporated under the laws of the State of South Dakota, formed for the purpose of furthering the economic development of a community and its environs, and with authority to promote and assist in the growth and development of small business concerns in the areas covered by its operation.

WHEREAS, SDCL 7-29-23 permits Brown County to sell or lease real property to a nonprofit local industrial development corporation to be used by such grantee for industrial development.

WHEREAS, Brown County has previously offered the above-described property for lease and sale.

WHEREAS, Harris Machine Company, engaged in the business of contract manufacturing, placed the only bid on the above described property when offered for sale by Brown County.

WHEREAS, Brown County rejected the lone bid, wishing instead to proceed with the sale on a negotiated basis facilitated through ADC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby agree to offer the above-described property to ADC by warranty deed for the amount

of \$4,000,000 excluding costs associated with said sale for the purpose of promoting industrial, commercial, and manufacturing development in Brown County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby agree to lease the above described property to ADC until October 31, 2023 or until closing, whichever comes first, for the sum of \$1 on the condition that responsibility for all utilities, insurance, and other expenses related to the property shall transfer to ADC at the time of lease.

Dated at Aberdeen, South Dakota, this 11th day of July 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Gage. Roll call vote: Dennert-aye; Fjeldheim-aye; Wiese-aye, Gage-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the General Meeting minutes of July 6, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims: Professional Fees: Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$376.89; Helms & Associates \$12,008.42; Houston Engineering, Inc \$17,354.52; Language Line Services, Inc \$167.71; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$162.00; Sara J. Zahn \$154.80; Satellite Tracking of People, LLC \$1,355.25; US Bank Visa \$589.99; Youngberg Law, Prof. LLC \$449.40. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$248.74; Hub City Radio \$300.00; Midstates Group \$3,101.50; South Dakota Magazine \$1,105.00. Rentals: Dakota Electronics \$185.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Clean-All, LLC \$85.00; Butler Machinery Company \$4,233.50; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$1,261.69; Dakota Pump LLC \$2,851.39; Hub City Roofing Inc \$145.00; J & K Painting \$538.62; JGE, Inc \$150.03; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$222.90; RDO Equipment Co \$29,187.24; State of South Dakota PMB 0112 \$81.62; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$2,666.68; US Bank Visa \$3,259.46. Supplies: Aberdeen Transmission Center \$556.00; Agtegra Cooperative \$36,812.41; Auto Value Aberdeen \$252.43; Bakken Building Maintenance \$500.00; Butler Machinery Company \$3,093.06; Cole Paper Inc \$638.88; Dakota Electronics \$1,422.00; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$1,630.20; Geffdog Designs \$751.22; Insurance Plus \$462.04; Interstate Battery System of South Dakota \$875.70; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$32,496.06; Koch's Repair Shop \$103.20; Mac's Inc-Capital One Trade Credit \$24.39; Marla Zastrow \$34.96; Menards \$450.08; Mid Dakota Equipment & Service \$81.32; Midstates Group \$1,595.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$259.20; RDO Equipment Co \$22,193.79; Runnings \$66.48; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$7,120.80; US Bank Visa \$18,840.17; US Foods \$11,078.89; Van Diest Supply Company \$6,025.40. Travel & Conference: Dave Lunzman \$222.00; US Bank Visa \$737.28. Utilities: Economy Propane, LLC \$722.26; Northwestern Energy \$12,257.53; Performance Oil \$95.79; State of South Dakota PMB 0112 \$120.30; Town of Frederick \$76.00; US Bank Visa \$3,970.48; Verizon Wireless \$201.84. Others: SD Dept of Agriculture & Natural Resources \$4,456.11. Jury: Jurors \$3,378.08. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim: Approve the hiring of Brittany Watts as Brown County Jail Records Technician, FT; starting wage \$18.27/hour; effective July 24, 2023.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Travel Requests: Gavin Wright, Sheriff Office, to attend Homicide Investigation & Crime Scene Management in Rapid City from Sept. 12-14, 2023; Aaron Walberg, VSO to attend SD Legislative Study Committee on County Funding & Services for VSOs in Pierre on July 11-12, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LOTTERY PERMIT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign application, submitted by Brown County Fair Foundation for a lottery to be held during the Brown County Fair August 15-20, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SPECIAL EVENT LIQUOR LICENSE PERMIT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the

following Alcoholic Beverage Temporary Permit for a Special Event to Aberdeen Amateur Hockey Association (RB-25542) at the Brown County Fairgrounds Clubhouse during Brown County Fair, August 14-20, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FIREWORKS PERMIT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Fireworks Display Permit for Lew's Fireworks for August 19, 2023, to be held at Brown County Speedway @ Brown County Fairgrounds. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to authorize and approve the Auditor sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the following lease agreements: Little Rock Holiness Church for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp on July 8-14, 2023; Titan Machinery for lease of Holum Expo Building on July 11-13, 2023 for Machinery Workshop. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL TONNAGE REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to acknowledge the Landfill Tonnage Report for June 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Sutton shared that at 1pm today is the dedication of the Playset @ Brown County Fairgrounds. Commissioner Wiese shared the DOT STIP Meeting is at 7pm tonight @ AmericInn.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to go into Executive Session for Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 10:14 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
 Published July 19, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$142.11 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22345

Groton School Oak Gulch Land For Sale

The Groton Area School District is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of the one-acre school site of the former Oak Gulch School District located in the Southwest Quarter of Section 14, Township 120 North, Range 59 West of the 5th P.M., Day County, South Dakota, as deeded in Book B39 of Deeds on Page 307, more particularly described as lying on the East side of the County Highway, beginning 33 Rods North from the middle of the Section line, then extending East 14.31 Rods from the middle of the county highway, then North 13 Rods, from that point, the North boundary line of the school acre extends due West 14.31 Rods to the middle of the county highway and then the boundary run South 13 Rods to the Southwest corner of the school acre.

Bids must be sealed and marked "Oak Gulch School Property Bid" and sent to Groton Area School District PO Box 410 Groton, SD 57445 or dropped off at 502 N 2nd Street, Groton, SD 57445. Bids are due by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, August 8, 2023. The Groton Area Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Published July 19 and 26, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$25.79 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22347

A subscription to the Groton Independent makes a great gift!

**Groton School
July 10, 2023**

Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
July 10, 2023

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

Moved by Pharis, second Weismantel to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Rix, second Fliehs to approve consent agenda items June 12, 2023, minutes, and bills. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary - 417,919.87; FIT - 40,108.94; Medicare - 15,824.42; FICA - 67,663.14; American Funds - 1,574.40; SDRS - 70,273.76; HSA - 300.00; FTC - 1,070.00; Horace Mann - 1,756.83; Thrivent - 750.00; AFLAC - 5,350.28; Delta Dental - 8,014.38; SD Supplemental Retirement - 4,653.13; Division of Child Support - 372.28; US Dept of the Treasury - 252.04; Groton Lunch Program donation - 461.75; Wellmark - 123,218.00; Standard Life - 1,462.05; Wage Works - 2,770.76; Avesis Vision - 580.28; Aberdeen Awards - awards, 3,710.00; Allied Climate Professionals - repairs, 13,428.12; Amazon - business office supplies, 102.91; American Legion Post 40 - GBB league fee, 175.00; Americinn Rapid City - state golf lodging, 1,623.75; Brown County Treasurer - mosquito spraying, 123.76; City of Groton - utilities, 12,597.81; Custodial Fund - advanced payments, 760.97; Dakota Supply Group - lights, 325.88; Decker Equipment - janitor supply, 66.65; Dependable Sanitation - garbage, 1,254.50; Chantel Duerre - background check reimbursed, 43.25; Shelby Edwards - background check reimbursed, 43.25; Gold Medal Squared - VB camp, 10,529.52; Greg's Repair - repair, 823.44; Lynette Grieve - state track meals, 74.90; Groton Area - admin fee, 71.22; Groton Chiropractic - DOT Physical, 100.00; Haar Plumbing - repairs, 822.87; Hampton Inn - state track lodging, 3,570.00; Sadie Hanna - background check reimbursed, 43.25; Aaron Helvig - conference meals, 62.16; Hillyard - janitor supply, 169.54; Horizon Equipment - lift inspection, 295.00; Brittany Hubbard - background check reimburse, 43.25; Rebecca Hubsch - leadership expenses, 456.43; James Valley Telephone - telephone, 828.86; Jostens - diploma, 14.55; Brooke Malsom - background check/coaching course reimbursed, 78.25; Matheson TriGas - helmet, 145.00; Menards - robotics supplies, 555.29; Midstates Group - BBB shirts/signature stamper, 107.65; MJ's Sinclair - fuel, 8,938.05; Mike Nehls - landfill fee, 50.83; Northwestern Energy - utilities, 12.91; Petty Cash, Kristi Peterson - postage, 106.02; Pfizter Pest Control - rodent control, 106.50; Quality Inn - state wrestling lodging, 2,772.00; Roger Sannes - Sewing machine maintenance, 751.50; Joe Schwan - mentor stipend, 500.00; SDHSA - rule books, 299.00; Eric Swenson - background check reimbursed, 43.25; Wageworks - FSA admin fee, 92.00; Wells Fargo - gas/golf expenses/nurse supplies, 829.03. Total General Fund - \$831,924.43.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Amazon - whiteboard, 149.95; Connecting Point - backup system renewal, 712.00; Wells Fargo - credit subscription/equipment, 24.08. Total Capital Outlay - 886.03.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary - 66,725.88; FIT - 5,742.73; Medicare - 2,469.48; FICA - 10,559.04; SDRS - 10,177.78; FTC - 300.00; AFLAC - 771.42; Delta Dental - 1,368.64; SD Supplemental Retirement - 300.00; Wellmark - 17,029.00; Standard Life - 356.42; Avesis Vision - 175.02. Total Special Ed - \$115,975.41.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service-Net Salary - 4,072.04; FIT - 432.16; Medicare - 151.26; FICA - 646.56; SDRS - 621.70; AFLAC - 389.44; Delta Dental - 20.98; Wellmark - 1,466.00; Standard Life - 3.84; Avesis Vision - 19.63; Brandon Clocksene - conference meals, 58.98;

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes - 908,999.96; Other Local Sources - 97,404.68; County Sources - 1,974.09; State Sources - 8,813.43; Federal Sources - 143,846.52. Total Receipts - \$1,161,038.68.

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

Moved by Fliehs, second Weismantel, to approve June 2023 financials, custodial accounts, and investments. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve:

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER CONTINGENCY FUNDS

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

THEREFORE: Be it resolved to transfer \$4,300 to Audit Services, \$6,800 to Architecture and Engineering Services, and \$1,500 to Vehicle Servicing for a total of \$12,600.

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2023.

Deborah Gengerke, President Becky Hubsch, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Rix, second Fliehs to approve:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY

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

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Board of Education, in accordance with SDCL 13-11-3.12, adopts the following supplemental budget in Capital Outlay by allocating \$64,400 from Cash on Hand to Architecture and Engineering Services (\$46,000), Debt Services (\$13,500), Athletics (\$4,900), Debt Services (\$3,800), and Athletics (\$9,000).

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2023.

Deborah Gengerke, President Becky Hubsch, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to approve June 2023 School Lunch Report. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve June 2023 Transportation Report. Motion carried.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: J. Schwan: dual credit rule updates, fall athletic meetings and schedules, staffing vacancies, superintendent reading science course participation, state superintendent conference, health science lab renovation, HS Arena HVAC Project, elementary roofing project, file line replacement project, America's Farmers Grow Communities-special thank you to Tom and Barb Paepke for the nomination, ASBSD/SASD Joint Convention, B. Schwan: new family tours taking place at the elementary, and B. Hubsch CTE State Conference.

President Gengerke thanked Smith for his years of service on the board.

With no further old or continuing business remaining, it was moved by Smith, second Rix, to adjourn the final 2022-23 school

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

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

Description	General Fund	Assigned Gen Funds	Capital Outlay	Special Education	Bond Redemption	Enterprise Fund	Custodial Fund	Total for District
1. Beginning Balance	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69
a. checking	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69
b. petty cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2. Transfers in								
3. Revenue to date	5,176,095.88	20,293.30	1,998,617.30	913,767.35	261.74	355,510.81	945,020.09	9,409,566.47
4. Total accounted for	6,658,747.88	163,615.95	3,688,576.91	1,250,802.31	261.74	504,271.59	1,098,452.78	13,364,729.16
5. Transfers out								
6. Expenditures to date	5,376,097.86	18,155.55	2,718,134.53	860,070.62	261.74	312,599.53	949,033.85	10,234,353.68
a. encumbrances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b. disbursements	5,376,097.86	18,155.55	2,718,134.53	860,070.62	261.74	312,599.53	949,033.85	10,234,353.68
7. Ending Balance	1,282,650.02	145,460.40	970,442.38	390,731.69	(0.00)	191,672.06	149,418.93	3,130,375.48
a. checking	1,282,388.28	145,460.40	970,442.38	390,731.69	(0.00)	191,672.06	149,418.93	3,130,113.74
b. petty cash	261.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	261.74
June Receipts	958,154.40	325.00	304,052.92	136,036.69	11.03	27,223.95	68,339.36	1,494,143.35
June Expenses	912,759.75	1,618.13	687,788.98	138,732.73	261.74	36,057.10	9,612.85	1,786,831.28
Custodial Checking		149,418.93						
District Checking		2,996,680.56						
USDA Supply Chain Defer		(15,985.75)						
Total all Funds		3,130,113.74						

Ramkota Hotel - food service conference lodging, 154.00. Total Food Service- \$8,036.59.

OST & Driver's Ed - Net Salary - 6,882.05; FIT - 347.43; Medicare - 236.80; FICA - 1,012.70; SDRS - 583.16; AFLAC - 163.93; Wellmark - 733.00; Standard Life - 23.28; Advance Auto Parts - windshield wipers, 37.50; Amazon - OST equipment, 29.97; Custodial Fund - advanced payments, 431.30. Total OST & Driver's Ed- \$10,481.12.

CUSTODIAL FUND: \$9,923.85.

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes - 908,999.96; Other Local Sources - 97,404.68; County Sources - 1,974.09; State Sources - 8,813.43; Federal Sources - 143,846.52. Total Receipts - \$1,161,038.68.

Moved by Fliehs, second Weismantel, to approve June 2023 financials, custodial accounts, and investments. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve:

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER CONTINGENCY FUNDS

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

THEREFORE: Be it resolved to transfer \$4,300 to Audit Services, \$6,800 to Architecture and Engineering Services, and \$1,500 to Vehicle Servicing for a total of \$12,600.

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2023.

Deborah Gengerke, President Becky Hubsch, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Rix, second Fliehs to approve:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY

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

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Board of Education, in accordance with SDCL 13-11-3.12, adopts the following supplemental budget in Capital Outlay by allocating \$64,400 from Cash on Hand to Architecture and Engineering Services (\$46,000), Debt Services (\$13,500), Athletics (\$4,900), Debt Services (\$3,800), and Athletics (\$9,000).

Date of Resolution, June 30, 2023.

Deborah Gengerke, President Becky Hubsch, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to approve June 2023 School Lunch Report. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve June 2023 Transportation Report. Motion carried.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: J. Schwan: dual credit rule updates, fall athletic meetings and schedules, staffing vacancies, superintendent reading science course participation, state superintendent conference, health science lab renovation, HS Arena HVAC Project, elementary roofing project, file line replacement project, America's Farmers Grow Communities-special thank you to Tom and Barb Paepke for the nomination, ASBSD/SASD Joint Convention, B. Schwan: new family tours taking place at the elementary, and B. Hubsch CTE State Conference.

President Gengerke thanked Smith for his years of service on the board.

With no further old or continuing business remaining, it was moved by Smith, second Rix, to adjourn the final 2022-23 school

board meeting at 7:34 pm. Motion carried.

After a short recess, Hubsch convened the first meeting of the school year 2023-24 at 7:35 pm and read Oath of Office statements to install Heather Lerseth-Fliehs and Grant Rix for three-year terms as school board members.

Hubsch took nominations for 2023-24 School Board President. Moved by Pharis, second Fliehs to nominate Gengerke. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve the agenda with the following amendments under New Business Item #3 - approve the resignation of Terri Foertsch, under New Business Item #5 - approve hiring of Jesse Zak and Ryan Olson as Boys Soccer Coaches for the 2023 season at 3.5% of base salary, New Business Item #6 approve Mike Imrie as Volunteer Assistant Boys Soccer Coach for the 2023 season, New Business Item #7 approve Dalton Locke as Volunteer Assistant Football Coach for the 2023 season.. Motion carried.

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

Gengerke read a potential conflict disclosure statement from Business Manager Becky Hubsch pursuant to SDCL 23-3. In addition to contractually serving the Groton Area School District, Mrs. Hubsch also serves as the Business Manager for the North Central Special Ed Coop. Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to authorize a waiver on the disclosure statement on the grounds that the terms of the contract are fair, reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to approve the following consent agenda items: July 2023 District bills; Rodney Freeman, Jr. and his associates of Huron as official school attorney; Hubsch as custodian of all district accounts; Eide Bailly to conduct FY23 school district audit, Hubsch to continue existing funds, establish new accounts and continue to invest reinvest in local institutions which serve the greatest advantage to the District; Hubsch to publish staff salaries; Dacotah Bank as official bank depository; Groton Area School District Policy Manual with such revisions as previously approved; Special Education Comprehensive Plan; office personnel to administer Custodial Funds and National School Lunch Program funds with oversight by Hubsch; J. Schwan to administer or direct federal programs with Consolidated Applications for Title Programs and related ESSA compliance issues assigned to the building principals; J. Schwan to act as Asbestos Compliance Officer; J. Schwan or his designee to close school in emergency situations or inclement weather; J. Schwan or designee to institute NSLP and School Breakfast Agreement; Food Safety Plan, HACCP-Based Standard Operating Procedures; J. Schwan or designee to institute ASBSD school bus mutual assistance pact; Hubsch to transfer petty cash and incident payment funds

in accordance with SDCL 13-18-16/17; and peripheral sports and other volunteer school workers such as chain gang, line judges, Booster Club/PAC workers, assistant coaches, volunteer coaches, volunteer drivers, school board members etc., to be included in the school's worker's compensation insurance coverage. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: ASBSD Worker's Compensation - work comp policy, \$16,356.68; ASBSD - dues, 1,397.14; Custodial Fund - advanced payments, 10,518.25; Dakota Electronics - radio antenna, 54.00; Eide Bailly - audit services, 5,000.00; EMC Insurance - insurance, 122,007.00; Groton Area School - bank fee, 79.40; Groton Daily Independent - publications, 366.42; Northwestern Energy - utilities, 11.40; rSchoolToday - activity scheduler renewal, 1,321.25; SASD - memberships/registrations, 2,107.00; SDCA - membership, 130.00; SDI Innovation - elementary school planners, 475.56; SDSTE - membership, 30.00; TIE - membership, 1,650.00; Time Management Services - subscription/support, 210.20. Total General Fund - \$161,714.30.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Dakota Industrial Hygiene - CTE Health Lab, 2,150.00; Fay's Refrigeration - Project equipment, 147,044.00; Hauff Mid-America - FB uniforms, 18,860.00; Hewlett-Packard - computer lease, 21,329.55; Riverside Technologies - computers, 68,710.00; S&S Lumber - Donley projects, 1,078.33; SHI International - Windows renewal, 3,551.80; Software Unlimited - software, 6,300.00; Splashtop - renewal, 1,597.50; Typing Agent - renewal, 635.00. Total Capital Outlay - \$271,256.18.

SPECIAL ED: ASBSD Worker's Compensation - work comp, 3,634.82; Judy or Gene Williamson - 171.36. Total Special Ed - \$3,806.18.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service - ASBSD Worker's Compensation - work comp, 454.35; Camelia Heminger - refund, 12.50. Total Food Service- \$466.85. OST/Driver's Ed - ASBSD Worker's Compensation - work comp, 227.15; Dollar General - OST Snacks, 412.52. Total OST/Driver's Ed - \$639.67.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to approve approve the sale of 1.0 acre of land in SW quarter of section 14 of Oak Gulch Township via sealed bids. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, seconded by Lerseth-Fliehs cast ballot in favor of Ryan Rollinger for the SDHSA Board of Directors Division I Representative. Weismantel abstained. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, seconded by Rix cast ballot in favor of Adam Shaw for the SDHSA Board of Directors Division III Representative. Weismantel abstained. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, seconded by Fliehs, to approve hiring Brooke Malsom as the Head Cross Country Coach for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, seconded by Pharis, to approve the resignation of Teri Foertsch as Kindergarten Paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, seconded by Fliehs, to approve hiring Mike Imrie as Volunteer Assistant Boys Soccer Coach for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, seconded by Fliehs, to approve hiring Dalton Locke as Volunteer Assistant Football Coach for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried.

Quotes for the official news-

paper were opened as follows: Reporter and Farmer - legal line rate \$0.3227 per line, second insertions are charged at 80 percent of the stated charges, in compliance with SDCL 17-2-20, classified advertising \$0.40 per word with a minimum charge of \$8 for 20 words, local open display advertising \$8.15 per column inch, current subscribers in the Groton Area School District 146, not including any possible online e-edition-only subscribers. The Groton Independent - legal line rate \$0.3195 per line, classified advertising \$0.10 per word, local open display advertising \$5.00 per column inch, current Groton Area School District Patrons subscribers 228. Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to award newspaper contract to The Groton Independent. Motion carried.

Quotes for fuel oil, diesel and gas were opened as follows: MJ's Sinclair/Fuel Stop: #2 Diesel - 3.17, #1 Diesel - 3.76, Ethanol - 3.0054, Lead-Free - 3.3624, and E-85 - 2.115; since there were no other quotes received it was Moved by Rix, second Fliehs to award fuel contract to MJ's Sinclair/Fuel Stop. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis, to set the tentative dates and time for regular school board meetings to take place the second Monday of every month at 7 pm with an exception for the October meeting set for Tuesday, October 10, at 7 am. for the 2022-23 school year.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to appointed Rix as voting member of the North Central Special Education Governing Board for the 2023-24 school year.

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

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

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

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

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to set OST rates at \$3.00/hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Rix, second Pharis to adjourn at 8:58 pm. Motion carried.

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

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STIP PUBLIC MEETINGS

S.D. Dept. of Transportation has developed a Tentative 2024-2027 Four-Year Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Tentative STIP includes all the state sponsored transportation projects for this time period. Prior to final approval of the STIP by the Transportation Commission, public meetings will be conducted on the following dates to receive public comment on the tentative program.

- July 11, 2023 - Americinn - Aberdeen 7:00 PM (CDT)
- July 12, 2023 - Southeast Technical Institute, Sullivan Health Center - Sioux Falls 7:00 PM (CDT)
- July 13, 2023 - Ramkota Inn - Rapid City 7:00 PM (MDT)
- July 19, 2023 - Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center - Fort Pierre 7:00 PM (CDT)

Meetings will be in-person and virtual. For more information and how to participate virtually, please visit <https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/planning/tentative-statewide-transportation-improvement-program-stip>. Any individuals with disabilities who will require a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting should submit a request to the department's ADA Coordinator at 605-773-3540 or 1-800-877-1113 no later than 2 business days prior to the meeting.

Frederick School July 10, 2023

Meeting Minutes

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2

Annual Budget Hearing
Regular Board of Education Meeting

Reorganizational Meeting
July 10, 2023

This being the time and place as advertised, at 7:00 p.m. the Annual budget hearing was held. Printouts of each fund's planned revenue and expenditures by chart of account were presented by the Business Manager. The budget was published in the paper on July 5, 2023. The budget will be finalized and approved in September. The need to continue the opt out was discussed.

A regular meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education was called to order on July 10, 2023, at 7:14 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Kusters and Business Manager Shauna Severson.

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

No one was present for public comment.

Motion 2024-001 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to amend the agenda to include fiscal year 2023 supplemental budget to the FY2023 consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2024-002 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve the following FY2023 consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

- June 7, 2023 Special Sports Coop Meeting, June 13, 2023 Regular Meeting and June 28, 2023 Special Meeting minutes
- June 2023 Payroll
- June 2023 Financial Report
- FY2023 July Bills

..... • Financial Statement for Ovid Stevens Trust Account

Financial Report:
General Fund- Checking: Bal 6-1-23: \$324,672.38; Receipts: \$284,234.79; Disbursements: \$175,931.75; Transfers: (\$12,528.39); Bal 6-30-23 \$420,447.03. Investments: Bal 6-1-23: \$304,875.67; Transfers In: \$376,810.00; Interest: \$1,689.36; Bal 6-30-23: \$683,375.03. Ending Fund Balance: \$1,103,822.06.

Imprest Fund: Bal 6-1-23: \$1,679.25; Disbursements: \$491.50; Transfers In: \$3,812.25; Bal 6-30-23 \$5,000.00.

Capital Outlay Fund- Checking: Bal 6-1-23: \$947,999.42; Receipts: \$114,816.45; Disbursements: \$32,148.34; Bal 6-30-23 \$1,030,667.53. Investments: Bal 6-1-23: \$1,930,610.96 Transfers: (\$376,810.00); Bal 6-30-23: \$1,553,800.96. Ending Fund Balance: \$2,584,468.49.

Special Education Fund- Checking: Bal 6-1-23: \$88,534.11; Receipts: \$48,167.73; Disbursements: \$23,486.69; Bal 6-30-23 \$113,215.15. Investments: Bal 6-1-23: \$1,443,913.67. Ending Fund Balance: \$1,557,128.82.

Food Service Fund: Bal 6-1-23: \$15,658.30; Receipts: \$3,473.98; Disbursements: \$6,129.61; Bal 6-30-23 \$6,142.67.

Drivers Ed Fund: Bal 6-1-23: \$231.37; Disbursements: \$2,242.33; Transfers In: \$2,011.00; Bal 6-30-23 \$0.40.

Custodial Fund: Bal 6-1-23: \$28,890.30; Receipts: \$5,007.07; Disbursements: \$5,348.26; Transfers In: \$6,705.14; Bal 6-30-23 \$35,254.25.

Ovid J Stevens Scholarship: Bal 6-1-23: \$2000.85; Disbursements: \$1000.00; Bal 6-30-23 \$1000.85. Investments: Bal 6-1-23: \$24,490.46; Interest \$9.40; Bal 6-30-23: \$24,499.86. Ending Fund Balance: \$25,500.71.

Claims approved: General Fund salaries 72,315.79; Special Education salaries 10,968.65, Food Service salaries 1,140.31; Drivers Education salaries 1,388.49. EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 22,602.30; AFLAC, supplemental insurance 1,147.27; American Funds, retirement 1342.52; Delta Dental, insurance 1,856.52; Northern Plains Insurance Pool 15,025.93; The Standard, life insurance 228.27; Security Benefits, retirement 1,273.89; Optilegra, vision insurance 415.28; SD Retirement 12,033.16; SD Retirement Supplemental, 328.22. Total: \$142,066.60.

Bills approved: General Fund: Agtegra-fuel, 458.40; Brown County Landfill-waste, 54.01; Century Business Products-copy overage, 42.97; Farmers

Union Oil-DEF, 63.60; GDI News-publishing, 325.17; Pantorium Cleaners-supplies, 75.00; Town of Frederick-utilities, 626.21. Special Education Fund: ABAeC-ARE-Consults/direct therapy, 1,888.00; Avera St. Lukes-OT/PT, 1,071.68.

Motion 2024-003 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve Resolution 2023-006 – 2022/2023 Budget Supplement. Upon roll call, all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the school board of the Frederick Area School District that the budget in the Special Education fund be supplemented as follows:

22 2171 000 319 Physical Therapy \$ 190.00
22 2172 000 319 Occupational Therapy \$ 883.00
Special Education Total \$ 1,073.00

Supplements will be funded by the Special Education revenues and cash on hand.

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

President Schlosser dissolved the present board and called a recess to begin the annual organizational and regular meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Business Manager Severson called the annual organizational meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. and administered the Oath of Office to Jon Ellwein for a three-year term and Eric Sumption for a three-year term.

The new board resumed at 7:18 p.m. and held an election for Board President and Vice President for 2023-2024.

Motion 2024-004 Ellwein nominated Rich Schlosser as Board President. Hart moved, Achen seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Schlosser as President. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2024-005 Achen nominated Jon Ellwein as Vice President. Sumption moved, Hart seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Ellwein as Vice President. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2024-006 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to approve Conflict of Interest Disclosures per SDCL 23-3 presented to the board by Jeff Kusters and Eric Sumption. All voted Aye, Sumption abstained. Motion carried.

The following reports were presented:

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

Shauna Severson: Business Manager

Motion 2024-007 Motion by Hart, second by Ellwein to approve the following reorganizational consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

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

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

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

• Re-establish Custodial Accounts: 5K Cross Country, Boys Basketball, Concession, Cross Country, FCCLA, Football, Girls Basketball, Interest, Lake Region Conference, Music Trip, Powerlifting Club, SADD (new), Teacher Slush, Viking Club, Track, Volleyball.

• Designate First National Bank of Frederick as the official bank depositories and Plains Commerce Bank in Aberdeen and SD FIT as investment depositories.

• Authorize participation in the South Dakota Public Funds Investment Trust

• Authorize Electronic Fund Transfers

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

• Authorize the Board President to counter sign checks for governmental accounts

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

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

• Designate Groton Daily Independent as official newspaper

• Authorize Business Manager to publish 2023-2024 staff salaries

• Designate Rodney Freeman Jr. as 2023-2024 school attorney

• Set school board member

meeting salary at \$60.00 per meeting plus mileage at current state rate

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

• Identify Frederick Area School District #6-2 as an Equal Opportunity Employer

• Approve Public Notices of Non-Discrimination and Federal Programs Assurances

• Authorize Superintendent as:

• Representative for Special Education and to administer all federal programs

• Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth

• truancy officer

• Public Records officer

• Asbestos Compliance officer

• Designate Jessica Ringenberg as Coordinator of Federal Law/Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

• Designate Title IX Officers: Shauna Severson – Coordinator/ Investigator, Jessica Ringenberg – Decision-Maker, Ashley Schmidt – Mediator, Jeff Kusters – Appellate Decisions-Maker.

• Designate Superintendent and/or Business Manager as purchasing agents for the district: including state and federal property.

• Authorize Superintendent and/or Principal to cancel and/or close school due to inclement weather or other emergencies

• Set travel reimbursement rates: Employees – meals per state rate; lodging at the state or best possible rate; mileage per state rate and only to be paid when a school vehicle is not available. Students – breakfast-\$5, lunch-\$10, dinner-\$15 for state sanctioned events.

• Join the Emergency Bus Pact with South Dakota School Districts

• Designate Superintendent to authorize DOE Child and Adult Nutrition Service application

• Approve FASD Wellness Policy

• Set 2023-2024 school lunch prices: Grades K-6 \$3.15, Grades 7-12 \$3.50, Adult \$4.85, Seconds \$1.00 and Milk \$.35

• Set 2023-2024 activity ticket prices: Student \$30, Adults \$70, Family \$175, Senior \$30 for 65 and older.

• Appoint three surplus appraisers: Julie Brotzel, Jeff Kusters and Zach Kusters

• Appoint board members to the following committees:

• Negotiations: Rich Schlosser and Jon Ellwein

• Athletic Co-op: Alex Hart and Rich Achen

• Building/Grounds: Alex Hart and Rich Achen

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

• ASBSD delegate: Rich Schlosser

• Designate Division of Criminal Investigation as background check provider

• Designate Prorate Services as DOT drug/alcohol testing provider

• Adopt Handbooks with proposed changes:

• 2023-24 Technology Handbook

• 2023-24 Student Handbook with the price of Adult lunch to reflect the direction of Rob Ingalls-SD Child and Adult Nutrition

• 2023-24 Titan Student Activity Handbook

• 2023-24 Leola/Frederick Sports Coop Agreement.

State law requires the wages of School District employees to be published in the month of July. FY 2023-2024 salaries and wages are as follows:

Certified Staff: Jennifer Anliker \$47,946.00, Crystal Arthurs \$44,981.00, Janelle Barondeau \$56,367.00, Jennifer Dallmann \$47,353.00, Ashley Gibbs \$42,400.00, Morgan Johnson \$43,957.00, Christine Kusters \$52,636.00 + \$5,650.00 (Special Education Director), Sharon Langley \$50,102.00, Jennifer Little \$45,079.00, Melissa Meidinger \$47,106.00, Marty Morlock \$53,132.00, Brock Pashen \$47,218.00, Jennifer Pashen \$45,304.00, Caitlin Podoll \$47,829.00, Ashley Schmidt \$49,617.00, Shauna Severson \$5,486.00, Sarah Sumption \$52,485.00, Paula Tschosik \$50,975.00, Maggie Ulmer \$47,056.00, Tonya Zinter \$61,319.00. Extra-Curricular: Crystal Arthurs \$1,653.75 (FCCLA), Brock Pashen \$2,896.41 (Yearbook), Shauna Severson \$1,500.00 (Concessions Manager), Sarah Sumption \$794.09 (Science Fair). Coaching Staff: Janelle Barondeau \$6,140.23 (Head Cross Coun-

try) +\$4,274.82 (Asst. Track), Wayne Haas \$3,910.56 (Asst. Track), Alura Johnson \$3,421.04 (Asst. Volleyball), Jeff Kusters \$5,672.61 (Head Golf) + \$6,063.56 (Head Girls Basketball) + \$6,807.85 (Head Football), Marty Morlock \$4,931.59 (Asst. Football) + \$5,901.79 (Head Track), Don Nickelson \$2,824.71 (JH Boys Basketball), Brock Pashen \$4,974.24 (Head Boys Basketball), Troy Podoll \$2,600.00 (JH Football) + \$2,729.19 (JH Girls Basketball), Megan Russo \$3,360.79 (Asst. Track), Alex Sumption \$3,385.20 (Asst. Boys Basketball), Sarah Sumption \$4,098.09 (Asst. Girls Basketball) + \$3,360.79 (Asst. Cross Country), Warren Sumption \$1,628.29 (Asst. JH Boys Basketball), Bryson Thorpe \$1,628.29 (Asst. JH Boys Basketball), Leesa Ware \$4,320.60 (Head Volleyball). Admin and Other: Julie Brotzel \$50,480.00 (Tech Coordinator), Jeff Kusters \$90,835.50 (Superintendent/9-12 Principal) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$8,500.00 (Athletic and Transportation Director), Jessica Ringenberg \$66,465.00 (K-8 Principal) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Shauna Severson \$59,924.00 (Business Manager) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Stacey Sumption \$36,000.00. Employee Agreements: Richard Bakeberg \$47.55/bus route + \$45.00/Atec + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance, Mark Christianson \$47.55/bus route + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance + \$25/mo electricity for three winter months + state mileage rates once per day to and from home address, Michelle Dosch \$15.00/hr (Paraprofessional), Janet Elsen \$25.93/hr (Paraprofessional), Kristi Feil \$15.00 (Asst. Custodian) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Ashley Gunther \$14.06/hr (Asst. Cook), Faye Gunther \$20.71/hr (Head Cook), Jeff Kusters \$47.55/bus route + \$2000.00 Drivers Ed Classroom + \$20.00/hr Drivers Ed Driving, Zachary Kusters \$18.79/hr (Head Custodian) + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement, Jessica Mardian \$15.00 (Paraprofessional), Marty Morlock \$13.00 (Grounds Maintenance), Tanya Pies \$14.00 (Paraprofessional), Lance Podoll \$49.38/bus route + \$25/mo cell

phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance + \$25/mo electricity for three winter months + state mileage rates once per day to and from home address, Traci Reineke \$15.72/hr (Paraprofessional), Keith Underberg \$47.55/bus route + \$25/mo cell phone reimbursement + \$15/mo bus cleaning/maintenance + \$25/mo electricity for three winter months + state mileage rates once per day to and from home address, Amanda Wolbeck \$14.00 (Paraprofessional).

2024-008 Motion by Ellwein, second by Achen to approve the following consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

• FY24 July bills

Bills approved: General Fund: Amazon-supplies, 930.25; Associated School Board of SD-23-24 dues, 904.28; Dakota Electronics-alarm monitoring, 240.00; Double D Body Shop-windshield repair, 69.00; eBoard Solutions-simply policy, 1,000.00; Goverlan-maintenance supplies, 405.00; Graves IT Solutions-online backup renewal, 400.00; iBoss-core subscription, 2,151.43; Innovative Office Solutions-supplies, 423.13; Intrado Interactive Services-school messenger, 1,755.00; Menards-maintenance supplies, 202.77; National Archery in the School Program-PE equipment, 244.00; NCS Pearson-Title curriculum, 490.00; Plank Road Publishing-music subscription, 127.45; Riddell-FB equipment, 1,004.27; SASD-business manager, supt, principal memberships 23-24, 1,453.00; Schlosser, Ellen-Prek supplies, 1,000.00 Scholastic-23-24 elementary subscriptions, 704.00; School Specialty-supplies, 2,020.88; Schwan Electric-replace outlets, 148.54; Technology & Innovation in Education-23-24 membership dues, 1,000.00. Capital Outlay Fund: Amazon-classroom furniture, 166.99; American Time-clocks, 854.59; Applied Computer Systems-softlink maintenance, 822.21; Century Business Products-copier lease, 306.66; Gopher Sport-PE equipment, 480.20; Hauff Mid-America Sports-VB standards/net, 3,347.00; Innovative Office Solutions-classroom furniture-1,179.34; Interactive Educational Services-annual support mobile app/website, 2,950.00; JJ&Zak-ICU database,

1,199.00; MARC-gym floor re-finish, 4,231.62; Renaissance-Freckle ELA/Math subscription, 1,890.00; Riddell-FB equipment, 8,945.17; Riverside Technology-6th grade laptops,7,980.00; rSchool Today-activity scheduler, 300.00; Schlosser, Ellen-Pre-school curriculum and furniture, 1,000.00; School Specialty-classroom furniture/equipment, 3,359.74; Schwan Electric-stage lights, 1,970.63; SHI International-windows licensing, 2,368.48; SUI-accounting software, 6,150.00; Teacher Innovations-23-24 planbook, 270.00. Special Education Fund: Amazon-classroom furniture, 264.36; LaQuinta Inn & Suites-Autism training travel, 9.52; School Specialty-classroom furniture, 738.36; Winsor Learning-curriculum, 2,014.50. Food Service Fund: Amazon-supplies, 81.84. Custodial Fund: Pizza Ranch-GBB, 251.42.

2024-009 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to approve the following coaching contract and work agreement: Troy Podoll – JH Football Coach; Tanya Pies – Paraprofessional. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2024-010 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the North Central Special Education Cooperative Comprehensive Plan. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2024-011 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the Cyber Insurance Renewal for 2023-24 All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2024-012 Motion by Hart, second by Sumption to cast a ballot for the SDHSAA election and vote for Dan Conrad for Division I Representative and Adam Shaw for Division III Representative. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2024-013 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to approve the addition of a Future Business Leaders of America program and offer an advisor contract to Shauna Severson. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

2024-014 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. All aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Shauna Severson, Business Manager

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Groton Area 2023-24 Salaries

Groton Area 2023-2024 Salaries
Groton Area School District 06-6

2023-24 Administrator Salaries.....
Shelby Edwards^ 75,000.00
Rebecca Hubsch^ 85,000.00
Schwan, Brett ^ * 81,500.00
Schwan, Joseph ^ 118,000.00

2023-24 Auxiliary Staff Salaries.....
Bahr, Damian ^ 52,625.00
Bahr, Damian (bus driving)..... 8,449.16
Bartell, Karin 22,200.08
Bisbee, Amanda*..... 21,354.12
Clocksene, Brandon ^ 48,329.88
Cooper, Kristen 17,643.79
Dolan, Kristen ^ 24,114.70
Donley, Don (bus driving)..... 19,744.27
Donley, Joann 26,987.11
Dunker, Natasha ^ 19,916.62
Farmen, Clayton Jr. 45,032.00
Farmen, Clayton Jr. (bus driving) 8,626.61
Flihs, Claire 23,556.00
Flihs, Duane 17,544.80
Groeblichhoff, Joni * 20,229.12
Gustafson, Beth ^ 37,958.48
Guthmiller, Joel (bus driving) 17,253.21
Haaland, Jesse 18,904.05
Hjermstad, Randy ^ 26,149.37
Hoffman, Jan 23,916.06
Homsombath, Alexandria 20,478.96
Hoops, Barb 17,919.10
Kampa, Rita ^ 33,866.87
Krueger, Heidi ^ 33,734.80
Krueger, Lois ^ 25,207.39
Lewandowski, Rebecca 20,193.40
Lipp, Kami 21,544.30
Madsen, Brenda ^ * 22,831.88
Mitchell, Jamie 19,104.12
Nehls, Mike (Bus Driving) 8,449.16
Nehls, Mike ^ 52,625.00
Peterson, Kristi ^ * 46,752.50
Pigors, Tom ^ 45,032.00
Simunek, Jana 8,821.89
Tietz, Deb (Bus Driving)..... 20,099.17
Tietz, Deb 9,390.47
Tvnnerheim, Alison 18,273.92
Wattier, Sue ^ 38,908.80
Weber, Kim ^ 30,802.94
Wimmer, Bertha ^ 34,528.00

2023-24 Off Staff Salaries
Activity Trip Bus Drivers 15.00/hr
IEP/Jrk/Columbia Activity Trips 14.74/hr
Auxiliary Adult Subs 14.74/hr
Auxiliary Student Subs 11.75/hr
Certified Teacher Subs 130.00/day
Dolan, Brian * 5,400.00
Erickson, Seth * 3,150.00
Hanson, Chelsea * 4,950.00
Locke, Matt * 5,400.00
Kucker, Chris * 3,150.00
Miller, Aubray 2,250.00
Olson, Ryan* 1,575.00
Scepaniak, Ryan * 3,600.00
Strom, Jenna * 3,150.00
Traphagen, Trent * 3,600.00
Tracy, Kelby* 2,250.00
Warrington, Amy 4,500.00
Zak, Jesse* 1,575.00
Zoellner, Darin * 5,400.00

Certified Staff - 180 days, unless noted
^ Indicates additional contract days
* Indicates additional extra-curricular

Bus Drivers - 169 days
Other Auxiliary Staff - 171 days, unless noted
^ Indicates additional contract days
* Indicates additional extra-curricular

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Columbia City July 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting – July 12, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa via Zoom, Trevor Meints, Emily Eichler,

Meghan Butler Community: Jeremy Dosch, Julie Lillis, Ray Larson

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Emily Eichler made a motion to approve the posted agenda. Meghan Butler Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Corey Mitchell called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. Emily Eichler stated that she would not vote on the PA system motion. There were no other conflicts. Minutes were passed out from the June 14th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: Web - fire prevention – 47.72; Northwestern Energy - electricity– 798.44; Dacotah Bank – flowers/plants– 506.83; Cara Dennert – May salary– 1235.25; GDI –; Jeremy Dosch- May salary – 419.99; Runnings-shop supplies – 25.97; United States Treasury – 2nd Q taxes– 2275.74; Meghan Butler – 2nd Q salary – 329.40; Trevor Meints- 2nd Q salary – 370.58; Corey Mitchell – 2nd Q salary – 340.34; Emily Eichler- 2nd Q salary – 370.58; Cole Kampa – 2nd Q salary – 370.58; Siegel, Barnett & Schutz – lawyer fees– 2921.77; Double D Lot Services – park mowing– 3076.79; Artz Equipment – shop supplies– 160.88; Agtegra- fuel – 83.30; Dakota Resources – community coaching– 1912.06; SDPAA - insurance– 3273.34; JVT- fire prevention– 206.57; SD Unemployment Insurance – insurance – 43.41; Public Health Laboratory – sample analysis – 32.00

Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the vouchers as presented. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORESPONDENCE: – Letter from DANR; SD Dept of Transportation; Public Health Lab – sample analysis

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Ray Larson was present to propose a plan for handling the financials/management of the baseball park. The city will take care of payments to the mowing service. In October, we will submit a bill to the Buntrock family for reimbursement. For the next two years, the Buntrock family will continue to pay for the upkeep of the park. Going forward, the city will pay for the insurance and electricity for the baseball park. The Columbia Baseball Committee will take care of mowing, equipment needed, and cleaning of the ballpark. They will lease the ballpark from the city (for a minimal fee) for the next two years. Any fundraising for the Baseball Park will go towards paying for needs for the baseball park only. There will be a more formal agreement reached at the next city meeting (August 2nd, 2023). Julie Lillis was also present to give an update on Columbia Fest – July 29th. Corey will be calling to remind the county about spraying for mosquitos.

Nuisances - Letters will be going out this month for violators of city ordinances.

Streets – We are on the list to have streets bladed. Corey and Jeremy have been working on some intersections.

Parks - the PA system has been installed at the new ball park.

Lagoon/sewer - Meghan is catching up on data entry for the lagoon. It needs to be pumped soon before we receive any more rain. Tim Flor has agreed to come out and train Meghan on how to handle the lagoon tests and data entry.

Rubble Site – It is full.

NEW BUSINESS - The council discussed the new speaker system for the ballpark. Trevor Meints made a motion to pay for the PA system. The check will be written next month. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor. Emily Eichler abstained from voting. Motion carried. Jeremy and Corey went into Aberdeen to look at mowers. They looked at three different places. Their recommendation to the board is a mower that comes from Artz Equipment. It will be \$13,000 with our trade in. It will come with a 3 year

warranty. Our current mower was bought seven years ago. Meghan Butler to purchase the mower. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara Dennert handed out revenue and expenditure budget papers for all incoming and outgoing financials January through June. She advised the board to start looking over totals and our current budget to start planning our 2024 budget. That will be addressed in the next couple months. Cara presented bank balances. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

June 30, 2023 balances: SF - \$ 156,709.90\$; SF Money Market –\$50,234.70; GF - \$ 181,196.00; GF Money Market - \$50,234.70; CD Money Market - \$ 32,057.37; FIT - \$ 14,466.81; Cash on hand - \$0

Mayor Corey Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Regular City Council Meeting – August 2, 2023 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published July 19, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$49.39 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22346

Claremont Town July 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The Board of Trustees for the Town of Claremont met on 7-11-2023 at 7 p.m. in City Hall.

President Johnson called the meeting to order with Trustees Spencer and Rasmussen present. Others present were members of the Claremont Community Club: Brett and Lora Gibbs, Jill Hinrichs, Missi Smith, Robyn Mullins and Derick Furman and Jennifer.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved on a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen. Motion carried.

On motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer the following warrants were allowed:

General:
IRS, 2nd Quarter Fed. Tax, 860.52; JVT, phone and internet, 92.08; Northwestern Energy, street lights, 327.12; Northwestern Energy, city hall, 76.57; GDI, publishing, 97.20; Missi Smith, mowing and cleaning, 251.20; Dakota Tree Company LLC, remove trees and grind up stumps, 5591.25; Don Vander Vorst, 13.5 hours and pump house part, 216.62; Charla Rye, wage, 350.00.

WSSW:
Northwestern Energy, 300 6th Ave. Lift, 18.83; Northwestern Energy, new sewer lift, 157.71; Northwestern Energy, pump house, 63.77; BDM, water purchased, 1188.15; SD Dept. of Health Lab, purification, 30.00; USDA Rural Development, water loan, 576.00.

Darin Roehr of BDM was present to explain the lead-free SD. Customer survey that each home owner will need to fill out. This survey is to be completed by August. Please contact Charla Rye Finance Officer or one of the trustees for information and a survey.

The Community Club members were present with concerns over several things. The major concern was how they could help clean up our community. Another was dogs running at large. Parking on sidewalks!

Abandoned cars, trucks and what can be done to get rid of them.

Please understand that no one is being picked out. The goal of the Board and the Community Club is to make our town a nice place to be and visit.

With no further business before the board a motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer to adjourn. Motion carried.

C. Rye, Finance Officer
Published July 19, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$22.08 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22351

A subscription to the Groton Independent makes a great gift!

Groton Jr. Teeners Make Comeback Attempt, But Fall To Selby

Groton Jr. Teeners 14U's effort to come back from down five runs in the fifth inning came up just short, as they fell 7-5 to Post 100 14U on Wednesday. This was the championship game of the regional tournament being played in Selby. Groton Jr. Teeners closed the gap by scoring on a walk, a double, and a single.

Groton Jr. Teeners lost despite out-hitting Post 100 14U nine to six. TC Schuster led Groton Jr. Teeners with three hits.

Groton Jr. Teeners were the first to get on the board in the second when Schuster doubled, scoring one run.

Post 100 14U took the lead in the bottom of the fourth inning after Keegan Russell was struck by a pitch, Thatcher Kihne walked, and Post 100 14U scored on a passed ball, each scoring one run.

Russell earned the win for Post 100 14U. They allowed five hits and two runs over five and one-third innings, striking out four and walking six. Schuster took the loss for Groton Jr. Teeners. They went four innings, giving up four runs (three earned) on two hits, striking out seven and walking five.

Schuster, the number nine hitter for Groton jr. Teeners 14U, led the way with two runs batted in. They went 3-for-4 on the day. Tristin Mcgannon and Nick Groeblichoff each collected multiple hits for Groton Jr. Teeners. Groton Jr. Teeners had a strong eye at the plate, tallying nine walks for the game. Braeden Flihs, Lincoln Krause, and Ethan Kroll led the team with two walks each. Groton Jr. Teeners were sure-handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Krause had the most chances in the field with nine.

Kihne and Russell were a one-two punch in the lineup, as each drove in two runs for Post 100 14U. Xavier Hobert led Post 100 14U with two hits in two at bats. Post 100 14U had a strong eye at the plate, collecting seven walks for the game. Xavier Ritter and Kihne led the team with two free passes each. Hobert and Luke Fiedler each stole multiple bases for Post 100 14U. Post 100 14U ran wild on the base paths, accumulating six stolen bases for the game. Post 100 14U turned one double play in the game. Post 100 14U didn't commit a single error in the field. Kaden Russell had the most chances in the field with eight.

Groton Locke Electric With Tough Game Against Aberdeen

Groton Locke Electric couldn't keep up with Aberdeen and fell 18-2 on Thursday.

Aberdeen got on the board in the top of the first inning after Colton Cox hit a solo home run to left field, Kelly Coates doubled, scoring one run, Ryan Ellingson doubled, scoring two runs, and two runs scored on another play.

A single by Coates extended the Aberdeen lead to 7-1 in the top of the second inning.

Aberdeen added to their early lead in the top of the third inning when Micheal Babcock doubled, scoring two runs, Cox scored after tagging up, and Coates doubled, scoring one run.

Aberdeen scored five runs on five hits in the top of the sixth inning. Coates drew a walk, scoring one run, Tyler Oliver doubled, scoring two runs, Ellingson singled, scoring one run, and Oliver scored after tagging up.

Jacob Beuster earned the win for Aberdeen. They allowed one hit and two runs (one earned) over five and one-third innings, striking out five and walking three. Wyatt Locke took the loss for Groton Locke Electric. The right-handed pitcher went four and one-third innings, allowing 13 runs on 13 hits, striking out one and walking six.

Brian Hansen went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead Groton Locke Electric in hits. Groton Locke Electric were sure-handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Hansen had the most chances in the field with six.

Aberdeen amassed 18 hits in the game. Cox, Babcock, Coates, and Niko Pezorelle each collected three hits for Aberdeen. Coates and

Ellingson each drove in four runs for Aberdeen. Oliver collected two hits for Aberdeen in three at bats. Aberdeen had a strong eye at the plate, accumulating nine walks for the game. Coates and Oliver led the team with two walks each.

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion Loses Despite Out Hitting 16U Maroon

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion fell 10-4 to 16U Maroon on Saturday despite out-hitting them 11 to six.

16U Maroon got on the board in the bottom of the first inning after Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion committed an error, P Hlein hit a sacrifice fly, and Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion committed an error, each scoring one run.

16U Maroon added to their early lead in the bottom of the second inning after N Flom doubled, Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion committed an error, and 16U Maroon scored on a passed ball, each scoring one run.

A Huizenga earned the win for 16U Maroon. The starting pitcher surrendered 11 hits and four runs (three earned) over seven innings, striking out seven and walking none. Korbin Kucker took the loss for Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion. The starting pitcher went two innings, surrendering six runs (three earned) on three hits, striking out one and walking six.

Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion tallied 11 hits in the game. Brevin Flihs and Braxton Imrie were tough to handle back-to-back in the lineup, as each drove in one run for Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion. Kucker and Teylor Diegel each collected multiple hits for Groton Post 39 Jr. Legion.

Jared Hawthorne and Flom were a force together in the lineup, as they each collected two hits for 16U Maroon while hitting back-to-back. Hawthorne, Flom, Hlein, and D Evan each drove in one run for 16U Maroon. 16U Maroon had patience at the plate, amassing 13 walks for the game. Hawthorne, Chris Simunek, and Huizenga led the team with three free passes each. Hawthorne and Simunek each stole multiple bases for 16U Maroon. 16U Maroon stole seven bases in the game. 16U Maroon turned one double play in the game.

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

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EMPLOYMENT

AVANTARA OF GROTON has the following positions open: part-time house-keeping, cook and resident concierge. Apply at www.avantaragroton.com.

SCHOOL NURSE: Horizon Health Care is seeking a school nurse in La Plant. Flexible schedule during school hours M-Th. Full benefits package/competitive wage. Apply at horizonhealthcare.org/careers

LAND

FARMLAND rents are strong. Do you need representation or a Farmland Manager? Contact Tim Peters at 605.270.9410 or tpeters@pifers.com. Pifer's Land Management, www.pifers.com

Groton Lions Club Car Show Winners



Darren Adam took second place in the Mopar division with his 1965 Plymouth Fury III. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Roger Hansen took second place in the Ford division with his 1957 Ford Fairlane 500. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Dylan Krueger took second place in the Youth Division with his 1974 Chevy Camaro. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Jim Brakefield took first place in the Olds/Buick/Pontiac division with his 1955 Buick Special. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Jim Leibel took second place in the Truck Division with his 1963 Chevy C-10. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Mike Wiltfang took first place in the Street Rod division with his 1934 Plymouth All Steel Coupe. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Erwin Kormendy took second place in the open division with his 1928 Chevy Coupe. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Corbin Weismantel took first place in the youth division with his 1988 Ford F150. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Cindy Reinbold took first place in the Olds/Buick/Pontiac Division with her 1964 Buick Riviera. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Justin Fordham won the People's Choice Award with his 1969 Oldsmobile Cutlass. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Lynnette and Brad Cotten took second place in the Chevy Division with their 1967 Chevy Chevelle. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Scott Morrison has Best of Show and took second place in the Street Rod division with his 1932 Ford Highboy. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)

No photo available for Kerry Cameron who took first place in the Mopar Division with his 1962 Dodge Polara 500.



Joe and Linda Torrence took first place in the Chevy Division with their 1965 Chevy Chevelle. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Terry Haaland took first place in the Ford Division with his 1955 Fairlane Ford. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Bobbie Schweigert took first place in the open division with his 1951 Henry J. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Gary Huggett took first place in the Truck Division with his 1942 Chevy Pickup. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)

Right Photo: Groton Legion Post #39 presented the colors prior to the National Anthem sung by a recording by Julianna Kosel. Pictured are Bruce Babcock and Steve Dresbach. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Pictured here are some of the Groton Lions Club members and volunteers that helped make Summer Fest 2023 a success! Pictured in back, left to right, are Ron and Kathryn Rehfuss, David Pigors, Karyn Babcock, Nancy Larsen and Nancy Radke; in front, left to right, are April Abeln, Topper Tastad and Katelyn Nehlich. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Three food vendors served at Summer Fest- Incredible Edibles, Scott D's and Beauty Brew. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Children enjoyed Jump Zone Inflatables, sponsored by the Groton American Legion Post #39, at Groton's 7th Annual Summer Fest! (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Aaron Grant, former Marine, signs his book to a customer during Summer Fest. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



Over 80 show cars present in the Groton City Park on July 9th for the Groton Lions Club 7th Annual Summer Fest! (Photo courtesy April Abeln)



Summer Fest church service was presented by Pastor Jetto and members of the C&MA Church. (Photo courtesy April Abeln)

EARTHTALK™

Dear EarthTalk: You hear a lot about shark sightings and attacks nowadays; does this mean that sharks are more abundant than ever and doing well overall—or the opposite?

—R.W., Wellfleet, MA

It's tough to accurately document shark sightings, but shark attacks are documented every year. There are two classifications of shark bites: provoked and unprovoked. Provoked bites occur after a person has initiated interaction with the shark, like attempting to touch or feed it. But, according to Gavin Naylor, director of the Florida Program for Shark Research, "Unprovoked bites give us significantly more insight into the biology and behavior of sharks. Changing the environment such that sharks are drawn to the area in search of their natural food source might prompt them to bite humans when they otherwise wouldn't."

Globally, unprovoked attacks in 2022 were 57. In 2021, there were 73. During the pandemic, many beaches shut down, but looking at the years preceding 2020, we can more accurately deduce changes in shark attack frequency. Using data from The University of Florida's International Shark Attack File, the average number of annual unprovoked attacks from 2015 to 2019 was 79.4. Comparing this to 2022, it can be seen that the frequency of shark attacks has not risen significantly, if at all, in the past few years.

In spite of this, due to increasing ocean temperatures sharks are more inclined to travel into coastal waters where tourist activity is common. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, these waters are typically cooler than waters offshore. Warmer waters have higher concentrations of chlorophyll which attracts plankton growth. Many species of fish, rays and crabs feed on plankton. As ocean temperatures rise, northern and coastal waters grow warmer, attracting plankton, fish and other shark bait prey. As a result, sharks are more attracted to these regions than before.

Although the number of unprovoked shark attacks around the world has not increased, regions along the United States' East Coast have seen upticks in shark incidents. In 2022, there were eight shark attacks in New York after three consecutive years of zero cases. In 2021, Florida experienced 28 shark attacks following a three-year-average of 17.67 annual incidents. Because of these increases, there may be more media coverage on shark attacks, leading people to believe that there are more sharks overall.

Though shark sightings may be becoming more frequent, shark numbers are dwindling. Many shark species are struggling in their native coral reefs and marine ecosystems. According to the journal Science, "Five of the most common reef shark species have experienced a decline of up to 73 percent." In addition, The Washington Post states that "a third of all sharks, rays and related species are at risk of going extinct." As a result, scientists are concerned that species lower on the food chain will overpopulate without the presence of sharks as natural predators.

Humans are responsible for many factors that may be causing a decline in shark populations. Overfishing deprives sharks of one of their primary food sources. Millions of sharks get entangled in fishing nets and longlines every year. Plus, some 73 million sharks are killed for the shark fin and meat industry.

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.



Though shark sightings may be becoming more frequent, shark numbers are dwindling.

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South Dakota Pork Producers Council

In Conjunction with Pepsi Bottling Company, Old Dutch Potato Chips, Circus BBQ Sauce & Sara Lee Bakery we will be serving FREE Pork Sandwiches, Chips & Pop

Thursday, July 20th at Ken's Aberdeen 11:00 am - 1:00 pm (while supplies last) Located in Front of the Ken's Food Court in the Northwest Corner of the Parking Lot

Meat
Ken's **80% Lean Ground Beef**
10# Tubes **\$3.59** Per Lb.

Dairy
Cass Clay **Grade AA Butter**
1 Lb. Qtrs. **\$3.88**

Frozen
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\$6.99 22.75-30.75 Oz.

Liquor
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Household
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10-30 Ct. Pkg. **\$2.99**

Bakery
Ken's Bakery Fresh **Carmel Rolls**
6 Count **\$4.29**

Deli
Naan Dippers
7.05 Oz. **\$3.29** Each

PRICES GOOD AT ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS: **JULY 16th THRU JULY 22nd**

"Getting the Most Out of Your Healthcare"

As a patient, it can be challenging to navigate the healthcare system. This can lead to frustration and disappointment in the system itself. My intent with this article is to be both informative and alleviate some angst associated with seeking medical care.



Based on Science, Built on Trust



Samantha Darnall-Werlinger, MD

• **Preparing for your appointment:** This may be the most crucial step - whether the appointment is with your primary care physician or a specialist. As the patient, it is important to have the most important concern(s) prepared to address. As physicians, we are only allotted so many minutes to see each patient depending on the reason for the visit. Time ranges anywhere from 5 to 30 minutes, the majority are on the shorter end of the range. It is possible that all your concerns may not be addressed in one visit. While this may be frustrating, we also want to devote enough time to each issue. If there are numerous concerns, you may need to schedule a follow up appointment. Rushing through may cause important information to be missed.

• **Arriving for your appointment:** Many clinic goers believe the appointment time is when they should arrive at the clinic. During an ideal day, it is our goal to have your physician walking into your exam room at the time of your appointment. Arriving at least 15-20 minutes prior to your appointment time will give clinic staff more time to get you prepared for your visit. You will ultimately end up spending more time with your physician by arriving early.

• **Running late:** Tardiness is never anyone's goal. Both parties may be the cause for appointments starting late, including late arrival times. There may also be life-threatening complications with the patient before you. We may be calling the Emergency Room or hospital to admit sick patients. Many physicians deliver babies. Little ones can arrive at any time, day or night. If the babies need help after birth, we stay and assist them. This only names a few reasons why we may run late. When your turn arrives, we will give you our undivided attention. As physicians, we very much appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate unforeseen situations that arise.

• **The appointment:** As you now know, visits are short. Throughout the visit, we are collecting important information. This involves history taking, an examination and formulation of a plan based on our diagnosis. This all occurs in a very short timeframe. Have your medication list, any updates to your health along with information on other healthcare visits on hand. If an acute issue brings you to the clinic, a time frame of the concern, interventions you've tried, and what makes the issue better or worse can expedite the information collection process. This preparedness will ensure you get the most out of your visit.

This is just the beginning. Next week, I'll go over what happens behind the scenes after your visit.

Dr. Samantha Darnall-Werlinger is a family medicine physician with a special interest in obstetrics. Dr. Darnall-Werlinger practices at the Sanford Health Watertown Clinic in Watertown, SD. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show based on science, built on trust for 21 seasons, broadcast on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.