

**DRAFT**  
**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES**  
Cultural Heritage Center  
Pierre, South Dakota  
December 11, 2020

Call to Order

The meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees was called to order by President Brad Tennant on December 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., in the Vogt Education Room of the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre, South Dakota; which included board members, staff, and public participation virtually by Zoom. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present

Sean J. Flynn, John D. Fowler, Tom Hurlbert, Laurie Langland, Jon Lauck, Peggy Sanders, Brian Sandvig, Brad Tennant, Jennifer R. Winter, and David A. Wolff.

Board Members Not Present

Rolene R. Schliesman and Francis Whitebird.

State Historical Society Staff Present

Benjamin F. Jones, Chelle Somsen, Dedra McDonald Birzer, Renee Boen, Jay Smith, Ted Spencer, Liz Almlie, Heather Mulliner, Sofia Mattesini, Chris B. Nelson, Halley Hair, Jess Gregory, Catherine Forsch and Caroline C. Uecker.

Others Present

Bob Mercer, Pierre. Kevin Kuchenbecker, Deadwood. Julie Bartling, Burke.

Welcome and Announcements

President Brad Tennant welcomed the members of the board, staff of the South Dakota State Historical Society, and guests.

Board Minutes

Minutes of the Board of Trustees' meeting of September 11, 2020 were mailed to the members of the Board of Trustees after the meeting. A MOTION TO APPROVE the minutes of September 11, 2020 was made by Jon Lauck and seconded by Sean Flynn. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

Public Comment

Tennant asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

State Review Board

The State Review Board convened at 9:05 a.m.

National Register Nominations

State Historic Preservation Office staff presented three nominations for review.

Presented by Liz Almlie:

- 1) Gregory County Courthouse, Burke, Gregory County.

The Gregory County Courthouse is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at a local level under Criterion A for significance in the context of Politics/Government and under Criterion

C for Architecture. The courthouse has been used for its intended governmental purpose since its completion in 1934. A MOTION WAS MADE by Sean Flynn and seconded by Jon Lauck to recommend the approval of the nomination of the Gregory County Courthouse to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

Julie Bartling, Gregory County Auditor, was available to answer any questions. She commented in support of the nomination.

Presented by Sofia Mattesini:

2) Louis Nigg Barn, Sisseton, Roberts County.

The Louis Nigg Barn is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for significance in the agricultural development of the eastern counties of South Dakota. The barn also meets registration requirements under Criterion C. The structure presents excellent integrity of the architectural and engineering characteristics inherent to a Gothic Arch barn. The barn is significant at a local level. A MOTION WAS MADE by Jon Lauck and seconded by Sean Flynn to recommend the approval of the nomination of the Louis Nigg Barn to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

3) Watertown Commercial Historic District Amendment 2020, Watertown, Codington County.

The Watertown Commercial Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989 under Criterion A for Commerce and Criterion C for Architecture. The district is significant at the local level. The proposed 2020 amendment includes boundary reductions, an extension to the period of significance from 1936-1939, and updated contributing and non-contributing statuses for several buildings in the district. A MOTION WAS MADE by Sean Flynn and seconded by John Fowler to recommend the approval of the nomination of the Watertown Commercial Historic District Amendment 2020 to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes: Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

Ted Spencer reviewed the Federal Grants-In-Aid Final Distribution Plan, FFY2021, with the Board of Trustees. (Attachment #1). A MOTION WAS MADE by Brian Sandvig and seconded by Sean Flynn, to accept the presented work plan. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

The state review board adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

### Reports

Jay D. Vogt, Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society submitted his written report. (Attachment #2). Vogt retired from state government December 8, 2020. State Historian and Director Benjamin F. Jones, Ph.D. began work December 9 and reported on several items. He commented on Vogt's 42 years of work in state government and the way the Society recognized him. He gave an update on the budget to include retaining the tourism tax as is, and computer software purchases to help manage electronic records and speed up digitization. Jones talked about his role and plans for the Society.

Renee Boen, State Archaeologist, submitted her report. (Attachment #3). In addition to Boen's written report, she reported that field work is pretty much completed for the season. She mentioned that \$11,000 in donations for the 1972 flood project has been received and that she is working on putting the

money in an account with the Historical Society Foundation. Boen reported that the Cascade report is complete and available for anyone who would like a copy.

Chelle Somsen, State Archivist, submitted the Archives report. (Attachment #4). In addition to Somsen's written report she mentioned that Brookings newspapers were added to the Chronicling America website recently.

Ted Spencer, Director of the Historic Preservation Office, submitted his report. (Attachment #5). Spencer reported that his office received notice that the former Sisseton Middle School was approved for the National Register listing. He and Kevin Kuchenbecker answered questions regarding Deadwood projects.

Jay Smith, Museum Director, submitted his report. (Attachment #6). Smith reported that the museum and archives are recording the pandemic as far as receiving pandemic-related donations. He reported that the museum received a mask from a tribe that was used for ceremonial purposes. Smith gave a report on the history conference scheduled April 23-24, 2021 and the various options the museum is working on creating a digital conference.

Dedra McDonald Birzer, Ph.D., Director of Research and Publishing and editor-in-chief of the South Dakota Historical Society Press, submitted her report. (Attachment #7). In addition to her written report, Birzer reported that the accounting assistant position was filled. She mentioned that the PBS American Masters Biography Series documentary on Laura Ingalls Wilder (airs on December 29) focuses on our *Pioneer Girl* cover and content for several minutes.

Catherine Forsch, President of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, submitted her report. (Attachment #8). Forsch spoke on two fundraising projects in 2021. The first is the need to find financial support to digitize five women's collections in the State Archives; second is the Oral History project. The Foundation is looking for men and women to serve on a committee to help clearly define the project and assist with the fundraising. She also reported that in October 2020, the Smithsonian ran an article highlighting South Dakota's first poet laureate, Badger Clark, which resulted in an increase in Heritage Store online sales.

Old Business – No old business.

#### New Business

State Archaeologist Renee Boen presented a Record of Deaccessions request. (Attachment #9). A MOTION WAS MADE by Jon Lauck and seconded by Sean Flynn, to approve Deaccession Numbers 161 and 162 as presented. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff. These deaccessions pertain to human craniums discovered on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property and identified as Native American, culturally unaffiliated. These will be transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District.

Four projects were recommended to the board for approval for Deadwood Fund grants. (Attachment #10). A MOTION WAS MADE by Jon Lauck and seconded by Sean Flynn to approve the recommended grants to the Western National Bank, Mitchell (\$20,000); Belle Fourche Bandshell, Belle Fourche (\$15,000); Anderson-Ridley Barn, St. Onge (\$11,000); and the Porter Peck House, Sioux Falls (\$15,000). Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

Heather Mulliner presented the state property tax moratorium requests for the board's consideration. (Attachment #11). The following 16 applications were approved. WS Hill House, Mitchell; TI Gunderson House, Centerville; Cox Building, Yankton; 804 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Brookings; 30 Adams St., Deadwood; 7 Center St., Vermillion; Packard Residence, Vermillion; Angel's Attic, Deadwood; Sproesser House, Sioux Falls; 25 McKinley St., Deadwood; Fairmont Creamery, Rapid City; Harlou Building, Hot Springs; 11 W. Hill St, Lead; 33 Taylor Ave., Deadwood; Odd Fellows, Dell Rapids; and Falls Center, Sioux Falls. A MOTION WAS MADE by Sean Flynn to approve the 16 property tax moratorium requests as recommended and seconded by Jon Lauck. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Sandvig, Tennant, Winter, and Wolff.

Jon Lauck exited the meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Peggy Sanders and seconded by David Wolff to approve the property tax moratorium for 23 ½ McKinley St., Deadwood, which is recommended for denial by the Historic Preservation Office. Motion failed on a roll call vote with 2 ayes and 7 nays. Members voting aye: Sanders and Wolff. Members voting nay: Flynn, Fowler, Hurlbert, Langland, Sandvig, Tennant, and Winter. The recommended denial will stand.

The Historic Preservation Office recommended the denial for these reasons: The replacement of the shingle roof with a standing seam metal roof did not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and inappropriate siding.

The 2021 Board of Trustees meeting schedule includes: April 22, 2021, Pierre (History Conference is April 23-24, 2021); summer meeting conference call date to be determined; September 10, 2021, Pierre; and December 10, 2021, Pierre.

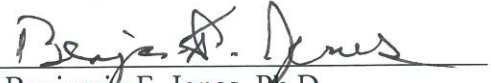
#### Other Business

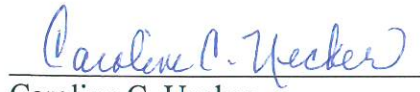
There were no recommendations for Certificates of Recognition.

There was no executive session.

The meeting was adjourned by President Tennant by acclamation at 12:40 p.m.

I, Benjamin F. Jones, Ph.D., State Historian and Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, declare that these minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the business conducted at the December 11, 2020 meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees.

  
Benjamin F. Jones, Ph.D.  
State Historian and Director  
South Dakota State Historical Society

  
Caroline C. Uecker  
Board Secretary