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- Small Towns Improving on Officer Retainment
Build upon a Strong Foundation

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Member SIPC/FINRA
I wish there were a way for cities to declare a nasty, stubborn jerk to be a public nuisance, and be able to recover the costs of having those folks in your town.

By and large, South Dakotans are great people – but even we have a few who aren’t. We get calls in the office about these folks, who for whatever reason are just ornery. A recent example was the guy who just would not get a building permit. The town took him to court several times, and won. Now he has applied for a permit – and the city is out thousands of dollars in court costs, simply because he was being a stubborn jerk.

We hear it a lot in property maintenance issues, and we may have more of this because of our strong feelings about private property rights. But when we choose to live closely together, as all citizens of municipalities do, we agree to abide by some rules. Mow the lawn; keep weeds under control; pick up garbage; don’t let your dog run loose or bark all night; if something is falling off your house, fix it. These are basic things that most people do without anyone telling them to, but when someone doesn’t, it affects the property values and quality of life of the entire town.

As we look toward another legislative session, we are going to hear a lot, again, about local control, but I’m afraid we will, again, see very little of it allowed.

Nothing is more local than municipal government. It is, literally, as close as the lawn on your property, the paint on your house, the water and sewer inside your home. President Abraham Lincoln said, “The legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done, but cannot do at all, or cannot so well do, for themselves in their separate and individual capacities.” Municipalities are the embodiment of legitimate government.

When we live together in a society, our actions (and inactions) affect the well-being of others. City government is the system we’ve established to allow us to live together as harmoniously as possible. Local control isn’t an abstract idea – it is essential to our democracy, our citizenship, and to the prosperity of our state.

Until next month, remember we are always available at 1-800-658-3633 or yvonne@sdmunicipalleague.org.

Yvonne Taylor
Executive Director

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**ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING**

**Aleene Williams, CPA**

has moved her governmental accounting and audit practice to the new firm of **Grant and Williams, Inc.**

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Sioux Falls, SD
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www.grantandwilliams.com
I so admire all the people involved in this organization from the worker bees to the elected officials. Everyone has a job to do and they do it with one goal in mind...to make each City/Town in the State of SD a better place to live. I like the way we all join together to help each other get through each day by giving direction, advice, and encouragement. Try to remember to thank your coworkers, elected officials, state workers, and citizens for their interest in trying to help every city/town achieve this goal.

Thanks to all who found the time to attend the conference and listen and learn from the excellent speakers, and to those who took part in the policy committees, I hope you learned as much as I always do. I encourage each of you to get involved in the policy process, as it is what makes our goal of satisfactory legislation for each Town/City a reality.

Through the coming year I hope to gain much useful knowledge from each and every one of you. You will be my teachers and I will try to be of service to you in any way I can. TEACH ME, ENLIGHTEN ME, it is a tough job, but someone has to do it!

I am looking forward to the district meetings I will be attending and all the different Cities/Towns I will visit. Each district is made up of many different and unique ways of governing their respective Cities/Towns. I am anxious to learn what works for you and what does not. Speaking about district meetings (Yvonne felt I should warn you), I am not good at canned speeches, so what I plan on doing is calling on each City/Town in attendance to tell us a unique, interesting, or little known fact about their City/Town. I do not care what direction you take, just let us enjoy what makes each of you special. More about this in future reports.

As I said I want to absorb as much knowledge as I can, not that I am always good at retaining it! Thank you for the honor you have given me to serve this wonderful organization. I will try not to fail you too much as I stumble along the road with you in our world of trying to govern with respect and open mindedness in dealing with all the dilemmas that come our way.

Remember this month that COMMUNICATION is a big key on our key chain!

Respectfully, Meri Jo Anderson
President
2016 Annual Report Workshops

The South Dakota Municipal League and the South Dakota Department of Legislative Audit are co-sponsoring one-day workshops on preparing this year’s annual report. Remember, annual reports are required to be filed by ALL municipalities.

The filing status of annual reports has had a renewed focus in recent years. The federal government has recently promulgated a sense of transparency and timeliness of financial data. This seminar will move you a giant step closer to meeting those goals.

These workshops are brought to you without cost by the South Dakota Municipal League and the Auditor General’s office. They will be conducted by the staff of the Department of Legislative Audit. Finance officers, clerks, auditors and treasurers should plan to attend.

This year we are providing a limited offering of annual report workshops for all sizes of cities. If you have questions on which workshop you should attend please call Rod Fortin with Legislative Audit at 605-367-5810.

**Small Cities:** those with less than $600,000 in revenue. This class is targeted for all cities of this size range. Please bring your Municipal Accounting Manual and previous year’s annual report to use as reference material. Also, bring a copy of your 2016 published budget ordinance to assist in participating in a discussion in this area as well as copies of several receipt/voucher transactions so that we can work together on coding solutions.

- **Mitchell:** Wednesday, January 27, 2016, Noon-3:00 pm, Blarney’s, 2100 Highland Way (995-5095), *11:30 meet for lunch at Blarney’s if your schedule permits. Reservation is under MUNICIPAL LEAGUE. Meeting will begin at noon.
- **Aberdeen:** Thursday, January 28, 2016, Noon-3:00 pm, County Court House, Community Room, Basement Annex, 25 Market Street, *lunch on your own.

**Large Cities (cash basis):** those with $600,000 or more in revenue. This class is targeted for only those personnel that have approximately two years or less of annual report preparation experience. Please bring your previous year’s annual report to use as reference material. Also, for further discussion bring a copy of your general ledger containing equity accounts for each fund (GASB 54).

- **Huron:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 11:00 am-3:00 pm, Campus Center, Pyle Room, 333 9th St. SW *working lunch by ordering pizza in.

**Large Cities (GAAP basis):** those with $600,000 or more in revenue. This annual report is targeted for only those personnel that have approximately two years or less of annual report preparation experience. Please bring your previous year’s annual report to use as reference material. Also, for further discussion bring a copy of your general ledger containing equity accounts for each fund (GASB 54).

- **Huron:** Thursday, January 14, 2016, 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Campus Center, Pyle Room, 333 9th St. SW *working lunch by ordering pizza in.

DEADLINE for Registration is a WEEK PRIOR to each meeting.

Notes: If the weather looks bad, call 605-367-5810 or 800-658-3633 to determine if the seminar has been postponed. Please do not take any driving risks. Dress is business casual. Individuals needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the League office in advance of the meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

### Annual Report Workshops Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Name</th>
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Check One:  
- **Huron** January 13  
- **Huron** January 14  
- **Mitchell** January 27  
- **Aberdeen** January 28

Please return to: South Dakota Municipal League, 208 Island Drive, Fort Pierre, SD 57532, Fax: 605-224-8655, email: paula@sdmunicipalleague.org, website: www.sdmunicipalleague.org
South Dakota received a Presidential Disaster Declaration as a result of June 2016 statewide severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds, and flooding. Subsequently, approximately $440,000 of funding is now available for local governments and certain private-non-profit organizations to apply for hazard mitigation projects that will reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impacts of future disasters. If you are interested in finding out more about the eligibility of mitigation projects or applying for these funds, please contact Jim Poppen at 605-773-3231 or jim.poppen@state.sd.us. Discussions on your project are vital to ensure all components of the application are completed. The deadline for application submittal is May 1, 2016.

Timelines
- Applications due to state: May 1, 2016 and we encourage to submit prior to deadline to ensure complete application.
- OEM reviews the applications for completeness: May/June 2016
- OEM presents applications to the State Hazard Mitigation Team: June 2016
- State Hazard Mitigation Team approved projects submitted to FEMA: July 2016
- FEMA has until July 2017 to award projects
- Period of Performance to complete approved projects: July 2019

Notes
FEMA has released a new version of the Benefit Cost Analysis software to version 5.2.1 and can be downloaded at http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/92923.

When submitting an application for a phased project, you will need to indicate that you are requesting the project to be phased and provide a detailed scope of work and budget for each phase of the project. A new benefit cost analysis is required for phase 2.

If you intend to request progress payments throughout the construction of your project then this will need to be indicated in your application. Copies of all invoices and checks will be required and a project inspection will be performed by OEM prior to any payment. Each payment will be reimbursed at a 75% federal share rate with a 25% local match required.

All agencies that have a stake in environmental and historical preservation for your project will need to have an environmental letter sent to them for their response on your project. These response letters must accompany the application. If construction is taking place on or near tribal property, it is a possibility the Tribal Historic Preservation Office may request a Class III Archeological Survey to be completed prior to award. This survey is an eligible expense.
New Underwood Finance Officer Meri Jo Anderson ascended to the South Dakota Municipal League’s top leadership position at the 82nd Annual Conference on October 9 in Watertown.

The event was formalized at the Business Meeting with the traditional “Passing of the Gavel” from Past President Jeanne Duchscher, Parker Finance Officer, to Anderson.

President Anderson began her leadership duties immediately on behalf of the interests of South Dakota’s municipalities.

SDML’s leadership also includes the following Officers, Trustees and District Chairs:

**President:** Meri Jo Anderson  
Finance Officer, New Underwood

**1st Vice President:** Laurie Gill  
Mayor, Pierre

**2nd Vice President:** Mike Wendland  
Mayor, Baltic

**Trustee:** Pauline Sumption  
Finance Officer, Rapid City

**Trustee:** Greg Jamison  
Councilmember, Sioux Falls

**Trustee:** Karl Alberts  
Finance Officer, Aberdeen

**Trustee:** Steve Allender  
Mayor, Rapid City

**Trustee:** Anita Lowary  
Finance Officer, Groton

**Past President:** Jeanne Duchscher  
Finance Officer, Parker

### District Chairs

1. Mike Grosek  
   Mayor, Webster  
2. Tim Reed  
   Mayor, Brookings  
3. Amy Nelson  
   City Manager, Yankton  
4. Debbie Houseman  
   Finance Officer, Lake Andes  
5. Renae Phinney  
   Board President, Ree Heights  
6. Mike Hammrich  
   Councilmember, Ipswich  
7. Arnold Schott  
   Mayor, McLaughlin  
8. Harry Weller  
   Mayor, Kadoka  
9. Carolynn Anderson  
   Finance Officer, Wall  
10. Fay Bueno  
    Finance Officer, Sturgis

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**SDML Annual Conference**

**October 4 - 7, 2016**

**Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center, Rapid City**

**Accommodations**

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>605-399-7035</td>
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The following is from SDML President Jeanne Duchscher’s presentation of the Excellence in Municipal Government Award during the luncheon held Thursday, October 8 at the 82nd Annual SDML Conference in Watertown.

“There are several quotes that describe this year’s Excellence Award Winner. One former employee said, “The hotter the topic, the calmer he becomes.” Another said, “He asks for input, considers the ideas brought forward, and implements – then follows up by giving credit where credit is due.” A third added, “His competence, combined with his confidence in others allows him to positively affect change and improve the city for all who enjoy its services.”

The operations of his city have been elevated – both in equipment, infrastructure, and new businesses, but also in relations between employees and management. With his guidance, his city has formed the first combined communications center, sharing resources and dispatching for both state and local public safety personnel. A new airport terminal has been built, and a new business, estimated to bring $30 million to his community, has opened.

His commitment to the job saved property, mitigated damage, and helped his community prepare for, sustain, and recover from a major natural disaster, often at the expense of nights without sleep as he helped his city.

Whether he’s guiding the Historic Downtown Association through the process of establishing a business improvement district, or mentoring young professionals locally and state-wide through the City Management Association, this person daily impacts the quality of life for his city.

His ability to stay calm under pressure, and his perpetually composed demeanor, help all stay focused and collected. We are hoping this award will allow him to show some excitement – Please help us welcome our 2015 winner of the Excellence in Municipal Government Award, Leon Schochenmaier, City Administrator for Pierre.”

Pierre Mayor Laurie Gill nominated Schochenmaier for the award and says that Leon is a tremendous leader and that his skills really become apparent during challenging situations.

“During the 2011 flood, Leon worked on little to no sleep to direct department heads, and coordinate with stakeholders to save property and mitigate damage,” said Gill. “He was indispensable in helping the community and its residents prepare for, sustain, and recover from the flood.”

Under Schochenmaier, the City has put a renewed emphasis on infrastructure upgrades and maintenance. In 2014 alone, the City replaced the water main under 14 city blocks, laid asphalt on 26 blocks, and began the process of modernizing the city’s water and electrical utilities. Pierre also established the state’s first consolidated emergency dispatch center, and prepared 35 acres of city-owned land for development.

Schochenmaier has served as the City Administrator since 2006. In this role, he oversees more than 150 full-time employees, including those in the Administrative, Electrical, Engineering, Fire, Library, Parks, Police, Recreation, Street, Wastewater and Water Departments.

Note: Given annually, this award is granted to elected officials or municipal employees based on a two-year rotation. This year’s award was presented to an municipal employee who has made a outstanding contribution to the further improvement of municipal government in South Dakota. The Past Presidents’ Committee reviews nominations by SDML members and recommends the recipient.
Thank You
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Thank You

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Holophane and American Electric Lighting
HR Green, Inc.
Hydro-Klean, LLC
I State Truck Center
Infrastructure Design Group, Inc.
Insurance Benefits, Inc.
INTEK Cleaning & Restoration
Interstate Engineering, Inc.
JLG Architects
Johnson Controls, Inc.
KLJ
Lyle Signs
Maguire Iron, Inc.
McLaury Engineering, Inc.
Midcontinent Communications
Midwest Playscapes, Inc.
Milbank Winwater Works
Prinsco
Puetz Corporation
Purple Wave Auction
Qualifications Based Selection South Dakota
Qualified Presort Service, LLC
RDO Equipment Co.
Riverside Technologies, Inc.
Sayre Associates
Sheehan Mack Sales & Equipment
Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc.
South Dakota Department of Health
South Dakota Department of Public Safety/SD Emergency Management Association
South Dakota Department of Transportation – Local Government Assistance
South Dakota Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR)
South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance
South Dakota Public Funds Investment Trust (FIT)
South Dakota Ready Mixed Concrete Assoc.
South Dakota Rural Water
South Dakota State Library
SPN/Helms & Associates
Steffes Group, Inc.
Stockwell Engineers, Inc.
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Ulteig
USAquatics, Inc.
Utilities Plus Energy Services, Inc.
Utility Service Co., Inc.
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Wenck Associates, Inc.
The SDML Hall of Fame is ongoing. If 20 years of service is completed by September 30, 2016 you are eligible to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2016 at the SDML Annual Conference in Rapid City. Nomination forms will be available with other conference information in 2016.

E.W. “Ed” Atyeo, Clear Lake, 23 Years
Ed Atyeo worked as a part-time rubble site attendant for the City of Clear Lake from May, 1991 until February, 2015. Ed experienced many changes over the years, going from the basic dump ground where City residents could get rid of just about anything, to a Restricted Use Rubble Site with lots of stringent rules and regulations governing it. Ed was a very dedicated and loyal employee for many years. He can now enjoy spending more time with his bride of 70 years, Delores.

Carol Moyer, Colome, 23 Years
Carol Moyer has been the Finance Officer in Colome for 23 years. She performs her duties cheerfully and is the best ambassador a City could ever ask for. Carol always has a smile on her face and is always willing to assist the residents. A lifelong resident of Colome and a graduate of Colome High School, Carol is married to Larry Moyer and they have three children and six grandchildren. She’s a long time member of the Thayer Waters American Legion Auxiliary having served in all offices. Carol has volunteered for years at the weekly steak night held at the American Legion and still continues today. She is a member of St Isidore Catholic Church and is a member of the Catholic Daughters.

Keith Umenthum, Deadwood, 25 Years
Keith Umenthum began his employment with the City of Deadwood as the Building Inspector on February 12, 1990 and retired on January 2, 2015. When asked of his plans for retirement, he said “Whatever Carol (wife) tells me to do!” Keith also plans on picking up his hammer and saw to do what he enjoys doing, tinkering in his shop. After his retirement Keith went on a trip of a life time and accompanied his granddaughter on a two week high school
band trip to Europe. Keith is an avid trombone player and a member of the Northern Hills Community Band, so he took his trombone with him and played in his granddaughter’s band.

**Jamie Gogolin, Huron, 20 Years**

Jamie Gogolin was a police officer from 1995 to 2001 and then was promoted to Sergeant in 2001 through 2006 when he was promoted to Detective. He was a member of the SD National Guard. He is married with two sons.

**Foster Knudson, Huron, 20 Years**

Foster Knudson has worked for the Huron Fire Department since 1995. He was a volunteer fire fighter from 1990 to 1995 before joining the City on a full time basis. Foster is an EMT and also works for the Huron Ambulance Service. He is married and has two daughters.

**Ardelia Reno, Huron, 20 Years**

Ardelia Reno has worked for the City of Huron for 20 years as an Account Clerk in the Finance Department. Some of her responsibilities are performing pre-billing duties for meter readings, processing and printing utility bills, receipting in money for the different city departments, setting up and updating ACH utility bill payments, waiting on customers, and issuing service orders. Ardelia and her husband Bill have three married sons, Jammie, Jody, and Jared. She enjoys camping, fishing, taking long walks, and spending time with her family especially their eight grandchildren and one great-grandson.

**Dan Schlader, Huron, 20 Years**

Dan Schlader was a police officer from 1995 to 2001 when he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. He has been a volunteer fire fighter for the City since 1994. He is married with two sons.

**Shanna Sterrett, Huron, 20 Years**

Shanna Sterrett began her employment with the City of Huron in January 1995 as the Executive Secretary for the Mayor, City Commissioners and Finance Director. Her job duties grew along with her interest in technology, and in 2009 she became the IT Coordinator in addition to her duties as Executive Secretary. Over the years she has had the pleasure to work with four Mayors, fourteen City Commissioners, and two Finance Directors. She has seen many co-workers retire and numerous new hires. When she first started working for the city she couldn’t believe how many employees had worked for 20 or 30 years….and now she’s “one of them.” What amazes her the most is that after twenty years there’s still something new to learn or new experiences, just when you think you’ve seen it all! Shanna and her husband Cory enjoy spending time with their three children Chris, Kortny and Tyler. Shanna also enjoys camping, fishing, reading, playing cards, being a hockey mom and spending time with family and friends.

**Susie Tschetter, Huron, 20 Years**

Susie Tschetter has been a 911 Telecommunicator (Dispatch Operator) for 20 years. She is married with one daughter, two sons and five grandkids. She has four grandsons and one granddaughter that she spoils dearly.

**David Wegener, Madison, 20 Years**

Dave Wegener grew up in Canton, graduated from Canton High School in 1983, and attended South Dakota State University. Dave obtained his EMT-A certificate and became a member of the Canton-Inwood Volunteer Ambulance Association, and later, a Dispatcher for the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office in Canton. These duties sparked an interest in Law Enforcement. In December of 1985, Dave joined the staff at the South Dakota State Penitentiary-Springfield, working as a Correctional Officer & Senior Correctional Officer until 1988, when he was hired by the Tyndall Police Department and successfully completed Basic Law Enforcement Training. In July 1988 Dave was hired as a Deputy Sheriff for the Moody County Sheriff’s Office, and left to work as a Patrolman for the Madison Police Department in the summer of 1995. Dave was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in February of 2004, and currently holds this position.

**Lornie Hach, McLaughlin, 36 Years**

Lornie Hach is the Utility Manager for the City of McLaughlin. He started working for the City in 1979 and has been involved with most aspects of the water, sewer, street, electrical, and airport projects since then. Lornie has been a journeyman lineman for over 20 years and is a certified Class I in water and sewer. He has served as an EMT, Jaycee member, and school board member. He has been a member of the Fire Department since 1979.

**Della Hauck, McLaughlin, 31 Years**

Della Houck started with the City of McLaughlin in 1984 as the Assistant Finance Officer. In 1995 she became the Finance Officer and still holds this position. Della has served as the President of the McLaughlin Fun Day Committee and secretary and treasurer for the Centennial Celebration in 2009. She is a member of the Redeemer Lutheran Church where she is known for her cheese buttons. Della enjoys decorating and has decorated for church dinners, celebration dinners, weddings and yes, even funerals.
South Dakota Municipal League
2016 Statement of Policy

The Municipal League’s Statement of Policy for the coming year was adopted in its final form at the SDML annual business meeting held during the annual conference in Watertown. This statement guides the League staff and lobbyists during the legislative session and functions as a reference for the League’s position on various issues affecting local government. This Statement of Policy is also posted on the League’s website, www.sdmunicipalleague.org.

Adopted October 9, 2015

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
1. The SDML supports an amendment to restrict or repeal the presumptions included in SDCL 9-16-45 pertaining to circulatory or respiratory disease as “occupational” in firefighters, and opposes any amendment to expand the disease presumption regarding occupational diseases affecting volunteer and active paid firefighters. (GG – 2000; CB7)

2. The SDML supports legislation authorizing municipal access to federal background checks for licensees. (GG – 2008; 2009)

3. The SDML supports legislation to make municipal laws consistent as to the use of the term “finance officer” rather than “clerk/treasurer.” (GG – 2010)

GOVERNMENT ETHICS AND OPERATIONS
4. The SDML supports legislation that would exempt municipalities from the regulations of the unclaimed property laws. (GG – 2000; 12)

5. The SDML supports amending SDCL 12-1-5 to include municipal election officials on the State Board of Elections. (GG – 2000; 13)

6. The SDML supports establishing a deadline 90 days in advance of the annual municipal election for the submission of initiative or referendum petitions or petitions involving recall elections. (GG – 2011)

7. The SDML supports clarifying the voting requirements for non-ordinance items in the aldermanic form of government to a majority of the quorum present at the meeting. (GG – 2010; 2015)

8. The SDML supports amending state law to clarify residence requirements for municipal elected officials. (GG – 2014)

9. The SDML supports refining the definition of residence for purposes of incorporating a municipality. (GG – 2013)

10. The SDML supports working cooperatively with other state entities to clarify residence for voter registration. (GG – 2015)

11. The SDML supports making provisions for the time to qualify for office consistent. (GG – 2015)

12. The SDML supports making provisions for supplementing municipal budgets consistent with provisions found in county law. (GG – 2015)

13. The SDML supports legislation allowing elected officials to continue to serve in office even though displaced from their residence by a natural disaster. (GG – 2015)

14. The SDML supports increasing the audit “trigger” to $750,000. (GG – 2014)

15. The SDML supports increasing the Internal Control Review range to between $100,000 and $750,000. (GG – 2014)

16. The SDML supports changing the makeup of the local board of equalization to more appropriately reflect the distribution of property tax revenues. (GG – 2008)

17. The SDML supports allowing municipalities alternative publication options. (GG – 2003)

18. The SDML supports amending statutes regarding designation of official newspapers to require the newspaper submit the circulation density by local government jurisdiction. (GG – 2011; 2013)

19. The SDML supports legislation to allow a local option for resolutions to be published by title and abbreviated explanation only. (GG – 2006)

21. The SDML supports reviewing open meeting laws in conjunction with any Open Government Task Force so long as the SDML is adequately represented. (GG – 2009; 2012)

22. The SDML opposes state regulation of the Health Pool of South Dakota, the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, or the SDML Workers’ Compensation Fund. (GG – 2003)

23. The SDML supports extending the time for awarding bids for materials, supplies, and equipment to 45 days, when so specified in the bid letting. (GG – 2015)

24. The SDML supports legislation amending SDCL 34A-6-29 to make the collection of delinquent garbage collection fees consistent with the collection of other delinquent municipal utility fees. (GG – 2006)

25. The SDML supports legislation to allow funds to be deposited directly to municipalities from the state, rather than going first through the counties. (GG – 2006)

26. The SDML will not oppose the addition of a penalty for the late submission of an annual report as long as the deadline for submission can be moved back to May 31 of each year and there is a provision for the Department of Legislative Audit to allow for an extension as circumstances merit. (GG – 2006)

27. The SDML supports changing the vote to create a hospital district to a simple majority. (GG – 2007)

28. The SDML supports equal treatment of all government facilities which serve as the official office of elected officials or any buildings where governing bodies officially meet on a regular basis. (GG – 2012)

29. The SDML supports making special assessments for sidewalks consistent with all other special assessment procedures. (GG – 2013)

30. The SDML supports legislation clarifying SDCL 45-6-77 to include municipalities using their own materials on their own projects. (GG – 2015)

31. The SDML supports clarifying that nuisance assessments may be made by local resolution. (GG – 2013)

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

32. The SDML supports allowing a separate and additional class of on-sale liquor licenses for golf courses. (GG – 2003; 2007; 2008)

33. The SDML opposes any change to the requirement that alcoholic beverage licenses be given only to a single legal description. (GG – 2000; 21)

34. The SDML supports the valuation of platted land based on use, rather than zoning designation, and urges cities and counties to work cooperatively to develop legislation. (GG – 2014)

35. The SDML supports the public financing toolbox for local governments. (GG – 2014)

36. The SDML supports a reduced rate for ballot publications. (GG – 2009)
37. The SDML urges federal and state support for alternative transportation programs that take into account new technologies, mobility, community quality of life, and demographic trends as well as maintenance of traditional modes of transportation. (GG – 2015)

38. The SDML supports amendments to annexation laws that increase local authority. (PW – 2000; 9)

39. The SDML supports planning and zoning legislation that will encourage continuity between city and county planning and zoning procedures and reduce ambiguities within the adoption process, enabling municipalities to more effectively adopt and administer their comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, and subdivision regulations. (PW – 2000; 10)

40. The SDML would strongly oppose any legislation to overrule local zoning or building codes pertaining to mobile homes, manufactured houses or trailer houses. (PW – 2000; 11)

41. The SDML supports the right and authority of municipalities to have at least an equal voice in platting, zoning, planning, code enforcement, and flood management control in the extraterritorial area. The SDML also supports legislation to enhance municipalities’ ability to gain extraterritorial jurisdiction, and permissive legislation allowing cities and counties to enter into intergovernmental agreements for Urban Growth Areas. (PW – 2000; 12)

42. The SDML supports legislation to amend SDCL 9-4-1 to exclude “registered voters” from the petition process for annexation of contiguous territory. (Transferred from GG – 2000; 13)

43. The SDML supports legislation to ensure that municipalities control planning, zoning, and development issues within the corporate limits. (PW – 2003)

44. The SDML believes municipal governments should be notified of and participate in economic
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development efforts within their jurisdiction. (PW – 2014)

45. The SDML supports state and federal funding for the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System to complete services to South Dakota communities. (PW – 2014)

46. The SDML supports legislation that reduces risk to municipal tax payers when sharing costs of improvements through special assessments in newly annexed areas. (PW – 2015)

47. The SDML would support legislation to prohibit creation of any entity with municipal powers within five miles of any existing municipal boundaries. (PW – 2015)

48. The SDML supports revising the business improvement district statutes to allow municipalities and counties to enter into joint projects and to locally determine all rates. (T&R – 2003)

49. The SDML supports creating incentives within the REDI fund for investment, not just job creation. (T&R – 2003)

50. The SDML supports making REDI funds available for infrastructure and infrastructure master planning. There is plenty of raw land, but it needs infrastructure before it can be sold to prospects or developed in a timely manner. (T&R – 2003)

51. The SDML strongly opposes any changes to Tax Increment Financing Districts which would inhibit the growth and development of South Dakota. (T&R – 2014)

52. The SDML supports legislation allowing a local vote on up to an additional one cent temporary municipal sales tax to be used for infrastructure projects. (T&R – 2014)

53. The SDML supports allowing municipalities to rebate municipal property taxes to homeowners to encourage housing with conditions as determined by the governing body. (T&R – 2015)

LOCAL CONTROL AND HOME RULE

54. The SDML supports legislation that would exclude club licenses (class M licenses) from the

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limitation on the total number of liquor licenses allowed within a municipality. (GG – 2000; 23)

55. The SDML supports permissive legislation granting municipalities the power to control the number and the fees for on-sale and off-sale liquor, wine, and malt beverage licenses to be granted within the municipality. (GG – 2000; 24)

56. The SDML supports local control of the sale, use, distribution, marketing, and promotion of tobacco products that are more restrictive than those provided by the Legislature. (GG – 2003)

57. The SDML strongly supports legislation to distance state laws from Dillon’s Rule. (GG – 2005)

58. The SDML supports legislation to allow municipalities under 5,000 the same ability to establish the price of a liquor license as is allowed to those municipalities over 5,000 population. (GG – 2007)

59. The SDML supports the ability to use drones for any local government purpose. (Resolutions – 2014)

60. The SDML encourages standards be developed to provide equal 911 service to all citizens and visitors, and encourages cooperative efforts to improve 911 services and efficiency. The SDML opposes mandated consolidation of 911 service centers. (Adopted at Joint Board Meeting between SDML and SDACC, December, 1999; 8; Amended by SDML Board, December, 2006)


62. The SDML recommends that the Department of Transportation, the Legislature, and any county affected, carefully review the financial impact of the transfer of any roads, bridges or highways to the municipality. The SDML supports legislation to require counties and the state to provide to municipalities all maintenance records and bridge inspections prior to the negotiation of a transfer. (PW – 2000; 2010; 1)

63. The SDML strongly supports legislation affirming the authority of municipal government to control activities and charge for the use by utilities within public rights-of-way within municipal jurisdiction. (PW – 2000; 2)

64. The SDML opposes any regulation by others of any service provided by or regulated by a municipality. However, the SDML strongly feels that municipalities should be included in any discussion on restructuring of the energy and telecommunication industries. (PW – 2000; 3)

65. The SDML supports state legislation allowing the municipality to own and operate a cable TV system, when allowed by federal law. (PW – 2000; 5)

66. The SDML supports allowing counties greater local control to move revenue among funds to adequately fund county services. (T&R – 2015)

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

67. The SDML supports the right of local jurisdictions to establish firefighting standards. The SDML does not oppose fire standards such as those issued by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as long as such standards allow municipalities real and substantial flexibility for the way municipalities provide fire and emergency medical services. (PHSW – 2002; 7)

68. The SDML encourages the licensing of building contractors by local units of government to ensure that contractors comply with minimum standards to protect the consumer. (PHSW – 2004)

69. The SDML supports legislation to expand affordable housing opportunities in South Dakota. (PHSW – 2014)

70. The SDML encourages the local units of government to use the funds available from the State of SD to combat West Nile and encourages the State of SD to increase these funds. (PHSW – 2007)

71. The SDML supports making affordable public and private health care coverage available to all South Dakotans and encourages efforts to expand Medicaid. (PHSW – 2014; 2015)

72. The SDML supports a statewide task force to review access and resources the treatment of alcoholism, drug addiction, and gambling addiction. The SDML calls for the State of South Dakota municipalities...
Dakota to assume increased responsibility for funding of detoxification and alcoholic, drug addiction, and gambling treatment facilities from state alcohol beverage taxes and gaming revenues. (PHSW – 2000; 2014 CB2; 2015) (Amended and moved from Core Beliefs)

73. The SDML supports a mechanism to allow blighted, vacant, or nuisance properties to assist in the costs of their own remediation. (PHSW – 2014)

74. The SDML supports legislation to provide stronger penalties and increase requirements for mandatory vehicle insurance. (PHSW – 2007)

75. The SDML supports legislation to remove restrictions which prohibit municipalities from prohibiting the use of phosphates in lawn fertilizers within city limits. (PHSW – 2010)

76. The SDML urges cities to continue weekly testing of pools and public bodies of water as previously required by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. (PHSW – 2011)

77. The SDML supports continued efforts to reduce distracted driving. (PHSW – 2012; 2014)

78. The SDML supports code enforcement efforts including the enacting of the International Property Maintenance Code, with the option of local administration. (PHSW – 2013; 2014)

79. The SDML supports the recommendations of the SD EMS Stakeholder Group, and commends the efforts of the Department of Health in the collaborative process. (PHSW – 2015)

80. The SDML strongly supports a statewide task force to review access and resources for the treatment of mental healthcare and increased funding for services and programs. (PHSW – 2015)

81. The SDML recommends that the State Department of Transportation analyze and make recommendations to the legislature regarding the adverse effects of state load and length limits on municipal streets, bridges, and traffic patterns regarding state load limits, issuing of permits, or truck lengths. (PW – 2000; 2010; 6)

82. The SDML strongly urges the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the South Dakota State Legislature to adopt rules, regulations and appropriate legislation to designate the entire Big Sioux River Basin as a water source protection area and to establish a management plan for the allocation of water in the Big Sioux River Basin (the river and associated aquifers.) (PW – 2000; 7)
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83. The SDML supports the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996; however, the SDML opposes federally mandated drinking water standards unless based upon proven human health risks substantiated by scientific data. The SDML continues to support monetary assistance to public water systems based upon flexible and reasonable incentives. (PW – 2000; 2008; 8)

84. The SDML opposes the US Corps of Engineers’ proposal to levy fees on the storage of water in the Missouri River reservoirs to recover costs of constructing the Missouri River dams. The policy would pose severe economic impacts to municipal and rural water systems in the state. (PW – 2011)

85. The SDML supports the Department of Environment and Natural Resources establishing water quality standards that protect public health and the environment, but opposes EPA mandates that establish national one-size-fits-all standards that do not fit South Dakota because they are overly protective, have negligible environmental benefit, and have a dramatic economic impact to publicly owned wastewater treatment works. (PW – 2011)

86. The SDML supports extending or repealing the sunset on the increased 911 surcharge. (T&R – 2000; 35; 2015)

87. The SDML supports expanding the base for the 911 surcharge to include all means of communicating with a 911 system. (T&R – 2005)

88. The SDML supports enhanced revenue from the state and federal governments to implement heightened security standards necessitated by any state or federal Homeland Security requirements. (T&R – 2002; 36)

MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

89. The SDML opposes forced transfer or sale of ownership of state or federally owned dams and power marketing administrations. (PW – 2000; 2010; 15) (Deleted portion moved to Core Beliefs)

90. The SDML opposes the practice of the federal government threatening the loss of funding to ensure compliance with federal guidelines. The SDML requests the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to allow flexibility to water systems to meet water certification requirements and urges the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to continue monetary assistance and free training for water certification. (PW – 2000; 2008; 16)

91. The SDML opposes any legislative and regulatory barriers to the creation of municipal electric utilities and supports the fundamental principle of public power and the right of municipalities to provide any utility service desired by their citizens. (PW – 2004)

92. The SDML supports legislation that empowers municipalities to determine responsibility for service lines between the homeowner and the city. (PW – 2005)

93. The SDML supports the right and authority of municipalities to retain local control over all aspects of placement and use of individual alternative power systems. (PW – 2008)

94. The SDML encourages policymakers in Congress, the FCC, and the USDA to understand the importance of robust broadband deployment in rural America and how the National Broadband Plan needs to be dramatically altered to avoid a digital divide between rural and urban citizens. (PW – 2010)

95. The SDML supports amending annexation laws to ensure non-contiguous municipal utility facilities, specifically wastewater treatment plants and landfills, be considered to be within municipal boundaries. (PW – 2012)

96. The SDML opposes the imposition of any federal or state taxes or fees that would have an effect upon municipally owned enterprises or utilities. (T&R – 2000; 37)

MUNICIPAL FINANCE

97. The SDML urges the Board of Water and Natural Resources to remove the percentages set by SDCL 34A-6-85 for the Solid Waste Management Grant Program, thereby allowing all applications equal opportunity to be considered for funding based on the merit of the project. (PW – 2000; 18)

98. The SDML supports continuation, reinstatement, or new state and federal grants and loans, at sustained levels, including State Revolving Fund monies, to local governments to facilitate
construction and upgrading of sewer, stormwater utility, water, and solid waste facilities as mandated by state and federal regulations. (PW – 2000; 2007; 19)

99. The SDML supports cooperative efforts to return a portion of the video lottery revenues to municipalities. (T&R – 2000; 2)

100. The SDML supports legislation to increase the license fee that municipalities may charge on video lottery machines. (T&R – 2000; 3)

101. The SDML supports amending SDCL 6-3-3 to return the required percentage of the vote to pass a joint bond issue to a simple majority. (T&R – 2000; 4)

102. The SDML supports allowing local governing bodies to set the cap on the accumulation of funds allowed in SDCL 9-47-1, 9-21-14.1, and 9-48-2. (T&R – 2004; 2015)

103. The SDML supports amending SDCL 9-19-13 to provide that all administrative resolutions would be effective upon passage and publication. (T&R – 2004)

104. The SDML strongly supports legislation to amend SDCL 10-52A-2 to allow up to 2 percent “bed, booze, and board” tax. (T&R – 2005)

105. The SDML supports legislation requiring counties to notify municipalities of any changes to road and bridge reserve fund levies. (T&R – 2015)

106. The SDML supports making water and sewer assessments consistent by adding the provisions of 9-48-15 to chapter 9-47. (T&R – 2015)

Sales Tax

107. The SDML opposes any legislation that would reduce, remove, repeal or reallocate the municipal sales tax, liquor tax reversion or any other municipal revenues to any other unit of government or that
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108. The SDML opposes any further exemptions from the sales tax laws. (T&R – 2000; 10)

109. The SDML opposes the repeal of the sales tax on groceries. (T&R – 2004)

110. The SDML supports legislation to allow municipalities to impose an additional tax on the leases or rentals of hotel, motel, campsites, or other lodging accommodations within the municipality. (T&R – 2000; 11)

111. The SDML opposes any attempt by the state to extend their authority over the collection, administration, and redistribution of the municipal sales tax for any purpose. (T&R – 2000; 12)

112. The SDML supports a sales tax on all catalog and Internet sales. (T&R – 2000; 14)

113. The SDML strongly opposes any formula-driven redistribution of sales and use tax revenues. The SDML strongly supports maintaining the current system of returning revenues based on sales actually attributed to that point of delivery. (T&R – 2002; 15)

114. The SDML supports allowing broad, local-option authority to municipalities that would enable the return of any potential tax revenue increases to entities or persons deemed appropriate by the municipality. (T&R – 2002; 20)

115. The SDML supports a requirement that all prior debt obligations be covered regardless of any potential initiative, referendum, or legislative action. (T&R – 2002; 22)

116. The SDML is opposed to de minimus exceptions. (The exceptions do not serve to level the playing field and the collection allowance will reimburse sellers for the costs of collecting the taxes.) (T&R – 2002; 23)
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117. The SDML opposes any municipal funding of a sales tax collection allowance for all sellers, whether in or out of state. (T&R – 2002; 2004; 2012; 2013)

118. The SDML supports continued local control over local rates and opposes weighted averaging or a state-imposed single rate. (T&R – 2002; 25)

119. The SDML supports retaining the ability of municipalities to impose, adjust, and determine local rates, protect current revenues, prevent loss of revenue, and to account for any future growth. (T&R – 2002; 26)

120. The SDML opposes any moratorium on taxation of Internet services. (T&R – 2002; 2010; 27)

State/Federal Funding

121. The SDML supports federal funding of the “state-side” share of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, on the condition that the state continues its practice of sharing those funds with municipalities. (T&R – 2000; 30)

122. The SDML supports repeal of state taxation on alternative fuels used by local governments, and supports federal tax incentives for government purchases of alternative fuel vehicles. (T&R – 2007)

123. The SDML supports exempting government projects from the contractors excise tax. (T&R – 2004; 2015)

124. The SDML supports exempting government owned and provided materials from the contractors excise tax. (T&R – 2015)

125. The SDML supports legislation to allow a local option, gross receipts tax on alcoholic beverages for the counties to fund public-safety related items. (T&R – 2015)

126. The SDML supports exempting all municipal projects, facilities, and equipment from sales and use taxes, so long as the municipality retains ownership and control, regardless of who installs or operates the facility or equipment. (T&R – 2011)

127. The SDML supports legislation to require that all aviation funds, grants, revenues, taxes, or monies from any other source collected previously and in the future be dedicated for aviation use only. (T&R – 2000; 2010; CB6) (Moved from Core Beliefs)

128. The SDML opposes removing or reducing tax exemptions for municipal bonds. (T&R – 2013)

Property Tax

129. The SDML supports legislation to allow, at local option, the creation of library districts to allow for the equitable funding for libraries that provide service to municipalities, counties, and other overlapping entities. (T&R – 2000; 31)

130. The SDML opposes any legislation that would shift more of the current property tax levy from ag to non-ag property. (T&R – 2000; 32)

131. The SDML opposes attempts to amend the Constitution to cap the growth of property values and base the value on the acquisition value of property. (T&R – 2005)

132. The SDML supports continuing liens and encumbrances on property purchased through a tax deed. (T&R – 2013)

133. The SDML supports legislation to amend SDCL 10-13-35 to set the property tax cap at 3% or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater. (T&R – 2015)

User Fees

134. The SDML supports the concept of user fees for public service calls, including but not limited to law enforcement and fire protection for all tax-exempt properties. (T&R – 2000; 2008; 2010; 33; 2015)
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135. The SDML opposes discriminatory charges on county taxpayers living within municipal boundaries for services, including but not limited to 911 emergency services. (T&R – 2012)

**CORE BELIEFS**

**Municipal Employees**

CB1. The SDML endorses the retention of the existing state constitutional right to work law and opposes any state or federal legislation that interferes with or affects that right. While recognizing the right of employees to organize, it is fundamental that each employee be guaranteed individual freedom of choice in joining or not joining a union or other employee organization. (GG – 2000; CB1)

CB2. The SDML advocates that the cities continue to review and upgrade job safety and health standards for all municipal employees and require the use of safety equipment by municipal employees while on duty. (GG – 2000; CB2)

CB3. The SDML supports legislation that prohibits violence in the workplace. (GG – 2000; CB3)

CB4. The SDML urges local governing bodies to adopt those portions of the Municipal League Personnel Manual that meet their local needs. (GG – 2000; CB4)

CB5. The SDML encourages member municipalities to allot funding and paid time for employee and officials training and educational opportunities so that municipal service is made more effective and at the same time employees may become qualified for promotion to higher level positions. The SDML encourages municipal employees and officials to join and participate in professional associations, job related organizations, and other continuing education activities and urges cities to allot funding and paid time for such membership and participation. (GG – 2000; CB5)

CB6. The SDML urges municipalities to prepare and adopt Equal Employment Opportunity policies that comply with law. (GG – 2000; CB6; 2013)
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CB7. The SDML is opposed to any legislation or administrative rules adopting binding arbitration. (GG – 2000; 2007; CB10)

CB8. The SDML opposes repeal of Article III, Section 26 of the South Dakota Constitution relating to municipal powers denied to private organizations. The SDML opposes any further changes in SDCL 3-18-3 providing for the voting procedure for determination of bargaining unit representation. The SDML supports SDCL 3-18-10 which prohibits strikes by public employees. (GG – 2000; CB11)

CB9. The SDML supports local consideration of “equal pay for equal work” but opposes the development of comparable worth pay systems through DOL rulemaking that advances the notion that government should dictate an organization’s compensation program. (GG – 2000; CB12; 2013)

CB10. The SDML urges cities who do not have a retirement system to join the South Dakota Retirement System after careful fiscal review. (GG – 2000; CB13)

CB11. The SDML recommends that municipalities make available health and life insurance coverage for their employees. (GG – 2000; CB14)

CB12. The SDML urges municipalities and other units of local government to consider joining the SDML Workers’ Compensation Fund, the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, the South Dakota Public Funds Investment Trust, the Health Pool of South Dakota, and SDML Municipal Government Software; and to review other services available through the SDML. (GG – 2000; CB15)

CB13. The SDML supports legislation amending SDCL 62-1-5 and SDCL 62-1-5.1 by revising the compensation rate for volunteers not to exceed the salary from regular employment, and for unemployed volunteers not to exceed the minimum compensation rate under law. (GG – 2000; 4)

CB14. The SDML opposes any investment of the assets of the South Dakota Retirement System in “social investing” or “venture capital.” (GG – 2000; 5)

CB15. The SDML opposes any legislative action allowing a participating entity or group of members from being removed from the South Dakota Retirement System. (GG – 2000; 6)

Community and Economic Development

CB16. The SDML urges all municipalities to adopt a fair housing policy. (GG – 2000; CB16)

CB17. The SDML opposes bills similar to the “Bradley Bill” because of the potential environmental, social and economic impacts on the people and governments of South Dakota. (GG – 2000; 20)

CB18. The SDML encourages the Governor and the Legislature and the Ellsworth Authority to assist in the efforts to retain Ellsworth Air Force Base as a viable military facility. (GG – 2003; 15)

CB19. The SDML supports ensuring K-12 education is at the highest academically competitive levels as
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well as the teaching of basic life skills and responsibilities. (PHSW – 2003)

CB20. The SDML supports the use of public and private colleges and universities in producing labor studies and other studies on local needs and resources, and in the development of a statewide master plan for economic development. (PHSW – 2003)

CB21. The SDML encourages general education cost forgiveness for South Dakota university and technical school graduates who stay in-state for a specified length of time. (PHSW – 2003; 2010)

CB22. The SDML supports the creation of a long-range technology master plan for South Dakota. (PHSW – 2003)

CB23. The SDML urges investment in research and development and intellectual property using research triangles and incubator programs to promote these endeavors. (PHSW – 2003)

CB24. The SDML recognizes that the mismanagement of the Black Hills National Forest is a health, safety and economic development issue for residents of South Dakota. The SDML supports policies that prioritize quality of life and economic development in the Black Hills National Forest. (PHSW – 2003)

CB25. The SDML urges the SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources to recognize that environmental regulations cost municipalities an immense amount of money, which could otherwise be spent on economic development and quality of life improvements. The SDML urges DENR to keep environmental regulation as reasonable and affordable as possible for municipalities in South Dakota. (PHSW – 2003)

CB26. The SDML recognizes the importance of maintaining the National Science Lab, and strongly supports its development at the former Homestake mine. (PHSW – 2005; 14) (Moved from General Policy)

CB27. The SDML encourages the development of a state-wide economic development policy in South Dakota—recognizing that quality of life in communities is a major factor. (PHSW – 2002) (Moved from General Policy)

CB28. The SDML believes that municipal and county governments should formulate and control all local planning and zoning programs. (PW – 2000; CB7)

CB29. The SDML supports enhanced state and federal funding for water supply systems. (PW – 2014)

CB30. The SDML encourages the Legislature and the Governor to review all laws as they pertain to economic development, and to work with municipalities to develop opportunities and remove impediments to development of our communities. (T&R – 2002; 1)

Government Ethics and Operations

CB31. The SDML endorses the Core Beliefs espoused by the National League of Cities.1 (GG – 2000; CB18)
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CB32. The SDML encourages municipalities to initiate policies to oppose racial profiling in any municipal activity. (GG – 2000; CB19)

CB33. The SDML encourages municipal elections to remain non-partisan. (GG – 2003)

CB34. The SDML supports efforts to review and update state statutes related to municipal government provided the South Dakota Municipal League has appropriate representation in that process. (GG – 2000)

Local Control and Home Rule

CB35. The SDML encourages federal, state, and local government leaders to continue to work with American Indian tribes to resolve taxation, regulatory, environmental and infrastructure issues, and law enforcement concerns. Such efforts should address concerns resulting from the federal government placing land into trust on behalf of American Indian tribes without such tribes having entered into a binding agreement with state and local entities on the collection of taxes, law enforcement, infrastructure and environmental concerns, and regulations. (GG – 2000; CB20)

CB36. The SDML encourages consolidation of the Boards of Equalization with the cooperation of all entities of local government in order to relieve taxpayers of unnecessary burdens and encourages legislation to require counties to consolidate Boards of Equalization when requested by a municipality. (GG – 2000; CB21)

CB37. The SDML opposes any legislation expanding the power and authority of special districts, sub-districts, cooperatives, and sanitary districts to render services without allowing municipalities the same options. (GG – 2000; CB22)

CB38. The SDML proactively opposes the mandatory OSHA requirements being applied to municipalities. (GG – 2000; 2)

CB39. The SDML opposes any legislation which would inhibit municipalities from providing services requested by citizens in whatever form the citizens approve. (GG – 2006)

CB40. The SDML opposes any state environmental laws and regulations that are more stringent than existing federal environmental laws, standards and regulations. (PHSW – 2000; CB4)

CB41. The SDML recommends that streets and highways constructed with state/federal funds be based upon consultation and coordination with the local government. (PW – 2000; CB4)

CB42. The SDML urges the Transportation Commission, with input from municipal government, to develop and adhere to an adequate transportation plan and supports the development of an access management model. Further, municipalities must be offered participation in any change affecting their area. (PW – 2000; CB5)

CB43. The SDML opposes any state mandated prohibition against the cities’ right to construct with their own crews. (PW – 2003)

CB44. The SDML opposes any measure that restricts local control over taxation and spending, and urges the defeat of any such measure. Further, the
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SDML encourages municipalities to work individually and with other local governments to inform citizens of the negative impact of tax and spending limitation measures. (T&R – 2000; CB11)

CB45. The SDML opposes any attempt to impose a tax or regulation on self-insured local government pools or individual self-insured local government entities. (T&R – 2000; CB12)

Public Health and Safety

CB46. The SDML believes that the main emphasis of environmental protection should be information and assistance to municipalities and education of the general public. The League urges the State and Federal Government to fully fund programs and provide technical assistance for planning and implementing programs and regulations established by state and federal laws. The League urges continued research and pilot studies in the fields of pollution control, flood control, water and conservation, river siltation, forest management and waste management. (PHSW – 2000; CB1)

CB47. The SDML recognizes the costs associated with maintaining and training regional emergency response teams in South Dakota and supports continued funding from the State of South Dakota. (PHSW – 2006; 2007; 2010) (Amended and moved from General Policy)

CB48. The SDML supports legislation that requires that users of private telephone switches or services be provided capabilities of the same level of 911 services as is available to other residents of the jurisdiction. (PHSW – 2000; 1) (Moved from General Policy)

CB49. The SDML supports legislation that continues to maintain compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act of 1974 and supports legislation for funding compliance. (PHSW – 2000; 2007; 3) (Moved from General Policy)

CB50. The SDML urges municipalities to develop ordinances that establish water and energy priorities within the municipality to conserve these resources. Further, the SDML urges municipalities to develop and implement public education programs designated to encourage water and energy conservation methods. (PW – 2000; CB1)

CB51. The SDML endorses the wise use of energy and urges local officials to be able to provide adequate input into any energy management or energy standards plan or regulation that affects local government. (PW – 2000; CB2)

CB52. The SDML feels strongly that a concerted effort should be made by the state, counties, and cities of this state to eliminate traffic hazards and provide uniform traffic control devices and signing for streets and highways. (PW – 2000; CB3)

Municipal Finance

CB53. The SDML encourages local governments to install 911 and maintain systems using the Funding Surcharge allowed by SDCL 34-45 (Emergency Reporting Telephone) and encourages legislation to increase this surcharge to fully fund the system. (PHSW – 2000; 2007; 2010; CB3)

State/Federal Funding

CB54. The SDML strongly supports the federal government honoring all of its funding obligations, including but not limited to federal highway funding and airport funding. The SDML also strongly supports the continued assistance of the SD Department of Transportation in assuming the local matching portion of federal highway monies. (T&R – 2000; 2010; 2011; CB1)

CB55. The SDML supports periodic evaluation and increases in state motor vehicle license fees for the funding of streets and highways and supports exploring other revenue to fund the highway transportation needs of the state. (T&R – 2000; CB2)

CB56. The SDML will support legislation to repeal the reduction in license fees for commercial vehicles, based on age of the vehicle. (T&R – 2000; CB3)

CB57. The SDML would oppose any redistribution of the motor fuel taxation that would violate the accord reached by the State and local governments in 1985. (T&R – 2000; CB4)

CB58. The SDML supports funding of the South Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program. (T&R – 2000; CB5)
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CB59. The SDML recognizes that the US Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for the operation and maintenance of dams on the Missouri River, which due to design deficiencies, have caused stream bank erosion, channel sedimentation, and river bed degradation. Therefore, the cost to operate and maintain the Missouri River system as envisioned in the Flood Control Act of 1944 (Pick-Sloan) should be borne by the Federal Government. (T&R – 2000; CB7)

CB60. The SDML supports legislation for state general funds for training programs at the local level required by the state for firefighters and EMS workers and especially including funds to reimburse volunteers for expenses incurred in training. (T&R – 2000; CB8)

CB61. The SDML requests that the state financially underwrite the full costs of all law enforcement training that is required by the state. Funds levied for training should be used only for training. Adequate funding of the law enforcement academy is essential to the provision of law enforcement officer training. (T&R – 2000; CB9; 2015)

CB62. The SDML supports the provisions of SDCL 6-15-1 and 6-15-2, relating to unfunded mandates, and believes that any new federal or state program, fee, legislation, rule, or regulation imposed upon municipalities must be federally or state funded. (T&R – 2000; CB10)

CB63. The SDML supports repeal of state taxation on fuels used by local governments. (T&R – 2003; 31)

CB64. The SDML believes that whenever possible and proper, additional local government costs should not be funded through increased real estate taxes, but through appropriate user fees or user tax systems or any other non-ad valorem revenue sources. (T&R – 2000; 33)

CB65. The SDML supports continued state and federal financing at sustained levels to local governments for projects rehabilitating and preserving water quality in South Dakota streams, rivers, lakes and aquifers. (T&R – 2000; 29) (Moved from General Policy)

CB66. The SDML supports developing an open, stronger, more cooperative working relationship with the SD Department of Revenue. (T&R – 2010; 2012) (Moved from General Policy)

Municipal Utilities

CB67. The SDML supports the rights of municipalities to establish electric utility systems to provide service within their corporate limits and adjacent urban growth areas. (PW – 2006)

CB68. The SDML opposes any legislation limiting or eliminating a municipal electric utility’s right to serve customers facilitated by annexation and/or condemnation. (PW – 2006)

CB69. The SDML encourages the state and federal government to maintain said dams in a safe and usable condition. (PW – 2010) (Partially moved from General Policy)

CB70. The SDML supports the continued training and certification of landfill operators. (PW – 2000; 2004; 2010; 17) (Moved from General Policy)

CB71. The SDML opposes any changes to the Power Marketing Administrations and specifically the Western Area Power Administration which deviate from the principles of beneficiary pays and cost-based rates. (PW – 2012)

1 Core Beliefs of the National League of Cities
We Believe in...
- Representative, participatory local government
- Local government as the cornerstone of government in the United States
- The value of public service
- The value of diversity throughout our organization and our communities
- Municipal authority over municipal issues
- A commitment to the highest ethical standards among all public officials
- Civility and mutual respect
- Anticipating the needs of communities and developing strategies to meet those needs and improve the quality of life
- Partnerships, coalitions, and collaborations to strengthen cities and our advocacy efforts

This Statement of Policy is also posted on the League’s website, www.sdmunicipalleague.org.
2015 Safety and Loss Control Recognition Awards

By Ron Burmood, Director of Member Services, South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance (SDPAA)

Congratulations to Layne Stewart, Clay County Emergency Management Director and Safety Coordinator, and Pete Jahn, City of Vermillion Street Superintendent and Safety Coordinator, as they both received the 2015 Jim Fjerestad Memorial Safety Leadership Awards. Jim Fjerestad passed away in 2012 and was well known for his outstanding leadership in promoting safety and loss control while he was an employee for the City of Brandon. Both Layne and Pete were nominated by their peers for this award reflecting their significant contributions as safety leaders.

SDPAA Members who earned 2015 Safety and Loss Control Recognition Awards are shown below. The purpose of the awards is to promote loss control and safety awareness and to honor the Pool Members who work hard in these areas. We thank those Members who participate in this program and encourage all Members to join them in their efforts to eliminate or minimize the consequences of losses.

**Platinum**
(Gold Level Members who have a combined 3 year loss ratio of less than 60%)
- Aberdeen
- Beadle County
- Brandon
- Britton
- Brookings
- Brookings County
- Clark County
- Clay County
- Codington County
- Custer County
- Deadwood
- Dell Rapids
- Edmunds County
- Fort Pierre

**Gold**
- Aberdeen
- Beadle County
- Brandon
- Britton
- Brookings

SDPAA Members who have a combined 3 year loss ratio of less than 60%.

**Platinum**
- Huron
- Hutchinson County
- Lawrence County
- Lead
- Lead-Deadwood Sanitary District #1
- Madison
- Marshall County
- Meade County
- Miner Conservation District
- Mitchell
- Pierre
- Sioux Falls
- Valley Springs
- Volga

**Gold**
- Hutchinson County Highway Dept.
- Lake County
- Lawrence County
- Lead
- Lead-Deadwood Sanitary District #1

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RAPID CITY, SD ▶ [800] 660-5538
BURNsville, MN ▶ [800] 325-0514

SOUTH DAKOTA MUNICIPALITIES
Brookings County Madison
Brown County Marshall County
Clark County HWY Dept. McCook County HWY Dept.
Clay County Meade County HWY Dept.
Codington County HWY Dept. Miner Conservation Dist
Codington County Maint. Dept. Minnehaha County
Custer Mitchell
Custer County Pennington Co. Building/Grounds Dept.
Dakota Dunes Community Pennington Co HWY Dept.
Improvement District Pierre
Davison County Sioux Falls
Deadwood Spearfish
Dell Rapids Valley Springs
Edmunds County Vermillion
Fort Pierre Volga
Garretson Watertown
Hot Springs Watertown Municipal Utilities
Huron

Silver
Fall River County Hyde County Highway Dept.

Bronze
Aurora County Highway Dept. Sturgis
Gregory County Wall
Hand County Highway Dept. Webster
Jerauld County Highway Dept. Yankton
Moody County Highway Dept.

These awards are jointly sponsored by the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance and the SDML Workers’ Comp Fund. For information on how you can participate in the program or for future nominations for the Jim Fjerestad awards, please contact Doug Kirkus at dkirkus@safety-benefits.com or 800-408-9040 or Janet Sporrer at jsporrer@safety-benefits.com or 888-313-0839.
Gov. Daugaard Announces $8.5 Million for Environmental Projects

Gov. Dennis Daugaard says the state Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved $8.5 million for wastewater and solid waste projects.

The $8,492,748 total includes $357,773 in grants and $7,940,975 in low-interest loans, with $194,000 of the loan total in principal forgiveness.

“I am pleased to announce that this money is available to assist local communities,” said Gov. Daugaard. “Grant and loan awards will result in improved wastewater treatment and enhanced protection of the environment.”

The grants and loans awarded by the board are administered through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

A grant was awarded to:
- Wakonda, $7,773 grant to purchase a recycling collection trailer.

Loans were awarded to:
- Lake Madison Sanitary District, $428,000 loan for lift station upgrades.
- Sioux Falls, $6.6 million loan amendment for outfall line replacement.

A loan with principal forgiveness was awarded to:
- Emery, $194,000 loan amendment for wastewater collection system upgrade and improvements, with $194,000 in principal forgiveness.

Grant and loan packages were awarded to:
- Dimock, $528,000 for wastewater treatment facilities improvements that includes a $50,000 grant and $478,000 loan.
- Yankton, $750,000 for transfer station entrance reconfiguration and scale replacement that includes a $300,000 grant and $450,000 loan.

The grants, loans and principal forgiveness were awarded from DENR’s Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program and Solid Waste Management Program.

The Solid Waste Management Program provides grants and loans for solid waste disposal, recycling and waste tire projects. The Legislature annually appropriates dedicated water and waste funding for the Consolidated, State Water Resources Management System and Solid Waste programs through the Governor’s Omnibus Water Funding Bill.

The State of South Dakota and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fund the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, which provides low-interest loans for wastewater, storm water and nonpoint source projects. Principal forgiveness is a subsidy option that results in a reduced loan repayment amount for the borrower.
FirstNet: What is it?  
(And what does it mean for our state and local governments)

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) is the independent authority overseeing development of a nationwide broadband network for first responders and public safety agencies. So, what does that mean? In a nutshell: the police, firefighters, emergency medical service professionals and other public safety officials will have their own nationwide-dedicated broadband network. The network is being designed to be interoperable in all 56 states and territories.

The term “FirstNet” is also used to describe the broadband network itself, which will be a single, nation-wide network. This network will allow our first responders from a variety of jurisdictions to stay safe and do their jobs, while enabling them to communicate together at the same time. To meet the needs of federal, state, local and tribal public safety agencies, it will require one of the largest and most complex IT projects in the nation’s history. Ultimately this would address the problem of inadequate, fragmented communications that have plagued police, fire departments and other emergency agencies for years.

Why does the nation need FirstNet?  
Currently, in emergencies wireless carriers can be overwhelmed, congested and access to cellular voice or data services may become unreliable. In many situations, our emergency first responders are trying to utilize these same congested networks to call for help or provide emergency assistance. This FirstNet network creates a separate (from public use) wireless network specifically for the public safety industry, thus ensuring access in the worst of times.

How will first responders use FirstNet?  
This dedicated nationwide network will inspire new ways to perform public safety roles that are safer, more effective and more efficient. New applications will be created, new purpose-made devices will be available, and public safety will be able to serve our nation more efficiently than ever before. We are proud of those public safety entities who are already utilizing available technology over the commercial networks to keep our state safe. Examples of this are the various Sheriff offices, local municipal police departments, and our State Highway Patrol utilizing the mobile data usage in their vehicles.

Many devices not yet thought of will be built as first responders request different, more efficient ways to utilize a network like this. Although this concept may seem far fetched, remember the iPhone didn’t exist a short 7 years ago. It will be interesting to watch this industry grow as inventors dream new ways to assist our public safety personnel with new devices specific to emergency usage – well beyond a simple smart phone. The next generation of youth growing up today (always connected) will come into this industry expecting this network to exist and they will be equipped to utilize it in ways we’ve not yet thought of.

It is important to note that this FirstNet network isn’t going to replace our existing public safety radios (LMR – Land Mobile Radios) anytime soon. Currently the state Bureau of Information and Telecommunications manages a state-wide digital radio system which will continue to be utilized by the federal, tribal, state, county, and local municipality users. Someday smartphones or some type of radio system may replace the existing voice radios (think Push-to-Talk capabilities) but don’t look for it anytime soon for voice communications as this network focuses on the data capabilities first.

Exactly how can this network help in South Dakota?  
The goal of FirstNet is to build, and operate a national network. The goal of South Dakota is to get the best design specific for our state.

There are many examples but let’s examine one popular event for our state. During the Sturgis Rally (for those of you who are not from South Dakota - it is a large motorcycle event held in the Black Hills) the massive amounts of data and communications rely on commercial mobile or wireless carriers. These networks get overloaded and congested during the weeks of the rally. Even as commercial carriers bring in additional sites, they still remain congested. If you have attended the Sturgis Rally, you probably have experienced a delay getting that all too important picture posted to Facebook. With FirstNet, the public safety entities will be on their own network separate from the public and thus not subjected to the congestion, which will allow their emergency communications to continue. Another feature of the FirstNet network will be the ability for multiple agencies to communicate. In the case of the Sturgis Rally covering multiple states, it is an example of the need for cross state interoperability.

I think we can all agree if we are in need, we want the emergency personnel to communicate even if we (the public) can’t, or experience delays. Yeah, that Facebook post can wait if someone needs help.

What is South Dakota doing to plan for FirstNet?  
State officials with the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications have been working with FirstNet to ensure we design a network that will work for our state. The South Dakota Public Safety Communication Council
NOVEMBER 2015

This council is well represented with the many public safety entities in our state.

The state has provided data collection in the areas of Coverage Objectives (phased build out), Users and Operations (Public Safety Users, devices, etc.), Capacity (including Applications used and data usage), and Current Service (i.e. service plans, procurement, etc.). With this data collection information FirstNet and the state will work together on what is called “The State Plan.” The state plan will provide information on how FirstNet would build out the mobile broadband network in South Dakota. South Dakota has a lot of research, data collection, and state public safety first responders needs that must be included in this state plan in order to make sure that we have all our unique needs identified.

The state officials are working hard to ensure South Dakota is not overlooked by making FirstNet aware of our concerns, and unique aspects of our state’s public safety needs. We want this network to function in some of our most remote areas as well as in our metro areas. With the collaboration and help from our public safety community, we will make sure everyone is properly represented.

How can my city or county be involved?
If the first responders in your town have not heard of FirstNet, I’d encourage them to get involved and become informed as we work towards designing this network and planning for the future. This network is being built for first responders, and for the future – Now is the time for them to become involved.

When will the network be available and what can we do now?
We all know and understand this process is going to take several years to complete. The future network, to be successful, will have to be a cooperative venture between FirstNet, their partner(s) (i.e. providers) and state and local governments. It will not be easy; fact is that it will be difficult, both technically and administratively.

If you are an elected official, start preparing a technology budget or reserves so you are prepared to purchase the necessary equipment that your municipality or organization may need when this network is available. Look at how your public safety entities are operating today. Do the first responders use their own personal devices? Do you purchase smartphones for everyone? Are your first responders currently taking advantage of the data technologies that are available today? What are their plans for the future relating to technology?

While the process is moving towards its end goal, South Dakota will continue the work and support of its existing Land Mobile Radio Networks, and current utilization of commercially available wireless data technologies. While we are fortunate in South Dakota to have good commercial mobile data coverage, mission critical voice (LMR radio) will continue to be the primary means of voice communications for public safety responders for the foreseeable future. We need to ensure our first responders are working with the technologies that are currently available. Utilizing these technologies will help prepare our state for the time this network is available to us. With a fast, reliable, network (the promise of FirstNet) the usage and innovative ways South Dakota first responders will utilize the technology available will only increase. This dedicated nationwide network and new technologies will inspire new ways to perform public safety roles that are safer, more effective and more efficient.

Resources to stay informed:
For more information about the national FirstNet project you can browse to http://FirstNet.gov and to stay informed on the FirstNet effort in South Dakota you can browse to http://psbn.sd.gov.

Our state website: http://psbn.sd.gov/
Twitter: @SDPSBN
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sdpsbn
E-Mail: PSBNInfo@state.sd.us

(SPDSCC SD.gov/) governs these activities. This council is well represented with the many public safety entities in our state.

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Small Towns Improving on Officer Retention

By Jake Shama

Police officers aren’t running from the law in small towns anymore.

According to some police chiefs in southeastern South Dakota, retaining officers in rural communities has been an issue.

The problem, they said, was officers would work at a smaller station while also undergoing certification training in Pierre. The small-town stations were paying salaries to the officer in training, but after receiving their certification, the officers would bolt to a larger station.

“We had one guy, four days after he graduated from the academy, he left,” said Freeman Chief of Police Richard Cummings.

Cummings said that happened frequently during the nine years he spent in Martin in western South Dakota, where he served as assistant chief.

“Ninety percent of people would leave within a year or two of being certified,” Cummings said.

Nearly two years ago, Cummings moved to Freeman, a town of 1,300 in Hutchinson County, and he brought some lessons he learned in Martin to ensure officers remain in Freeman for the long haul.

The problem stretched throughout rural South Dakota, but police chiefs say changes are being made to keep officers interested in working in rural communities. Those changes include better pay, contracts that have penalties, and longer shifts for fewer days scheduled.

And keeping long-tenured officers in rural communities isn’t just beneficial for the station.

Yvonne Taylor, executive director of the South Dakota Municipal League, said it’s important for law enforcement officers to feel connected to the community.

The South Dakota Municipal League mission is the cooperative improvement of municipal government in the state, which includes city police forces.

“Community policing is more than just a buzzword,” Taylor said. “Law enforcement and the community need to see each other as being on the same side, and I think that takes some tenure to develop that.”

Getting Certified

Law enforcement agencies in South Dakota often hire non-certified officers. Although certified officers may apply, Cummings said that isn’t a deciding factor.

“Just because someone is certified doesn’t mean they’re going to get the job,” Cummings said.

Cummings said every police station trains its officers differently, but when a new hire is not certified, he or she must attend a Basic Certification Course at the Law Enforcement Training academy in Pierre within a year of hire, which ensures all officers are taught the same standards statewide.

About 108 people have completed the course each year on average over the past 10 years. Each course lasts 13 weeks and is offered three times a year. Officers attend class for an average of nine hours a day, according to Training Coordinator Greg Williams. They are allowed to go home to work on weekends.

Each Basic Certification Course is supposed to be limited to 40 students, but Williams said this number is often higher.

The cost of the course, including meals, lodging, materials, ammunition, adjunct professors and more, is $4,000 per student. The cost of Law Enforcement Training is covered by the state’s Law Enforcement Officers Training Fund, but the local police department must continue to pay the officer’s wages throughout the 13-week course. With starting salaries often around $13 or $14 an hour, this means a department could pay a new officer more than $7,000 in this time.

Williams said the current class, which began on August 16, is one of the most diverse he’s seen since he started working there in 2008, with 24 different law enforcement agencies from around the state represented.
The course is broken into three areas: non-emergency response, emergency response and investigations.

Throughout 13 weeks, officers learn standards and gain experience in about 70 topics including firearms, pressure point control techniques, simulators, traffic law, vehicle pullovers, building searches, RADAR, child abuse and testifying in court. Then, participants take a 200 question test.

This gives new officers the background to handle most situations, but Cummings said that is not where training ends for police.

“Every department has different field training protocols and what they train on,” Cummings said. “After coming from the police academy, you have to continue training. There’s always training, and it’s always different.”

**Signing Contracts**
Cummings said the city of Freeman requires all officers to sign a two-year contract from the day of certification to stay with the force. The Freeman Police Department’s newest full-time recruit was hired in April 2014, was sent to the academy later that year and is signed on until 2016. This contract doesn’t have a buy-out clause, so that officer is free to leave without penalty, but Cummings doesn’t foresee that happening.

“The officer we did put through academy is local resident, so I’m not worried about it,” Cummings said, adding that the contract was established by the city mostly for legal reasons.

Wagner Chief of Police Tim Simonsen said he goes to conferences and often hears officer retention is a problem occurring in rural communities.

Simonsen has been in Wagner since 2011, and he said four or five officers have left since that time, but those individuals either took promotions in other places or retired. None left simply to work in a larger town.

Wagner officers, like in Freeman, have to sign a two-year contract. If this contract is broken, however, the officer must pay a fee.

“A lot of smaller towns are trying to go that way,” Simonsen said.

With penalties like these, small towns are able to recoup some or all of the money given to an officer during his or
her certification training. Simonsen said he has been lucky
to find applicants with some experience — studying law
enforcement in college, for instance — but they usually
still have yet to receive their certification.

**Changing Schedules**

Officer retainment used to be a problem in Chamberlain,
said Chief of Police Joe Hutmacher.

Hutmacher said it was common for the Chamberlain
Police Department to hire and send an officer to the
academy, and that officer would come back for a few
months to a year before leaving for a different department.

Hutmacher said scheduling was part of the problem in
Chamberlain. All Chamberlain officers worked eight-hour
shifts. Additionally, those on night duty would end up
working five or six consecutive shifts from midnight to 8
a.m. They also might only get one weekend off every
month or two months.

As officers suffered burnout and left town, the department
made a change.

In 2000, the Chamberlain Police Department switched all
officers onto 10-hour shifts. A couple years later, when
Hutmacher became chief in 2002, they adjusted again to
12-hour shifts.

That meant officers had longer days, but they worked the
same cumulative number of hours, and they had more
nights at home with their families. They also received
every other weekend off duty.

“Nursing has done it for years. Now, law enforcement is
following suit,” Hutmacher said.

Hutmacher said Chamberlain was one of the first
departments he knows of to take a 12-hour schedule. This
model has since been copied by other law enforcement
departments in the area, Hutmacher said.

Now, nearly all of Chamberlain’s six officers have been at
the department for at least three years and own homes in
town. Sgt. Jason Handel has been with the department for
more than 12 years, and Hutmacher has worked in the
station since 1999.

**Officer Pay, Duties**

Hutmacher said the city of Chamberlain has also recently
increased officer pay and is hoping to increase wages again
in the future.

Low wages were a recurring problem cited by police
chiefs on the officer retention topic. That’s one of the
reasons, they say, officers were leaving rural communities
for larger stations.

“Cops’ pay is actually worse than teachers’ pay,” said
Wagner’s chief, Simonsen.

Officers in rural areas typically earn between $30,000 and
$35,000 per year, and chiefs from Wagner and Winner said
they also either recently increased police wages or were
trying to soon.

Those don’t compare with wages in Sioux Falls or
Mitchell. The starting salary for an officer in Sioux Falls is
$47,500, according to Kim Stulken, human resources
coordinator for the city of Sioux Falls. If an officer has
prior experience, that number could be higher, Stulken
said. Mitchell offers $41,500 as a starting wage, which
rises to more than $49,000 after five years, according to
Mitchell Chief of Public Safety Lyndon Overweg.

Sioux Falls can also support far more officers. Many of
South Dakota’s rural police departments have between two
and 10 full-time officers. Sioux Falls has 244, with an
additional 35 civilian positions, and looking to hire even
more.

Last year, the Sioux Falls Police Department hired more
than 20 new officers.

With a total of 279 law enforcement personnel in Sioux
Falls, there is room for specialty officers such as canine
units or school resource officers, among many others. In
small towns, an officer may have to serve in all of these
roles.

“Say in Sioux Falls, if you have an accident, you call an
accident investigator,” Simonsen said. “Here, we do
everything. I think it makes you more rounded.”

Overweg said the Mitchell Department of Public Safety has
28 certified officers and hires about one to three officers a
year, and about 20 percent of new hires in Mitchell are
already certified. However, he said there is some turnover
in Mitchell. Five to eight years after certification, Overweg
has seen many officers go to Sioux Falls or a state or county
department, and Mitchell has instituted a penalty-based
contract as well to combat this trend.

“If we send them through basic training, basically they’re
indebted to us for $15,000, which they work off $500 a
month,” Overweg said. “(If they leave early), they have to
pay the remainder.”

At $500 a month, it would take 30 months to pay off the
$15,000, which is similar to signing a two-and-a-half-year
contract.

Chamberlain Chief Hutmacher said smaller departments
can’t compete with Sioux Falls or Mitchell financially, but
that’s not where his focus lies.
Freeman Chief Cummings has a similar policy. Cummings said he prefers to see local people apply, mostly because the town likes to see familiar faces on the police force, though that is not necessarily a determining factor when a hire is eventually made.

Beyond contracts, wages and hiring locally, Cummings has one more piece of advice for keeping officers in town.

“I think the biggest thing is in small towns, there’s a lot of lack of supervision and lack of supervisors being able to work with new officers,” Cummings said. “If small towns can get around that, I think they’d have a lot better retention than what they seem to have.”

With these changes, Cummings said, towns are able to gain longer-tenured employees with more commitment to the community.

“The longer an officer is in a town, yes, I would say the more committed they are,” Cummings said, “because they get to know people, get to know the town, and they become a part of the community.”

Reprinted with permission from The Daily Republic.

Finding Solutions
Still, losing even one officer in a department with 10 or fewer employees is a massive loss, so Paul Schueth, chief of police in Winner, said his town found a unique solution.

“A lot of them came from larger cities and weren’t able to get a foot in the door until they came to a smaller community,” Schueth said. “Then they were better candidates for bigger cities.”

For that reason, Schueth doesn’t hire people who live in bigger cities. In fact, all of his new officers already live in Winner.

Winner holds the only city jail in South Dakota. The Winner Police Department has 10 officers, and all of them started as correction officers at the jail.

By promoting from the jail, Schueth finds applicants who already have ties to Winner and local law enforcement. That means they are less likely to leave town even without contracts and fines.

(Our goal is) not necessarily to compete with those large municipalities, but definitely to compete with towns our own size.”

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GFOA Best Practice: Adopting Financial Policies

Background
Financial policies are central to a strategic, long-term approach to financial management. Some of the most powerful arguments in favor of adopting formal, written financial policies include their ability to help governments:

1. Institutionalize good financial management practices. Formal policies usually outlive their creators, and, thus, promote stability and continuity. They also prevent the need to re-invent responses to recurring issues.
2. Clarify and crystallize strategic intent for financial management. Financial policies define a shared understanding of how the organization will develop its financial practices and manage its resources to provide the best value to the community.
3. Define boundaries. Financial policies define limits on the actions staff may take. The policy framework provides the boundaries within which staff can innovate in order to realize the organization’s strategic intent.
4. Support good bond ratings and thereby reduce the cost of borrowing.
5. Promote long-term and strategic thinking. The strategic intent articulated by many financial policies necessarily demands a long-term perspective from the organization.
6. Manage risks to financial condition. A key component of governance accountability is not to incur excessive risk in the pursuit of public goals. Financial policies identify important risks to financial condition.

Recommendation
GFOA recommends that governments formally adopt financial policies. Steps to consider when making effective financial policies include (1) scope, (2) development, (3) design, (4) presentation, and (5) review.
Scope. There are some basic financial policy categories (but not limited to) that all governments should consider adopting.

1. General fund reserves. Policies governing the amount of resources to be held in reserve and conditions under which reserves can be used.

2. Reserves in other funds. Policies for other funds (especially enterprise funds) that serve a similar purpose to general fund reserve policies.

3. Grants. Policies that deal with the administration and grants process.

4. Debt. Policies that govern the use of government debt, including permissible debt instruments, conditions under which debt may be used, allowable levels of debt, and compliance with continuing disclosure requirements.

5. Investment. Policies that provide guidance on the investment of public funds, including permissible investment instruments, standards of care for invested funds, and the role of staff and professional advisors in the investment program.

6. Economic development. Policies that address a local government’s use of subsidies or other incentives to encourage private development.

7. Accounting and financial reporting. Policies that establish and guide the use of an audit committee, endorse key accounting principles, and that ensure external audits are properly performed.

8. Risk management and internal controls. Policies that address traditional views of risk management and internal control, as well as more modern concepts of “enterprise risk management.”

9. Procurement. Policies that are most essential for adoption by the governing board in order to encourage efficient, effective and fair public procurement.

10. Long-term financial planning. A policy that commits the organization to taking a long-term approach to financial health.

11. Structurally balanced budget. Policies that offer a distinction between satisfying the statutory definition and achieving a true structurally balanced budget.

12. Capital. Policies that cover the lifecycle of capital assets, including capital improvement planning, capital budgeting, project management, and asset maintenance.

13. Revenues. Policy guidance through the designing of efficient and effective revenue systems that guarantee the generation of adequate public resources to meet expenditure obligations.

14. Expenditures. Policies addressing a range of issues around how the money is expended, including personnel, outsourcing, and funding long-term liabilities.

15. Operating budget. Policies that describe essential features of the budget development process and form, as well as principles that guide budgetary decision making.

Development. The following steps should be considered in the development of effective policies.

1. Define the problem the policy will address.

2. Draft the policy. Be aware of legal requirements and consider public comments. Look at the experience of peer governments.

3. Review and present the policy to government officials.

4. Formally consider and adopt policy.

5. Implement policy making sure that staff and government officials are aware of policies.

Design. Effective polices have a number of design features in common.

1. Policies must exist in written form.

2. Policies should be expressed in a manner that is understandable to the intended audiences.

3. Policies should be made available to all stakeholders, and be published in more than one medium with multiple means of access.

4. Policies should address all relevant issues and risks for that specific policy in a concise fashion.

Presentation. Effective financial policies share some of the following traits.

1. All of the financial policies are placed in the same section of the budget document.

2. The original and revision dates are shown on the individual policies.

Review. Financial policies are most successful when they are reviewed after being enacted.

1. Policies should be monitored, reviewed, and updated as needed in a systematic way.

2. Analyze the reasons if specific policies are not being followed.

Note

References listed on the next page will be arranged separately and linked to on the GFOA website at http://www.gfoa.org/adopting-financial-policies-0.

Committee: Budget (2001, 2015)

References


Reprinted from a Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Best Practices article.

(continued in chart on page 44)
# References to Some of GFOA Best Practices on Financial Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Policy</th>
<th>GFOA Best Practice Link (Visit <a href="http://www.gfoa.org/adopting-financial-policies-0">http://www.gfoa.org/adopting-financial-policies-0</a> for the links.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| General Fund/Other Fund Reserves | • Determining the Appropriate Level of Unrestricted Fund Balance in the General Fund  
                                    • Replenishing General Fund Balance  
                                    • Determining the Appropriate Level of Working Capital in Enterprise Funds  |
| Grants                           | • Establishing an Effective Grants Policy  
                                    • Establishing a Grants Administration Oversight Committee  
                                    • Administering Grants Effectively  |
| Debt                             | • Debt Management Policy  
                                    • Analyzing and Issuing Refunding Bonds  |
| Investment                       | • Local Government Investment Pools  
                                    • Investment of Bond Proceeds  |
| Economic Development             | • Evaluating and Managing Economic Development Incentives  
                                    • Coordinating Economic Development and Capital Planning  
                                    • Monitoring Economic Development Performance  
                                    • Developing an Economic Development Incentive Policy  |
| Accounting & Financial Reporting | • Documenting Accounting Policies and Procedures  
                                    • Encouraging and Facilitating the Reporting of Fraud and Questionable Accounting and Auditing Practices  
                                    • Audit Committees  
                                    • Basis of Accounting versus the Budgetary Basis  |
| Risk Mgmt. & Internal Controls   | • Practical Steps to Avoid, Limit, or Eliminate Internal Control Deficiencies Identified in an Audit  
                                    • Business Preparedness and Continuity Guidelines  
                                    • Creating a Comprehensive Risk Management Program  |
| Procurement                      | • Purchasing Card Programs  
                                    • Electronic Payment and Collection Systems  |
| Long-Term Fin. Planning          | • Long-Term Financial Planning  |
| Balanced Budget                  | • Achieving a Structurally Balanced Budget.  |
| Capital                          | • Capital Planning Policies  
                                    • Incorporating a Capital Project Budget in the Budget Process  
                                    • Multi-Year Capital Planning  
                                    • Establishing Capitalization Thresholds for Capital Assets  
                                    • Determining the Estimated Useful Life of Capital Assets  |
| Expenditures                     | • Inflationary Indices in Budgeting  
                                    • Effective Budgeting of Salary and Wages  
                                    • Strategies for Managing Health-Care Costs  
                                    • Measuring the Full Cost of Government Service  |
| Revenues                         | • Establishing Government Charges and Fees  
                                    • Financial Forecasting in the Budget Preparation Process  
                                    • The Use of Trend Data and Comparative Data for Financial Analysis  
                                    • Revenue Diversification, Use of One-Time Revenues, and Use of Unpredictable Revenues  |
| Operating Budget                 | • A Systematic Approach to Managing Performance  
                                    • Making the Budget Document Easier to Understand  
                                    • Public Participation in Planning, Budgeting, and Performance Management  
                                    • Presenting Official Financial Documents on Your Government’s Website  |
State Minimum Wage to Increase January 1

The state minimum wage will increase from $8.50/hour to $8.55/hour effective January 1, 2016.

The minimum wage is annually adjusted by any increase in the cost of living, as measured in the Consumer Price Index published by the U.S. Department of Labor. This year’s increase was 0.2 percent and is rounded up to the nearest five cents.

The hourly minimum wage for tipped employees will be $4.28/hour effective January 1, 2016, half the minimum wage for non-tipped employees. Wages and tips combined must equal at least the minimum wage.

These increases will apply to all South Dakota employers, with some limited exceptions. For more information, visit http://dlr.sd.gov/wagehrs/minimumwage.aspx.

Drug Control Fund Awards

Several law enforcement agencies throughout the state have been given awards from the Attorney General’s Drug Control Fund. The Drug Control Fund is funded by drug forfeiture monies to be used for enforcement in drug control and apprehension purposes. The award money distributed for this most recent cycle totaled $81,529.

Below are the agencies and their awards:
- Faulk County SO $1,513.61 Body Worn Camera Systems
- Miner County SO $2,542.64 Body Worn Camera Systems
- Elk Point PD $4,076.99 Body Worn Camera Systems
- Walworth County SO $3,333.35 Body Worn Camera Systems
- Bon Homme County SO $4,107.67 Tasers
- Deuel County SO $4,475.00 Body Worn Camera Systems
- Roberts County SO $6,764.00 Tasers and Body Armor
- Davidson County SO $5,031.60 Body Worn Camera Systems
- Corson County SO $19,685 Body Worn Camera Systems and In-Car Camera Systems
- Watertown PD $30,000 Canine Vehicle and Equipment
**Work Comp Affidavit of Exempt Status**

Back in July we wrote an article on this new law that affects workers’ compensation and some independent contractors. In response to questions from our membership, we developed this Bulletin to help educate our member Cities on how and when to use the Affidavit of Exempt Status with independent contractors.

The SDML Workers’ Compensation Fund has always recommended that our members should require all independent contractors to provide proof of workers’ compensation insurance coverage before performing work for their City. The reason is to protect your City from a potential work comp claim.

Effective July 1, 2015, SDCL 62-1-19-22 allows some independent contractors the option to provide an Affidavit of Exempt Status to your City in lieu of carrying Workers’ Compensation coverage. This only applies to independent contractors who meet the following criteria:

1. They are a sole proprietor.  
   (Not incorporated and not an employee of your City)
2. They do not have employees.  
   (This includes paid temporary help from family, friends or any other person)
3. They contract directly with your City.  
   (There is no General Contractor for the project)

Here is how it works. Prior to work beginning on a project, the Affidavit must be signed and notarized by both the City and the Independent Contractor. The Affidavit requires that the contractor complete the Exempt Status Fact Sheet and attach it to the Affidavit.

If the contractor would bring any employee to the job, including temporary, seasonal, part-time, a family member or friend, this Affidavit may not protect the City, therefore, the contractor would need to carry Workers’ Compensation coverage and provide proof that coverage is in force.

Please keep in mind that per SDCL 62-1-22, you are not required to accept an Affidavit of Exempt Status as a substitute for a certificate of workers’ compensation coverage. The best protection for your City is to require all independent contractors, including sole proprietors, to carry workers’ compensation insurance coverage and provide a certificate as proof that the coverage is in force.

A copy of this bulletin, the Exempt Status Fact Sheet and the Affidavit can be found through a link on our website at www.sdmlwcfund.com, under the Online Forms tab.

As with all legal matters, please consult your City Attorney before entering into any agreements. As always, be sure to contact our office if you have any questions and we will be happy to assist you.

Telephone: 800-233-9073  
Fax: 605-275-6193  
Email: info@sdmlwcfund.com

Brad Wilson, CIC, AIC, SDWCS  
Administrator for SDML WC Fund  
Insurance Benefits, Inc.

Ladene Bachtell, CPCU, AU, CIC, SDWCS  
Account Executive  
Insurance Benefits, Inc.

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arenseng@iw.net
### SDML Directory Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Delete</th>
<th>Add</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arlington</td>
<td>AIR Regene Lohan</td>
<td>AIR Amiel Redfish</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FC Gerry Bunker</td>
<td>FC Todd Smidt</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UM Regene Lohan</td>
<td>UM Marshal Mix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beresford</td>
<td>CM Gary Lambert</td>
<td>CM Steve Cain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box Elder</td>
<td>CM Mark Coatney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brookings</td>
<td>FO Rita Thompson</td>
<td>FO Shawna Costello</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Meeting 3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>Meeting 2nd Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FO Jacob Jedlicka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estelline</td>
<td>PC Marlyn Pomrenke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eureka</td>
<td>FO Nicole Gruebele</td>
<td>FO Nicole Frerk</td>
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<td>FO Becky Kennedy</td>
<td>FO Dally Sichmeller</td>
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<td>ES Ward Gilchrist</td>
<td>ES Shawn Lambertz</td>
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<td>FO Barb Gienger</td>
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<td>Lennox</td>
<td>WS Roger Almond</td>
<td>WS Jeremy Gulbranson</td>
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<td>ES Brad Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td><a href="http://www.monroesouthdakota.com">www.monroesouthdakota.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapid City</td>
<td>AIR Peter Girtz</td>
<td>AIR Patrick Dame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roslyn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roslyn@midco.net">roslyn@midco.net</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:roslyntown@venturecomm.net">roslyntown@venturecomm.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trent</td>
<td>PR Jonathan Damm</td>
<td>PR Robert Dickey</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T Robert Dickey</td>
<td>T Johnathan Damm</td>
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<td>SS Jeremy Gulbranson</td>
<td>WS Jeremy Gulbranson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yankton</td>
<td>CM Brooke Blaalid</td>
<td>CM Amy Miner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Email Directory changes to paula@sdmunicipalleague.org.
By Rep. Kristi Noem

It took five years to build the Hoover Dam; four years to erect the Golden Gate Bridge; 13 months to construct the Empire State Building; but in some cases, more than a decade to get a building permit approved by the federal government. This is outrageous.

According to a 2010 study by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 351 energy projects were stalled nationwide that would have had a total economic value of $1 trillion and represented 1.9 million American jobs. Even in South Dakota, the impacts are being felt. The same study found that delays pushed $500 million of economic output and 2,600 jobs down the road in South Dakota specifically.

It’s no secret that the Keystone XL Pipeline was one of the projects the federal government has been working hard to delay. This pipeline has been on the list for a number of years. In fact, while the builders first submitted permit applications in September 2008, it took until 2014 for the U.S. State Department to issue its final Environmental Impact Statement, which is just one step in the federal permitting process.

This is a system that is broken – and it’s costing families and local communities jobs, economic opportunities, and money. This fall, I helped move forward H.R.348 – also known as the RAPID Act. This bipartisan legislation streamlines the environmental permitting and approval process to be sure builders, developers, and others get an answer from federal bureaucrats in a timely and efficient manner.

We do this by improving coordination between federal agencies, allowing for simultaneous reviews, avoiding duplication of state and federal efforts, and putting the federal government on a timeline that better serves the people. Moreover, to help eliminate frivolous lawsuits, we reduce the statute of limitations to challenge a final Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment from six years to six months.

It’s unacceptable that federal agencies manipulate the system to slow down critical energy projects that could bring cost savings – and in some cases, greater security – to the American people. The RAPID Act would help to remedy that.
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701-280-3100

Grand Forks, ND 58201
1201 S. 46th St.
701-775-423

Hankinson, ND 58041
17040 Hwy 11
701-242-7474

Hoeple, ND 58243
7695 Hwy 18 S
701-694-6363

Huron, SD 57350
1715 US Hwy 14 W
605-353-1200

Jamestown, ND 58401
1910 27th Ave. SE
701-251-1400

Minot, ND 58701
1508 Hwy 2, Bypass E
701-852-3508

Devils Lake, ND 58301
7816 Highway 2 W
701-665-3800

Aberdeen, SD 57401
4950 E. Hwy 12
605-225-6240

Pierre, SD 57501
801 N. Garfield Ave.
605-224-5400

Rapid City, SD 57702
3601 Deadwood Ave.
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Sioux Falls, SD 57107
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transportation
water
governmental services
senior living
energy
### DECEMBER Community Events

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<td>2015 Pheasant Hunting Season</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20 - January 10</td>
<td>Winter Wonderland</td>
<td>Sioux Falls</td>
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<td>November 24 - December 26</td>
<td>Christmas at the Capitol</td>
<td>Pierre</td>
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<td>November 27 - December 23</td>
<td>1880 Train Holiday Express</td>
<td>Hill City</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 28 - December 27</td>
<td>Winter Wonderland Lighted Park</td>
<td>Watertown</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 3</td>
<td>Christmas with the Celts</td>
<td>Deadwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 4 - 5</td>
<td>Strawbale Winery Twilight Flights</td>
<td>Renner</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 4 - 6</td>
<td>Christmas in the Hills</td>
<td>Hot Springs</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Volga Parade of Lights</td>
<td>Volga</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5 - 6</td>
<td>Aberdeen Living Christmas Tree</td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5 - March 16</td>
<td>James Valley Model Railroad Open House</td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
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<td>December 6</td>
<td>Phillips, Craig &amp; Dean in Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
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<td>December 10 - 12</td>
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<td>December 11 - 12</td>
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<td>Breakfast with Santa</td>
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<td>December 15</td>
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<td>December 15 - March 31</td>
<td>South Dakota snowmobile trails season</td>
<td>Lead</td>
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<td>December 17</td>
<td>Community Movie and Mueller Center Open House: It’s a Wonderful Life</td>
<td>Hot Springs</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 17 - 19</td>
<td>Strawbale Winery Twilight Flights</td>
<td>Renner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For details on the listed events visit www.travelsouthdakota.com. Visit www.sdvisit.com/programs/coop/events/ to submit events to the SD Tourism Calendar of Events.

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BALER/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR: City of Pierre, SD. This position is responsible for operating equipment at the baling facility and landfill to bale and dispose of solid waste. Hours involve varying shifts during the week and work on some weekends and holidays. Qualifications: Must possess or have the ability to obtain at the city’s expense a SD Class A commercial driver’s license with air brakes and tanker endorsements. Experience with operating a front end loader, compactor, scarab, dozer and scraper and driving a semi tractor and trailer desirable. Salary: $15.45 minimum plus comprehensive benefit package. Open until filled. Applications To: City of Pierre Human Resources Director, P.O. Box 1253, Pierre SD 57501, Phone 605-773-7429, www.pierre.sd.gov. EOE.

CHIEF OF POLICE: The City of Gordon, NE (1,612) is accepting applications for the Chief of Police position. Salary negotiable based on qualifications. Minimum qualifications include two years of qualified supervisory or administrative law enforcement experience. Bachelor’s degree preferred. Must be certified or be able to be certified through the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center within one year of hiring. Applicant must be highly motivated with a great work ethic and have the ability to work cooperatively with other agencies and city personnel. The position will remain open until filled. Please submit a cover letter and resume to: City of Gordon, Attn: City Manager, P.O. Box 310 Gordon, Nebraska 69343 or to gordon@gpcom.net. Phone: 308-282-0837. The City of Gordon is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This position is subject to a veteran’s preference pursuant to Neb.Rev.Stat. §48-227. If you are looking for a small, friendly, progressive community to raise your family – one with a great school system, excellent hunting and fishing opportunities, beautiful 9 hole (grass green) golf course, challenges and opportunities – we’re just what you’re looking for!

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER: City of Pierre, SD. Qualifications: Must have a high school diploma or GED, good typing skills, ability to remain calm in stressful
situations, ability to multi-task and must have good communication and public relations skills. Must be able to work in a fast-paced environment and multitask several items at one time. Knowledge of public safety preferred, but not required. Computer knowledge is helpful. Applicants must pass a written exam and a hearing test, pre-employment drug screening and background check. Duties: As a communications officer you will be working as part of a team operating the Central South Dakota Communications Center, the 911-Emergency Dispatch Center for central South Dakota. You will be receiving calls for assistance from the public, documenting and dispatching appropriate public safety personnel for those calls. You will also be receiving, processing and sending radio communications for various Law Enforcement Agencies, Emergency Medical Services, and local Fire Departments. Hours: 40 hours per week - Shift work. Salary: $15.95 minimum plus comprehensive benefit package. Closing Date: Open until filled. Applications: Human Resources Office, City of Pierre, Box 1253, 222 E. Dakota, Pierre, SD 57501, Phone 605-773-7429 or www.pierre.sd.org. EOE.

MAINTENANCE WORKER: City of Woonsocket, SD. Must have a high school diploma or GED equivalent. The following certifications will be required to be obtained within 1 year of employment: Restricted Use Pesticide license, Commercial Applicators License, Water Distribution Class I, Wastewater Collection Class I, Wastewater Treatment Class I. Work areas include but not limited to water, sewer, streets, parks, snow removal, rubble site and swimming pool. Person must be dependable, reliable, friendly and be able to work with others. Send applications and resumes to City of Woonsocket, PO Box 456, Woonsocket SD 57385, phone 605-796-4112, fax 605-796-4276, email: citywoonsocket@santel.net. This position will be open until filled.

FOR SALE: Mosquito control sprayer with remote operation. Model: WOLV. 6.5 HP OHV B&S MTR with electric start. ROOTS: Rotary Lobe Blower. Model: 22 URAI-JDG. Distributed by Clarke-Eng & Tech. $1,900 OBO. For more information call Town of Wolsey at 605-354-3373.

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CONNECTSD

Riverside Technologies, Inc. (RTI) is the primary equipment provider for the municipalities that received technical infrastructure improvements through the state sponsored South Dakota Broadband Initiative. Improvements included wired and wireless network equipment, servers, firewalls for edge security and end user devices such as computers, laptops and tablets. The SDBI project has now closed and RTI would like to help South Dakota municipalities sustain those technical improvements and maximize their potential. Therefore, we are continuing to offer the same products and services to our state’s municipalities and related organizations through a new project called ConnectSD. RTI has a long standing history with public sector, and looks forward to delivering the same level of products and services to which they are accustomed through the ConnectSD project.

Connect with us at: www.riversidetechnologies.com/connectsd/cart

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- Banners
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INTEGRATION:
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- Wireless Assessment
- Network Assessment
- Managed IT Services
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- Green Delivery
- RTI Backup

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November 1 – All property subject to taxation shall be listed and assessed annually, but the value of such property is to be determined according to its value on the first day of November preceding the assessment. (SDCL 10-6-2; See Hdbk., sec. 12.105)

First Tuesday after the first Monday in November –
The general election is held each even numbered year. (SDCL 12-2-2)

November 11 – Veterans’ Day – State holiday (SDCL 1-5-1)

No later than second Tuesday in November –
Governing boards wishing to consolidate boards of equalization must approve a resolution outlining consolidated board membership. (SDCL 10-11-66; See Hdbk., sec. 12.120)

Fourth Thursday of November –
Thanksgiving Day – State holiday (SDCL 1-5-1)

Boundary changes –
Municipalities must notify the Department of Revenue of any resolution or amendment enacted which changes the boundaries of the municipality. Notification shall be in written form, shall contain a copy of the resolution or amendment, and may be sent by
December

**December 25** – Christmas Day – State holiday (SDCL 1-5-1)

**December 31** – Liquor licenses are valid from twelve o’clock midnight on the thirty-first day of December until twelve o’clock midnight on the thirty-first day of the following December. (SDCL 35-4-41; See Hdbk., sec. 11.465)

**By January 14** – If the governing body chooses an election day other than the second Tuesday of April, as provided in SDCL 9-13, that Election Day must be established by January 14 of the election year. (SDCL 9-13-1; See Hdbk., sec. 7.050)

**First meeting of the year** – A complete list of all the salaries for all officers and employees of the municipal corporation shall be published with the minutes of the first meeting following the beginning of the fiscal year or within 30 days thereafter. Added salaries of new employees and increased salaries of the old employees should be shown in the month in which they occur. A total of payroll by department shall be published monthly in the minutes. (SDCL 6-1-10; See Hdbk., sec. 5.095)

**Newspaper designation** – The official newspaper must be designated annually or for a period of time specified by the governing body, but not to be less than twelve months. (SDCL 9-12-6)

**Boundary changes** – Municipalities must notify the Department of Revenue of any resolution or amendment enacted which changes the boundaries of the municipality. Notification shall be in written form, shall contain a copy of the resolution or amendment, and may be sent by electronic means or registered mail. Municipalities shall also provide any changes and additions to streets and addresses. (SDCL 10-52-13; See Hdbk., sec. 14.172)

*Find the Municipal Calendar for the entire year in the SDML Handbook for Municipal Officials, Directory of SD Municipal Officials, or at www.sdmunicipalleague.org.*
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Alec Boyce
aboyce@sehinc.com

Al Murra
amurra@sehinc.com

Eric Hanson
ehanson@sehinc.com

Rocky Keehn
rkeehn@sehinc.com

sehinc.com
605.330.7000
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