MINUTES

South Dakota Municipal League
Board of Directors

Tuesday, October 4, 2016 ★ Rapid City, SD

President Meri Jo Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m. Members present were:

Meri Jo Anderson, Finance Officer, New Underwood; Harry Weller, Mayor, Kadoka; Amy Nelson, City Manager, Yankton; Karl Alberts, Finance Officer, Aberdeen; Laurie Gill, Mayor, Pierre; Mike Grosek, Mayor, Webster; Steve Allender, Mayor, Rapid City; Pauline Sumption, Finance Officer, Rapid City; Debbie Houseman, Finance Officer, Lake Andes; Arnie Schott, Mayor, McLaughlin; Anita Lowary, Finance Officer, Groton; Ray Bueno, Finance Officer, Sturgis; Carolynn Anderson, Finance Officer, Wall; Mike Wendland, Mayor, Baltic; Christine Erickson, Councilmember, Sioux Falls; Tim Reed, Mayor, Brookings; Leland Treichel, Mayor, Roscoe

Members not able to attend were: Renae Phinney, Ree Heights

Others Present: Yvonne Taylor, SDML Executive Director; Suzanne Starr, UJS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
It was moved by Wendland, seconded by Grosek to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2016 meeting. Upon unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
It was moved by Wendland, seconded by Alberts to approve the financial statements as presented. Upon unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS
• Approval of 2017 Lobbyists. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Weller to approve Yvonne Taylor, Will Mortenson, Larry Nelson, and Lori Martinec to lobby on behalf of the SDML for the 2017 Legislative Session. Upon unanimous vote, the motion was approved.
• Suzanne Starr with the Unified Judicial System discussed the possibility of municipal participation in the rural practice attorney program. The consensus of the Board was very supportive, and they directed Taylor to take the issue to the Wednesday, October 5 meeting of the General Government Policy Committee.
• Taylor updated the Board on the status of the Buffalo Chip law suit, which has been appealed to the Supreme Court; and the declaratory ruling requested by Pennington County Commissioner George Farabee before the Board of Water and Environment regarding local regulation of ‘cesspools and privies.’
• Taylor brought the Board information on the status of the opposition to Initiated Measure 23, noting it was the only one of the ten ballot measures the SDML had a taken a position on.
• Discussion was held regarding the usefulness of continued attempts to work with counties on the statewide level. It was moved by Grosek, seconded by Schott, to have Taylor notify the county associations that the lack of county support for municipal concerns during legislative sessions indicate there is no longer a need to continue with the joint board meetings in December. The motion was approved 16-1, with Nelson voting nay.

OLD BUSINESS
Taylor noted that the revised affiliate agreement had been sent to the Board prior to the meeting, and to each affiliate board, and that copies were in the Board packet, and would be at each affiliate meeting. As the changes were fairly minimal, Taylor did not think there were concerns about the acceptance of the agreement.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS
Discussion was held on open meeting laws and the participation of citizens at city council meetings.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Taylor noted that the registration numbers were good, and consistent with prior years. Conference speakers were highlighted.

Taylor noted that there will likely be few major issues brought forward from the SDML, as there will be significant changes in the make-up of the legislature. Taylor noted that most groups she has spoken to are taking a “wait and see” position for the 2017 session.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business and no expressed need for an executive session, it was moved by Wendland, seconded by Lowary that the meeting be adjourned at 9:22 p.m. Upon unanimous vote, the motion was approved.