

## **SDAD Conference**

**Friday / Saturday, June 27 & 28, 2025 Downtown Holiday Inn, Sioux Falls, SD**

Tanya Miller, President

Ashley Cain, Vice President (2023-2024) Jeff Panek, Vice President (2024-2025) David Dahle, Secretary

Kevin Barber, Treasurer

Board members at large:

Callista Anderson, Tim Jackson, Mark Koterwski, Bruce Kucker, and Patty Kuglitsch

Note: Reports are in a separate document and are arranged in the order that they are referenced. President Tanya Miller was unable to attend due to prior plans, so Vice President Jeff Panek was in charge of the forum and business meeting.

The conference began Friday evening at 7PM with video-taped messages from President Tanya Miller welcoming the attendees as well as giving the State of SDAD address.

### **State of SDAD Report**

The member forum began with some general discussion of concerns relating to the potential abolition of the Department of Education, given the number of disability-related initiatives that are currently enforced through that department.

The following issues were then brought forth by the members:

- \* The need to clarify grievance procedures for the various interpreting agencies
- \* Not having the ability to choose between a live interpreter or VRI in medical settings

(Christopher Cardano informed the members that it was possible to have one's interpreting preference added to their medical chart)

- \* Deaf interpreters / CDI - ensure that the laws and rules are updated to allow them to be paid the same way as their hearing peers.

- \* Concern about the use of 'communication aide' versus certified interpreters in educational settings, and the desire to require a certified interpreter

The above three items were consolidated into a single mandate.

\* Continue working with the SD Secretary of State's Office to arrange for the production of ballot explanation videos in ASL before each statewide election

\* Updating interpreter laws / rules to remove requirement to register with the state and only require that they be certified

\* Establishing a state commission for the deaf and hard of hearing, similar to those in other states

Mark Koterwski (Patty Kuglitsch) moved to accept these as the mandates for the next two years. Carried.

### **Business meeting, Saturday, June 28th:**

The SDAD business meeting was called to order by Vice President Jeff Panek at 9:15 AM.

There were approximately 30 members present, meeting the required quorum of 20 members. The number of members present for the meeting remained consistent at approximately 30 throughout the day.

All current Board members were present except President Tanya Miller and Board members Callista Anderson and Bruce Kucker.

Larry Puthoff led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the 2023 Conference Minutes:** [2023 SDAD Conference Minutes](#)

Patty Kuglitsch (Stan Brozik) moved to accept the 2023 Conference minutes as read. Carried.

### **Officer and Committee Reports:**

Note: For most of the reports referenced, no further discussion beyond the copies of the reports distributed to the members before the conference.

A. President - Tanya Miller: [President's Report](#)

B. Conference Co-Chairs - Deborah Brozik & Aubrey Byrnes: [Chairs' Report](#)

C. Vice President - Jeff Panek: no report

D. Secretary - David Dahle: [Secretary's Report](#)

E. Treasurer - Kevin Barber: [\*Treasurer's Report\*](#)

**a. SDAD Recreation Center ad-hoc committee:**

Kevin shared survey results as well as research on the cost of purchasing, the cost of leasing, and the ongoing expenses that apply in both cases.

The overall conclusion was that SDAD cannot afford the expense of leasing or purchasing a commercial property site as a permanent location for its activities.

The members were reminded by Patty Kuglitsch that the lease agreement for space in the Simpson building comes with the ability to use the conference room or second-floor break room at no additional charge.

Vice President Jeff Panek requested a 10-minute break at 10:20.

The meeting resumed at 10:31 AM.

F. Accessibility Committee - Angela Ellman [\*Accessibility Report\*](#)

G. Deaf Cultural Heritage - Scott Miller [\*Cultural Heritage Report\*](#)

**a.** Scott also showed a 3D view of the Simpson Building and a time-lapse describing the changes from its construction in 1883 to the present. He also intends to do a similar presentation for each building and eventually, the campus as a whole.

Scott then spoke of digitizing pictures and slides for the virtual museum. He discovered a cache of slides with many pictures he had not seen before, and he arranged to have them digitized by the company he'd been using so far. There was difficulty in getting them to provide an estimate, and paid the \$2000 they eventually requested, thinking it was half the ultimate amount to be billed. He had a mild case of sticker shock when the balance turned out to be a bit over \$7000!

Fortunately, SD Services for the Deaf will be covering half the cost, but... the money allocated for this purpose is running low.

H. Education - Lance Sigdestad: [\*Education Report\*](#)

I. Finance - Sonny Rasmussen [\*Finance Report\*](#)

J. Governance - Larry Puthoff: [\*Goverance Report\*](#)

Larry Puthoff took the floor to present some bylaws changes for the members' consideration.

It was agreed that we would have an informal 'show of hands' vote on each proposal, then a formal motion would be made to accept the changes in whole.

**Proposal #1:** Reducing the number of at-large positions from 5 to 3 and adjusting board meeting quorum from 7 to 5.

The members accepted the change.

**Proposal #2** - establishing residency requirement while in office.

David Soukup (Stan Brozik) moved to amend proposal #2 to read: "All SDAD officers and board members at large shall maintain their primary residence in South Dakota with mailing address for the duration of the current term."

The members accepted the change and its amendment.

**Proposal #3** - Allowing Board members to serve as chair of any of the standing committees. The members accepted the change.

**Proposal #4** - Audit Committee term length.

Vice President Jeff Panek called for a recess at 11:20 for the Hall of Fame luncheon. The meeting resumed at 1:40 PM.

David Soukup (Robert Zimmer) moved to amend proposal #4 to establish staggered 2-1 year terms with two auditors.

The members accepted the change and its amendment.

Patty Kuglitsch (Robert Zimmer) moved to accept the bylaws changes as a whole. Motion carried.

K. Hall of Fame - Scott Miller: [Hall of Fame Report](#)

L. Legislative - Ben Soukup: [Legislative Report](#)

M. Public Relations - Scott Miller: [Public Relations Reports](#)

**Other reports:**

A. NAD Delegate - Mark Koterwski: [NAD Delegate Report](#)

## B. SDAD Foundation:

A videotaped report was shared by Danny Lacey, the fund manager. The foundation has been doing well in building up the balance, despite the uncertain political climate. The principal is nearing the \$1 million target at which point funds can be made available for SDAD and other non-profits.

SDAD Foundation board:

President - Ben Soukup, Vice President - Tom Kober, Secretary - Larry Puthoff, Treasurer - Randy Gerloff, and David Soukup - Board member

## C. Necrology:

A moment of silence was observed for those who left us between 2023 and 2025 - members, SDSU alumni, and friends of the community:

Floyd Norris, Mark Johnson, Vicki (Beegle) Fitzpatrick, Diane Medio, Anthony 'Tony' Hofer, John Timmer, Dana Dillman, John Herr, Robert Carl, John Jones, Beth (Frybarger) Wegehaupt, Marvin Yellow Hair, Grace Kaple, Jay Ward, Ronald Kersbergen, Irene (Schaefer) Taylor, Julie (Monroe) Meier, Kathy (Pochinski) Jankowski, Norman White Shirt, William 'Bill' Gerriets, Laural (Olson) Brasel, Paul Graves, John Schlichenmayer, Frank and Marlene Turk, Rick Norris, Arnold Fonder, and Norman Larson Jr. D. Nominations:

## D. Nominations:

a. Tom Kober is the Nominations chair and wanted to remind everyone to see him if they were interested in running for the Board.

## **Unfinished Business:**

There were two unfinished items from the 2023 Conference.

One was the SDAD Budget policy, and a motion has been submitted to the Secretary for consideration in New Business.

The other was a tabled motion:

Scott Miller / Steve Janecek moved to establish regular dues at \$20.

Robert Zimmer / John Timmer moved to amend senior citizen dues to \$15.

Mark Koterwski (Connie Dokken) moved to table the motion to 2025 Conference.

Patty Kuglitsch (Sonny Rasmussen) moved to return the motion to the floor for discussion. Motion carried.

Robert Zimmer (Dwight Jensen) moved to amend senior citizen dues to \$10. Amendment was ruled out of order.

Ben Soukup moved to table the motion to the 2027 Conference. Motion failed.

The motion was carried after further discussion.

Biennial (two-year) member dues are now \$20 regular / \$15 senior citizen

### **New Business:**

1. Patty Kuglitsch (Colleen Barber) moved to approve the SDAD Budget Policy and Procedures as revised.  
Motion was held for further discussion later in New Business.
2. Scott Miller (Larry Puthoff) moved that SDAD formally withdraw consideration of purchasing or leasing space due to cost considerations. Motion carried.
3. Brian Reno (David Dahle) moved to have a quarterly gathering / forum after each Board meeting. Motion failed.
4. Patty Kuglitsch (Colleen Barber) moved to transfer the two restricted fund accounts to the General Fund. Motion carried.
5. Myrna Collins (Deborah Brozik) moved that Chamberlain be the site for future SDAD Conferences, given its central location. Motion was moved to site selection discussion.
6. Marilyn Rye ( ) moved that when SDAD sends out flyers for events with deadlines, the deadline for reservations be included also. Motion withdrawn.
7. Kevin Barber (David Dahle) moved to establish a comprehensive study on the ongoing sustainability of the TRS fund, specifically focusing on identifying alternative sources of revenue beyond the existing telephone surcharge. Motion carried.

The first motion was returned to the floor.

Vice President Jeff Panek requested a 15-minute recess at 2:56 to allow further discussion of this motion in the background.

Meeting resumed at 3:15.

Sonny Rasmussen (Robert Zimmer) amended to remove the percentage figures. The motion was ruled out of order.

8. Brian Reno (Robert Zimmer) moved to establish separate dues for sponsors as a possible added revenue stream. Referred to the Board for further action. Motion carried.
9. Patty Kuglitsch (Colleen Barber) moved to approve the SDAD Budget Policy and Procedures.  
Sonny Rasmussen (Robert Zimmer) amended to remove the percentage figures from the second paragraph on the second page. Amendment and main motion carried!

The 2025-2027 budget was then reviewed and discussed, along with short-term funding concerns.

Arlin Devish (Brian Reno) moved to approve the budget. Carried.

Vice-President Jeff Panek requested a 10-minute break at 3:42 PM. Meeting resumed at 3:53.

New Business was closed with no objections.

Tom Kober, Nominations chair, took the floor to begin the election.

1. There was one candidate for President: Mark Koterwski.  
Robert Zimmer moved to accept Mark as President by acclamation. Carried.
2. There was one candidate for Vice President: Jeff Panek.  
Sonny Rasmussen moved to accept Jeff as Vice President by acclamation. Carried.
3. There was one candidate for Secretary: David Dahle.  
Bill Christiansen moved to accept David as Secretary by acclamation. Carried.
4. There was one candidate for Treasurer: Kevin Barber.  
Robert Zimmer moved to accept Kevin as Treasurer by acclamation. Carried.
5. There were five candidates for board member at large, but now only three positions:  
Sheila Barton  
Stanley Brozik      **Elected**  
Tim Jackson  
Brian Reno          **Elected**  
Lance Sigdestad    **Elected**

6. There were three candidates for NAD delegates (besides the President):

Sheila Barton

Patty Kuglitsch      **Alternate**

Lance Sigdestad      **Selected**

7. It was now time to consider the site of the 2027 SDAD Conference:

Aberdeen

Chamberlain

Rapid City

Sioux Falls      **Selected**

Tea

Watertown

Yankton

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 PM.

The incoming board took the oath after the business meeting. A group picture followed, and after everyone had something to eat, the conference ended with a very entertaining program by Magic Morgan and Liliana.

Respectfully submitted, David Dahle  
SDAD Secretary 2023-2025

7-28-25 11:07pm