

**Minutes**  
**FPDC Board of Directors**  
**Tuesday, August 25, 2026**  
**Municipal League**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Call to Order at 11:45:** President, Kale Urban  
A quorum was not attained at this meeting.

**Board Members Present:**

- Kale Urban
- Michel Williams
- Rob Coverdale
- Lyle Magorien

**Board Members Absent:**

- Jody Carter-Clarambeau (excused)
- Callie Iversen (excused)
- Dana Iversen (excused)
- Steve Hayes (excused)

**Others Present:**

- Shane Kramme
- Dave Bonde
- Sunny Hannum

Dave welcomed Shane Kramme who brought the board up to date on Fort Pierre Chamber activities and role in supporting community events. He said many events involve both the Fairgrounds and the Expo Center. He also manages the Expo Center which hosts Oahe Hockey in the winter. The Expo Center board is made up of representatives from the City of Pierre and Fort Pierre and the counties of Hughes and Stanley established in 2000.

Kramme explained that the Chamber had a Board of Trustees established in 1948 as the Verendrye Benevolent Association/Chamber: Joe Thorne is president, he is vice president, and Shawn Leafgreen is treasurer. Other board members are KC Hughes, Joel Catlin, and David Titze. The Chamber has 130 members that pay \$50 a year membership which is the original fee which has never been changed.

The Chamber received \$10,000 from the City last year to which they added \$5,000 and 100% was given to support community events. Fort Pierre Horse Racing was supposed to receive .5 million a year but has had to raise funds primarily from simulcast wagering taxes and state racing funds managed by the South Dakota Commission on Gaming. The South Dakota Commission on Gaming approved a series of resolutions to open the door to one day of horse racing this fall at the Stanley County Fairgrounds this fall. The South Dakota Legislature passed and the governor signed House Bill 1058 in February 2026 to support the state's horse racing industry, which helps fund live racing in Fort Pierre.

HB 1058 authorizes the South Dakota Commission on Gaming to license and regulate online pari-mutuel betting providers. Created revenues from these online wagering platforms are directed to support and stabilize live horse racing, keeping the tradition alive in Fort Pierre—the last remaining site for live horse races in the state.

Kramme thinks the small tracks will rebound due to people's need for entertainment. This is already happening in the states around South Dakota.

#### **Review & Approval for Filing of July 31, 2026 Financials:**

Dave reported that the July financials had to be corrected due to the \$3,000 check for the Buffalo Legacy Project having been posted to "Dues & Subscriptions" on the "Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual" which had caused that Expense # 606 to be 500+%. This has been corrected in the handout today with the \$3,000 now showing as a donation from RLF under "Other Expense".

Revolving Loan Fund now has \$61,396 available for loans and all current loans are up to date. 6<sup>TH</sup> Avenue Housing Account shows a balance of \$31,757.17 in July financials due to a HOF transfer tagged for payment of the First Fidelity Bank loan.

Financials will have to be approved for filing at the September meeting due to lack of quorum.

#### **Review & Approve July 28, 2026 Board Minutes:**

July board minutes will also have to be approved at the September meeting due to lack of quorum.

#### **Reports:**

##### **– City – Jess Powell**

Jess reported that the new hotel is progressing and Pizza Ranch has begun their complete remodel. Hannum Trucking has sold to a construction business that has begun renovation. Anderson Contractors property is available for sale. All of the building sites in Marion's Gardens are spoken for and the City really needs places for housing development.

The City got a grant to pay for half of the work on Buffalo Road up to Sioux Nation and have plans to do the rest. The Waldron project is substantially completed as is the Mini Wiconi. The 9th Avenue project is ready for curb and gutter. The Verendrye Hill slide is a private property issue. He thinks the railroad ordered a survey and is currently keeping the railroad track cleared for train travel.

##### **– Stanley County – Dana Iversen**

Not Available

##### **– FPDC Committees:**

###### **– Housing Committee – Met August 6 with only 3 members present**

Dave provided handouts that were discussed at that meeting the increased income limit for Governor's house owners to \$103,400. The handout also included a cost estimate for each house along with additional costs and the SDH agreement form. He said the total estimated cost per house would be around \$256,000.

###### **– Business Resources & Retention:**

New Board Member Callie Iversen has asked to be on this committee and a meeting is planned soon.

- **Education:**  
Rob Coverdale, Stanley County Schools Superintendent reported on the new cell phone policy which is being conducted with a magnetic pouch program called YONDR which the school purchased for \$5,000. He expects this new policy to help the mental health of students and also their academic performance due to less distraction from electronic devices. He said parents and students seem to be accepting the program surprisingly well this first week of school.
- **Downtown Development Committee:** Met August 6  
The group had skipped the July meeting the week of the 4<sup>th</sup>. New attendee at the August meeting was Peaceful Pines manager, Jalen Bame. The group was informed that a City budget request had been made again for \$1,500 which would more than double the current amount in their bank account.

#### **New Business:**

##### **1. Discussion and Formal Approval of Chad Stoeser, Sioux Nation, Inc.:**

To fulfill the remaining term of resigning board member Mike Peterson subject to re-election for a second term 1/2028. Due to lack of a quorum, formal approval will be on the agenda in September.

#### **Old Business:**

None

#### **Other Business:**

- **Office Report:**
  - **Ghost Mural Project:** Sunny reported that a letter had been received for a second grant she had written for the Rowe Hardware ghost mural project to the National Trust Hart Family Ranch Fund had been denied with an invitation to reapply next year. Only one grant could be received for the project and a grant had been received from Fort Pierre Tourism for \$2,388 or half the cost of the project. Jim and Connie Carlisle are donating the funds for the balance of the quote from the artist. She and her brother are planning to do the restoration work towards the end of September.
  - **Membership:** No additional membership dues were collected in August so the total of membership fees remains at \$28,175. Sunny had sent an invoice to Casey's Corporate Office asking for their membership of \$600. They had replied they did not due memberships but instead donated to schools and community projects. She inquired whether they would donate to the FPDC scholarship fund which had been low on donations this year. She has not received a reply to date.
  - **Facebook & Web Page:**  
Facebook has had **19,943 views in the last 28 days** from July 20 – August 16. This was an 84% drop from the **previous month which had 123.5K views** due to all the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities and statue posts. August 7 – 9 saw an increase due to photo galleries Sunny posted of the barbecue, car rally, and Trader Days. Looking back at the post of Water Carrying Woman June 23<sup>rd</sup> had 48,366 views, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Winners post had 16,870 views, Trader Days post had 6,393 views and the photo of Total Beauty's turkey race buckle had 4,045 views. The Facebook page has **1,240 followers**.

The web site was down 40.7% in visitors from the previous 28 days with **751 visitors**

**compared to 1.2K visitors in July.** Once again there was a slight peak around August 11 when Sunny posted a new article on the home page about Trader Days featuring a picture from the antique car reunion at the Expo Center. The home page had 404 page views due to the article, the board of director's page had 79 probably due to minutes and agendas there and Property for Sale had 69. The business directory showed Teton Arms Gun Shop, Mortenson Law and Total Beauty getting the most visits.

– **Historic Sculpture Locations:**

Dave had attended the last meeting of the Historic Sculptures Committee of which he and Sunny are members. Some members of that committee believe the next two proposed sculptures, Pierre Chouteau and White Buffalo Calf Woman, should both be placed in Tatanka Trail Park.

Consensus of the FPDC board members present was in agreement with placing the next two statues in Tatanka Trail Park.

– **Verendrye Hillside Slide Issue:**

See City Report

**Around the Table:**

- Kale reported that Streetmasters had 90 guests at their annual event during Trader Days and 116 cars participated in the Dam Run. The group gave a \$500 donation to the Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center fundraiser for the hill slide.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:45 by the President.**