



First District News

418 18th Avenue NE | PO BOX 1207 | Watertown, SD 57201

Phone: (605) 882-5115 | Fax: (605) 882-5049 | Web: <http://association.1stdistrict.org/>

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Jackie Erickson Retiring From First District

After 22 years of working “part time”, I’ve decided to ride off into the sunset.

In April of 2000 I saw an ad in the Watertown Public Opinion that First District Association of Local Government was looking for someone to collect/update data in the Geographic Information System (GIS) Department. I didn’t know what First District did or what GIS was but I applied anyway. I might have been the only applicant, but Roger Mack and Ryan Hartley hired me to work on “projects”.

My first project was to collect data for the Department of Transportation (DOT) in Grant County by driving on every road from grass covered trails to US highways and enter the information into a computer system. This was before the county was signed at every intersection so it wasn’t always easy to determine which street or avenue that I was on.

Over the years, I’ve been on nearly every road in 27 counties of South Dakota. I’ve seen some awesome west river sights because First District has been contracted to maintain the DOT data. From Harding County in the northwest corner of the state to Fall River County in the southwest corner are some very scenic areas that most people never get to see.

The most time-consuming project that I somehow inherited is the annual printing of road and street maps for 125 towns, 255 townships and 632 road districts. Many of you have probably helped review and update these maps.

I also worked with the Emergency Management Offices to update the Hazardous Material Plan for them. It’s “eye-opening” to see all the chemicals and fuels that are transported and stored in every county.

For the past several years, I’ve worked on the South Dakota One Call (811) project in which First District assists utility locators find an address where someone wants to dig in the ground. My thanks to the Equalization Offices and the county E-911 coordinators for making this job easier. In closing, a special thank you to each and every First District employee who has made working here so very enjoyable.

I plan to spend May-September walleye fishing on the Missouri River in Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. Then go to Texas, Mississippi and Florida from November-March of 2023.





MY THOUGHTS... By: Todd A. Kays



As I pen this article, the South Dakota Legislature is nearing its last regular legislative day for the 2022 Session. Every year the Legislature deals with legislation that has some level of impact on local units of government. This year was no different. Let us look at some of those planning and economic development bills.

One bill relating to providing notice for a hearing on a comprehensive plan in a proposed joint jurisdictional area barely got off the ground before being dismissed – good job legislators. HB 1114 would have required a county and city establishing joint zoning regulations to notify all property owners within the “proposed” joint zoning authority area by registered mail of a scheduled public hearing. The current process provides plenty of public notice over 2 to 4 public hearings required to adopt a comprehensive plan/zoning ordinance in the joint-jurisdiction area.

SB 190 was a bill that will allow a municipality to regulate medical cannabis establishments or any other cannabis related establishment without having to adopt a comprehensive land use plan or zoning ordinance. The bill has been signed by the Governor. This will help those 32 communities within the First District without legally enforceable zoning regulations. The enabling legislation allows those communities to establish setbacks from a sensitive land use areas such as churches, schools, day cares, public service and recreation facilities, places frequented by people under age twenty-one, and parks. It should be noted that it does not “zone out” medical cannabis dispensary facilities.

Perhaps the most significant legislation related to community development was found in SB 53, SB 65, and HB 1033. All three of these pieces of legislation dealt with the concept of providing funds identified by

the Governor for workforce housing development in the State. SB 65 would have expanded the use of SDHDA Home Opportunity grant and loan funds to include “Infrastructure” activities. SB 53 would have allocated \$200,000,000 in grant funds to the Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED) for purposes of increasing housing supply across South Dakota. Both of those pieces of legislation failed. However, HB 1033 was eventually passed by the legislature which would allow for the transfer of \$200,000,000 to the South Dakota Housing Development Authority for the purpose of grants and loan funding for workforce housing. At the time of drafting this article, the Governor has not signed said legislation. If enacted 70% of the funds would be available to all entities of the First District until 2024.

I need to take this opportunity to thank Jackie Erickson for 22 years of dedicated service to the First District. Jackie was retired from military service when he began his tenure with this office. We would see Jackie in the fall and he would leave in the late spring so he could spend his summers on the Missouri River. He has been integral in developing the work flow elements related to both our South Dakota One Call GIS and Hazmat Plan projects. Jackie will continue to spend his summers on the River but will winter in Florida. Good Luck and Thank you Jackie. You will truly be missed.

Finally, please join us and the Governing Body at our next Board meeting which will be held on Thursday, March 31 at our offices in Watertown or on Zoom (more information on page 4).

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87409436977?pwd=Yy90b0JYVzZEV2FtMkNmUmJtVjJNdz09&from=adon>

Meeting ID: 874 0943 6977

Passcode: 985509

Save the Date!

The Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED) Conference is scheduled for April 13 in Sioux Falls. For complete information, please visit <https://sdgoed.com/partners/2022-goed-conference/>



REMINDER

DOT Maps Returned by April 19

Since 1995, the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) in cooperation with the South Dakota Planning and Development Districts has been collecting city, county, township, road district, tribal, state, and federal roadway information using Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. This information is utilized by the SDDOT for several purposes including reporting mileage to the Federal Highway Administration and county auditors, as well as creating county and city maps.

On behalf of the SDDOT, First District staff mailed maps to individuals with jurisdiction over roads and asked for assistance in updating any changes in an effort to keep this roadway information current.

We encourage everyone who received a map to return their maps to First District by April 19 even if there have been no changes.

The assistance of county, city and township officials is critical to the accuracy and overall success of the SDDOT public road inventory, and we believe that we will all benefit through this multi-agency cooperation.

DUNS Number Changing

By April 4, 2022, the federal government will transition away from using the Dun & Bradstreet data universal numbering system (DUNS) to the new Government issued Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) as a means of entity identification for federal awards. Entities must be registered in SAM.gov to qualify for federal awards, which are reported to the public through USASpending.gov. **You will need a UEI to apply for and use formula and competitive funding after that date.** If you have any questions, contact Suzie or Greg at our office.

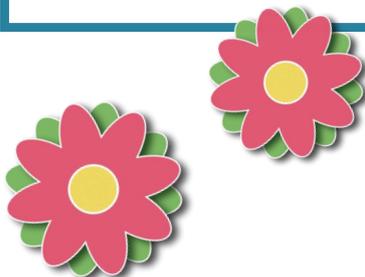
FUNDS AWARDED

Corona—SDDOT Community Access Grant —\$400,000

Watertown—SDANR Solid Waste Grant \$400,000

Codington County—Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant \$13,237.50

Lake County—Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant \$13,537.50



**First District
Governing Body Officers**

Brenda Hanten.....Chairperson
 Codington County Commissioner

Gary Jaeger.....Vice Chairperson
 Deuel County Commissioner

Mike Bartley.....Secretary
 Brookings County Commissioner

Todd A. Kays.....Executive Director

Upcoming Dates

- March 31**—Governing Body Meeting
- April 13**—GOED Conference, Sioux Falls
- May 30**—Memorial Day, Office Closed
- June 20**—Juneteenth (Observance), Office Closed
- July 4**—Independence Day, Office Closed
- April 30, July 31, Oct. 31, & Jan. 31**—Deadlines for Local Infrastructure Improvement Program
- April 1, July 1, Oct. 1, & Jan. 1**—Deadlines for State Revolving Fund (SRF) Applications
- April 1 & Oct. 1**—Deadlines for CDBG Applications
- May 1, Aug. 1, Oct. 1, & Feb. 1**—Deadlines for State Water Plan (SWP) Applications



First District Governing Body Meeting



The next First District Governing Body meeting will be on Thursday, March 31 at 5 p.m. at our office located at 418 18th Ave NE, Watertown. The highlight will be a presentation from City Manager Amanda Mack on Current Events in Watertown and Leadership. We hope to see you there.