



FPTPC Board Meeting Minutes
8:00 AM, Wednesday, January 7, 2026
Stanley County Courthouse & Zoom

Board Members present were Casy Cowan, Mike Weisgram, Scott Deal, Dylan Geuther, and Mike Chrysler (Zoom).

Others present were Jasmin Fosheim, Cassidy Blade, Sunny Hannum, Gloria Hanson, and Shane Kramme.

Once quorum was reached, the meeting was called to order by Cowan at 8:02 am.

*Motion to approve email meeting minutes from December 3, 2025 made by Weisgram.
Second by Deal. Motion carried.*

Financials

Fosheim provided the financial report. As of December 31, 2025, the checking account balance was \$53,217.87 and the money market account balance was \$54,160.76, for a combined total of \$105,969.73. She noted that a small portion of the balance remains earmarked for a potential future phase of the fish cleaning station project.

She reviewed the occupancy report, noting that overall occupancy was down 5% for the month. November figures from Pierre had not yet been received. Board members discussed recent trends, including weather impacts and property-to-property variation.

Fosheim reviewed the future commitments summary, noting that no new commitments have been made for 2026 to date. Staff will continue monitoring anticipated expenditures as the new year begins.

Motion to accept the financial report made by Deal. Second by Geuther. Motion carried.

Fosheim presented the month's payables. Fort Pierre Tourism \$4,523.83 in outstanding invoices and commitments. See attached invoice list for details.

Motion to approve all FPT payables made by Weisgram. Second by Deal. Motion carried.

New Business

There was no new business to address.

Old Business

Long Distance Trail Feasibility | Fosheim provided an update on the USDA Rural Business Development Grant funded feasibility study for a potential long-distance trail. ISG has revised the scope of work to fit within the awarded \$21,000 budget, focusing on existing conditions analysis and preliminary data collection. USDA has indicated the revised scope is acceptable.

This phase will allow the board to determine whether further investment in additional feasibility phases is warranted. No action was required from the Fort Pierre Tourism board at this time.

Fosheim also noted uncertainty surrounding the timing of the RBDG program opening for 2026, as the program has not yet opened as it typically does by late December.

Boots & Roots: 4th of July Event Grant | Fosheim reported that the Fourth of July Event Grant is currently open, with \$10,000 budgeted and grants capped at \$2,500 per project. As of the meeting date, one application had been received. Board members discussed outreach efforts and noted that applications often arrive closer to the deadline. Staff encouraged board members to promote the opportunity and identify potential applicants. Additional outreach through radio and social media is underway.

Executive Director Report

Fosheim reported that she and Blade had focused heavily on administrative and compliance tasks related to the USDA Rural Business Development Grant, year-end wrap up, and ongoing marketing coordination. The fourth-quarter lodging incentive was delivered and was well received by lodging partners.

Marketing Committee Update

Fosheim and Blade reported that the marketing committee has finalized its preferred photography proposal after refining the project scope. Award notifications are expected to be sent later in the week so photography work can begin in early 2026.

Updated marketing metrics were also shared. Over the past 30 days, the VisitFortPierre website recorded 250 visits, compared to 155 visits during the same period last year. Facebook reach for the most recent month totaled approximately 5,800 views, up from 3,400 during the comparable prior-year period. Staff plans to continue tracking these metrics monthly for trend analysis.

Committee Reports

Future Fort Pierre | Fosheim reported that the Future Fort Pierre board continues efforts to recruit a student board member. One new application has been received. The board is also discussing whether to expand membership further or remain at its current size.

City of Fort Pierre | Hanson shared an update on the sculpture committee. A brochure highlighting existing and planned sculptures is in development and will likely be produced as a rack card through a local printer. The brochure is expected to include photos, fundraising information, and (pending final edits) statue locations. The committee anticipates placement of the buffalo sculpture in the fall and hopes to host an unveiling event in conjunction with additional fundraising efforts.

Hanson also reported that work on the two new hotels is planned to move forward and it is anticipated that permit applications will be submitted soon.

Fort Pierre Development Corporation | Hannum reported that FPDC closed on the Sixth Avenue housing property on December 31, 2025. Two governor's houses have been ordered with an estimated 18-month delivery timeline. Interest from prospective homeowners has increased following recent communications, and qualified applicants are being directed to Central Enhancement for screening.

She also reported that the downtown committee will meet to discuss future beautification projects and budgeting priorities on Thursday, January 8th.

Fort Pierre Chamber | Kramme reported that the Chamber is conducting 2026 board elections, with results expected January 12. The Chamber is prioritizing support for the Fourth of July celebration and Trader Days and will not host a Community Appreciation Day this year.

He reported that the Expo Center ended 2025 with net revenue of approximately \$29,000, including a \$10,000 donation from the Grittner Foundation. Planned restroom upgrades are estimated at \$40,000 and will be funded in part through these revenues. The South Dakota Gaming Commission has approved live racing dates of October 3 and 4, 2026, though the closure of the Sioux Falls OTB will reduce funding availability.

Stanley County Fairgrounds | Deal reported that planning is underway for the 2026 rodeo season and Fourth of July week activities. There were no additional updates at this time.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Upcoming Meetings

1. FPTPC Executive Committee Meeting | 8:30 AM, Wednesday, January 28, 2026, Zoom
2. FPTPC Board Meeting | 8:00 AM, Wednesday, February 4, 2026, Stanley County Court House and Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 8:36am.