President Kludt called the meeting to order at 1:30PM CT at Mitchell Vo-Tech
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Moment of Silence was observed.

**Members present:** Charlie Kludt, Denny Gorton, Damon Hartmann, Rick Gustad, Don Ward, Chad Baumgarten, Dave Jorgenson, Mark Stoks, Jack Diez and Deedra Gesinger

**Absent:** Ron Hines

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Approval of the agenda – Motion by Hartmann, 2nd Diez to approve agenda- MC
Approve minutes of Board meeting at Pierre, Oct 2015- Motion by Jorgenson 2nd by Hartmann to approve minutes from October 2015–MC
Treasure report – Gorton gave update on year-to-date expenses. Motion by Ward 2nd by Baumgarten to approve treasure report-MC
Secretary report- Gesinger will find out cost what it is going to be to build the online dues pay option with Weblink. Find out when and where the next Weblink training is and cost and let Kludt know.

**ACTION ITEM:** Gesinger find out cost to build online bill pay.

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**District Directors Report - What happened/is happening in your district?**

BH- Mid winter muster
NW- Will have a fall district school
NE- District school will be in April
SE- District school will be April 3, in Tea
Central – Absent
BL-
South Central – District school will be April 21, in Armour

Auxiliary – Kathy, Sharon, Dawn
They now have 30 members and are looking for ideas to recruit more members.  
Auxiliary are thinking they will order the challenge coin and T-shirts since Minnehaha County indicated they are not going to.

Mike Erickson-FMO- Fire Marshal’s Office is willing to pass on any info we may need to get out to departments- just let the FMO office know, and they will pass the information to the training deputy in that area and ask them to share it with the department. If the association has a brochure with information about being part of the association and benefits this could be handed out with the training materials when a FF1 class starts. Gorton asked, why can’t there be a list of all the Certified FF class and location in the paper- along with the contact information. This could be set up in an ad format, and sent to Jeff as upcoming training.

**ACTION ITEM:** Mike Erickson (FMO) will get this information sent to Jeff

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**Business:**

1. Membership – Gesinger will put a Thank You ad in the March issue. Will add a note to the bottom indicating it’s not too late to pay your membership dues.
   - Email list of 100% departments to Gustad by March 15th and then any other updates as they come in.

**ACTION ITEM:** Gesinger send 100% membership list to Gustad by March 15

**ACTION ITEM:** Gesinger put Thank You in the March paper

2. State fire school 2016- Meeting with Minnehaha County 9:00AM informational notes only
3. High school scholarship – applications are due by March 15th. Send copies to Groton, Ward, Dawn Kludt (auxiliary) and Bonnie DeBont (DOT).

4. NVFC- May 6-7 Alexandria, VA. Kludt is unable to attend the May conference in Washington, DC so if someone else is interested in going please let Kludt know. September Charleston, South Carolina

Motion by Gustad 2nd by Stoks, to approve the NVFC representatives to attend the 2016 meeting in Washington, DC and Charleston, SC-MC

   All state membership for NVFC- there is no cost to be part of this; Kludt will complete the paperwork and sign the agreement for the SDFA to become members. This would be another benefit for our membership as they offer many discounted. If you go to the website there are several discounts listed. Motion by Baumgarten, 2nd by Hartmann to participate in the all state membership for NFVC-MC

5. State Fallen Firefighter Memorial- Motion by Hartmann 2nd by Diez to hold the firefighter memorial October 2nd in Pierre, MC

   We will be adding Dave Ruhl’s name this year. The US forest service honor guard will have a rep at the memorial to honor Dave. Baumgarten will take care of getting the name added to the memorial and contacting who will come for pipes and drums. Baumgarten will also contact family members to let them know when and where the service is.

   Kludt will look at having Rodney from Yankton perform the memorial service.

   Gesinger will visit with B&G (buildings and ground) to see about getting the wedge added to our memorial site and what all that will involve. Will need to have a follow-up meeting with all the organizations to see what kind of future planning will need to be done as a group. Once Gesinger meets with B&G and they give the ok for us to add the wedge, Gesinger will give that information to Kludt.

   Funding-Ward asked about a “Go Fund Me page”- is this something we should look at for a funding source? NA

   Flags- Hartmann indicated he is having trouble finding the cotton FF flags- Motion by Ward 2nd by Jorgenson for Hartmann to purchases 3 nylon flags and cases. MC

   Suggestion was made by Diez to put a Thank You in the paper each time we get a donation toward the memorial. Kludt will add this to his newsletter and put in a thank you.

   ACTION ITEM: Baumgarten take care of adding name to memorial and contacting family and pipes and drums.

   ACTION ITEM: Kludt make contact with Rodney from Yankton about performing at memorial.

   ACTION ITEM: Gesinger visit with B&G about memorial wedge

   ACTION ITEM: Hartman purchase 3 flags w/case.

6. FDIC April 18-23, 2016- Indianapolis- Dave Jorgenson and Denny Gorton, Groton will be representing North Haines Fire Department.

7. Legislation 2016- NA

8. State network report-Des Moines, IA November 13-14, 2015 (Hines was absent but sent the following updates for the meeting). States that were represented IA, IL, WI, SD, MI, & KS. Funding was discussed, and most states run on a portion of the Insurance tax rebate same as SD does. Fire Schools were discussed along with funding; Ideas kicked around, and most are seeing a drop-in attendance. One idea that I thought was good was adding some Jr. FF training along with maybe adding Jr. FF Evolutions. I know we don't host the evolutions but that can be passed on to committee. If we get them to attend young maybe they will keep coming. A few of the states have a
South Dakota Firefighters Assn.
Winter Board meeting Mitchell Vo-Tech
January 30, 2016

Department of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, & Chief of the year. We also discussed corporate sponsors: CHS paid for most of the Illinois conference. CHS is giving away $50 million in Public Safety Grants through CHS corporate and Monsanto. An idea that was brought up, was having a Fire Day at the Capitol during legislative session, and having a lunch or breakfast. Illinois offers to its association members a set of tires, up to 4 off the state bid, every 3 years.

9. Statewide committee report-
   Public Safety- The talk was “First Net system”- this is a communication system that will utilize mobile data, the latest and greatest in mobile communication.
   If your department has digital radios that aren’t being used, there are lots of places that can still use these, if you are looking for a place to recycle them. The committee is working on tracking the unit ID numbers to see where these radios are located and then contacting that department to see if they are indeed still using them.
   Joint Council- they picked up a new organization- SD Ambulance Association
   Fire chiefs- NA
   Instructors- new president Darrell Hartmann
   Fire Marshal’s advisory board- NA

10. Future fire school planning 2017 Mitchell Vo Tech-
    Guide book- June 8-9-10, 2017
   Motion by Hartmann 2nd by Ward for Gorton to destroy old contracts, this will be added to the policy guide book as standard procedure. MC
   Class List- Stoks looking at having at least 30 classes- this is a good place to start. Will also add suggestions from the FMO. Planning on also having some teasers/class synopses at our booth at fire school in Minnehaha County, to let firefighters know what to expect in Mitchell. When Jorgenson and Gorton attend FDIC if they attend an awesome class, they should see if that instructor can sign a contract for one of the three years in Mitchell.
   Thought was to have an evolution class (Larry Nickels) and then run evolutions on Friday night?
   School Budget- suggestion was to leave it as is $60/$75 for the first year, and then maybe the next year we can lower that fee if our numbers increase. Maybe we need to look at cooperate sponsors to offset some of our cost, rather than going to the Mitchell community and asking for donations. Kludt will check with the event planner that is helping Minnehaha County gather sponsors and see what her costs are to maybe help us with those resources.
   Social events- schedule--Need to have some type of social event on Friday night to involve the venders. This could be tied in with the DOT.
   Points of contact-
      Communications- Rick Gustad
      Tools, equipment, apparatus for classes- Chad Baumgarten
      Audio visual- Mike Erickson
      Workers for every day—Vo Tech will be available to help—we will need runners for classes- Need someone to establish a flow sheet, on who will be available to help if needed-Jack Diez
      Registration – Deedra Gesinger -Rick Gustad and the Chamber of Commerce and Auxiliary- Gustad will do some checking to get a computer and printer for the association.
      Vendor show – Vo Tech will set up tables and lay out a map. Ladies Auxiliary will be the point of contact
Merchandise booth- Ladies Auxiliary  
Signage –Vo Tech indicated they will take care of this  
Vehicle to run errands or from building to building- Dave Jorgenson- Mitchell has vehicles on campus for this.  
Elections 2017 --President  
Motel- need to find a place to block for SDFA/instructors- Kelly Inn  

11. Annual Review of Secretary and Treasurer – executive session (SDCL 1-25-2.1)  
Motion by Hartmann 2nd by Ward to go into ex session 6:00pm CT  
Out of ex session 6:53pm CT.  

12. Pay expenses- Motion by Baumgarten 2nd by Hartmann to pay expenses. MC  

13 Next meeting – Board will meet Wednesday June 1st at 1:00pm and Thursday morning at the Ramkota Inn  

14. Other items- Send shirt size to Baumgarten- if you want more than one shirt let him know- SDFA will pay for one shirt; a 2nd shirt is your expense.  

15. Adjourn- Motion by Diez 2nd by Ward to adjourn 7:05pm CT.  

Recorded by Secretary  
Deedra Gesinger
Notes only, not part of official minutes

9:00 AM CT - Meeting with Mike Harstad & Lynn DeYoung with the Minnehaha Co Firefighters.

There will be a banquet both Thursday and Friday. The guest speaker on Friday will be Chad Greenway.

Registration will open once they start to put the information on Facebook. Amy Marsh and Mike Koopman will work with Gustad on the Registration program.

Something new they are going to try this year are water fights. Will need to add something to the online registration to capture numbers for meals as they are encouraging firefighters to bring their families. Water fights will take place on Friday, with a substantial pay out from one of the vendors to the winning team.

Mike Harstad will contact the instructors to find out if the instructor sheet that indicates 4-instructors at $800 is a total of $800 or $800 each? Gorton would like for this to be clarified ASAP and be part of the documentation on the spreadsheet. Is there going to be any extra cost from the city that we may incur after the fact? Mike will also check on any cost with the city.

"Drone use"- Mike asked if this would be something that might be of interest. This could be a 4hr class if not an all-day class. Mike will explore this and if there is a slot to fill he will utilize this type of class.

Hartford Fire Department is in charge of evolutions they will work with Larry Nickels and the evolution committee.

Humboldt Fire Department will take care of any Instructor transportation to and from classes or the airport.

Opening ceremonies, exhibits and vendors will all be set up in the exhibit area.

Need class description and instructors finalized before we can open registration- Would like registration to open by March 1st and no later than March 15th

Newspaper –items for the March newspaper need to be to Jeff by February 15

Need class list with instructors and any other information about the class.

Minnehaha County will handle the refund to those firefighters who are being sponsored by an agency. The firefighter will need to register online and then be reimbursed.

E-board will meet with Minnehaha County on Saturday April 16 at 9:00 AM to finalize things-

We will meet at the Ramkota or at Lynn’s office.