

**South Dakota Regional NA Meeting Minutes  
December, 2023**

Date: December 3, 2023

Time: Noon Mountain Time Zone

Location: Zoom Virtual meeting

**Attendance:**

RSC Chairperson – Carol P - present

Vice Chairperson – Drew B - present

Treasurer – Steve P - present

Secretary – vacant

RD - vacant

RDA - vacant

Convention Chair - Carol P - present

Web Servant – Sandra M (interim) – absent but report submitted

Project Facilitator H&I - inactive

Project Facilitator PR – inactive

Project Facilitator Unity - inactive

Project Facilitator Policy – Drew B - present

Zonal Forum “Behind the Walls” – Sharlene S. - present

West River RCM - Steve P - present

West River RCMA – Ty - absent

USE RCM – Jennifer B - present

Use RCMA – vacant

Guests – Drew L.

**Opening:**

Meeting opened at 11:11 AM Mountain Time with serenity prayer, 12 Tradition, 12 Concepts and introductions.

**Quorum:**

Motion moved to suspend quorum and accept participation of all present. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Note that Steve P was not present at this early point in the RSC meeting so there was no quorum of voting members (RCMs or RCMA). Steve did arrive shortly after the motion to suspend quorum. Quorum was established at that point and all subsequent votes were reflective only of the two RCMs who represent their respective ASCs.

**Reports:**

*Secretary*

September, 2023 minutes read by Vice Chair and accepted for approval by unanimous consent. Vice Chair will be doing minutes for December, 2023 RSC meeting. It should be noted that a correction to the minutes regarding the PR report for September was sent in by Sandi post the meeting. The PR report and accompanying receipts were overlooked by the Vice-Chairperson while compiling the September minutes. The PR report and receipts have been added to the minutes and will be posted to the regional web site with all updated information.

*Treasurer:*

Regional Treasurer 12/3/2023

Region: Beginning Balance 9/30/2023	\$7892.64
Check 1100 telephone line reimbursement	\$48.81
Check 1500 PO Box \$194 and storage \$255	\$449.00
Check order	\$23.00
Ending balance	\$7371.83

Region: Beginning Balance 10/31/2023	\$7371.83
Ending balance 12/2/2023	\$7168.33

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Convention Balance 7/11/2023	\$2400
Ck 1143 Basic stuff 4 you	\$1500.00
Ending balance 8/10	\$900.0

Convention Balance 8/11/23	\$900
Deposit pre registration	\$370
Ending Balance 9/11	\$1270.00

Balance 9/12/23	\$1270.00
Ck 1144 UPS Store printing	\$181.60
Ck 1145 give a71.21way books	\$165.00
CK 1500 hospitality/ speaker rooms	\$570.00
Ck 1551 Basic Stuff balance	\$371.21
Ck 1552 Holiday inn balance	\$1489.76
Final deposit	5492.00
Balance 12/2/2023	\$3984.43

In Service, Steve

*RSC Chairperson:*

No report to present.

*RSC Vice Chairperson:*

Dear South Dakota RSC Members:

I have been in the midst of a job search for the last three months so the vast majority of my efforts and time have been focused on that endeavor. As such, there is not a great deal to report this meeting and some items have been pushed out on the calendar.

First, the September 2023 RSC meeting minutes have been completed and distributed. They will be reviewed at this month's meeting today. An updated version of the June, 2023 minutes was also sent to the Web Coordinator today for posting to the RSC web site. One of the addendums in the June minutes had personal information which needed to be redacted before the information could be posted to the web site.

The second matter I have to report on is regarding the on-going updates to the RSC policy guidelines. I had hoped to have one more formal policy meeting in October to finalize the policy updates for distribution today. That meeting did not happen given the amount of time and focus I have been putting into my job search over the last four months. The meeting will happen prior to the March, 2024 RSC meeting. The goal is to have the policy manual updates ready for distribution at that meeting.

Thirdly, the RSC approved the purchase of a conference room microphone for use in regional Zoom meetings. Numerous options can be purchased for the approved \$100 amount. No action has been taken on this purchase as the Web Coordinator and I need to review this topic before making an actual purchase. Further, I personally do not have the funds to take out of pocket for reimbursement until I am gainfully employed. Look for this item to be completed by the March, 2024 RSC.

On a fourth topic, I am willing to accept a nomination for the RSC Chairperson if the body wishes me to serve in this role. I am not able to serve another term in the position of Vice-Chairperson as I will soon be completing two consecutive terms in that position.

Finally, I would like to remind the RSC that we have several open positions, one of which is Secretary. I will do the minutes again this month if we do not elect a secretary. This will be my second to last RSC doing the minutes as Vice-Chairperson. It is imperative that we fill the secretary position. If not, we will be in a position where the question of minutes may eventually become an issue. The RSC has been running for years where a very limited number of personnel have been trading hats to keep the body afloat. This process is not sustainable on a long-term basis. I seriously want to ask the SD Region, as a fellowship, to please look into their hearts and see where members can be of service. It is not fair to ask a limited number of members to carry the full weight as has been the case during my nearly two years with the body and was the case

for many years prior to that. It is time to step up, folks or we won't be able to continue providing the services handled at the regional level. This message is intended to come across as a cautionary concern. I hope the message is heard.

Yours in loving service,

Drew B.  
South Dakota RSC Vice-Chairperson

Post meeting update:

Given my schedule with looking for a job, Carol P offered to take over the Policy update work. There is one meeting left to coordinate on the matter. All material has been sent to Carol for her to pick up the remaining work on the project. I will continue to assist her in that effort until the required work is complete.

*Regional Delegate:*

Position vacant. No report submitted. Carol stated that she has not had time to participate in RD events in the prior three months.

*Regional Delegate Alternate:*

Position Vacant.

*Convention Chair:*

Convention Final Report 2023

Thank you to all of the people who volunteered to put on this convention. Thank you to each speaker who was willing to share their experience, strength and hope.

We had 63 paid registrations. I have attached an excel that shows the ins and outs of the cash. In total, we spent \$5457 and our income was \$5862 with our beginning balance of \$3200 for a total balance of \$9062.

Our final balance after expenses of \$5457 was \$3981. We will now forward \$784.43 to region to return to our reserve of \$3200.

Carol P

Secretary's note:

Below is a re-production of the two-page spreadsheet referenced in the Convention Chair report. The original spreadsheet is in possession of the Regional Treasurer (Steve P), Outgoing Convention Chair (Carol P) and incoming Convention Chair (Jennifer B).

2023 Convention Budget (page 1 of spreadsheet):

		budget amt	incume
<b>2022 convention budget</b>			
hotel meeting room	1182.15	900	
microphone		50	
travel for speaker	47	500	
hotel room main speaker	533.34	200	
<b>hospitality</b>			
room for hospitality		300	
hospitality food	239	200	
remove bed hospitality			
<b>merchandise</b>		1000	
room merchandise			
tshirts	510		
sweatshirts	175		
mugs	392		
<b>registration</b>		600	
bags/registration	350		
pen/notebook	412		
lanyards	150		
badges	45.16		
banner	85	125	
	4120.65		
	3654		
<b>seed money</b>	<b>3000</b>		

2023 Convention Actual (page 2 of spreadsheet):

2023 expenses		2023 income	
			0
HI hotel	2290	registration 63	1580
room for main speaker	370	raffle	439
hospitality room	370	silent auction	412
banner	55	live auction	1085
tshirts 50	475	hospitality	80
mugs 36	329	donations newcomer	280
beenies 10	110	merchandise	1823
hats 10	140	50/50	163
backpacks 50	166	TOTAL INCOME	5862
stickers 250	195		
notepads 150	177	Adjusted uncategorized income	376
pens 300	225		
		REVISED TOTAL INCOME:	6238
printing	190		
hospitality groceries	200		
books	165		
TOTAL EXPENSES	5457		
Beginning balance	3200		
income	6238		
subtotal	9438		
expenses	5457		
end balance	3981		
fwd to region	784.43		
end balance	<b>3200</b>		

*Web Servant:*

Currently all domains are running through SDRNA.org. We have a contract with Heartland Internet Solutions. See the breakdown for the 2024 budget.

Web site budget for 2024:

\$500 for Hosting

\$75 for domains- .org, .com, and .net

\$30.72 for web servant email

\$0 for gmails for secretary, RD and RD Alt

Total \$605.72 for 2024

Also for budget consideration: Recommendations were made for a possible region zoom account. The cost of that would be \$149.90 for a Pro Plan which would meet our needs.

Meeting notes: Have not been received or posted for September 2023

Events have been posted for Sponsorship Behind the Walls training and Convention planning meetings. It is recommended to have at least 2 weeks lead time for events or service work opportunities. A "Save The Date" for the 2024 Convention has been posted under the events.

Web site contacts: There were 2 contacts through the web site this quarter: A convention question and another about the status of region service committee notes. These were passed on to the appropriate people and responded to. A "Save the date" has been posted for the 2024 Convention.

Meeting change requests: One meeting has been added for Deadwood this quarter.

Web site traffic report: We receive quarterly reports which will be a quarter behind going forward. This report was for the quarter ending in September and covers July 1 to September 30. The site had 683 visitors. Top four pages visited are the home page (444), upcoming events (216), find a meeting (163), and convention page (140).

Facebook page contacts and activity: The page has one additional follower this quarter with 49 people following it and has had a reach of 1 (how many views the page received) over the last 90 days. Melissa (with me as back up) continues to monitor for messages. There have been no messages received through messenger during this quarter.

I attended the WS presentation on the changes to the meeting finder. Our region does not need to make any changes to our process.

ILS, Sandi M.

*Sioux Falls Empire Area:*

During the month of November our meeting was held and elections were held. All positions were filled with the exception of Secretary. We have also created H&I, Activities, and Literature positions that were also filled. Our next meeting will be held December 17, 2023.

In Loving Service

Jennifer B.

*West River Area:*

Recovery is doing well in West River. We have 8 Groups that are having meetings in our area with another starting soon in Deadwood.

Jl/PR are doing good. They are taking meetings into The Pennington County Jail, Care Campus recovery center and Creek Drive Trustee unit for the State. We are always looking for more member support for these efforts.

We have had request for NA literature from a new treatment facility for indigenous people. World Services is providing 15 of each IP and 10 of each printed text. (Our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition in action, thank you WSO) HE/PR requested a budget of \$1200 for 2024.

Outreach is working to get a new meeting started in Deadwood. A location has been secured and meetings should be starting on Monday's. A budget of \$200 has been requested for Outreach.

Unity is planning a New Year's Eve dance as well as Serenity in the Hills. Dates are to be determined. More will be known after their December meeting. Unity has requested a budget of \$1800 for 2024.

Elections were held and all positions have been filled. Thanks to members who are willing to serve!

We are doing an area inventory:

As an area, are we addressing the needs of all members?

Are we developing goals?

Are we creating actions to achieve our goals?

Educating new members and home groups members regarding service and inviting new members to bring new and fresh ideas, getting more members involved in the group conscience, at the group level and at other levels of service. Many do not feel as though they have a voice and unaware of how the service structure works. Asking what our groups want



from our area is vital. Each group will go through the concepts to better understand how they pertain to trusted servants and the service structure of NA. We have a donation of \$335.60 for our annual donation to region. Thanks for allowing me to be of service. I would like to introduce TY the future of WRA service to you.

Steve P

*Project Facilitator H&I:*

Inactive. No report.

*Project Facilitator PR:*

Inactive. No report.

*Project Facilitator Unity:*

Inactive. No report.

*Project Facilitator Outreach:*

Inactive. No report.

*Project Facilitator Fellowship Development:*

Inactive. No report.

*Project Facilitator Other:*

Secretary Notes:

Drew L (from Rapid City) was originally present as a guest at the RSC. He had previously been doing some work for the RSC in researching regional level helpline options. He was asked to present a report on the outcome of his efforts. The report he submitted is shown below. It is presented in an edited format to remove personal information.

Drew's report:

Hello family, here is what I have for the helpline so far:

I have a google voice number and email for the helpline if we want to use it.

helpline number: 605-939-0502

*(account login credentials removed from report)*

Here are some addicts in recovery that would be willing to be points of contact for various locations *(member names and phone numbers removed from report for privacy reasons)*.

Thank you all!

*Project Facilitator Policy Guidelines Review:*

See Vice Chairperson report. Note that this project has been passed over to Carol P. The Vice Chair wishes to thank Carol for her assistance in this matter.

*Zonal Forum "Behind the Walls" Representative:*

October 11th

Received 5 letters 2 were 1st assignments and 3 were 1st letters, letters will be responded to and a letter will also be sent to Pain County Jail re: SBTW & clarify process

Continue to spread the word and hope to get others involved through next orientation scheduled via Zoom

November 8th

Responded to the 5 letters received in October and received 3 more letters that came in with response to come. In person orientation during P3 steak feed in Bellevue NE with 1 person in orientation with 1 questionnaire received

Add't info from Fort Madison IA Chaplain to come

November 4th 3:00 pm Orientation ~ rescheduled

Dec 2nd 2:30 PM Mt orientation via Zoom ~ rescheduled due to technical issues to be determined

Next Meeting Scheduled December 13th via Zoom

Sharleen S.

**Old Business:**

Topic 1 - Nominations & Elections:

- Secretary – no nominations
- Regional Delegate – no nominations
- Regional Delegate Alternate – no nominations

Topic 2 - Regional Policy Review:

No new information is ready for presentation. Carol P will be coordinating the review forthgoing. Drew B has passed all relevant information to Carol and will continue to assist.

### Topic 3 - Ad Hoc Outreach:

Discussion was held around the establishment of a regional helpline. Drew L was appointed as Regional Helpline Coordinator by the Chairperson. There were no objections to the appointment. The appointment is for a 1-year term. Drew will be present his report at each RSC for the next year under the "Project Coordinator Other" slot.

The follow proposal was presented to the RSC by Drew L.

#### *Proposal:*

*"I am proposing to change the region helpline number from the old number to the google voice number of 605-939-0502 effective December 15th. Also, I propose that there be 3 primary helpline carriers to answer the phone. There is no additional cost to the region."*

The above proposal was passed by unanimous vote of the RCMs.

Drew scheduled an initial helpline training for Zoom for Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM Mountain, 11 AM Central. The coordination of the Zoom will be assisted by Carol P. The Zoom training session information should be distributed during the preceding week.

### Topic 4 - Area Formation:

There was potentially to be some discussion along the lines of ASC formation guidelines. It was determined that this topic falls under the RSC policy guidelines work. The topic will be addressed by that working group for presentation at a future date to the RSC.

### **New Business:**

#### Item #1 – H&I funds received from a CA member:

This topic was sent back to the ASCs for review and feedback at the September ASC. Discussion was held on how to handle these funds. The zonal forum currently has these funds as the member from California did not know how to reach the South Dakota RSC when the funds were sent. The zonal forum will be cutting a check for \$650 to the SD RSC in forwarding these funds to the intended source of SD RSC H&I efforts.

The member from CA originally sent these funds as said member had a contact who is incarcerated in a jail near Sioux Falls, SD. The inmate did not have access to NA at that time, so the funds were sent by the CA member to the zonal forum in support of SD RSC H&I efforts. Key points of discussion and updates on this matter which were reviewed were as follows:

- The female inmate who was seeking recovery has since been put in touch with female NA members. A correspondence has been developed between the incarcerated member and outside NA members so a recovery dialogue and point of contact has been established.

- The USE RCM reported that the incarcerated member is located at Minnehaha County Jail. The Sioux Falls NA community had an H&I meeting at the facility prior to the COVID restrictions initiated several years ago. The on-site H&I meeting was cancelled at that time due to COVID quarantine restrictions. The Sioux Falls NA community has not been able to re-establish the previous H&I meeting at the facility since the lifting of restrictions. Ideas were discussed on how to proceed on this matter in hopes of eventually re-established the NA H&I meeting at the Minnehaha County Jail.

Given the above points, the RSC agreed to accept the \$650 donation and put it towards SD RSC efforts.

#### Item #2 – 2024 SD Convention:

Jennifer B was nominated as the 2024 South Dakota Convention Chair by the Sioux Falls convention committee. Her nomination was accepted by vote unanimous vote of the RCMs.

The convention committee was to have a budget ready for review at the December RSC meeting. This budget was not ready for presentation as feedback was still being gathered by the convention committee. It was stated that all necessary feedback to create the budget should be ready by the next convention committee on December 30<sup>th</sup>. The outgoing Convention Chairperson, Carol P, agreed to work with the new Convention Chairperson in helping structure the gathered information into a budget. The spreadsheet submitted by the outgoing Convention Chair was sent to Jennifer and will be used as a basis for structuring the budget and submitting the require information.

The 2024 SD Convention Committee budget still needs to be reviewed and accepted by the SD RDC body. As such, an additional meeting of the SD RSC may be called by the Chairperson in January to review the forthcoming convention committee budget. This matter may also be addressed via e-mail by the SD RSC. In either case, it will be formally reviewed by the RSC in January for review, feedback and a vote as the matter needs to be handled prior to the March 2024 RSC meeting.

One final point that came up for discussion during the topic is that the current SD RSC Policy guidelines state that the Convention Chairperson is to be elected at the March RSC. It was decided to waive this current written policy and hold the election in December. The convention is held each September. Not holding the Convention Chairperson election until March simply does not give the Convention Chairperson and committee enough time to handle all matters for a September convention. The March election time frame for the Convention Chairperson is a topic that will be reviewed under the current Policy Guidelines working group and will likely be subject to revision based on feedback from the working group.

#### Secretary's Note:

The incoming Convention Chairperson needs to be added to the convention checking account in order to write checks in conducting business for the forthcoming convention. The bank requires that a statement be placed in the RSC minutes approving the addition of this person to the

checking account. This statement in minutes needs to include the full legal name of the incoming Convention Chairperson.

In order to meet this legal requirement while protecting personal anonymity with the minutes as posted on the RSC web site, two versions of the minutes will be distributed. A private copy (not for public distribution) will include an Addendum A that will include the required statement for the bank. A second copy of the minutes will be sent at the same time without Addendum A. The private copy of the minutes should be taken to the bank in printed format to add Jennifer B to the convention checking account. The other copy, minus Addendum A, is the one for posting to the public web site.

Item #3 – 2024 RSC Budget:

The following proposal was presented by the RSC Treasurer to address the 2024 RSC budget. It is to be taken by the RCMs back their Areas for review, feedback and tentative approval. This budget proposal will be brought up for a vote under old business at the March 2024 RSC meeting.

The proposal for the 2024 budget as submitted by Steve P is as follows:

*Proposal:*

*“I propose the following for the 2024 South Dakota regional budget:*

<i>P.O. Box</i>	<i>\$194</i>
<i>Storage</i>	<i>\$255</i>
<i>Website</i>	<i>\$605.72</i>
<i>RD/RDA travel expenses</i>	<i>\$800</i>
<i>Annual Zoom “pro” account</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>PR</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>H&amp;I</i>	<i>\$625</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$3129.72”</i></b>

Note that the procurement of a Zoom account for RSC use was approved by the RSC at the September, 2023 RSC meeting. The acting Web Servant, Sandi M, reported in her December report that the Zoom “pro” account met RSC needs at an annual cost of \$149. The \$150 budget for this line items comes from those sources.

Item #4 – March 2024 RSC Nominations and Elections:

The RSC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson positions are slated for election at the March 2024 RSC meeting. In order to accommodate these elections, nominations for the two positions were formally opened at the December RSC as the final matter of business. Key topics of discussion and information were as follows:

1. Nominations for both positions are open to all NA members in the region (pending position requirements). Nominations do not formally close until the March RSC meeting. **RCMs are asked to take the request for nominees for these two positions back to their ASCs. Nominations for these two positions are strongly encouraged and welcome.** It should also be noted that have several other key open positions that have been without any nominees for several months. These additional open regional positions include:
  - a. RSC Secretary
  - b. Regional Delegate
  - c. Regional Delegate Alternate
  - d. Web Servant
2. Drew B (from Custer) was nominated for the position of RSC Chairperson. He tentatively accepted and will present qualifications at the March RSC. Additional nominees for this position and Vice Chairperson again are encouraged as nominations do not close until the March 2024 RSC meeting.

**Conclusion of Business and Next Meeting:**

Business was formally concluded at approximately 2 PM Mountain / 3 PM Central.

The next South Dakota RSC meeting will be a virtual meeting held on the Zoom platform. It is scheduled for Sunday, March 03, 2024 at Noon Mountain / 1 PM Central.