



Sports & Events Authority Advisory Committee  
612 N. Main, City Hall - Council Chambers  
June 9, 2026

## **1. Call to Order**

**Meeting called to order by:** Kevin McCardle at 2:00 PM

**SEA Advisory Committee members present:** Mayor Hanson, Kevin McCardle, Kevin Nelson, Jason Christensen, Dave Sietsema, LaRee Rumbolz, Emily Liedtke, Tim Smith, Jim Johnston, Scott Morgan

**SEA Advisory Committee members absent:** Jill Larson, Cory Aadland Dave Helleloid

**Others present:** Aaron Hieb, Johanna Allen, Stephanie Ellwein, Gretchen

## **2. Presentation of Funding Applications**

SEA Grant Application presentations by applicants.

The SEA Advisory Committee reviewed applications for grant funding.

The following applications were presented and considered:

### **A. Palace City Soccer Cup 2026**

Adam Trimble spoke on behalf of and presented the Palace City Soccer Cup 2026 Grant Application, which is requesting \$5,000.

- Adam shared that the event will take place on Saturday, June 13–Sunday, June 14, 2026, at the Pepsi Cola Soccer Complex. This tournament is U9-U14 with a total of 19 teams, (12) of those are from outside of Mitchell. This number of teams is down compared to 2025, and they are looking at changing the date in 2027, so it doesn't overlap with a tournament in Rapid City. The grant request of \$5,000 will go towards offsetting expenses related to hosting the event.

### **B. Palace City Mountain Bike Classic**

Cody Denne spoke on behalf of and presented the Palace City Mountain Bike Classic Grant Application, which is requesting \$1,200.

- Cody shared that the event will take place on Saturday, June 20, 2026, at the Lake Mitchell Trails starting at Sandy Beach Access. So far, they have 41 racers signed up,

with more sign-ups will take place a few days before and the day of the event. The grant request of \$1,200 will go towards paying for the timing system.

### **C. DWU Girls' Basketball Team Camps**

Jason Christensen spoke on behalf of and presented the DWU Girls' Basketball Team Camps Grant Application, which is requesting \$1,100.

- Jason shared that the one-day team camps will take place on June 29 and July 27 at DWU/ Avera Sports and Wellness Complex. Currently, there are 44 teams signed up for the June session. The July session will pick up with registrations as it gets closer. The grant request of \$1,100 will be used to offset the costs of running the camps.

### **D. American Outlaws Wrestling Open & Showdown Belt Series**

JD Heinrich via conference phone spoke on behalf of and presented the American Outlaws Wrestling Open & Showdown Belt Series Grant Application, which is requesting \$10,000.

- JD shared that this is the first year of a new wrestling tournament series that is broken down into four different competitions, with the first 2 (Open & Showdown) taking place on Saturday, July 18–Sunday, July 19, 2026, at the DWU/Avera Sports & Wellness Complex. The age divisions are: 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, High School (9-12th grade), Seniors, Masters, Grand Masters, and Elite. Currently, there are approximately 60–70 participants signed up, with expectations of approximately 300–400 when all is said and done. The grant request of \$10,000 will go towards rent and concessions food and supplies costs. Concession items will all be bought locally.

### **E. SD State Amateur Baseball Tournament**

Jim Johnston spoke on behalf of and presented the SD State Amateur Baseball Tournament Grant Application, which is requesting \$5,000.

- Jim shared that the tournament will take place August 5-16, 2026, at the Cadwell Park Stadium and Drake Field. There are a total of 36 teams to start the tournament, which brings in approximately 10,000–12,000 total spectators for the tournament. He estimates around 350 rooms nights for the entirety of the event. The grant request of \$5,000 will go towards the hospitality, field rental and maintenance costs, PA announcer, and ticket takers. He estimates around 100 volunteers from the Mitchell Baseball Association and Exchange Club of Mitchell assist in the success of the tournament.

### **F. Dakota Oyate Challenge Volleyball**

Silas Blaine, via conference phone, spoke on behalf of and presented the Dakota Oyate

Challenge Volleyball Grant Application, which is requesting \$17,147.26 / \$6,300.

- Silas shared that the Dakota Oyate Challenge Volleyball made a date change this year, so the event didn't overlap with the Pow Wow that takes place in Rapid City over the October date the past two years. The new date for the tournament is September 18–19, 2026, at The World's Only Corn Palace. Silas confirmed the grant request amount is \$6,300, which, based on the submitted event budget, would assist in keeping the event out of the red or a negative income. The grant request of \$6,300 would go towards the Corn Palace rental costs, hotel rooms for officials, awards, and the hospitality room. The event is also looking at expanding in the upcoming years, by adding cross-country and hand games.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** Motion was made by Tim Smith to approve the previous meeting minutes as presented, and seconded by Jason Christensen. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

### **4. Financial Report**

Aaron Hieb reviewed the financial report as of June 3, 2026.

The supplemental carryover from the 2025 remaining balance of \$39,190 has been added to the SEA Revenue.

Current expenses and award checks that have been written for 2026 are \$93,650.00.

There is (1) committed item where the award check has not been written — MAC Triathlon (\$1,500).

Current Available Fund Balance of \$94,040.00.

Collections in February 2026 (for January 2026 records) still have one (1) establishment past due.

Collections in March 2026 (for February 2026 records) still have (1) establishment past due.

Collections in April 2026 (for March 2026 records) still have (1) establishment past due.

Collections in May 2026 for (April 2026 records) are \$21,286.00 with (1) establishment past due.

The (1) establishment past due is the same establishment for all past due collections.

The YTD collections for 2026 are \$87,981.00.00, which equates to 43,991 total room nights sold.

YTD comparisons of room nights sold were: down 3.9% (1,719 room nights sold) from 2025, down 2.3% (1,031 room nights sold) from 2024, up 0.6% (269 room nights sold) from 2023,

down 2.7% from 2022, up 12.6% from 2021, and up 18.2% from 2020.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Jim Johnston to approve the financial report as presented, and seconded by Dave Sietsema. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

## **5. Evaluation Forms/Financials/Surveys**

Aaron Hieb reviewed the following Evaluation Form(s) w/Financial(s) with the SEA Committee:

### **A. Evaluation Form(s) w/Financial(s)**

Dakota Riptide Winter Swim Meets (December 12–14, 2025 & January 17–18, 2026)

- The events were Below (2) expectations. The total spectators were about 200-259 per meet. The total participants were about 100 swimmers per meet. Mitchell, Yankton, Brookings, Huron, Aberdeen. The estimated number of total hotel room nights was approximately 100 combined. Next year's event will take place during the same months 2027 at the Mitchell Indoor Aquatic Center. The funds awarded (\$5,000: \$2,500 per meet) were used to pay expenses for the meets. December 2025 net profit of \$3,038.48 and January 2026 net profit of \$5,961.15, which are used to assist in the operation of the swim club.

DWU Indoor Futsal Winter Classic (February 20-22, 2026)

- The event Met (3) expectations. The total spectators were between 2,500-3,000. The total participants were around 650–700, which accounted for 52 teams. SD, ND, NE, MN, IA. The estimated number of total hotel room nights was between 80 - 100. Next year's event will take place on February 19-21, 2027. The funds awarded (\$2,700) were used to pay for referee assignor and student referee certification costs. Net profit of \$10,894.03, which went towards the men's and women's soccer teams-fundraiser.

Special Olympics SD State Basketball Tournament (March 27-29, 2026)

- The event was Above (4) expectations. Thank you for the continued support! The total spectator attendance was 2,000+. The total participants were over 900 athletes and 245 coaches and chaperones, which, broken down, accounted for 68 teams, 12 cheer teams, and 72 basketball skill athletes. 29 delegations were represented from across SD. The estimated number of total hotel room nights was approximately 290. Next year's event is March 19-21, 2027. The funds awarded (\$12,000) were used towards facility rental, food, hotels, equipment, transportation, and other operating costs. Profits of \$19,419.31.

Battle at the Corn Palace 2 (May 16, 2026)

- The event was Below (2) expectations. This year the date selected conflicted with other events going on in Mitchell, especially graduations. The total spectator attendance was: 145. The total participants were 38 boxers and 22 staff. The estimated number of total hotel room nights was approximately 65. Next year's event date will be in April 2027 at The World's Only Corn Palace. The funds awarded (\$1,000) were used

towards hotels. Net loss (\$5,252).

## 6. Other Items

Aaron Hieb shared the following information with the SEA Committee:

### A. Upcoming SEA Events

- [Cornbelt Team Camps – Girls Varsity](#) (June 10-11, 2026)
  - Various gyms in Mitchell, SD
- [PowderHorn Ranch Regulators Outlaw Gauntlet Shoot](#) (June 10-14, 2026)
  - Mitchell Gun Club
- [South Dakota VFW & Auxiliary Annual Convention](#) (June 11-14, 2026)
  - Highland Conference Center
- [Lowell Rang Memorial Girls Softball Tournament](#) (June 12-14, 2026)
  - Cadwell Sports Complex
- [Cornbelt Team Camps – Boys Varsity](#) (June 17-18, 2026)
  - Various gyms in Mitchell, SD
- [Harve Johnston/Bryan Wilson Memorial Baseball Tournament](#) (June 20, 2026)
  - Cadwell Sports Complex
- [Cornbelt Team Camps – Junior Varsity](#) (June 24-25, 2026)
  - Various gyms in Mitchell, SD
- [Senior Legion Palace City Baseball Tournament](#) (June 26-28, 2026)
  - Cadwell Park Stadium
- [Sioux Area 4-H Rodeo](#) (June 27-28, 2026)
  - Horsemen's Sports Arena Inc.

Complete list of events – [MITCHELL CHAMBER EVENTS CALENDAR](#) & [Mitchell SD Events Facebook](#)

## 7. Executive Session in accordance with SDCL 9-34-19: Discussion of confidential trade secrets, commercial, or financial information.

**Motion:** Tim Smith made a motion to go into Executive Session at 2:37 PM, and was seconded by Scott Morgan. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

## 8. Approval of Funding Applications

Palace City Soccer Cup 2026

**Date:** June 12–14, 2026; **Contact:** Scott Mullenmeister; **Grant Request:** \$5,000

- **Motion:** Motion was made by Tim Smith to award \$3,500, and seconded by LaRee Rumbolz. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

#### Palace City Mountain Bike Classic

**Date:** June 20, 2026; **Contact:** Kourtney Denne; **Grant Request:** \$1,200

- **Motion:** Motion was made by Jason Christensen to award \$1,200, and seconded by Dave Sietsema. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

#### DWU Girls' Basketball Team Camps

**Date:** June 29 & July 27, 2026; **Contact:** Jason Christensen; **Grant Request:** \$1,100

- **Motion:** Motion was made by Jim Johnston to award \$1,100, and seconded by Kevin Nelson. (9) members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.
- **Abstain:** Jason Christensen abstained from voting.

#### American Outlaws Wrestling Open & Showdown Belt Series

**Date:** July 18–19, 2026; **Contact:** JD Heinrich; **Grant Request:** \$10,000

- **Motion:** Motion was made by Tim Smith to award \$2,000, and seconded by Kevin Nelson. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

#### SD State Amateur Baseball Tournament

**Date:** August 5–16, 2026; **Contact:** Jim Johnston; **Grant Request:** \$5,000

- **Motion:** Motion was made by LaRee Rumbolz to award \$5,000, and seconded by Scott Morgan. (9) members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.
- **Abstain:** Jim Johnston abstained from voting.

#### Dakota Oyate Challenge Volleyball

**Date:** September 18–19, 2026; **Contact:** Silas Blaine/Tre'Voun Buffalo; **Grant Request:** \$17,147.26

- **Motion:** Motion was made by Tim Smith to award \$6,000, and seconded by Kevin Nelson. All members voted 'Aye' and the motion passed.

### 9. Next Meeting Date

Kevin McCardle shared the next meeting date of Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 2 PM — City Hall, Council Chambers.

### 10. Adjournment

**Meeting adjourned by:** Kevin McCardle at 2:58 PM