Seven township officials with a combined service of 370 years were recognized and honored for their long-time service to local government at the recent South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships Annual Meeting in Watertown, SD on Dec. 8, 2012. Service awards were presented to each recipient by SDATAT President Jim Puffer accompanied with a congratulatory letter from Congresswoman Kristi Noem.

Bob Weber (pictured) of Portland Township in Deuel County has served as treasurer for 11 years after moving from Georgia Township in Grant County where he served there for 52 years as a township supervisor. Bob has served a total of 63 years as a township official and still going strong!

Bob and his wife have been farming for 65 years and have 3 children, 9 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren. Bob was legislator with the House of Representatives for 28 years and has been with the Knights of Columbus for 25 years.

Alfred Watland (not pictured) of Florence Township in Hamlin County came to the board in the fall of 1972 when he bought land from an existing board member who simply handed his township position to the new land owner. Al’s position as supervisor / chairman of Florence Township has been invaluable. He is up-to-date on regulations and keeps the interests of Florence Township in the forefront of decisions. Al is also a representative from our township for the ambulance and fire district.

He has been a farmer for over 50 years and currently farms with his wife Shirley and son Jerry in rural Castlewood. He is married to Shirley, has 3 children, Sherri Tonner, Sue Quandt and Jerry Kihl, and 7 grandchildren. Those having served and who presently serve on Florence Township with Al, deeply respect and appreciate Al’s dedication and involvement on all issues that come before the Florence board.

Rolland Barrie (pictured) of Turton Township in Spink County has proudly served as clerk for 370 Years of Service to Local Governments

Acknowledged
Greetings!

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year and to thank you, the members, for your support.

Our annual meeting is once again over and considered a success. In spite of the bad weather that hit most of north east South Dakota during the conference in Watertown, the meeting was well attended. Thanks to all who braved the weather to be there; your attendance and participation is what makes our meetings successful. Thanks also to the staff and presenters that put many hours developing and organizing the meetings and workshops. And a special thank you to our vendors and businesses whose financial contributions for the conference make it more affordable for townships to attend.

The legislature is again in session. There are six bills that resulted from the resolutions that were passed by the Voting Members at the Annual meeting. They are: 1) SB 122 would give supervisors the option of having meetings at a time that would be more convenient for them rather than on specified dates required by law; 2) SB 126 would permit the combining of the offices of Clerk and Treasurer in townships whose population has 50 or less resident registered voters; 3) SB 151 would reduce townships’ liability on unimproved section lines by declaring them “no maintenance”; 4) SB 156 would increase the limit for front footage assessment for road improvements within road districts; 5) SB 157 would re-distribute wind energy tax funds to townships more equally and 6) HB 1122 would further clarify the open meeting laws to give townships specific exemptions.

While there are other bills of concern for towns/townships - be assured that SDATAT will continue to play defense and oppose any bills that have an adverse effect on towns/townships and support those that will be mutually beneficial. If you want to reach our lobbyist, Dick Howard, you can call him at 605 224-8503 or the lobbyist desk, 605 224-5030, and leave a message.

If you would like to receive our Legislative Newsletter and Email Alerts, contact the office to be added to our email list or check out our website for our weekly updates.

Have a safe and prosperous 2013!

Jim Puffer
“South Dakota Towns & Townships Receive Dividend!”

By Tami Schwebach

Good job, township board members and small town officers!! Because of your hard work in keeping your signs in good order, maintaining your roads and streets, and notifying the public of unsafe road conditions (did anyone deal with washed out roads in the last year or so?) We are happy to announce that we are sending a check from EMC Insurance Company in the amount of $88,342 to your South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships. This represents the Safety Dividend for the program year from 07/31/2011 to 07/31/2012.

As a refresher for those of you who may not be familiar with the Safety Dividend Program, this is a plan that was agreed upon between the SDATAT and EMC Insurance Co. to provide insurance coverage for small towns and townships at a reasonable premium with the prospect of participating in dividends realized from good risk management practices. At the end of every dividend year EMC reviews the premiums paid by the participating members compared to losses paid and expenses, and if premiums paid are greater, EMC will pay a dividend to the Association. The Association then pays half that dividend back to the participating townships and small towns.

This is the 23rd year of the Safety Dividend Program, and through those years, the Association and participating members have received almost $750,000 in dividends. We are very pleased with the success of this program and hope you are too!

Since half of the dividend goes back to the participating towns and townships, checks totaling $44,171 will be sent to the individual members. With 491 participating members, the average dividend check will be $90. The Association will send your individual dividend checks along with your annual membership letters so please be sure to watch for them.

Thank you for your good risk management and safe practices! Through all your hard work, every township officer and every small town official has helped contribute to this dividend, but more importantly, you have helped to keep your township roads safe for the residents of your township and for those who travel your township roads. Please keep up that good work!
1. TOWNSHIP RESPONSIBILITY ON UNIMPROVED RIGHT OF WAYS
WHEREAS, SDCL 31-13-1 defines the Township road system, to include improved section line roads, judicially declared roads, roads impliedly accepted by the township and any other roads designated by the Township Board; and WHEREAS the Township Board is responsible for construction, repair and maintenance of all of the township roads within the township; and WHEREAS, certain section line rights-of-way are unimproved that the public has the right to travel, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports legislation to clarify that Townships have no responsibility for maintenance of unimproved section line rights of way.

2. HAUL AND ACCESS ROAD AGREEMENTS
WHEREAS, SDCL 31-13-1 requires the boards of township supervisors to maintain and repair the roads within the township; and WHEREAS rural development operations including but not limited to those such as housing developments, animal confinement facilities, dairies, grain processing facilities, sand and gravel mines, and wind farms can cause extensive road damage; and WHEREAS, this creates a financial burden for the townships; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports the development of standard procedure for County Planning and Zoning Boards to require the operators of such rural development facilities to sign a haul and access road maintenance agreement with the affected townships as a component of the conditional use permit application process.

3. REDISTRIBUTION OF WIND ENERGY TAX
WHEREAS, SDATAT supports the growth of the wind energy in SD; and WHEREAS, much of the wind development and construction occurs adjacent to township roads; and WHEREAS, the construction and operation of wind farms results in increased maintenance costs on township roads; and WHEREAS, under the current distribution the wind energy tax, townships do not receive sufficient revenue to maintain such damaged roads; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports legislation to redistribute a portion of the state share of the wind energy tax to provide additional revenue to counties and townships to more equitably cover maintenance of local roads, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SDATAT supports reapportionment of the state’s shares of the gross receipts portion of the wind energy tax to be equally distributed between counties and townships in which the wind farms are located.

4. INCREASE THE FRONT FOOT ASSESSMENT FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS
WHEREAS, rural residential development is rapidly occurring outside of municipal boundaries in some of the State’s fastest growing communities; and WHEREAS, this development is increasing traffic on township roads which requires improvements and increased maintenance to provide for public safety; and WHEREAS, the cost of providing these needed improvements has increased dramatically in recent years, and WHEREAS, SDCL 31-13-51 authorizes the township board of supervisors to levy a special front foot assessment not to exceed eighty cents per front foot for the purpose of maintaining and repairing street surfaces; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports legislation to increase the maximum front foot assessment up to two dollars per front foot for road maintenance and improvements.

5. SUPPORT OPEN GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE – EXCEPTION FOR 3 MEMBER BOARD
WHEREAS, the Governor and Attorney General appointed an Open Government Task Force to review and evaluate South Dakota’s open meeting and open government laws; and WHEREAS, SDATAT Executive Director Diane Worral served on this Task Force; and WHEREAS, she identified the difficulties for Townships to comply with the open meeting laws and notice requirements when two or more supervisors work together in performing such activities such as road maintenance, culvert inspections and related functions; and WHEREAS, the Task Force proposed legislation to be submitted to the Governor and Attorney General to address these issues; THEREFORE BE IT resolved that SDATAT supports legislation as follows “When a quorum of township supervisors, road district trustees, or trustees of class 3 towns meet solely for purposes of implementing previously publicly adopted policy, carrying out ministerial functions of that subdivision or body, or undertaking factual investigation of conditions related to public safety, such meeting is not subject to this chapter.

6. COMBINING THE OFFICES OF THE CLERK and TREASURER
WHEREAS, the size of agricultural production operations is becoming larger; and WHEREAS, SDCL 8-3-13.1 provides that the voters of each organized township with 20 or fewer resident voters may combine the offices of the Clerk and the Treasurer during the annual meeting by a majority vote of the voters present; and WHEREAS, the public demands more efficient government operations; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports legislation that would authorize the resident voters of any township with 50 or fewer resident registered voters to combine the offices of the Clerk and the Treasurer by a majority vote of the voters present during the annual meeting.

7. TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING DATES
WHEREAS, SDCL 8-3-1 requires that the annual meeting of each organized civil township be held on the first Tuesday of March and establishes the location and notice requirements for the annual meeting, and WHEREAS SDCL 10-11-13 requires the local boards of equalization, including township supervisors, to meet on the third
2012-13 Adopted Policies and Resolutions....Cont’d

Monday of March; and WHEREAS, SDCL 8-5-1 requires the Township Board to hold regular meetings on the last Tuesdays of February, March and October of each year; and WHEREAS, vast improvements in communication and requirements for public notice have occurred since the statutory establishment of regular meeting dates; and WHEREAS, it is often inconvenient and difficult to hold meetings on those specific dates; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports legislation that would retain the requirements that the annual township meeting be held on the first Tuesday of March and the local board of equalization meeting be held on the third Monday of March; and BE IT FURTHER resolved that the Township Board of Supervisors shall hold three regular meetings anytime during the year as determined by the Board.

2012-13 ADOPTED POLICIES (ON-GOING)

8. INDIAN CASINO REVENUES
WHEREAS certain Indian casinos share revenue with counties and cities to provide infrastructure and service needs; and WHEREAS, some Indian casinos are served by Township roads; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SDATAT supports legislation or agreements to allow affected townships to receive a portion of such revenues to compensate for services provided.

9. OVERWEIGHT VEHICLE CIVIL PENALTIES
WHEREAS, overweight vehicles cause extensive damage to roads; and WHEREAS, SDCL 32-22-55 imposes civil penalties for overweight vehicles based on the severity of the overweight violation; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT supports legislation to require civil penalties collected for vehicle overweight violations be deposited in the local government road and bridge fund and be distributed to local units of government for the repair and maintenance of local roads and bridges.

10. GOVERNMENT OWNED PROPERTIES
WHEREAS government owned income producing real property does not pay property taxes, therefore, be it resolved SDATAT supports legislation to develop a payment in lieu of taxes equal to the current rate to all schools, townships, counties, and any other taxing entity that would normally receive tax revenue from such real property.

11. TRIBAL LANDS
WHEREAS the removal of land purchased by American Indian Tribes from the tax roll via the placing of such land in tribal trust causes a financial hardship on local governments which are still required to provide services such as roads and fire protection, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT supports the efforts of federal, state, and local government leaders to continue to work with American Indian tribes to resolve the issue. Such efforts should address concerns resulting from the federal government placing land into trust on behalf of American Indian tribes without such tribes having entered into a binding agreement with state and local entities on the collection of taxes, law enforcement, infrastructure and environmental concerns and regulations.

12. TAX REVENUE AFFECTED BY EASEMENTS
WHEREAS the sale of perpetual and long term easements, including but not exclusive of the Wetlands Reserve Program have a substantial effect on the market value of property, BE IT RESOLVED, SDATAT support efforts to ensure there is no loss of tax dollars due to the purchase of easements on property.

13. COMPENSATION TO BE PROVIDED FOR DAMAGE TO NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES WHEN ESTABLISHING WETLANDS
WHEREAS, the establishment of wetlands by State and Federal agencies, and other groups under various programs, can damage adjoining properties, including property owned by local units of government; Now therefore BE IT RESOLVED, that the SDATAT seek to amend appropriate State Statutes to require compensation to all affected neighboring property owners and others with a legal property interest, including local units of government, whose property is damaged by the establishment of a wetland; therefore BE IT RESOLVED, that a similar request be made to Congress to require federal agencies to properly compensate adjoining property owners and others with a legal property interest, including local units of government, damaged by the construction of a federally owned, created, or funded wetland.

14. TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICTS
WHEREAS, residents of a county, township, school district have no input when a municipality grants a Tax Increment Financing district; therefore be it resolved SDATT supports legislation which states a municipality cannot commit the tax dollars that would be received by other units of government when permitting the creation of a TIF district.

15. ELECTRIC Deregulation
WHEREAS deregulation within the electric utility industry would result in escalating costs for electrical energy for the rural areas in South Dakota, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT opposes deregulation for the electric utility industry.

16. Cooperative AGREEMENTS BETWEEN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND UTILITIES
BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT explore the feasibility of mutual agreements between towns and townships and utility providers that would benefit the local officials by regular or annual notice of system improvements made by any utility within any such town or township.

17. Worker’s Compensation IN SOUTH DAKOTA
BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT supports state legislation to raise the Worker’s Compensation exemption for part time workers in townships to facilitate employee coverage and to make it feasible for townships to provide for hired help.
2012-13 Adopted Policies and Resolutions….Cont’d

18. TOWNSHIP AND COUNTY COMMUNICATION
WHEREAS citizens are not always aware of which government entity is responsible, therefore be it resolved SDATAT encourages township boards and county governments to communicate and establish policy to designate financial responsibility if an emergency occurs.

19. COUNTY CONSOLIDATION
WHEREAS access to county government in South Dakota is extremely important to most citizens in the state, be it resolved SDATAT opposes county consolidation unless it is implemented at the grassroots level. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED SDATAT is opposed to any state mandated reorganization plan of local governments.

20. ROAD SIGN DAMAGE
WHEREAS each year thousands of dollars of taxpayer money is spent on repair and replacement of road signs due to vandalism and theft, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED SDATAT supports legislation increasing the fines/penalties for intentional damage or theft of road signs.

21. TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS INSURANCE BENEFITS
WHEREAS township officers receive no fringe benefits; and whereas group life insurance is the most common fringe benefit provided to elected officials and public employees at all government levels; and whereas other local government units in South Dakota are authorized to provide group health and life insurance benefits to their governing boards and employees; therefore be it resolved that SDATAT supports legislation to authorize townships to pay life insurance benefits to township officers and employees as deemed appropriate and desirable by the Township.

22. TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM
WHEREAS some townships in South Dakota have full and part time employees and WHEREAS as a means of attracting qualified employees is a challenge for those townships and WHEREAS one of the attractions for any job is the health insurance benefit, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT supports the amendment of SDCL 3-12A to permit counties and other political subdivisions, including townships to join the state employee group health insurance plan.

23. EQUALIZATION BOARD
WHEREAS, township boards are more familiar with real estate and buildings within the local township, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships go on record as being in favor of maintaining the local equalization process involving township boards.

24. EXTRA TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION
WHEREAS many incorporated cities have extra territorial jurisdiction beyond their city limits in matters such as zoning and law enforcement, and whereas residents living in these areas should be able to have representation by being allowed to vote in city elections, therefore be it resolved the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships supports those residents residing within that extra-territorial jurisdiction be allowed to vote in city elections.

25. ZONING
WHEREAS zoning decisions affect township governments, therefore be it resolved SDATAT encourages township officials to be actively involved in the zoning process within their respective counties.

21. SUPPORT COUNTY ZONING AUTHORITY
WHEREAS the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships believes local control is in the best interest of communities in South Dakota, and whereas the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships has encouraged town/township officials to be involved in county zoning decisions, therefore be it resolved the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships is opposed to any efforts to weaken or take away county zoning authority.

22. E 911
SDATAT opposes any attempt to mandate consolidation of E 911 Service Centers and any attempt to remove E 911 surcharge revenue from county governments.

23. SUPPORT INCREASE IN LIQUOR TAX
WHEREAS county government, by statute, must provide law enforcement, prosecution and defense, court, jails, detoxification programs and other related services; and whereas providing these services takes funding away from other local programs and services; therefore be it resolved SDATAT goes on record in support of increasing the tax on alcoholic beverages with all revenue collected from such tax increase go to county governments.

24. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE EXEMPT FROM CONTRACTORS EXCISE TAX
WHEREAS local governments are financially dependent upon tax dollars and local governments are unable to raise taxes because of the tax freeze, therefore be it resolved local governments be exempted from paying contractors excise tax on regular or routine road maintenance and graveling of roads.

25. CONTROL OF NOXIOUS WEEDS ON GOVERNMENT OWNED LAND
WHEREAS game and fish agencies at both the federal and state level have found it more difficult to control noxious weeds and pests on public lands in South Dakota, BE IT RESOLVED the SDATAT urge the Governor of SD and all county commissioners work in concert to initiate a moratorium on further land purchased by the SD Game, Fish, and Parks Dept. and the US Dept. of Fish and Wildlife until all noxious weeds are under control on the lands these agencies currently own and manage.
26. RURAL DEVELOPMENT
WHEREAS Rural Development activities and projects are crucial to the rural communities in South Dakota, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT support efforts of individuals, organizations, government entities, and communities in the effort of promoting new ideas and implementing existing ideas to strengthen the economy of our rural communities.

27. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAPERWORK REDUCTION
WHEREAS the Internal Revenue Service is insisting on local elected officials with hold FICA and Medicare taxes from the per diem paid to elected officials from dollar one, and whereas this requirement creates unnecessary paperwork for local officials, therefore be it resolved SDATAT support a change in the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt any elected or appointed member of a general governing board or political subdivision of a state if the remuneration paid in a calendar year for such service is not more than $1300.

28. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
WHEREAS our country was founded so people could worship God as they chose, and since it has been our heritage and our tradition to give God the proper place in our society, that being at the head, therefore be it resolved the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships support keeping, ‘one nation, under God,’ in the Pledge of Allegiance.

29. DRIVERS EDUCATION
WHEREAS there is no uniform curriculum for Drivers Education in South Dakota Schools and whereas many students are prohibited from taking a Drivers Education Course because of cost, and whereas every year we lose young people on our highways, therefore be it resolved the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships supports having Drivers Education as part of the required curriculum in the schools in South Dakota.

30. CURRICULUM SHOULD INCLUDE US HISTORY/ CIVICS
WHEREAS it is important for our youth to know the history of the United States and to have a general understanding of the government of our great country in order to become good leaders in their communities, state, and nation, therefore be it resolved, the South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships supports required curriculum addressing United States History and Government as well as a basic Civics class.

31. HIGHWAY FINANCING
WHEREAS, the state and local governments are experiencing shortfalls in funding to provide necessary maintenance of roads and bridges within their jurisdictions: therefore be it resolved SDATAT supports the effort to improve highway funding in South Dakota by a combination of increasing license plate fees, increasing the tax on highway motor fuel, and increasing the excise tax on vehicle purchases in such a manner to allow the existing tax methods and distribution of those funds to continue as it is currently done, so the state, cities, counties and townships will share in the increased revenue.

32. ESTABLISHING AGRICULTURE LAND VALUATIONS-
The South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships supports establishing equitable valuation of agriculture land. To achieve fairness and equality, the assessments on agriculture land should be based on the capability to produce, land use, terrain, climate, location and soil type.

33. PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS LEGISLATION
BE IT RESOLVED SDATAT supports state legislation that would preserve and maintain private property rights.

34. PERPETUAL EASEMENTS
WHEREAS, the SDATAT believes each generation should have the same opportunities as the one that came before to implement decisions in the management and stewardship of their own lands; and WHEREAS, perpetual easement agreements regarding Federal conservation programs will limit these decisions by future generations and can be changed to further limit what management practices can be implemented in the future. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the SDATAT opposes easements that limit management or stewardship practices on a perpetual basis and supports using voluntary, single-generation and renewable easements in their place.

35. COUNTY DRAINAGE LAW REVIEW
WHEREAS, while the drainage of excess water from seasonally and perennially wet areas can markedly improve agricultural productivity, the poor management and regulation of drained water can result in damage to township road and bridge infrastructure; and WHEREAS these adverse impacts to infrastructure create a financial burden for the townships, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the SDATAT supports a thorough review of drainage laws by the Drainage Task Force to provide for improved management and regulation of the drainage of surface and sub-surface water for the benefit of all South Dakotans.

“The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”
Winston Churchill
Customer Service You Can Take to the Bank

The following story makes a very interesting point in dealing with customers and people in general. Just think of the people you serve (residents/taxpayers) as the “customers” and I believe you will find this article very interesting as to how your residents/taxpayers may be perceiving you and your public service to them.

On a recent episode of Undercover Boss, Joe DePinto, the CEO of 7-Eleven, went undercover at a 7-Eleven store in Shirley, NY, to find out why they sell more cups of coffee than any other franchise. Shortly after arriving at work at 5:30 a.m., Joe discovered the secret of their success: an energetic, outgoing 7-Eleven employee named Delores.

Because she has worked at 7-Eleven for over 18 years, Delores knows many of her customers by name. Her official job is to run the coffee station, keeping the area tidy and the coffee pots full, but her value to the company far exceeds the worth that her job title alone would imply.

Every day, hundreds of customers pour through their location’s doors, filling up their coffee cups, and exchanging a few words with Delores. She might ask a customer how his job is going, how her family is, or what he thinks the weather might do, but with each interaction, the math proves that Delores is moving coffee. A lot of it.

It seems that people just like coming to a place where they feel welcome and appreciated. Go figure, huh?

It’s amazing the difference just one person can make. It’s also amazing how many businesses aren’t aware of the impact their frontline people can have on their bottom line. In some cases, such as Delores’ customer contact results in spectacular success. But, in other cases, maybe not so much.

I first met Andrea at the Buford location of Mega Bank where I have my business checking account. (That’s not their real name, but you already knew that, didn’t you?) Andrea was always friendly and helpful when she worked as an assistant branch manager. I enjoyed seeing her and got to know her by name. When she got her own branch to manage, though, all of that changed.

There was a new sheriff in town and by golly, things were going to be run right. I found that anytime I went to the new location, which, by the way, was much closer to my home than the Buford branch, a teller would find some minute problem with my deposit, handing it back with a smug look on her face as if to say, “Get it right, and then we’ll think about taking your money” Mind you, I had been doing business with their bank for well over ten years. It just didn’t seem to matter.

Here’s the really interesting thing about this story, though. Instead of sweating it out, trying to please the powers that be at that one location, I would just drive to one of their other locations further away and make the deposit there. And get this, EVERY deposit rejected by Andrea’s branch as being incorrect was always accepted by another one of their branches without a problem!

The question you have to ask yourself is, on which side of the customer service line do you fall? Do you intentionally or unintentionally make doing business with your township unpleasant. You can’t always say “yes” to taxpayers/residents, but you don’t have to make them feel like you enjoy saying “no,” do you?

In my opinion, Andrea couldn’t have done more damage to her bank if she had been a corporate saboteur. For all I know, she might have been. By the way, Andrea is gone now, and guess what? Wonder of wonders, we no longer have a problem making deposits at that branch. What a huge difference one person can make!

1] She made doing business difficult. For some customers, it might well have made more sense to do business with the competition right across the street.
2] She made doing business unpleasant. You can’t always say “yes” to customers, but you don’t have to make them feel like you enjoy saying “no,” do you?

Rate Increase for New Bond Members

Effective January 1, 2014!

New or Additional Bonding Coverage Capped at $200,000...

On December 8, 2012 during the Annual Meeting in Watertown, the voting delegates of the SDATAT Bond Alliance Program unanimously agreed to limit new or additional bond coverage to a maximum of $200,000. These changes will not affect current bond members and their existing bonds. However if existing members wish to increase their bond coverage; additional coverage will be capped at $200,000. Also unanimously approved was to increase the bond payments for new or additional coverage effective on Jan. 1, 2014.

If you are looking to save money and your town or township is already a member of our association, you can cut costs by bonding with SDATAT. Once you pay 2 years of bond payments— the positions of clerk and treasurer or finance officer will remain bonded for life at no additional charge. However, if there is a catastrophic loss to the SDATAT Bond Alliance Program and the Fund becomes inadequate to pay claims— members can be assessed to cover those losses.

Presently, the bond payment cost is $200 per year for 2 years for a $50,000 bond that covers the clerk and the treasurer; each for $50,000. It is an aggregate bond so the maximum paid is $50,000. This a total payment of $400, after which there would be no further payment as long as the township remains a member of SDATAT and the dues are paid prior to April 15 each year. After Jan. 1, 2014 the rates for new bonds will be increased to $300 per year for 2 years for sum total of $600 for the same $50,000 bond that now is available at the current low cost of $400. If you are considering bonding with SDATAT, now is the time. Additional coverage exceeding $50,000 will still be able to purchased, if necessary, but is permanently capped at $200,000; effective immediately. Please note that all bonding fees are kept in a separate account and only the interest is used for administering the program.

The South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships implemented their bonding program for the members of SDATAT in 2007. Since that time, 441 of our 644 members have become bonded through the SDATAT Bond Alliance Program.

Township clerks and treasurers are required by statute (SDCL 8-7-1 and SDCL 8-6-1) to be bonded, as are town finance officers. The law goes on to state that the amount of the bond is to be set by the County Commissioners. Generally, the bonds are for the amount of money the township budgets annually, but in some cases, the bond is set for not only the amount of money budgeted annually but also the total amount of money the townships may have in reserves and other negotiable properties.

For more information regarding the SD Bond Alliance Program, contact Maureen Wegenke at the SDATAT office in Huron, SD at 605 353-1439 or email her at sdtstaff@santel.net.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNTS OF BOND COVERAGE</th>
<th>COST PER YEAR FOR 2 YRS If Purchased In 2013</th>
<th>COST PER YEAR FOR 2 YRS If Purchased AFTER Jan.1, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$200 x 2 yrs = $400 total</td>
<td>$300 x 2 yrs = $600 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$300 x 2 yrs = $600 total</td>
<td>$400 x 2 yrs = $800 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$400 x 2 yrs = $800 total</td>
<td>$500 x 2 yrs = $1000 total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Named “Friends of Local Government”

Representative Paul Dennert, Senator Art Fryslie, and Representative David Sigdestad were the recipients of the 2012 “Friend of Local Government Award” at the SDATAT Annual Meeting held in Watertown, SD, on December 8, 2012. The three awardees were all very involved in local government throughout their entire careers and have served in numerous local organizations. All have been farmers/cattlemen. All have been Township Board officials. All have served in the SD Legislature and have sponsored and supported much legislation to support and to preserve local governments.

Representative Paul Dennert of Columbia, SD served the residents of District 2 (Brown and Spink Counties) for 20 years from 1993 to 2012, as a State Representative from 1993 to 1996, as a State Senator from 1997 to 2004, and as a State Representative from 2005 to 2012. While in the legislature Representative Dennert was a strong spokesman for fairness in property valuation and taxation. He supported increased transportation funding for counties and townships and was a strong advocate for strengthening local governments. He was a long-time member of the Appropriations Committee and worked to balance the state budget and hold down taxes.

Story Cont’d on Page 11
A Special

“Thank You”

To Our Event Sponsors and Presenters who made the 2012 Annual Meeting Possible…

**All Sponsors will be Listed as Associate Members in 2013**

**EVENT SPONSORS:**

**Platinum Contribution ($500 or more)**
- Schwebach Insurance Agency
- Hagan Benefits, Inc./SDPAA
- TrueNorth Steel
- Z & S Dust Control System

**Diamond Contribution ($250 - $499)**
- Brosz Engineering
- Glacial Lakes Energy LLC

**Golden Contribution ($100 - $249)**
- Diesel Machinery
- Dakotaland Federal Credit Union
- Hofland Engineering
- Butler Machinery
- TransCanada Pipeline
- WinWater Works Company

**Presenters:**
*Ken Skorseth, Greg Vavra, Don Hosek, Larry Weiss, and Cliff Reuer with SDLTAP,
*Attorney Lisa Marso, *Deene Dayton with SD Legislative Audit, *Attorney Diane Best with the SD Office of the Attorney General, *Attorney Jay Leibel,

Senator Art Fryslie of Willow Lake, SD, served the residents of District 6 (Beadle, Clark, Codington, Hamlin, and Kingsbury Counties) for 12 years as a State Representative from 1999 to 2006 and as State Senator from 2009 to 2012. He was a Township Supervisor for 17 years, and he always remembered the benefits and challenges facing township government. During his time in the Legislature he served on Resources, and Taxation Committees – all of which deal with issues important to townships. He was always a willing sponsor of SDATAT legislation.

Representative David Sigdestad of Pierpont, SD, served the residents of District 1 (Day, Roberts, and Marshall Counties) for 10 years as a State Representative from 2001 to 2008 and 2011 to 2012. Representative Sigdestad served as a Township Supervisor and, as a Legislator; he always had the ability to listen to local people and identifying issues facing local government, then researching and identifying proposals to help them. He could always be counted on to sponsor and support SDATAT legislation, as well as developing legislation to further local governments. He served on the Agricultural and Natural Resources and Transportation Committees.

The Friends of Local Government Award was initiated in 2000 and is the highest award granted by SDATAT to recognized individuals who have gone above and beyond in their support of Local Government. It has been a privilege for our association to have worked with these fine men and they will be missed in the Legislature. SDATAT wants to thank them for their service and congratulate them on receiving this prestigious award.
since 1964. Rolland is not just a clerk but also continues to keep an eye on their township roads and assists with the spring flooding in the township.

Harlan Hilleson (not pictured) of McKinley Township in Marshall County has been on the township board as treasurer for 41 years. He was appointed to the office after his dad passed away and then elected in 1971. He has resided on the family ranch the last 41 years. He continues to ranch and has worked at the Marshall County Healthcare System in Plant Operations for 17 years as Director of plant operations for 14 years. He is also an EMT with Marshall county ambulance the last 15 years, sexton of the Zion Cemetery for 30 years and has taught Shooters Education in the Veblen and Britton area for 30 years. He is a Navy Veteran and a paid for life member of the Veblen American Legion.

Raymond Delton (not pictured) of McKinley Township in Marshall County has been on the township board for 41 years. Delton has lived on the farm where he resided for the last fifty-four years. He has been an active board member attending all regular and annual meetings. He is a member of the Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, has been involved in the Buckhorn Rodeo Association and the Hills and Valleys Riding Club over the years.

Gordon Hofer (pictured) of Silver Lake Township in Hutchinson County began his service in 1966, where he served as Silver Lake’s treasurer for 46 years.

Gordon and his wife, Alvina, have farmed south of Bridgewater since taking over the family farm. Gordon is very active in his church and with the Gideon’s. Gordon and Alvina have one daughter and two sons. His son Stewart has joined in the farming operation.

Irvin Ford Dykstra (pictured) of Spring Valley Township in McCook County has been on the board since 1964. For 48 years he has served the township in many ways. He has headed the weed board, worked on the drainage board, inspected roads, met with new owners, and represented the township at county and state meetings plus many other jobs that the residents never see, but come to appreciate. So, on behalf of the residents of Spring Valley Township and surrounding areas, we would all like to thank Irvin for his dedication and service to the community.

Harlan Mentzel (not pictured) of Theresa Township in Beadle County served as treasurer for 43 years. Harlan and his wife Alice have lived in the Huron area for the last 50 years, have 3 children and are semi-retired but still raise cattle and maintain their farm acreage.

The recognition was part of the 33rd Annual SDATAT Meeting. Those who have served 40 years or more and have not been recognized previously may be nominated for the annual award program.
SDATAT Newsletter  ▲  WINTER 2013  ▲  13

SDATAT NOW OFFERING
$1500 IN SCHOLARSHIPS!

The South Dakota Association of Towns & Townships is now offering one $1000 and one $500 scholarship to senior high school students who reside in South Dakota, are currently attending a South Dakota public, private, parochial high school or a home school program, and live in a town or township that is a current member of SDATAT (Call our office if you are unsure of membership status). Graduates of the class of 2013 are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The student must use the scholarship for a college, university, or vocational school which has a physical presence in South Dakota.

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it along with a written essay on the topic:

“Year after year more young people leave South Dakota. What does South Dakota need to do in order to encourage the younger generation to remain in the state? Write an essay on your ideas on how to keep future generations in South Dakota.”

These forms are available on our website at www.sdtownships.com, by emailing us at sdtstaff@santel.net, or by contacting the office at 605-353-1439.

The winner will be announced in May. However, the actual scholarship money will be paid to the financial office of the chosen school in the fall of 2014. Only seniors graduating in 2013 are eligible. The winner and their family will be guests at the SDATAT annual meeting in December of 2013. Deadline for application is April 1, 2013.

For more information contact:
SDATAT  •  2013 Scholarship Program
PO Box 903
Huron SD  57350

Website: www.sdtownships.com
sdtstaff@santel.net
605-353-1439 (PH)  •  605-352-5322 (FAX)

SPEd WITH
CONFIDENCE

It's a fact: bids often award to the lowest initial price. But there's the price of buying a piece of equipment – and then there's the cost of owning it. Depreciation, repairs, and maintenance can severely impact an agency's budget and add high equipment costs beyond the initial price.

Life Cycle Costing is a better way to evaluate purchase options. It protects budgets by requiring bidders to disclose the expected lifetime costs of service, repair and other facts to yield a true value comparison.

Caterpillar makes Life Cycle Cost proposals easy. Visit govbidspec.com to download bid specs, Life Cycle Cost forms and Scheduled Maintenance forms. Edit them to your agency's needs and include them with your RFP to bidders.

Butler Machinery can show you the benefits of incorporating Life Cycle Costing into your agency's RFPs. When you have all the facts, you'll find Cat equipment delivers lower total costs and better return on investment.


www.cat.com
www.govbidspec.com

The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) and National Association of Fleet Administrators (NAFA) endorse the use of Life Cycle Costing as a preferred procurement method.

© 2013 Caterpillar. All rights reserved. CAT, CATERPILLAR, their respective logos, “Caterpillar Yellow,” the “Power Edge” trade dress as well as corporate and product identity used herein, are trademarks of Caterpillar and may not be used without permission. www.cat.com www.caterpillar.com
The 2013 Legislative session began on January 8, 2013, with the Governor’s third State of the State address. The South Dakota Legislature looks a little different this year as Republicans lost 4 incumbent legislators, 2 in the senate and 2 in the house. Democrats lost one incumbent legislator. Republicans now have a 28-7 majority in the senate and a 53-17 majority in the house.

The Legislative calendar is set for a 38 day session with the 37th Legislative day scheduled for March 8 and the 38th day reserved for consideration of Governor’s vetoes on March 25. It seems that the Session got off to a faster start than normal even though there are 36 new Legislators this year.

As of earlier today, 492 bills have been introduced - 250 House Bills and 242 Senate Bills. January 28 was the final day for individual Legislators to introduce bills and January 29 is the final day to introduce Committee bills, so it is not expected that many more bills will be introduced. The Committees also have been busy holding hearings and acting on bills. Monday, January 28 was a busy day for SDATAT bills with 4 of our 5 bills scheduled for hearing on Monday, Jan.28, 2013. Keep in mind that most Legislators are having cracker-barrel sessions each weekend, so it is a good time to ask them to support our bills.

The following six (6) SDATAT bills are a result of the resolutions passed by the Voting Delegates of SDATAT at the Annual Mtg. on Dec. 8, 2012 and have already been introduced:

SB 122 – An Act to revise the mandatory dates for holding township board meetings. (This bill would eliminate the specified dates for townships to meet, except for the Annual Meeting Election and Board of Equalization. Townships would still be required to meet at least 3 other board meeting during the year, but dates would be discretionary)
1/28/2013 Scheduled for Hearing.
1/28/2013 Senate Local Government Do Pass, Passed,
1/28/2013 Placed on consent, Passed

SB 126 – An Act to revise the provisions that authorize townships to combine the offices of the clerk and the treasurer. (This bill would change the maximum number of required resident registered voters in a township from 20 to 50 before the positions could be combined.)
1/28/2013 - Scheduled for hearing in Senate Local Government.
1/28/2013 - Deferred by Chair.
1/30/2013 - Scheduled for hearing.

SB 151 – An Act to clarify the maintenance responsibilities on unimproved section lines.

SB 156 - An Act to authorize township boards to increase the front foot assessment for road maintenance and repairs.
1/28/2013 - Senate Taxation amended, passed.

SB 157 - An Act to revise the distribution from the wind energy tax fund.
1/28/2013 - It was amended to give townships with wind farms 2.5% of the state's share of the wind tax. Passed 5-2 with Do Pass.

HB 1112 - An Act to clarify the application of certain open meetings provisions to certain three-member public boards.
1/22/2013 – Passed the House Local Government Committee 9-4
1/23/13 – Passed the full House 56-14

Other bills of interest include:

SB 6 – An Act to determine whether factors affecting productivity should be applied if the actual use of agricultural land does not correspond to the soil classification standards.
1-29-13 - Scheduled for hearing

Legislative Highlights Cont’d on Page 15
Legislative Highlights...

Cont’d from page 14

SB 124- An Act to increase the real estate transfer fees and to revise the distribution of the fees.

SB 154 – An Act to revise the maximum weight allowed on certain wide-based super single tires.
1/28/2013- Scheduled for hearing in Transportation.
1/28/2013- Deferred by Chair.

SB 155 - An Act to establish a local government road improvement grant fund for the purpose of serving new agricultural facilities and to make an appropriation therefor.

SB 179 – An Act to provide for a uniform county drainage permit application form and to remove the maximum limit for drainage permit fees.
1/30/2013- Scheduled for hearing Local Senate Government

SB 195 – An Act to establish certain incentives for wind energy facilities, to revise the amount that may be rebated for the gross receipts tax on electricity produced on wind farms, and to declare an emergency.

SB 210 - An Act to provide for assessment of agricultural property based on the market, repeal the methodology that assesses agricultural land based on its agricultural income value, and to dissolve the implementation and oversight advisory task force.
1-30-13 - Scheduled for hearing in State Affairs

SB 220 - An Act to revise certain procedures for the vacation, change, or location of public highways.

HB 1007 - An Act to restrict the term of conservation easements. Proposed to limit the length of easements to 30 years.
1/24/2013 – It was amended in the House Agriculture Committee to 99 years and then defeated by a vote of 7-6

HB 1135 – An Act to regulate access to and use of public waters on public and private property.

HB 1189 – An Act to permit counties and townships to levy a capital improvement property tax for highways, secondary roads, bridges, and culverts. (This bill authorizes counties to levy up to $1.00 per $1000 of property value for capital improvements and authorizes townships to levy up to $.50 per $1000.)

***If you are interested in receiving a weekly electronic Legislative Newsletter highlighting the legislation relevant to SDATAT, please email us at sdstaff@santel.net and we will gladly include you on our email list or you can go to our website at www.sdtownships.com under the Legislative Tab for a complete listing of all current and archived newsletters.
Track a Bill Online

1. Go to the Legislature’s website at http://legis.state.sd.us/sessions/2013/index.aspx (this is for 2013 legislation only).

2. In the box next to Bill(s), type in the number of the bill you’re interested in, and hit ENTER. (If you’re not sure of the bill number, click on “Bills” on the left side of the page, then you can select Text Search, Full List, or Subject Index).

3. You’ll see a page showing the status of the bill so far. Along with the bill number, the title, and the sponsors, this page displays the date the bill was first introduced, and which committee it was assigned to. If the bill is scheduled for a hearing, it will show the date the hearing is scheduled. If it has already been debated and acted on in committee, it will show whether it passed, was tabled, or deferred to the nonexistent 41st legislative day (meaning it was killed). If a bill has been amended, this will be indicated. If a bill has been voted on by the full Senate or House, that will also be indicated.

4. To check to see how a legislator voted on a bill in committee or on the floor, click on the vote total.

5. To listen to the actual testimony and debate, click on the Public Broadcasting symbol to the far right. If the symbol appears on a line which refers to a hearing, then you would be listening to testimony and debate in committee. If the symbol is on a line which refers to a vote total, then you would be listening to just the vote on the bill. If the symbol is on a line which refers to the House of Representatives or the Senate, then you would be listening to floor debate.

6. For information on amendments to the bill, click on the date on the line referring to the amendment to read the actual wording of the amendment, and to see how legislators voted on the amendment.

7. To read the complete bill, click on the Bill Text Versions at the bottom of the screen. The first version (Printed) shows you the original wording of the bill. If a bill is amended, the most current version of the bill would be the bottom one. You can choose whether to view the bill in an HTML Version, or as a PDF.

Legislative Research Council website:
http://legis.state.sd.us
How a Bill Becomes a Law

A new IDEA

A bill is simply an idea that someone would like to see become law. It could be anything from the penalty for committing a crime to the amount of money that can be spent on a state program. The idea can come from anyone, but only a State Representative or Senator can take that idea and guide it to final passage through the State Legislature.

The BILL goes to a committee

The Senate President or Speaker of the House then assigns the bill to a committee.

Committee action is crucial to the legislative process. A committee’s responsibility is to examine a bill carefully, take testimony for and against the bill, and decide whether to send the bill to the “floor” (the full House or Senate) for consideration by the full body.

The committee can send the bill to the floor with a “Do Pass” recommendation. They can “Table” the bill, which means it is dead unless the full body orders the committee to send the bill to the floor. Or the committee can “Defer to the 41st Legislative Day” which also kills the bill, since there are only 38 legislative days this year. In rare cases, if a committee cannot get enough votes to pass or kill the bill, a measure may be sent to the floor without recommendation. In that case, the full body must vote whether they want to place the bill on the “calendar” (agenda) for consideration.

The IDEAbecomes a BILL

Drafting a bill means putting the idea into legal language. The drafting is done by the Legislative Research Council, an agency of state government.

Introduction of a bill can be made by any member of the House or Senate, and more than one legislator generally sponsors a bill. The legislator whose name appears first on the bill is the “prime sponsor”.

The BILL is voted on by the House and/or Senate

A bill is given to the Chief Clerk of the House or the Secretary of the Senate and is assigned a number. If the bill is sponsored by a Senator, it is a Senate Bill. Proposals which start in the House are House Bills. The bill is given a First Reading in the “House of Origin” (in the House, if sponsored by a Representative; in the Senate, if sponsored by a Senator). A First Reading means the bill’s number and title are read aloud.

Once a bill reaches the floor, it is debated and voted on.

If it passes, the bill is forwarded on to the other body, where it goes through the same committee process.

If a bill passes both the House and Senate, it is sent to the Governor. If he signs it, the bill becomes law. If the Governor vetoes the bill, the Legislature has an opportunity to decide whether to override or uphold his veto. If the Legislature votes to override the veto, the bill becomes law. Most new laws will go into effect on July 1, unless they contain an emergency clause or have a clause specifying a different date of enactment.
Required Meeting and Agendas

DON’T FORGET UPCOMING REQUIRED TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

We have listed below the upcoming required township meetings dates that are set forth in state statute SDCL 8-5-1 and SDCL 10-11-13 along with the intended purpose of each such meeting and the posting requirements that are needed to meet the Open Meeting Laws.

POSTING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEETINGS:

“Any” Regular township meeting that involves decisions made to approve bills, decide on road maintenance issues, etc.-
- Post a readable, accessible, and visible agenda and notice 24 hours in advance of the meeting at the clerk’s office or location determined by the board of supervisors. Exception is in emergency situation where the advance notice is not required. Reasons for emergency meeting must be documented in minutes as to what constituted the emergency.

“Annual township meetings or special election meetings” that require the vote of the township resident registered voters-
- Post notice in legal newspaper for 3 consecutive days in a daily newspaper or 2 wks in a weekly newspaper not less than 12 calendar days prior to meeting. Post visible agenda 24 hours in advance at the clerk’s office.

SUMMARY OF REQUIRED MEETING DATES

**To change the date of any required meeting, SDCL 8-3-1 states that notice of the time and place of such township meeting shall be given by publishing the notice in a daily newspaper for 3 consecutive days or for 2 consecutive weeks in a weekly newspaper not less than 12 calendar days prior to such meeting.

1. **February 26, 2013** (last Tuesday of February)- Regular township meeting. This meeting provides the township supervisors the opportunity to:
   - Complete yearly audit
   - Finalize yearly financial statements/annual report

2. **March 5, 2013** (first Tuesday of March)- Annual township meeting and election. This includes election of officers, informing the voters of the status of the township, and those items specifically required by statute to be voted on by the township voters. ONLY the resident registered voters of the township are eligible to vote and hold office. To be considered a township resident- you must reside in that township at least 30 consecutive days each year and be registered to vote. (SDCL 8-3-7) Oaths of officers must be signed and filed with the county auditor within 10 days of annual meeting.
   - Detailed sample Annual Meeting Agenda can be found on our website at www.sdtownships.com

3. **March 18, 2013** (third Monday of March)- Regular township board meeting along with an invited member of the school board meets for the purpose of equalizing the assessment of property in their township

4. **March 26, 2013** (last Tuesday of March)- Regular township meeting of the “newly” elected township officials. Some items have specific dates/deadlines others may be addressed when determined by the Board.
   - Detailed sample agendas for the Board of Supervisors can be found on our website www.sdtownships.com or by contacting our office at 605 353-1439.
### FEBRUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>LEGISLATIVE DAY</td>
<td>at the Capitol - Pierre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>McCook Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. - Courthouse - Salem, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Charles Mix Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. - 4-H Bldg - Lake Andes, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Perkins Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>2:00 p.m. - Elbert Bentley Bldg - Bison, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Pennington/Jackson/Meade Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. - Wall Community Ctr - Wall, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hamlin Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. - 4-H Bldg - Hayti, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Sanborn Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. - 4-H Bldg - Forestburg, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Regular Township Meeting</td>
<td>as Required by SDCL 8-5-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MARCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Douglas Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - Courthouse - Armour, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Annual Township Meeting</td>
<td>as Required by SDCL 8-3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Spink Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>1:00 - Courthouse - Redfield, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Clay Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>7 p.m. - Courthouse - Vermillion, SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Regular Township Equalization Meeting</td>
<td>as Required by SDCL 10-11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Regular Township Meeting</td>
<td>as Required by SDCL 8-5-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Day/Marshall/Roberts Co. Township Meeting</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 4 pm - Wilmot Community Ct - Wilmot, SD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SDATAT LEGISLATIVE DAY**

February 6, 2013

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013 is the date for the annual SDATAT Legislative Day at the Capitol. Those attending should plan on arriving in Pierre as early as possible that day as committee meetings begin promptly at 7:45 am and then again at 10 am. All town and township officers are welcome to attend.

At 1:15- you are invited to meet with Governor Daugaard and discuss pending legislation and issues concerning towns/ townships. From 1:30 to 3:30 pm- There will be an ice cream social served by the SDATAT Board of Directors for all the Legislators in the President’s and Speaker’s lobbies.

At 4:30 pm- The SDATAT Board of Directors will have a board meeting at the Cattlemen’s Steak House followed by a no host dinner with legislative guests.

On Thursday morning, those staying overnight may attend more committee meetings at the Capitol. This is your opportunity to see your government in action.
Get to Sheehan Mack Sales & Equipment for the Volvo Wheel Loaders that are strong and purpose built for your work. Get more production with industry-leading fuel efficiency, automatic power shift and load-sensing hydraulics. Get yours today at your local Sheehan Mack branch.