



CITY OF RAPID CITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2011

Mayor Sam Kooiker

Mayor Sam Kooiker Nominates Executive Assistant/Program Coordinator

Mayor Sam Kooiker has nominated Michael Howard as Executive Assistant/Program Coordinator. The position is an officer of the City that provides a wide range of support for both the Mayor and City Council. The confirmation vote by the City Council is scheduled for October 17, 2011 at the regular City Council meeting. The confirmation requirement for this position is the result of Ordinance 5729 that was brought forward by Mayor Kooiker in July of 2011.

Howard previously spent eight years with the Dale Carnegie Leadership Training Institute in Rapid City, serving as the Senior Area Manager and a certified instructor. He most recently worked as a Financial Services Representative for National American University in Rapid City.

"Howard's leadership skills and extensive managerial experience will serve the City well," Kooiker said. "His well-rounded background and experience make him an excellent match for this position."

Howard earned his MBA from National American University in Rapid City, and his Bachelor's degree in Industrial Technology from Northern State University. Howard is also active in the community, serving as part of the Rushmore Rotary Club and Toastmasters International.

Howard will fill the position that has been covered by Wanda Peacock since Mayor Kooiker took office on July 5. Peacock served as Executive Assistant at the Rapid City Regional Airport for over 20 years. Mayor Kooiker said, "We greatly appreciate Wanda's willingness to come out of retirement to assist the Mayor's Office in this transition. I am thankful for her continued service to our community and appreciate the great help she has been to me and the City Council during this time."

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