



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

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November 26, 2013

City Council,

We had great applications for the two vacancies on the Civic Center Board. I have made the decision to recommend Donna Winkler and Don Frankenfeld for these two positions. They would fill the seats vacated by John Herr, who is term limited by ordinance, and Chris Haugo, who did apply for a second term.

Donna Winkler is a knowledgeable businesswoman with more than 26 years of experience in operations and logistics management. She also is familiar with inventory control and contract negotiations. Her skill set will be very valuable as the Civic Center moves into its most critical phase ever aside from the initial build in the early 1970's.

Don Frankenfeld is a highly accomplished economist and former State Senator. He has served our community in many ways over the years. Yes, he has been a critic of the Civic Center's processes and finances, but he is not against the Civic Center, nor is he against an expansion. He has said to me that the community must be convinced that not only should a "benefit analysis" be provided, but that a true "cost-benefit" analysis should be provided. His presence on the board will be enormously valuable.

While it will be noted I have chosen over the last two years to replace two board members who were eligible for re-appointment, there is no slight intended against those who were not re-appointed. These are unpaid positions and are often thankless. Their service is deeply appreciated.

Outgoing board members are encouraged to stay involved in the affairs of the City and will likely be called on for service again, either for the Civic Center or in another area of the City. In fact, one of the previous outgoing members, Rich Huffman, is now serving on our Airport Board. Please remember the board members are chosen for three-year terms, not six-year terms. It is important for the applicants to be considered in context of the current and future conditions of the Civic Center. I encourage you to confirm these two appointments, and am confident the Civic Center Board will be well situated for the next several years during this important period in our City's history.

Sincerely,

Sam Kooiker, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota



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