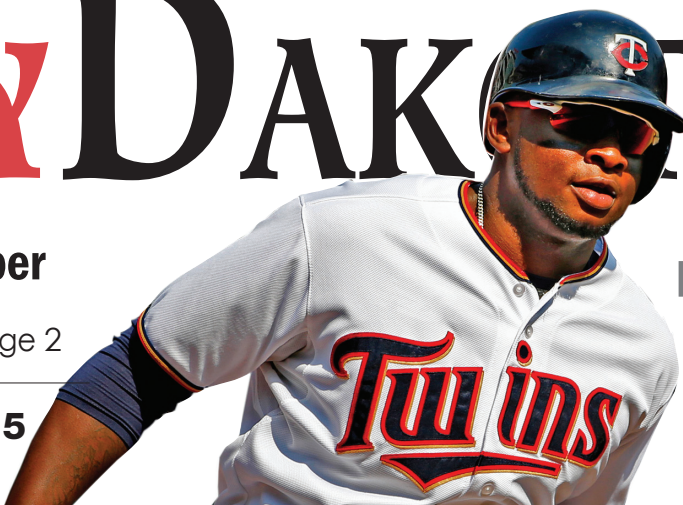




A Warm Start To September

9 a.m. **72** 3 p.m. **88** | DETAILS: Page 2

TUESDAY ■ September 1, 2015



Rookie Provides
Powerful Boost
For Twins

PAGE 7



Volume 141
Number 109

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | 12 PAGES | www.yankton.net

75¢



Bon Homme County

A Take On Turbines

Planning Board Endorses New Wind Energy Ordinance

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN
alissa.woockman@yankton.net

TYNDALL — The Bon Homme County Planning Commission voted Monday to recommend the standards of a draft to the County Commission involving the zoning ordinance covering wind energy systems.

The planning commission is a recommendation body appointed by members of the County Commission, which will

have final say on the matter.

There were more than 50 Bon Homme County residents in attendance Monday morning. The first portion of the meeting was open for community members to give comments or concerns about the ordinance. Each member was given three minutes to address the planning commission.

"I think we had very good testimony this morning," said Planning Commission member Robert Rothschild of Tyndall.

Those opposed to the ordinance cited several topics of concern, the most popular being: zoning areas where turbines will be allowed due to noise and the possible depletion of property value.

The proposed ordinance has the setbacks set at a distance 1,000 feet from a residence and 500 feet or 1.1 times the height of the wind turbine, depending on



ALISSA WOOCKMAN/P&D

Bon Homme County attorney Lisa Rothschild listens to testimony by Tyndall resident and District 19 Sen. Bill Van Gerpen at the Planning Commission zoning hearing Monday in Tyndall. The commission will present their recommendation for approval of a draft ordinance regarding wind energy.

TURBINE | PAGE 12

The Big Pitch



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton native Jacob Fokken discusses his proposal for Yankton's "Next Big Idea" during a public forum Monday night at the Discovery Church in downtown Yankton. Fokken, one of six presenters at the meeting, has proposed making Yankton a center for entrepreneurial growth.

Six Finalists For Yankton's 'Next Big Idea' State Their Cases

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

Almost five months to the day after the Onward Yankton initiative was announced, the six finalists had Monday night to make their pitches to the public.

More than 500 ideas were submitted in the 100-day contest.

Larry Ness of First Dakota National Bank told a large crowd at Yankton's Discovery Church said the project has been about creating a long-term opportunities for the city of Yankton.

"We want to come up with ideas that will benefit this community now and in the future," Ness said.

He added that he hopes the city's opportunities will not be limited to one single idea.

"It isn't just the idea that's going to be picked as a result of this," he

said. "We hope that maybe 20 or 30 great ideas will be picked up by some sponsoring group and they'll carry it forward and they'll get it done.

After a short introduction, Ness turned things over to the six finalist ideas.

BUILDING FOR YOUTH

The first idea presented Monday night was a submission from South Dakota State Sen. Billie Sutton (D — District 21) and wife Kelsea regarding making Yankton the best city in America for children.

Billie said that, ultimately, children are one of the key factors in a family's decision making when choosing where to live.

"The Governor's Office of Economic Development recently released an

Monday's Presenters

BILLIE AND KELSEA SUTTON

Making Yankton the best city for children.

JACOB FOKKEN

Making Yankton the capital of entrepreneurship.

MOUNT MARY COLLEGE

Adding 50 percent more students.

CARMEN SCHRAMM

Creating a four-season entertainment venue.

BEN HOVLAND

Recreating community identity.

DAVE HOSMER (FOR GREGG KOPETSKY)

Building a signature tower.

IDEA | PAGE 9

Board Of Regents

South Dakota Legislators Put An Emphasis On 'Dashboard'

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Mike Rush, the new executive director for the state Board of Regents, met Monday with the Legislative Planning Committee to talk about the panel's interest in what are known as "dashboard indicators."

Those are quick reads in the form of graphic information that can show what a public agency is delivering. Rush couldn't provide, at least not yet, what some of the legislators wanted.

Sen. Mike Vehle, R-Mitchell, asked for a chart showing whether people are getting their money's worth from the universities. He said he isn't being critical.

"I'm just trying to get at that," Vehle said. Replied Rush, "I think we have some work to do to get to that kind of measure."

Dashboard indicators have become an increasingly popular tool among South Dakota lawmakers, especially dollar-hawks on the Joint Committee on Appropriations and the Government Operations and Audit Committee.

The Legislative Planning Committee, started in 2012 at the request of Rep. Scott Munsterman, R-Brookings, has its collective eyes looking for more dashboards too.

The legislators learned Monday from top personnel for the state universities system there are two sets of dashboards already on the regents website.

One about strategic goals set in 2014 is available on the Internet at <https://sdbor.edu/theboard/StrategicPlan/index.htm> and the other called SDBOR Dashboards — and which has many features that can break down the multitude of data — is at <https://sdbor.edu/dashboards/>.

Taking turns showing those sites to the legislative panel were Paul Turman, chief academic officer for the regents, and Daniel Palmer, director of institutional research.

Sen. Scott Parsley, D-Madison, commended the work and said the data would answer many policy questions. "I really appreciate this information. I think it's going to be very helpful," Parsley said.

Vehle asked which six sets of data from the regents would be best used for judging the universities system. Palmer said the strategic plan might best represent what the regents are attempting and provide a window into where the regents want to be most productive.

Munsterman, the planning committee's chairman, told Rush and the other officials they could meet again with the



Vehle

REGENTS | PAGE 12

Landlords Rent 17.3M Acres Of SD Farmland

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A government survey has found that there are 17.3 million acres of farmland rented out by landlords in South Dakota.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service on Monday reported the data, which come from its first survey of landowners since 1999.

The Tenure, Ownership and Transition of Agricultural Land survey was conducted last year. It found that there are 40,260 farmland landlords in South Dakota. But only 11,853 of those were actually farmers, the majority of them are non-farming landlords.

Cropland made up 65 percent of all farmland rented, while 34 percent was rented for pastures. The rest of the land was used for forests and other uses.

The agency also reported landowners expect to transfer almost 5 million acres to other owners in the next five years



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

This window sign heralds Wausa's 125th anniversary celebration, which begins this Thursday and runs this Thursday and throughout Labor Day weekend.

Wausa Sees Big Changes For 125th Anniversary

BY REILLY BIEL
reilly.biel@yankton.net

WAUSA, Neb. — After many years of holding a late-summer celebration with the same Labor Day weekend format, the town of Wausa is changing things up in honor of its quasiquincentennial anniversary (Q125).

The biggest change is the number and scale of activities that will take place Sept. 3-7.

It actually started last Friday with a home football game and continued Saturday with a morning trap shoot.

The Q125 will officially begin Thursday with the opening of the

"Remembering Our Fallen" wall, a memorial dedicated to the service men and women of Wausa who were killed in combat.

The rest of the weekend will be filled with activities ranging from mud volleyball and a professional illusionist to a horseshoe tournament.

The wide range of activities ensures there is something for every age group to enjoy.

"I enjoy getting things together and hearing about how excited everyone is," said Jane Wilbeck, the Q125 committee secretary. "There will be an alumni banquet on Satur-

Q125 | PAGE 12

