

# The South Dakota Engineer

## From the Society's Desk

Greetings Members! We hope this newsletter finds you all healthy and adjusting to these rapidly changing times! It is not the norm for SDES to put out an August newsletter, but then these are not normal times. We found as we neared the end of the summer that there were several items we want to pass on to you the best way to do so was to combine everything together in one place — so consider this an end of the summer bonus newsletter!

In addition to the following information on the Virtual PDH Conference, you'll find a variety of information on other PDH opportunities, happenings around the state, job openings and other items. As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to give me a call or drop me an email.

Stay Safe! See you at the Virtual PDH Conference!

Nancy Hoines, SDES Executive Director

## VIRTUAL CONFERENCE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

- Registration information will be sent out next week. Keep an eye on your email!
- 8-10 PDHs will be offered to meet your PE continuing education requirements.
- Sessions will be spaced to allow time to stretch your legs and grab a cup of coffee in between learning.
- A diverse group of speakers will cover a variety of topics over the course of the two days.
- Interactive sessions will allow for question and answer periods at the end of each presentation
- More information on unique new partner and sponsorship opportunities to come!



**NSPE-SD**® SOUTH DAKOTA  
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Virtual PDH Conference

September 9th — 11th, 2020




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## UPDATED LICENSE RENEWAL INFORMATION

As a follow up to the May newsletter, we have updated any changes to PE renewal requirements below. Due to the value of continuing education, all licensing boards encourage you to strive to still complete your hours, through webinars or other online sources, but some states have modified their requirements due to the effects of COVID-19.

**South Dakota:** Under Administrative Rule, the SDBTP is considering the COVID-19 pandemic under a medical exemption and may waive some continuing education, if needed, for this renewal. PEs should contact the South Dakota Board of Technical Professions for more information and to confirm eligibility. You can reach the Board office at 605.394.2510 or online at <https://dlr.sd.gov/btp/default.aspx>

**Iowa:** Under the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency, the maximum number of independent study hours has been lifted and the number of PDHs required has been cut in half. <https://plb.iowa.gov/documents/engineeringsurveying-covid-19-provisions>

**North Dakota:** PE licenses are not up for renewal until December 31st. With several months left until renewal, ND has not modified their requirements.

**Nebraska:** PE licenses are not up for renewal until December 31st. The Board reduced the number of required continuing education hours from 30 to 20 for engineers and raised the limit on restricted online, non-live CE activities from one-fourth to one-half. You can find the full list of adjustments at <https://ea.nebraska.gov/news/board-adjusts-continuing-education-requirements-due-covid-19>

**Wyoming:** PE licenses are not up for renewal until December 31st. Continuing education requirements were discussed in March and June with no changes, however it will likely be a topic at their September meeting again..

**Minnesota:** Licenses are up for renewal on June 30th. Because the continuing education requirements are in statute, instead of administrative rule, the Board is not able to give a blanket extension and so the requirements remain the same as normal.

**Other States:** Visit the NSPE COVID-19 Licensure-Related Legislation page at <https://www.quorum.us/spreadsheet/external/XzvcVELfzzrFOYyqEmxn/>

**NOTE:** SDES is not responsible for changes in license requirements and recommends you confirm all requirements with the state in which you are renewing your license.

## Continuing Education Opportunities

In addition to the SDES Virtual PDH Conference to be held September 9th–11th, SDES has been notified of the following continuing education opportunities that are planned for the next few months. Many of the webinars and trainings are free of charge or may be free to members of an organization, but available at a small fee to non-members. If you are aware of additional webinars that may be of interest to SDES members, please email them to [sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com) and we will add them to the SDES website.

- ◆ **15 Free NSPE Courses/Year:** These courses are available for free to full NSPE/SDES/Chapter members to view from your home or office and you can earn credits by viewing the webinar and passing the quiz. Courses are also available to non-members or State Only SDES members for a fee (\$149–\$189). Course topics range from management to ethics and from electric transmission to drones to dams. Find out more about the courses here <https://www.nspe.org/membership/member-benefits/fifteen-free-courses> If you are in need of PDH, this is a great time to join or upgrade your membership to full NSPE/SDES/Chapter membership level. Find out more about full membership on page 9.
- ◆ **NSPE Live and On-Demand Courses:** NSPE also offers a variety of live and on-demand courses — some free, some for a fee — through the PE Institute. Courses vary from technical to business to those focused on young engineers. Find out more on the Education and Practice page on the NSPE website at <https://www.nspe.org/resources/education-practice>
- ◆ **American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Courses:** The American Council of Engineering Companies is offering a variety of free webinars for member firms in response to COVID-19. In addition, ACEC also provides a number of on-demand and live online courses, typically focused on the business of engineering, for members and non-members. You can access the catalog at <https://education.acec.org/diweb/catalog> Almost 35% of our SDES members are also ACEC member firms. To see if your firm is on the list visit <https://www.acec.org/sd/about/member-firms/>
- ◆ **August 18, 2020, Noon–1 p.m. Central Achieving Smoothness in Concrete Pavement Construction.** This webinar focuses on the design process, how the contractor approaches smoothness, and also includes first-hand accounts from engineers and contractors on how to address site hurdles. Sponsored by the American Concrete Paving Association. Find out more at <https://go.acpa.org/cp-tech-center-2020>
- ◆ **September 2, 2020, Noon–1 p.m. Central: Net Zero, ICF Design for Rural/Tribal Projects** This webinar will outline the benefits of using Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs) in construction, especially in regard to Rural and Tribal projects. ICFs are a key component in DSGW's strategy to design Net Zero projects. This presentation will show examples of ICF and Net Zero design, in particular the Fort Totten Alternative CTE School, the country's first Net Zero school on Tribal lands in North America. Sponsored by the South Dakota Ready Mix Concrete Association. Find out more at <https://mnconcretecouncil.com/index.php/events/details?id=187>
- ◆ **September 17, 2020, 8–9 a.m. Central: Concrete Cracking** Concrete provides structures with strength, rigidity, and resilience from deformation. These characteristics, however, result in concrete structures lacking the flexibility to move in response to environmental or volume changes. Cracking is usually the first sign of distress in concrete. Cracking of concrete flatwork is natural, expected, and accepted. However, cracks may affect appearance, performance, and maintenance costs. This presentation will discuss the various types of concrete cracks and how to best minimize their occurrence. Sponsored by the South Dakota Ready Mix Concrete Association. Find out more at <https://mnconcretecouncil.com/index.php/events/details?id=139>
- ◆ **September 22, 2020, Noon–1 p.m. Central: Resiliency/Resilient Pavement Systems.** Sponsored by the American Concrete Paving Association. Find out more at <https://go.acpa.org/cp-tech-center-2020>

## Banner Associates, Inc. Recognized as one of the 50 Best Places to Work in the Region

Each year, Prairie Business Magazine, based in Grand Forks, North Dakota, invites nominations from organizations throughout the region to recognize the 50 Best Places to Work. Nominations are based completely on employee feedback, so it is a tremendous honor to be recognized on this list. This year, over 1,400 nominations were submitted for this recognition.



Among the winners on the list is Banner Associates, Inc. The organization has 5 office locations throughout the state of South Dakota, with the corporate office located in Brookings. The organization is led by President, Brad Wermers, and has approximately 70 staff members. The organization will be featured in the September issue of Prairie Business Magazine, alongside other organizations being recognized for this award.

Banner Associates provides comprehensive engineering, environmental, and surveying services to communities throughout the upper Midwest. Congratulations to Banner Associates and the 10 SDES members who are part of the Banner Associates family!

## August 5th, 2020 Proclaimed PE Day in South Dakota, Rapid City, Pierre and Sioux Falls



August 5th, 2020 marked the fifth annual Professional Engineers Day as declared by the South Dakota Engineering Society, in conjunction with the National Society of Professional Engineers. In honor of the day, Governor Kristi Noem declared the day Professional Engineers Day in South Dakota. Joining Noem in proclamations for their cities were Mayor TenHaken, Sioux Falls; Mayor Allender, Rapid City and Mayor Harding, Pierre.

As recent as a century ago, anyone could work as an engineer without proof of competency. In order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, the first engineering licensure law was enacted in 1907 in Wyoming. Now every state, including South Dakota, regulates the practice of engineering to ensure public safety by granting only Professional Engineers (PEs) the authority to sign and seal engineering plans and offer their services to the public.

SDES encourages anyone interested in finding out more about the process required to become licensed in South Dakota to reach out to any of their PE colleagues in SDES or contact the SD Board of Technical Professions at <https://dlr.sd.gov/btp/default.aspx>

## NSPE To Hold Fireside Chats on Legislative Issues

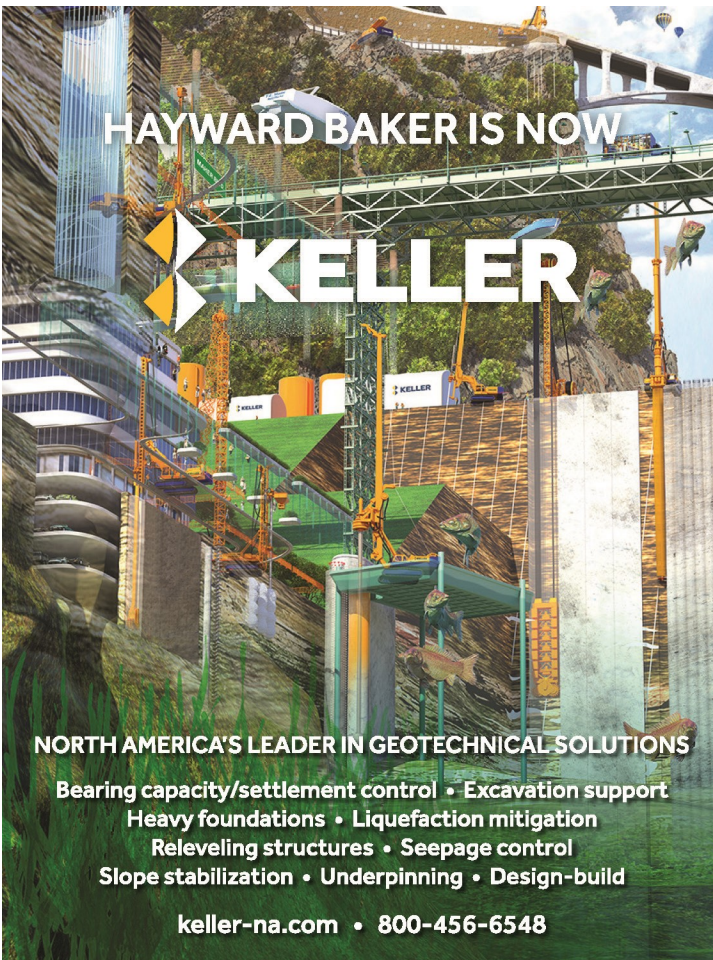
Join NSPE for a series of fireside chat-style webinars to discuss legislative issues related to the future of the engineering profession! The following are details for each session. We hope to have you join us.

August 17, 2020 at 11 a.m. Central - Funding for the Future: Achieving Licensure and Certification  
NSPE will be joined by Rep. Abigail Spanberger (VA-07) and Rep. Rob Wittman (VA-01) for a discussion on the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (H.R. 5339) and the benefits that this bill could bring to those pursuing the PE license.

August 31, 2020 at 1 p.m. Central - Diversity is the Future of Engineering: Opportunities in STEM Education  
Join NSPE for a discussion on legislation that will expand opportunities for students pursuing careers in STEM fields.

September 14, 2020 at 2 p.m. Central - Building for the Future  
NSPE will be joined by Rep. Bruce Westerman, PE (AR-04) for a discussion on infrastructure and legislation that funds these projects, as well as what it is like to be a professional engineer in Congress.

Find out more and register at [https://nspe.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ICRMtC\\_nR8604y35VYUVlg](https://nspe.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ICRMtC_nR8604y35VYUVlg)



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## Welcome New Members!

Please extend a warm welcome to all our new members who have joined NSPE/SDES since our last newsletter! Whether you are a student, new to the profession or a familiar face who has been around the industry for a while, we look forward to sharing the benefits of NSPE/SDES with you!

### Eastern Chapter

Matthew Dailey, PE, Certified Testing Services  
 Jenna Girard, EIT, Minnehaha County Highway Dept.  
 Perry Kolb, PE, KCDS, Inc.  
 Ben Larson, PE, VAA, LLC  
 Kent Ode, EIT, HDR Engineering, Inc.  
 Michael Redenbaugh, EIT, Infrastructure Design Group, Inc.  
 Jessica Schneider, Infrastructure Design Group, Inc.  
 Shawn Vanhove, PE, VAA, LLC  
 Kelsey Waltz, PE, Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc.

### Black Hills Chapter

Victor Hernandez Chinos, Student, SDSMT  
 Tyler Kleinsasser, EIT, Student, SDSMT  
 Isaac Knock, Student, SDSMT  
 Joshua Willhite, PED, Fermi Research Alliance



## WHO WILL YOU INVITE TO BE A MEMBER?

Remember when you were fresh out of school, new to your firm or just looking to meet new people and professionals? Who was that person who reached out to you and invited you to join SDES? Think of all the friends you've made, the relationships you've built and the professional knowledge you've gained through SDES....and yes, maybe you've even had a little fun along the way! Take some time to reach out to a recent graduate, new staff member or maybe that long-time colleague that has just never taken the time to join. Bring them along to your next Chapter meeting or social and introduce them to SDES!

If you know of someone interested in becoming a new member, contact [Nancy Hoines](#) at 605.951.1004.

## Career Opportunities



**SDSPLS**

South Dakota Society of  
Professional Land Surveyors

SDSPLS is currently seeking an Executive Director to provide location and point of contact for SDSPLS Board of Directors and members; conduct daily business activities including addressing mail, email and phone inquiries and general accounting duties; maintenance and annual membership renewals for a 300 +/- member professional surveying organization; organize, produce and distribute a quarterly membership newsletter; organize and schedule quarterly Board of Director Meetings; coordinate, schedule and participate in quarterly BOD Meetings; organize and schedule the Annual Convention; work with Board and Committee members and general membership as needed and develop familiarization with society bylaws. Find out more on the [Job Openings](#) page of the SDES website.



We have a tremendous team here at Banner and we are thrilled to announce that we have a need to increase our staff. We have experienced significant growth over the past few years and have a lot of exciting projects going on! Banner Associates is currently seeking: Engineering Technicians, Engineering Interns (EI), Project Engineer and Project Managers, an Environmental Scientists and a MicroStation Technician. Positions may be based in Brookings, Sioux Falls or Rapid City. Please visit our website for additional details on these opportunities, or share your cover letter and resume with Sarah Meusburger at [sarahm@bannerassociates.com](mailto:sarahm@bannerassociates.com). We can't wait to meet you!







JOIN OUR TEAM!

We are excited to be named one of the region's 50 Best Places to Work by Prairie Business - thanks to our employee feedback! We are very proud of the company culture that we have created and the engineering services we provide to our clients.

We're also growing! Interested in joining our amazing team - we're hiring!



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toll free  
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[www.bannerassociates.com](http://www.bannerassociates.com)



*Job Opportunities are posted with the information supplied to SDES by the firm or agency and is accurate to the best of our knowledge. It is the responsibility of the Job Seeker to verify all information regarding application and availability with the advertising firm or agency. SDES takes no responsibility for missed deadlines or errors in the application process.*

## SDES 2020-2019 Leadership Team

### 2019-2020 OFFICERS

**Past President:** Andrew Bruels, PE  
**President:** Jason Hinds, PE  
**President-Elect:** Jon Wiegand, PE  
**Vice President:** Kurt Peppel, PE  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Gabe Laber, PE  
**Black Hills Chapter State Director:** Stacia Slowey, PD  
**Black Hills Chapter President:** Doug Noyes, PE  
**Central Chapter State Director:** Kayla Fawcett  
**Central Chapter President:** John Ullmann, PE  
**Eastern Chapter State Director:** Devin Clay, PE  
**Eastern Chapter President:** Ben Scholtz, PE

### 2018-2019 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**Awards:** Bradley Ludens, PE  
**Design Professionals Coalition:**  
 Laurie Schultz, PE and Ray Pierson, PE  
**Endowment Promotion:** TJ Yerdon, PE  
**Licensure:** Brian Jenner, PE  
**MATHCOUNTS:** Jesse Morris, PE  
**Membership:** Nancy Hoines, RLA  
**Nominations:** Andrew Bruels, PE  
**SD Local Transportation Assistance Program:**  
 Jason Kjenstad, PE  
**University and Public Relations:**  
 Kari Johnson, PE, and Kyle Hansen, PE

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nancy Hoines, RLA

## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

If you would like to advertise in the South Dakota Engineer, visit our website <http://www.sdes.org/page-1564528> for more information or contact Nancy in the SDES office at 605.951.1004 or [sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com)



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SDES is the state society of engineers from all disciplines that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, enhances the image of its members and advocates legislation and public policy for the betterment of human welfare and the profession.

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