

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING
January 24, 2023
6:00 PM
City Hall**



CITY OF MILLS
EST. 1921

Mayor:
Leah Juarez
Council Members:
Cherie Butcher
Sara McCarthy
Brad Neumiller
Tim Sutherland

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Mayor:

Hays Vacate

Review Agenda

Resolution 2023-1: A Resolution Regarding Certain Accounts

Council President

2. City Clerk:

Meeting Change Notice

Liquor License Transfer

WAM update on Bills

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation in order to attend or participate in this meeting should contact City Hall at 307-234-6679 within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to request such assistance.



CITY OF MILLS
APPLICATION TO VACATE/ABANDON
PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OR EASEMENT
Pursuant to the Mills City Code



City of Mills, Wyoming
704 4th Street
P.O. Box 789
Mills, Wyoming 82644

Date: 1/3/23

Return by: Earliest date possible

For Meeting on: Next available

PLEASE PRINT

Section 1.

SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IS: Billy Wade McCool

APPLICANT/OWNER(S) INFORMATION:

Print Owner Name:
Robert D. Hays and Darla R. Hays, Husband and Wife
Owner Mailing Address:
4710 W. Lafayette Lot #9 / 1440 Rd. 61
City, State, Zip: Mills, Wyoming 82604 / La Grange, Wyoming 82221
Owner Phone: 307.797.0518 / 308.225.2831
Applicant Email: bob@haysclan.org/drh7972922@gmail.com

AGENT INFORMATION:

Print Agent Name:
Billy Wade McCool
Agent Mailing Address:
36 North Gould Street, Suite 203
City, State, Zip: Sheridan, Wyoming 82801
Agent Phone: 307.237.1983
Agent Email: wmccool@bslo.com

ATTACHMENT (REQUIRED):

- **Proof of ownership:** Deed (such as deed, title certification, attorney's title opinion)

Section 2.

PROPERTY INFORMATION:

Physical Address of Property: 4710 W. Lafayette Street, Mills, Wyoming 82604

Or, if not available, provide a general location (Example: NW corner of A & 1st Streets): N/A

Legal Description of Property: Lot: 2 Block: N/A PARCEL ID: 33800121100100

Subdivision: Hays Simple Subdivision

Or SECTION: N/A TOWNSHIP: N/A RANGE: N/A

Section 3.

RIGHT-OF-WAY / EASEMENT INFORMATION:

Right-of-Way / Easement Location: 10' along east property line, running north & south (Legal Description enclosed herewith)
(Example: along west property line, running north & south)

Width of Existing Right-of-Way / Easement: 60' Number of Feet to be Vacated: 10'

Please indicate the purpose for which the Right-of-Way / Easement is to be vacated / Abandoned

Apparent uncertainty whether Hays, current Owners, or the Town of Mills is currently vested in title due to ambiguity surrounding a platted dedication of the 10' by Natrona County prior to the Subdivision's annexation into the City. The 10' was platted as vacated by the County, prior to annexation by the City, but the authority upon which the 10' that was signed off as vacated is unclear based on the signatories to the plat. This vacation clears title should the Owners wish to sell the property.

Section 4. **SIGNATURES OF OWNERS (AND AGENT IF APPLICABLE):**

The following owner's signature signifies that all information on this application is accurate and correct to the best of the owner's knowledge; and that the owner has thoroughly read and understands all application information and requirements. [In addition to the owner's signature(s), if an agent of the owner is to be contacted for all communications relating to this application, please have the agent sign below.]

I (We) the undersigned owner(s) of the property described above do hereby make application to the City of Mills as follows:
Robert D. Hays and Darla R. Hays

OWNER Signature _____

OWNER Signature _____

AGENT Signature Billy Mark Mark

FEE: A check in the amount of \$100 payable to the City of Mills, must accompany this application.

Section 5. **UTILITY PROVIDERS:**

Telephone:	Eric Overlie	CenturyLink	eric.overlie@CenturyLink.com	(307) 235-2408
Gas:	Lori Neibauer	Black Hills Corporation	lori.neibauer@blackhillscorp.com	(307) 262-5714
Electric:	Greg Hansen	Rocky Mt. Power	greg.hansen@rockymountainpower.net	(307) 261-7066
Cable:	Robert Casados	Charter Communications	Robert.Casados@charter.com	(307) 264-3136
Water/Sewer:	City of Mills			(307) 234-6679

Section 6. **REASONS FOR THIS REQUEST:**

a. Why does the property owner wish to vacate or request abandonment of this right-of-way/easement?

County intended to vacate the 10' of the easement in favor of Owner of Property. Since ownership, the 10' has been used and included as part of the Property.

Only a subsequent title commitment discovered any issue with the title. Since annexation both Owners and City of Mills have treated the Property as owned by the Owners.

b. How is the right-of-way/easement being used?

As part of Owners property, with fence and trailer on it.

c. How will the proposed vacation/abandonment affect access to adjacent property owners?

No affect on access to adjacent property owners. The 10' is already being treated as part of the Property.

d. How does the property owner propose to use right-of-way/easement if vacated/abandoned?

No change in current use currently planned, future use to abide by all applicable regulations.

e. Are there any public utilities or infrastructures currently located in the right-of-way/easement? If so, describe them:

None known.

Section 7. PROPERTIES ABUTTING THE PROPERTY TO BE VACATED/ABANDONED:

The following properties abut the area to be vacated/abandoned:

Property Owner name(s): Anderson, Allen D. Et Ux.

Address: 663 Harding Avenue, Casper, Wyoming 82604

Lot: 1 Block: 56, Mountain View Addition

Property Owner name(s): Anderson, Allen D. Et Ux.

Address: 663 Harding Avenue, Casper, Wyoming 82604

Lot: 2 Block: 56, Mountain View Addition

Property Owner name(s): Anderson, Allen D. Et Ux.

Address: 663 Harding Avenue, Casper, Wyoming 82604

Lot: 3 Block: 56, Mountain View Addition

Property Owner name(s): N/A

Address: N/A

Lot: N/A Block: N/A, N/A Addition

Section 8. ATTACHMENTS AND EXHIBITS:

Applications to vacate/abandon must be submitted to the city planner at least thirty (30) days prior to the City Council meeting in which this action shall be considered.

The following documents must be included when submitting the application package:

As to Section 1.

- A copy of the recorded deed or other legal instrument indicating proof of ownership.
- If an agent is listed, a notarized letter or statement of authorization from the property owner(s) authorizing the agent to represent the owner(s) in connection with this application, OR a recorded Power of Attorney, Personal Representative Deed, Trustee Agreement, etc., in the agent's name.

As to Section 2.

- If the property is not located within a platted subdivision, a metes and bounds description must be provided.

As to Section 3.

- A copy of a certified survey of the lot or parcel indicated in Section 1 showing the right-of-way or easement to be vacated or abandoned.

As to the Application.

- All areas must be filled in or marked N/A (Not applicable).
- Incomplete applications will be returned to the Applicant.

WARRANTY DEED

LISA ANN DORMAN, formerly known as Lisa Ann Stamper Wynia, and DARREL B. DORMAN, wife and husband, Grantors, of the County of Natrona, State of Wyoming, for and in consideration of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, in hand paid, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, CONVEY AND WARRANT to ROBERT D. HAYS and DARLA R. HAYS, husband and wife, Grantees, whose address is P.O. Box 1944, Casper, Wyoming, 82602, the following described real estate, situate in 47th W. LAFAYETTE ST., Lot 9, Casper, WY 82604 Natrona County and State of Wyoming, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the homestead exemption laws of the State of Wyoming, to-wit:

Vacated Lots 1 through 7, and North half of Lot 8, Lots 10 through 15, Block 57, Mountain View Addition, Natrona County, Wyoming.

SUBJECT, however, to all easements, reservations, restrictions and rights-of-way of record or in use.

WITNESS our hands this 27th day of March, 1998

0698378

NATRONA CO. CLERK WY
MARY ANN COLLINS
RECORDED

2002 JUL 16 PM 8 43

Lisa Ann Dorman
Lisa Ann Stamper Wynia
LISA ANN DORMAN
formerly known as Lisa Ann Stamper Wynia

Darrel B. Dorman
DARREL B. DORMAN

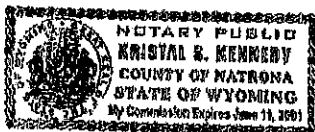
STATE OF WYOMING)
COUNTY OF NATRONA) ss

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by Lisa Ann Dorman and Darrel B. Dorman, wife and husband, this 27th day of March, 1998.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Kristal S. Kennedy
Notary Public

My Commission expires: June 11, 2001



ATA

1-880

STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

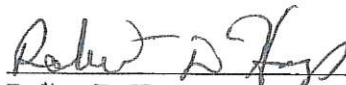
THIS STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION ("Statement") is made effective May 31, 2022 by Robert D. Hays.

WHEREAS, the City of Mills requires a property owner desiring an agent to represent him or her in certain application processes to authorize such representation.

WHEREAS, this Statement is made in connection with my CITY OF MILLS APPLICATION TO VACATE/ABANDON PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OR EASEMENT related to my property at 4710 W. Lafayette Street, Mills, Wyoming 82604 also known as Lot 2, Hays Simple Subdivision filed concurrently herewith (the "Application").

NOW THEREFORE, I hereby authorize Billy Wade McCool and/or Michael Lansing of Chapman Valdez & Lansing Law Offices to act as my agent representing me in connection to all matters concerning the Application.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Robert D. Hays, have executed this Statement as of the day and year first above written.


Robert D. Hays

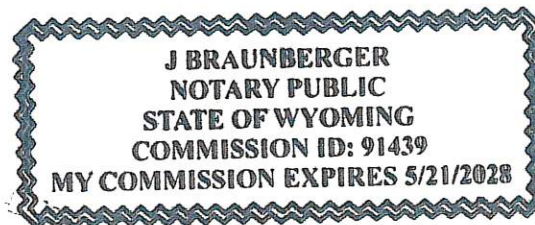
STATE OF Wyoming)
COUNTY OF Natrona) ss.

The foregoing instrument was subscribed, sworn to, and acknowledged before me by Robert D. Hays, this 30 day of August, 2022.

(Seal)


Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 5/21/2028



STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

THIS STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION ("Statement") is made effective May 31, 2022 by Darla R. Hays.

WHEREAS, the City of Mills requires a property owner desiring an agent to represent him or her in certain application processes to authorize such representation.

WHEREAS, this Statement is made in connection with my CITY OF MILLS APPLICATION TO VACATE/ABANDON PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OR EASEMENT related to my property at 4710 W. Lafayette Street, Mills, Wyoming 82604 also known as Lot 2, Hays Simple Subdivision filed concurrently herewith (the "Application").

NOW THEREFORE, I hereby authorize Billy Wade McCool and/or Michael Lansing of Chapman Valdez & Lansing Law Offices to act as my agent representing me in connection to all matters concerning the Application.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Darla R. Hays, have executed this Statement as of the day and year first above written.

Darla R. Hays
Darla R. Hays
By Robert D Hays POA

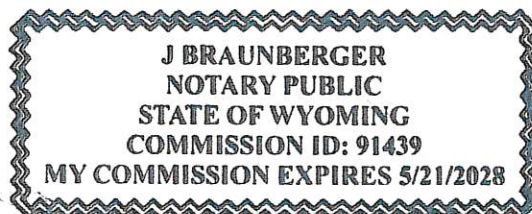
STATE OF Wyoming)
)ss.
COUNTY OF Natrona)

The foregoing instrument was subscribed, sworn to, and acknowledged before me by ~~Darla~~ ^{as power} of Attorney for Darla R. Hays, this 30 day of August, 2022.

(Seal)

J Braunberger
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 5/21/2028





LEGAL DESCRIPTION
10' WIDE VACATED HARDING AVENUE
Block 57, Mountain View Suburb
City of Mills, Wyoming

A ten foot (10.0') wide strip of land within Block 57, Mountain View Suburb of the City of Mills, Wyoming as recorded in June, 1924, situate within the SE¼NW¼ of Section 1, T.33N., R.80W., 6th P.M. Natrona County, Wyoming, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of land being the west ten feet (10') of Harding Avenue adjacent to Lots 10 – 15, Block 57, Mountain View Suburb as recorded in June, 1924, currently platted as Lot 2 of the Amended Plat of Hays Simple Subdivision, recorded May 13, 2003 as Instrument No. 716190.



RESOLUTION NO. 2023-__

A RESOLUTION REGARDING CERTAIN ACCOUNTS

WHEREAS, City of Mills has maintains certain bank accounts in order to fulfill its obligations as a municipality and in order to be a good and effective steward of the public funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mills established an account with the Wyoming Governmental Investment Fund (WGIF) in keeping with these duties and goals, the same being an entity created on July 1, 1996, to provide cash-management investments designed for Wyoming public entities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mills, has subsequently established an account with Wyoming Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (Wyoming CLASS) an entity which was created as a service for Wyoming political subdivisions with the purpose being to provide a convenient method for political subdivisions to pool their liquid assets collectively and to generate a high level of current income for the Participants while maintaining liquidity and preserving capital by investing only in instruments authorized by Wyoming State Statutes and the Wyoming CLASS Investment Policy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mills maintains certain surplus revenues which would be more efficiently held in a Wyoming CLASS account; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Governing Body of the City of Mills to make a large payment on its line of credit prior to the same maturing on March 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Mills has determined that Wyoming Class currently better serves its present and long term fiscal needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it hereby resolved that Mayor of the City of Mills is authorized and the City Clerk of the City of Mills directed as follows:

- A. All WGIF reserve accounts shall be moved to Wyoming CLASS except for the Radio Read Fund; and
- B. All Surplus Revenue accounts shall be moved into Wyoming CLASS accounts.
- C. Accounts, when moved shall retain their classifications such that where they are designated for a particular purpose or have a particular category prior to being moved, to the maximum extent possible they shall retain it upon being moved.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ day of January, 2023.

Mayor, Leah Juarez

Councilman, Sara McCarthy

Councilman, Cherie Butcher

Councilman, Tim Sutherland

Councilman, Brad Neumiller

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Christine Trumbull

CERTIFICATE

I, Christine Trumbull, City Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City of Mills at a public meeting held on January 24, 2023, and that the meeting was held accordingly to law; and that said Resolution has been duly entered in the record of the City of Mills.

City Clerk, Christine Trumbull

STATE OF WYOMING }
COUNTY OF NATRONA } SS

COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE ROBERTSON SUBDIVISION, MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP:

THENCE N23°46'19"E, A DISTANCE OF 147.82 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE PARCEL, LOCATED ON THE WEST LINE OF PREVIOUSLY VACATED BLOCK 57, MOUNTAIN VIEW SUBURB, AND BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP:

THENCE N00°10'29"W, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID BLOCK 57, A DISTANCE OF 419.39 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE PARCEL, BEING MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP:

THENCE S53°26'18"E, ALONG THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF THE FORMER CHICAGO NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD, A DISTANCE OF 349.39 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE PARCEL, BEING MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP:

THENCE S00°10'29"E, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID BLOCK 57, A DISTANCE OF 285.32 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE PARCEL, LOCATED ON THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF LAFAYETTE STREET AND MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP:

THENCE S89°48'22"W, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF LAFAYETTE STREET, A DISTANCE OF 145.00 FEET TO A POINT MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP;

THENCE N00°10'29"W, A DISTANCE OF 75.00 FEET TO A POINT MONUMENTED BY A BRASS CAP;

THENCE S89°48'22"W, A DISTANCE OF 135.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND CONTAINS 2.27 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND IS SUBJECT TO ANY RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND/OR EASEMENTS, RESERVATIONS AND ENCUMBRANCES WHICH HAVE BEEN LEGALLY ACQUIRED.

THE TRACT OF LAND, AS IT APPEARS ON THIS PLAT, IS DEDICATED WITH THE FREE CONSENT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESIRES OF THE UNDERSIGNED OWNERS AND PROPRIETORS. THE NAME OF THE SIMPLE SUBDIVISION SHALL BE "HAYS SIMPLE SUBDIVISION" AND THAT SAID OWNERS AND PROPRIETORS HEREBY WAIVE AND RELINQUISH ALL RIGHTS GRANTED UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION LAWS OF THE STATE OF WYOMING.

STATE OF WYOMING.
Robert D. Hays
ROBERT D. HAYS

Darla R. Hays
DARLA R. HAYS

THE FOREGOING INSTRUMENT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE ME BY ROBERT D. [] AND DARLA R. HAYS THIS DAY OF March, 2003. 107

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL 7-20
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: _____

CERTIFICATE OF SIMPLE SUBDIVISION APPROVAL

STATE OF WYOMING)
COUNTY OF NATRONA)

I, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS SIMPLE SUBDIVISION HAS BEEN EXAMINED BY ME AND FOUND TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS FOR NATRONA COUNTY, WYOMING, AND IS THEREFORE, APPROVED FOR RECORDING.

Jeff Alarke 3-6-03 Thomas C. York 3-7-03 and E. D. Wall 3/8/03
 COUNTY PLANNER/DATE COUNTY SURVEYOR/DATE HEALTH OFFICER/DATE

FILED FOR THE RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK OF NATRONA COUNTY, WYOMING
ON THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2003.

STATE OF WYOMING }
COUNTY OF NATRONA } SS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: THAT I, WILLIAM R. FEHRINGER, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I PREPARED THIS PLAT FROM AN ACTUAL AND ACCURATE SURVEY OF THE LAND AND THAT THE CORNER MONUMENTS SHOWN THEREON WERE PROPERLY PLACED UNDER MY SUPERVISION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS OF NATRONA COUNTY.

BEING A PORTION OF THE
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SECTION 1, T.33N., R.80W., 6TH P.M.
NATRONA COUNTY WYOMING

W.O. 402-189

#971

WAYS SIMPLE SUBDIVISION

Recorded March 10, 2003

Instrument #711730

12

BILLS TO WATCH IN CHEYENNE

If you did not receive the recent email from Dave Fraser, please see the below.

There are some to really watch:

HB 185 - Additional Direct Distribution

HB 191 - Pharmacy Bill

HB 216 - Utilities/rentals/landlords

From: Dave Fraser <dfraser@wyomuni.org>

Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 10:00 AM

Subject: 2023 Wyoming Legislature, week 2

The second week of the legislative session concluded on Friday January 20th. As of Friday afternoon, approximately 350 bills were filed. The following is a summary of the status of the most significant bills WAM is tracking. Please note these are not all the bills we are following, but the ones that most directly affect our members.

The WAM Website contains information on the bills we are tracking, along with status of each bill. The site may be found at: <https://wyomuni.org/wam-legislative-tracking-database/>. From this page, click the Track All Bills hyperlink. This will take you the list of bills being tracking. From there you can go directly to bill. You can also sort by bills that WAM is supporting, opposing, and monitoring. To review the complete list of bills that have been filed, go the Wyoming State Legislature website. It may be found at <https://wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2023>

Second Week Highlights

The second week of the session was very busy with many bills being filed, committee meetings and floor sessions. The following paragraphs provide a summary of the week's activity for the bills WAM is tracking. The bills highlighted in italics are bills that were introduced the second week of the session. Shaded text are bills that are dead or will not move forward.

House Bill 02– Town Officers – Salary Waiver

This bill allows a town council member or mayor to refuse their salaries. This bill passed the Committee of the Whole this week. WAM is monitoring this bill

House Bill 40 – Airport Districts

This bill allows for the creation of a special improvement district for the purpose of supporting airports. The bill was referred to House Minerals, but we hear the Chairman does not intend to hear it.

House Bill 42 – Off Road Recreational vehicle operations

This bill allows for the use of the Interstate right of way for off road vehicles in certain situations. This bill would enable the off-road network in southwest Wyoming to be connected across I-80. The bill has passed the House and headed for the Senate. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 45 – Peace Officer Retirement and rehiring

This bill provides that once a peace officer has retired; he(she) can be rehired without adverse impacts to the retiree pensions benefits. The bill has passed the House.

House Bill 46 – Wyoming Public Safety Communications Trust Fund.

This bill appropriates \$100 million to establish a trust fund to fund the WYOLink System. 90% of the investment earnings would pay for the operations and maintenance of WYOLink system and 10% would be return to the trust fund corpus. This bill has been introduced and referred to House Appropriations where it faces an uphill battle. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 49 – Municipal Non-Partisan Rank Choice Elections

Authorizes rank choice elections for non-partisan election. Municipalities can choose this method or continue to use existing election procedures. The bill died in House Corporations last week. WAM was monitoring this bill.

House Bill 50 – Solid Waste Cease and Transfer Funding

This bill creates prioritized cease and transfer projects for municipal solid waste facilities and provides funding for these projects. This bill has passed the House and will be considered by the Senate next week. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 54 – Homestead Exemption

This bill exempts the first \$100,000 of assess value for Wyoming homeowners with 5 years of residency. It is estimated to reduce state revenues by \$35 million annually. We are working to determine impact on municipal property taxes. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Revenue. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 71 – Back to School Sales Tax holiday.

This bill provides for sales tax exemptions for specified back to school supplies. The exact date of the holiday will be determined in the bill. The bill failed the Committee of the Whole and is dead for this session. WAM was monitoring this bill.

House Bill 72 – Sales Tax Revisions

This bill is a significant revision to how sales are taxed in Wyoming. This bill would eliminate all existing sales tax exemptions and begin the taxation of services. It would also reduce the state sales tax from 4.0% to 2.5%. The LSO estimates that the revenue loss to the state would be \$157 million and the loss to local governments would be \$13 million. The bill was introduced and referred to House Revenue where it was tabled indefinitely. WAM is monitoring the bill.

House Bill 73 – Annexation vote requirement

This bill requires that two-thirds (2/3) written approval from all landowners owning a majority of the land in an area before annexation into a municipality. This bill would make it significantly more difficult to annex properties into a municipality. The bill has been amended to make it workable, but WAM is still opposing the bill. The bill passed 3rd reading in the House on Friday afternoon.

House Bill 95 – Working Animal Protection Act

This bill prohibits cities and towns from passing ordinances or bans that unduly restrict a person from using a working animal in lawful commerce or an animal enterprise. The section supersedes any municipal ordinance or policy that conflicts with this section but does not supersede municipal zoning ordinances or any municipal ordinance or policy relating to public health or public safety. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Agriculture. WAM is opposing this bill.

House Bill 98 – Property Tax Homeowners Exemption

This bill provides a property tax exemption for low-income homeowners who meet specified requirements. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Revenue. WAM is monitoring the bill.

House Bill 99 Property Tax Refund Program

This bill would allow certain property owners who meet specific income qualifications to apply for a partial refund of property taxes. This bill expands an existing program. LSO estimates loss of revenue to be approximately \$2 million. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 105 – Repeal Gun Free Zones and Preemption Amendments

This bill repeals specified gun free zones. Specifically, persons with a concealed carry permit would be allowed to carry firearms in any meeting of a governmental entity, any meeting of the legislature or a committee thereof, any public school, public college or university or professional athletic event; except as provided in W.S. 21-3-132. This bill has been received for introduction. This is yet another preemption bill and WAM is opposing it.

House Bill 118 – Volunteer Firefighter Pension Funding

This bill would appropriate \$9 million to the Volunteer Pension. Money to fund this pension was diverted last year to address deficiencies in Fire Fund A. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 121 – Property Tax deferral Program Amendments

This bill would allow certain low-income residential property owners to defer up to ½ of their property taxes. When this occurs, the state will place a lien on the property and the repayment of the deferment occurs with interest. It is anticipated that the state would be repaid at the time of the sale of said property. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Minerals. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 132 – Wyoming Housing Trust Fund

This bill appropriates \$15 million from the General Fund to create the Wyoming Housing Trust Fund. The bill has been received for introduction. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 135 – Cities and Towns – Abandoned and nuisance buildings

This bill provides tax credits for the remediation and/or removal of abandoned and nuisance building. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Corporations. WAM is supporting this bill.

HJ - 0001 – Residential Property Tax Amendment

This bill would authorize an election to amend the Wyoming Constitution to create a four classes of property for the purposes of taxation. Currently the constitution allows for three classes of property, Industrial, Minerals and others. Residential and commercial properties are in the “other” category. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Revenue. WAM is monitoring this bill.

HJ – 0002 Constitutional Amendment – Residential Property class

This is another constitutional amendment that is similar to HJ001. This bill has been introduced and referred to House Revenue.

NEWLY INTRODUCED HOUSE BILLS. The following house bills were introduced during the second week of the session.

House Bill 139 – Intimidation of Elected Officials

This bill makes it a criminal offense to intimidate elected officials. Specifically making available on the internet the personal information about elected officials and their families becomes a criminal offense. This bill has been introduced and referred to House Education. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 142 – Notice of Annexation

This bill would require that persons adjacent to areas being proposed for annexation be notified of the proposed annexation by certified mail. The bill passed House Corporations and has been placed on General File. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 151 – Property Tax Exemption - Child care facilities

This bill exempts from property taxes any government or nonprofit facility that provides day care. This bill has been referred to House Education. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 158 – Bid Rejection or denial for public works contracts

This bill requires that if a bidder is deemed unqualified or a bid is not awarded to the low bidder, that the city notify in writing within 10 days the reason for determination of the city's actions. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Transportation. WAM is currently monitoring this bill. This bill was introduced last year and we were successful in killing it.

House Bill 162 – County Option Real Estate Transfer Tax

This bill would assess a 1% tax on real estate transactions in excess \$1.5 million. It is a local option and would be required to be passed by county voters before it could be implemented. The bill has been received for introduction. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 164 – Legal Notice publication on websites

This bill requires that legal notices published as required in WS 18-5-319 also be published on the newspaper's website. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Corporations. WAM is monitoring this bill.

House Bill 185 – Direct Distribution

This bill provides an additional \$16 million in direct distribution funding. These funds will be allocated pursuant to Madden/Bebout Formula. The bill has been introduced and referred to House Appropriations. WAM is supporting this bill.

House Bill 191 – Pharmacy Benefits Manager Act Enhancements

This is the same bill as Senate File 36 from last year. The bill would significantly increase the cost of prescriptions to JPIC, the State of Wyoming and private insurers. WAM is opposing this bill.

Senate File 03 – Retail Liquor Licenses

This bill removes the limit on what may be charged for retail liquor licenses issued after July 1, 2023. There is no limit on what the licensing authority may charge. The annual renewal charge can be no less than \$300 nor more than \$1500. The bill died on 3rd reading in the Senate on a 14-14 tie with 3 abstentions.

Senate File 12 – Tavern and Entertainment Liquor License

This bill creates a new class of license called the Tavern and Entertainment License. This license allows entertainment (as defined by the local licensing authority) to meet the non-alcohol requirement of this license. Like the Bar and Grill and Restaurant licenses 60% of the revenue must come from food or entertainment revenue. Senate File 13 was amended in committee to include entertainment in the Bar and Grill License and this bill will not be considered. WAM was supporting this bill.

Senate File 13 – Bar and Grill License Amendments

This bill reduces the population requirement for bar and grill licenses effectively increasing the number of bar and grill licenses allowed. It removes population requirements in 2033 and allows entertainment and food to be included in the 60%. The bill has passed 2nd reading in the Senate and will be voted on 3rd reading next week. WAM is supporting the bill.

Senate File 22 – WYOLink Funding

This bill appropriates \$8.6 million from the General Fund to pay for maintenance of the WYOLink system. This bill died on 3rd reading. WAM is supporting this bill.

Senate File 70 – Back to school tax holiday

This bill is comparable to House Bill 71 and would designate a day where the purchase of school supplies would be exempt from sales tax. The bill has been introduced and referred to Senate Revenue. WAM is monitoring this bill.

Senate File 82 – Eligible Water and Sewer Projects

This bill provides \$89 million for selected water and sewer project around the state. The bill has passed Senate Agriculture and Senate Appropriations and has been placed on General File. WAM is supporting this bill.

Senate File 90 – Wyoming Property Tax Relief Authority

This bill would create the Wyoming Property Tax Relief Authority. The authority would sell bonds to help specified residential property owners. The bill has passed Senate Revenue and been placed on General File. WAM is monitoring this bill.

Senate File 104 – Property Tax Mill adjustment

This bill would require that mill levees be reduced when assessed values grows beyond certain levels. The bill has been introduced and referred to Senate Revenue. WAM is monitoring this bill.

Senate File 110 – Personal Property Tax Exemption

This bill would exempt all tangible property from taxation. The bill has been introduced and referred to Senate Revenue. WAM is monitoring this bill.

SJ 003 – Property Tax Exemption for elderly and infirm

This bill would authorize an election to change to Wyoming Constitution to provide for a property tax exemption for the elderly and infirm. The bill has passed Senate Revenue and been placed on General File. WAM is monitoring this bill.

NEWLY INTRODUCED SENATE FILES. The following Senate Files were introduced during the second week of the session.

Senate File 115 – Dental Insurance Payment for Services

This bill would unbundle certain dental procedures and would significantly increase the cost of dental care and insurance costs. The bill has been introduced and referred to Senate Corporations. WAM is opposing this bill.

Senate File 125 – Property Tax – Limiting taxable value increase

This bill would limit the amount that the taxable value of a residential property can increase to 5% percent per year. This bill has passed Senate Revenue and has been placed on General File. WAM is monitoring this bill.

If you have questions about any legislative issue, please do not hesitate to call Bob McLaurin at (307) 413-3483 or myself at (307) 414-0265.

