

PUBLIC NOTICES

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING Tuesday, January 2, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m. Carbon Building- Courthouse Annex, 215 W. Buffalo Street, Second Floor, Rawlins, WY

A regular meeting of the Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) commenced Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Carbon Building-Courthouse Annex in Rawlins, WY. Attending the meeting were Chairman, Sue Jones, Vice Chairman Travis Moore, Commissioners John Espy, John Johnson and Garrett Irene. Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VOUCHERS

Commissioner Espy moved to approve payment to Sunrise Sanitation for \$75.00. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed with all voting for the motion except Chairman Jones who abstained due to personal conflicts.

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the report of expenditures in the amount of \$342,571.10 for an aggregate total today of \$342,647.10. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Airport lfe Services, Inc - Dixon Hangar Fee Estimate Prep \$2,650.00; Angel Armor - Misc. CCSO Deputy Equipment \$2,094.41; APEX Communications - Contract Radio Services \$14,820.46; APG Media of the Rockies - Misc. Ads \$253.16; AT&T Mobility - CCSO MDT Service \$1,243.64; Axis Forensic Toxicology, Inc. - Lab Fees \$202.00; Bank of Montreal - Mastercard - Misc. Charges \$31,267.19; Black Hills Energy - Gas Services \$21,035.31; Bomgaars Supply - Misc. Supplies \$98.63; Capital Business Systems Inc. - IT Copiers \$1,824.58; Carbon County Fair Board - Monthly Outside Agency Payment \$2,833.33; Carbon County Library - Monthly Outside Agency Payment \$31,170.16; Carbon County Museum - Monthly Outside Agency Payment \$20,833.33; Carbon County Senior Services - Monthly Outside Agency Payment \$19,583.33; Carbon County Veterinary Hospital - Canine Vaccination/Meds \$98.75; CareRight Technologies, LLC - Monthly Bed Fee \$122.10; Casper Winnelson Co - Misc. Plumbing Supplies \$755.67; CIDNET - Jail Data \$750.00; CMI-TECO - Misc. Auto Parts \$532.81; Cowboy Supply House - Misc. Cleaning Supplies & Products \$3,122.81; Dallin Motors Inc. - Inspect/Replace Right Axle & Exhaust \$3,873.60; Dixon, Town of - Water Services \$308.00; Dynamic Controls Inc. - Jeffrey Center-Temp. Control System \$41,121.00; Fritz Welding & Machine, Inc. - Bars on Windows at Courthouse \$1,030.62; Further - Med. FSA, Health Reimb. & Part. Fees \$1,383.80; Galls/Quartermaster - Misc. Deputy Uniforms & Equipment \$3,587.13; Graphic Business Solutions, LLC - Window Envelopes \$446.50; Hagan, Walter - Bailiff Jury Trial \$75.00; Hahn Construction - Baggs/Dixon Repairs & Install Window \$1,360.00; Hanna, Town of - Water Services \$127.11; High Plains Power - Electric Services \$468.62; Iacovetto, Karon - Monthly Janitorial Services \$8,230.00; Iron J Towing - Wrecker Call-out Abandoned Vehicles \$2,053.00; K2 Towers III, LLC - Radio Tech Rent/Lease \$2,251.02; Merchant McIntyre & Assoc., LLC - January 2024 Services \$8,000.00; Modern Marketing, Inc. - Property Bags \$937.25; Motorola Solutions - Device Programming \$140.00; Mountain Alarm - Crisis Center Alarm Monitoring \$57.90; Napa - Saratoga - Misc. Auto Parts & Supplies \$112.40; National Inst. for Jail Operations - Policy & Procedure Manual Maint. \$10,025.00; Novo Benefits - GASB Report for Audit \$3,600.00; O'Reilly Auto Parts - Misc. Auto Parts & Supplies \$149.87; Perkins Oil Co. - Fuel \$1,957.13; Phillips 66 Co. - Fuel \$63.12; Prow, Joshua L - Reimbursement For Parade Candy \$50.82; Quill Corporation - Ink Shop Fax Machines \$251.95; R.P. Lumber Company, Inc. - Misc. Parts, Supplies & Shipping Costs \$913.06; Rawlins Automotive - Misc. Auto Parts & Supplies \$854.90; Rawlins Hardware - 5405 - Fender Washer/Screws/Wash-

er Lock \$17.94; Rawlins Hardware - 5410 - Power Strips \$75.58; Rawlins, City of - Landfill Fee \$24.70; Rodabaugh, Sherry - Bailiff Jury Trial \$75.00; Saratoga Sun - Misc. Ads \$1,583.51; Shively Hardware - Skid Steer/Snow push & Misc Supplies \$55,211.08; Smith Psychological Services - Evaluation \$400.00; Snake River Press - Renewal Fees \$40.00; Staples Advantage - Misc. Office Supplies \$541.43; State of Wyoming A & I - Mainframe Services \$16.60; Stericycle, Inc. - Steri-Safe Budget Subscription \$48.22; Stinker Stores Inc. - Fuel \$5,896.53; Summit Food Service - Jail Meals \$8,580.92; Sunrise Sanitation Service, LLC. - Trash Services \$75.00; Swanson Services Corporation - Jail Commissary \$2,121.28; Terminix - Jail Pest Control \$193.00; The Cowboy Couture - Embroidered Clothing \$120.00; Triple X Contracting, Inc. - Trash Services \$260.00; Tyler Technologies, Inc - Web Hosting /Internet \$275.63; UPRSWDD - Trash Services \$190.00; Valley Fire Extinguisher - Baggs Kitchen Hood System Upgrades \$3,933.65; Wex Bank - Fuel \$966.02; Wreck-A-Mend - Windshield Install \$362.34; WY Dept. of Transportation - Brush Creek Bridge \$2,846.03; WY Machinery Company - Spare Tire-Med Bow Machine \$3,428.80; WY Secretary of State - Notary Application Fee \$60.00; WY Cleaning & Solutions LLC - Monthly Janitorial Services \$6,583.37

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the consent agenda noting any item could be removed for separate action. Clerk Bartlett noted the consent agenda includes the December 19, 2023, regular meeting minutes; monthly receipts from Planning and Development in the amount of \$1,250.00. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

Planning and Development

Commissioner Johnson moved to appoint Kristy Rowan to the Carbon County Economic Development Corporation board for a 3-year term ending December 2026 and to the Urban Systems Committee for an unexpired 4-year term ending January 2025. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer

Commissioner Espy moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on Resolution No. 2024-01 Carbon County Investment Policy. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Johnson moved to designate Bank of Commerce and Rawlins National Bank as depositories for Carbon County for 2024. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clerk

Commissioner Espy moved to approve Amendment Nine to the Lease Between Wyoming Department of Transportation and Board of Carbon County Commissioners, Lease #4000 for office space at the Little Snake River Library which will extend the term of the lease through January 31, 2027, and increase the total amount by \$1,080.00 to \$6,480.00. Commissioner Irene seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Moore moved to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on Amendment #1 to the Master Service Agreement Carbon County that replaces the Fee Summary Statement of Work amending the fee to \$5.25 per employee per month. Commissioner Irene seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners

Commissioner Irene moved to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on Word Order 24-01, Dixon Airport, Acquisition and Demolition of North hangars and Demolition of Taxiway Connectors B1 and B2 by Ardurra in the amount of \$235,998.10 with the county's portion being \$25,111 of that and an anticipated end of November 2024. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Espy moved to go into executive session at 9:31 a.m. with Clerk Bartlett and Ashley Mayfield Davis to discuss personnel, potential litigation and other matters considered confidential by law.

Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Espy moved to come out of executive session at 10:10 a.m. noting no action was taken and that the minutes be signed and sealed. Vice Chairman Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners

Vice Chairman Moore moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on a letter to a landowner. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – Z.C. Case #2023-16 – Larry and Susan Ash

Chairman Jones opened a public hearing at 11:40 a.m. to hear Planning & Zoning Z.C. Case File No. 2023-16, Larry and Susan Ash's request for a Zone Change from Ranching, Agriculture and Mining (RAM) to Forestry Production and Seasonal Recreation (FPSR-1.37) on Tract 96 located in the Overlook Retreat Subdivision #1. The FPSR Zone is intended to be applied to areas of the County in which timber production and seasonally accessible recreation uses are the desirable predominant uses and is located approximately 22 miles south of Elk Mountain on Carbon County Road #101 (Medicine Bow Ranger Station Road) and on U.S. Forest Service Road #105 about one mile north of Turpin Reservoir. The Overlook Retreat Subdivision #1 is platted over a portion of Section 14, Township 17 North, Range 80 West of the 6th P.M., Carbon County, Wyoming. Kristy Rowan, Planning & Development Coordinator and Zoning Administrator presented the case file.

Chairman Jones called for comments for or against the case. There being no comments, Chairman Jones closed the hearing at 11:45 a.m.

Commissioner Irene moved that based on the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission and staff to approve Resolution No. 2024-02, A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Carbon County, Wyoming adopting the recommendation of the Carbon County Planning and Zoning Commission regarding Z.C. Case File No. 2023-16, Larry and Susan Ash's request for a Zone Change from Ranching, Agriculture and Mining (RAM) to Forestry Production and Seasonal Recreation (FPSR-1.37) on Tract 96 located in the Overlook Retreat Subdivision #1 and located approximately 22 miles south of Elk Mountain on Carbon County Road #101 (Medicine Bow Ranger Station Road) and on U.S. Forest Service Road #105 about one mile north of Turpin Reservoir. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

A regular meeting of this Board will be held Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex located at 215 W. Buffalo St., Rawlins, WY. The public is invited to attend, or you can listen online at the website listed below. To get on the agenda, call the Clerk's Office by the Thursday before the meeting. Per Wyo. Stat. §18-3-516(f), access to county information can be obtained at www.carbonwy.com or by calling the Clerk's Office at (307) 328-2668 or 1-800-250-9812.

-s- Gwynn G. Bartlett, Carbon County Clerk

Approved this 16th day of January 2024
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

-s- Sue Jones, Chairman

Legal #8796
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
January 25, 2024

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 02, 2024 at 6:00 PM Saratoga Town Hall 110 E Spring Ave, Saratoga, WY 82331 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Opening Ceremony

Roll Call: _x_Mayor Chuck Davis _x_Councilman Cooley _x_Councilwoman Beck _Councilman Jerry Fluty _x_Councilman Jacob Fluty

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion was made to approve agenda for January 2, 2024, council meeting by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilman Jacob Fluty. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

December 19, 2023, Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes from December 19, 2023, council meeting by Councilman Jacob Fluty, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Motion to approve the bills and financials for December 19, 2023, by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilman Jacob Fluty. Motion carried.

Deposits - \$51,183.82

Accounts Payable - \$19,203.49

Transmittals - \$11,411.13

Payroll - \$38,940.47

CORRESPONDENCE

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

House District 47 Representative Bob Davis

House District 47 Representative Bob Davis stated they are getting ready for the budget session in February. Mr. Davis represented the Town of Saratoga on the Ag Committee this summer, he reported that the state will be voting to remove the regulations by the State Ag Dept on flow thru pools which include the hot pools at the Inn and the HOBO pool. Mr. Davis has been assigned to the Regulatory Task Force, they will be trying to reduce regulations that are burdensome to communities on the building and housing side of things, going to try to streamline some of the permitting process to make it a little easier.

Representative Davis asked if there was anything that needed to be looked at in Cheyenne? Mayor Chuck Davis inquired if affordable housing was being looked at, at the state level. Representative Davis stated that is what the Regulatory Task Force is going to be looking at.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

Town Hall

Mountain States CPA's and Consultants LLC Invoice #140301 2021-2022 Audit - \$9,450.00 Motion made to approve invoice #140301 in the amount of \$9,450.00 for the 2021-2022 audit being completed at the present time by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilman Jacob Fluty. Motion carried.

Police Department

Chief of Police Mike Morris reported there have been 139 calls of service, a combination of 14 citations and warnings written in the last two weeks. Year-end totals for the department were 3,906 calls of service, 148 citations and 220 warnings issued.

Chief Morris has met with Carbon County Sheriff Alex Bakken and reported that CCSO will not be able share in the cost for the VPN/Gateway for Encampment. Will address the VPN/Gateway at next meeting.

Fire Department

Mayor Davis delivered the Fire Department Report of 3 Fire, and 2 Search & Rescue calls since the beginning of December. The Food Drive was able to deliver food to approximately 20 families and 15 homes to the elderly.

A 5" hose and bunker gear that was approved and ordered last Spring has come in. These items were ordered last Spring and never came in, so the invoice was never paid, and was not accounted for in the current budget. Will be looking to see where this fits in to their budget. The part for Truck 13 is in at Rock Springs will be getting the truck over there for repair. Election of officers are tomorrow night, will give results at next meeting. Will be resuming their weekly trainings now that the Holidays are over.

Recreation Department

Next meeting is January 8, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Director Kim Hemenway reported that Volleyball League registration opens this week with play beginning January 17th. Ice Hockey tournament is scheduled for the 12th and 13th. Ice skates will be available soon to the public to use as soon as they get sharpened.

Department of Public Works

Director Emery Penner gave an update on the Well Field project, so far everything looks good, cleaning out 'well', there is not a lot of biproduct and abuse showing up which is a great and encouraging sign.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Water and Sewer Joint Power Board

Next meeting is January 10, 2024, at 5:30 PM at the PVCC

Planning Commission

Next meeting is January 9, 2024, at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Town of Saratoga Manual Checks 1-16-2024

Accounts Payable	\$122,421.40
Transmittals	\$51,722.70
Payroll	\$39,372.85

Legal #8801
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-s- Zoran and Vesna Vrhovnik (Applicants and Land Owners)

Legal #8797
Published in
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January 25, 2024

Special use permit for 4-H lambs will be presented at the next meeting.

Transportation Alternative Masterplan meeting is January 17, 2024, from 5:30 - 7:30, please come. This is an evaluation of opportunity and a gathering of information. This is to evaluate if there is a path to build and where to put the path if we do build one. Public feedback is very valuable, Director Penner encourages the public to come out to the meeting.

Community Center Joint Powers Board

Next meeting is January 10, 2024, at 4:30 PM at the PVCC

Recreation Commission

Next meeting is January 8, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Saratoga Airport Advisory Board

Next meeting is January 8, 2024, at 3:30 PM at the Town Hall Council Chambers

Letter of Interest - Thad York

Motion to appoint Thad York to the Saratoga Airport Advisory Board was made by Councilman Jacob Fluty, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

South Central Wyoming Emergency Medical Services Board

Next meeting is January 16, 2024, at 6:00 PM at Saratoga Ambulance Barn

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues in the Police Department at 6:33 was made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilman Jacob Fluty. Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene regular meeting at 7:10pm with no action taken in executive session and minutes sealed, by Councilwoman Kathy Beck, second by Councilman Jacob Fluty. Motion carried.

FURTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

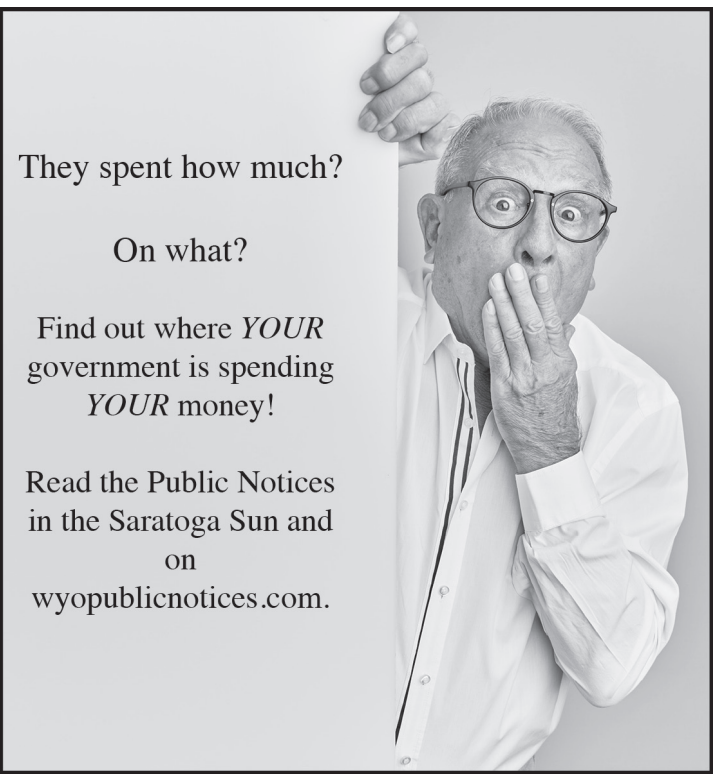
Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:11pm made by Councilman Mike Cooley, second by Councilwoman Kathy Beck. Motion carried.

THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024, AT 6:00 PM.

-s- Mayor Chuck Davis

-s- Jenn Anderson, Town Clerk

Legal #8800
Published in
The Saratoga Sun
January 25, 2024



PUBLIC NOTICES

Carbon County School District #2 December 2023 Bills List \$500.00 and over
Amazon Capital Services 3,130.22; Best Western Pioneer-Lusk 632.80; Big Bale Company 620.26; Black Hills Energy 12,610.91; Capital Business Systems Inc 6,294.64; Carbon Power & Light Company 19,384.57; Cashwa Distributing 7,191.68; Cobblestone Inn-Torrington 1,213.00; Comfort Inn Riverton 1,274.00; Communication Is Everything LLC 8,550.00; Connect Speech Therapy LLC 15,660.00; Cowboy Supply House 1,403.35; CPI 1,074.50; Delancey, Talitha 875.00; Drummond Refrigeration LLC 1,474.35; Elder Equipment Leasing Inc 2,600.80; Encampment Hot Lunch 593.94; Endless Fun LLC 3,264.00; ESEA2,516.00; Follett Content Solutions LLC 2,183.04; Fremont County School District No. 24 555.00; Fremont Electric Inc 744.00; Grainger Inc W W 1,043.11; Hebbert, Emily 1,288.56; Henderson, Devan 585.00; Herring, Tiffany 1,945.00; High Plains Power Inc 514.37; Holiday Inn-Riverton 1,177.00; Hot Lunch Fund CCSD#2 60,000.00; Imprest Fund-JD Johnson 5,614.47; Imprest Fund-Eli Hobbs 4,702.64; Imprest Fund-Erickson Mike 4,817.00; Iturity LLC 526.00; Jacobsen, Maura 2,107.50; Laramie Garage Doors LLC 1,397.52; Laramie GM Auto Center Inc 1,990.06; Long Building Technologies Inc 5,372.00; Macpherson & Thompson LLC 2,874.40; Midwest Bus Parts 664.35; Miracle Recreation Equipment Co 11,530.40; National Food Group, Inc 3,427.36; Newsela 2,250.00; North Park Propane LLC 6,212.65; Northwest Colorado Auto And Trucks Parts, Inc 1,210.67; Pacific Steel & Recycling 1,071.00; Parent Square, Inc 2,754.00; Paxton Hardwoods 688.73; Pepsi 973.65; Perkins Oil Company 9,693.28; Pine Cove Consulting LLC 3,650.00; Pro Tools 718.89; PTSB 550.00; Quill Corporation 2,395.69; Ramkota Hotel Casper 1,258.00; Region V BOCES 33,363.13; Rocky Mountain Power 6,831.48; Sam's Club 803.25; Saratoga Sun 572.00; Sherwood Forest Farms 2,644.95; Shively Hardware 1,329.50; Sinclair Oil Corporation 566.37; Stinker Stores Inc for AR 4,238.88; Sunrise Sanitation Service Inc 1,106.00; Super 8 Motel-Douglas 767.50; Sysco Food Services 13,953.41; Tacone Consulting 10,500.00; The Movies 1,022.00; Town Of Encampment 899.00; Town Of Saratoga 1,038.75; Turnitin LLC 2,675.00; Union Telephone Company 4,913.58; United Airlines 1,013.08; Universal Athletic Services 2,815.72; UPRSWDD Billing 917.00; Valley Foods 840.87; Valley Oil Company 3,499.78; Vidswap 1,798.00; Walmart 645.58; Western States Fire Protection Co 2,135.00; Wyoming Diesel Service 10,476.76
Legal #8799 Published in The Saratoga Sun January 25, 2024

CARBON COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the Carbon County Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the following case file on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 10:00 A.M., Carbon Building, 3rd Floor-Room 332, located at 215 West Buffalo Street, Rawlins, Wyoming. SUB Case #79-17 – “River Bend Estates Mobile Home Subdivision” Amended: Request to vacate the River Bend Estates Mobile Home Subdivision Amended as minimal development has occurred and no lots have been sold. The current zoning classification is Residential (RD). Petitioner: Gerald Dunnegan (Land Owner) Parcel Identification Numbers: 21853520002800 General Site Location: Approximately 14 miles east of Rawlins at the Fort Steele Exit on the south side of I-80. Legal Description (taken from Book 911, Page 721): A tract of land in the NW¼ of Section 35, Township 21 North, Range 85 West, 6th P.M., Carbon County, Wyoming, further described as follows: Beginning at a point on the section line between Sections 34 and 35, Township 21 North, Range 85 West, from which point the West ¼ corner of said Section 35 bears S00°54'52"W, a distance of 1623.35 feet. Said point of beginning being a 5/8" rebar with aluminum cap; thence N0°54'52"E, along said section line 560.20 feet to a ½" rebar with plastic cap; thence S71°13'08"E, 368.00 feet to a ½" rebar with plastic cap; thence N21°32'06"E, 9.59 feet to a ½" rebar with plastic cap; thence S77°04'06"E, 267.20 feet; thence S13°50'52"W, 184.72 feet; thence N80°55'23"W, 298.90 feet to a ½" rebar with plastic cap; thence S08°22'09"W, 320.00 feet to a ½" rebar with plastic cap; thence N76°09'08"W, 242.40 feet to point of beginning. The above description includes Lots 1 through 21, inclusive, of the River Bend Estates Mobile Home Subdivision, Carbon County, Wyoming. For additional information, please call the Carbon County Planning and Development Department, (307) 328-2651. -s- Gerald Dunnegan (Land Owner) Legal #8798 Published in The Saratoga Sun January 25, 2024

Town of Saratoga Cash Requirements 1-16-2024
3 P's \$220 American Express \$3,098.01 APG Media of the Rockies \$2,074.71 BCN \$89.71 Business Solutions Group LLC \$1,166.34 Capital Business Systems Inc \$243.08 Carbon Power & Light Inc \$16,080.10 Caselle, Inc \$2,295.00 Dynotek \$1,765.32 Engineering Associates \$13,080.43 Hach Company \$70.77 L.N. curtis and Sons \$4,454.66 Megan James \$195.00 Mitch Zeiger \$13.86 Motorola Solutions, Inc \$1,422.66 MPM Corp \$605.00 Norco, Inc \$42.78 Northwest Colorado Auto & Truck Parts \$1,592.71 One Call of Wyoming \$20.25 Perue Printing \$290.10 Pine Cove Consulting LLC \$1,479.27 Platte Valley Community Center \$15,000.00 Plattoga Holdings, Inc \$4,178.45 Saratoga-Carbon County JPB \$32,034.48 Saratoga Feed and Grain \$22.99 Saratoga Sun \$1,580.00 Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce \$550.00 Shively Hardware Co \$2,015.56 South Central Wyoming EMS JPB \$14,467.00 Sundshl, Powers, Kapp & Martin \$3,355.45 Timothy Fixter \$9,450.00 Valerie Larscheid \$198.00 Valley Oil Company \$877.13 WYDOT Cheyenne \$1,396.84 Wyoming Retirement System \$543.75 Total \$135,969.41
Legal #8802 Published in The Saratoga Sun January 25, 2024

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Governor Mark Gordon believes public notices should remain in Wyoming newspapers.

He's not alone. So do 86% of Wyoming adults* who cite newspapers as their most trusted source for public notices as opposed to government websites or other sources.

*per a survey by Coda Ventures LLC

INSURANCE

WYOMING DOI: 2023 IN REVIEW



As the least populated state in the Union, it is not surprising that Wyoming is also the smallest insurance office in the country. The Wyoming Department of Insurance has twenty-seven employees that handle everything from licensing to consumer complaints. The agency works with legislators and state agencies on issues that may affect insurance consumers and our state.

The Wyoming Department of Insurance (DOI) regulates insurance companies, multiple employer welfare arrangements, risk retentions and purchasing groups, motor clubs, service contract providers, preneed funeral homes, agents, brokers adjusters, consultants, pharmacy benefit managers and third party administrator. We also approve policy filings, investigate consumer complaints, monitor financial conditions and

solvency of insurance companies and collect premium and surplus lines taxes. The DOI does not regulate insurance rates for most types of insurance.

The Commissioner of Insurance is the agency’s chief officer. The commissioner is appointed by the Governor and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The commissioner, with the Governor’s approval, may appoint a deputy commissioner. Our current Insurance Commissioner is Jeffrey Rude and Tana Howard is the agency’s deputy commissioner.

The statutes that govern insurance in the state of Wyoming can be found in Title 26-Insurance Code. The statutes can be accessed by visiting <https://www.wyoleg.gov/StateStatutes/StatutesConstitution> and clicking on the link for Wyoming Statutes Annotated. The rules for the agency can

be found at the Secretary of State’s website <https://rules.wyo.gov/> Department of Insurance (044).

2023 Highlights

During the 2023 legislative session, the DOI monitored eighteen bills. Of those eighteen, ten were passed into law. You can view the bills and the changes that were made by visiting the Legislative Service Office website and select 2023 bills. The 2024 session is a budget session, but we expect to follow a few bills through the process.

The DOI also did extensive outreach during 2023. Public Service Announcements are published each month in statewide papers. Some of the topics in 2023 were choosing an agent, preparing for severe weather, and information regarding the Medicaid unwind. Additionally, the agency did presentations and articles for Cover Wyoming, AARP, and AWIA.

In 2023, the agency brought in over \$50 million to the general fund from licensing fees and premium taxes. The agency also collected \$55,736 in fines. These fines were collected from both agents and companies.

The agency was also busy with licensing applications and form reviews. The licensing section issued 42,773 licenses and manually processed 5,026 applications. The Rate and Form filing section reviewed 1,520 Life & Health filings and 2, 225 Property & Casualty filings. The licensing section consists of three employees and the rate and form filing section has five employees.

Our legal section was busy revising

rules. They revised Chapters 10, 64, 54, 55, 28 and 68. Once again you can find these rules on the Secretary of State’s website. They also handled eighty public records requests and opened 65 administrative matters.

The agency also has a complaint section. This section handles complaints regarding improper denial of claims; delays in claim handling; cancellation or termination of an insurance policy or misrepresentation of policy coverage or misappropriation of premiums paid to an agent or broker. The section cannot act as legal representation, recommend an insurance agency, agency or policy, determine property value, regulate rates, make an insurance company insure you, decide who is as fault for an accident, force a company to pay your claims or decide the amount of loss. During 2023 the section received 1,459 complaints and closed 1,453.

Also of significance this year is the DOI successfully passed NAIC accreditation. The NAIC Financial Regulation Standards and Accreditation Program (Accreditation Program) serves as the backbone of the U.S. national system of state-based regulation. The Accreditation Program defines baseline standards deemed essential for effective solvency regulation in each state. Accreditation assures states are regulating their domestic multi-state insurers according to national standards agreed to by the NAIC. For the insurance industry, accreditation means insurers will not require additional independent exams from the other states in which the insurers do business.

This public service announcement is presented and paid for by the insurance companies licensed to do business in Wyoming in cooperation with the Wyoming Insurance Department. For more information on the state’s insurance companies, including financial information, visit the Insurance Department website’s “Company Financial Information” section.



Wyoming Department of Insurance
<http://doi.wyo.gov> • 1 (800) 438-5768