2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Fiscal Responsibility

Supports:
- An annual legislative review of all state spending.
- Biennial budgets with no supplemental budget requests or appropriations during the general session.
- Budget cuts in local, county & state departments/entities.
- Inviolate integrity of the PMTF and using the interest generated to provide a renewable tax base.
- Using severance taxes to develop surface & underground water and rehabilitate existing irrigation infrastructure.
- Amending taxing authority statutes to require a majority vote of all registered voters in a district and requiring issues to go before the registered voters every four years.

Opposes:
- Further increases in taxes, fees and charges.
- A statewide mill levy for community colleges.
- Systems that would increase the costs of establishing & operating special taxing districts.
- Income tax and amendments to the income tax provisions in the Wyoming constitution.
- Recognition of crypto currency as a legal tender and its removal from the Wyoming Money Transmitter Act.
- A fourth property tax bracket, separating out residential properties

Private Property Rights

Supports:
- Protection of private property rights.
- No net gains of state lands measured and implemented on a county by county basis.
- Requiring analysis of proposed legislation and regulation for impacts on private property.
- Continual gubernatorial and legislative involvement in issues involving natural resource management & States rights.
- Reduction in risks associated with industrial projects on private property.
- Strengthening criminal trespass laws including legislation to prohibit corner crossing between federal lands.

Eminent Domain

Supports:
- Amending Wyoming’s eminent domain statutes to provide greater protection for agricultural use owners during condemnation cases.
- Rights-of-way obtained by condemnation should be for right of easement only, not for right of ownership.
- Two-thirds of landowners must be signed to agreements before eminent domain use is possible.

Education

Supports:
- Local control of schools.
- Vocational education programs in all schools for grades 7-12.
- Requiring consideration of the means of the State for education costs and school capital construction costs.
- Only necessary buildings should be updated or replaced.
- Revision of teacher tenure. Every third year a panel of teachers, parents, and board members should evaluate teachers; so that quality teachers are recognized and rewarded based on performance.
- The use of school vouchers to provide students with the best available education.
- Local school boards should control their school lunch program.
- Equal access for students to all educational opportunities that districts provide.
- Resisting efforts to incorporate Critical Race Theory in Wyoming public schools.
- Election of University of Wyoming Board of Trustees
Water

Supports:
* Including historic time of use as a criterion for change of use situations.
* Comprehensive underground water management plans made with local input and county meetings.
* Notification of water right holders and local hearings on possibly damaging applications.
* Continual gubernatorial and legislative involvement on issues of States rights.
* Funding for emergency irrigation infrastructure repairs.
* Water rights holders should be notified when water rights are regulated.
* Transfer of title from Bureau of Reclamation to local districts once the districts pay the costs off.

Opposes:
* The gift, sale or lease of water outside the state or for instream flow.
* Permitting private instream flow. Changes in temporary use & the concept of salvage water.
* The federal government obtaining water rights.
* Delegation of authority for pursuing instream flow applications from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.
* Developing underground water before availability assessments have been conducted.
* Developing Hydrogen power from Water.

Wildlife

Supports:
* State management of the wolf and grizzly bear.
* Increasing the predatory animal control program due to wildlife, crop & livestock losses.
* Increasing damage payments for standing & stored forage.
* Managing wildlife based on how much forage is available for wildlife.
* Appointment of Wyoming Game and Fish Commissioners.
* Conducting cost analysis on Migration Corridors.
* Base Landowner Coupon Payments on Specie Harvested

Opposes:
* Wyoming Game and Fish Commission being able to set license fees.
* Migration Corridors encroaching on private property rights.

Livestock

Supports:
* Efforts to retain our Brucellosis class free status outside the current Designated Surveillance Area (DSA).
* Funding for voluntary Brucellosis testing outside of the DSA.
* Legal recognition of Vet Tech degrees.

Opposes:
* Mandatory animal ID beyond existing requirements.
* Any increase in the beef check-off program.
* A state beef check-off program.

General

Supports:
* State agencies performing a consistency review to comply with county land use plans when proposing new rules.
* Special district elections being held in conjunction with general elections.
* Legislative review of federal actions for constitutionality.
* Wyoming’s extractive mineral industry

Opposes:
* Granting additional rights to any special groups.
* Legalization or decriminalization of marijuana.
* Make America Beautiful Executive Order signed by President Biden.
* Switching parties for the primary election at the polling place.
* Utilization of Environment, Social, Governance (ESG) scores.
* Rock Springs RMP Alt B
* “non-use” as a conservation practice as per RS RMP