

# Wyoming Library Laws 2022

Extracted from Wyoming Statutes of 2022 as amended

Department of Administration and Information

State Library Division

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This 2022 edition of *Wyoming Library Laws* is provided as a ready reference to the range of statutes affecting Wyoming libraries.

Two additions have been made to this year's edition. A section on counties' authority to create and dissolve other boards is included. Also added is the statute regarding COVID-19 vaccinations that was passed in the 2021 special session.

**Please note these statutes are extracted, and are not printed in their entirety.** In using this publication the reader is advised to review the full statutory language of a Title or Chapter to understand this extracted text in relation to the complete statute. Additional statutes that are not included here may still be applicable to libraries.

The full text of Wyoming Statutes and session archives are available at [www.wyoleg.gov](http://www.wyoleg.gov).

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## County Libraries

### **18 7 101. Prerequisites to appropriate money for establishment and maintenance of library; payment of expenses.**

When the board of county commissioners has received sufficient guarantees whether in the forms of conveyances or bonds of citizens, associations or corporations that a suitable place will be permanently furnished for the operation and use of a public library, it shall annually provide through property tax or otherwise for the establishment and maintenance of a public library at the county seat of the county. Whenever suitable library quarters are acquired, the county library board of directors may expend the revenue budgeted for the maintenance and operation of the county library and the county library system.

### **18 7 102. Manner of levying and collecting tax; library fund.**

The county library tax shall be levied and collected as other county taxes and the money collected shall be set apart as the county library fund. Nothing herein shall be construed to authorize any levy in excess of those authorized by law.

### **18 7 103. Library fund under control of board of directors; appointment, powers, duties, terms of directors; manner of filling vacancies on board.**

(a) The control, use and disposition of the county library fund is entrusted to the county library board of directors which shall budget and expend the fund for the maintenance, operation and promotion of the county library and county library system in order to carry out the informational, educational, cultural and recreational role of the county library.

(b) The county library board of directors shall be appointed by the county commissioners and shall be composed of not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) competent and responsible residents who are representative of the entire county and who shall serve without compensation. Before entering upon his duties the treasurer of the county library board shall execute and deposit with the county commissioners a good and sufficient bond for the faithful performance of his duties in an amount required by the county commissioners. The bond shall be payable to the people of the state of Wyoming and be approved by the county commissioners. One (1) director shall be appointed for one (1) year, one (1) director (or two (2) if the board consists of four (4) or five (5) members) shall be appointed for two (2) years, and one (1) director (or two (2), if the board consists of five (5) directors) shall be appointed for three (3) years, each term to commence on July 1 following the appointment. Thereafter the county commissioners shall before July 1 of each year appoint a director or directors to replace the retiring director or directors for a term of three (3) years and until a successor is appointed. A director may be appointed for two (2) consecutive terms and shall not be eligible for reappointment until two (2) years after the expiration of his second term.

(c) The county commissioners may remove any director for misconduct or neglect of duty. Vacancies on the board of directors shall be filled by the county commissioners for the balance of the unexpired term created by the vacancy.

**18 7 104. Authority of board to receive and dispose of property; appointment of librarian; library staff.**

The library board of directors may receive and be responsible for real estate, money or other property to aid the establishment, maintenance or operation of the county library system. If received as a donation, they shall carefully observe as the trustee the conditions accompanying every such gift. When the board of directors determines it is in the best interests of the county library and in keeping with the purpose of the donor, it may with the approval of the board of county commissioners sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of such real estate or other property. The board of directors shall appoint a competent librarian who with the approval of the board of directors shall appoint a library staff. The duties and compensation of the staff shall be determined by the board.

**18 7 105. Organization of board; rules and regulations; filing of certificate of organization; incorporation; recovery of library materials; establishment of branch libraries; cooperative library service.**

(a) Every library board of directors shall elect a chairman and other officers as necessary and shall prescribe rules and regulations for the establishment, organization, operation and use of the county library and library system. The board shall enforce such rules and regulations in any court of competent jurisdiction. As soon as the board is organized they shall file with the county clerk and with the secretary of state a certificate showing their organization, for which no filing fee or charge shall be paid.

(b) Upon filing of the certificate the board of directors is a body corporate, with power to sue and be sued under the name on file with the secretary of state.

(c) No member of the board of directors is personally liable for any action or procedure of the board. The corporation has perpetual existence and it is not necessary to file any other or further certificate than that filed upon the original organization of the board of directors. Every library established and maintained under the provisions of W.S. 18 7 101 through 18 7 106 is free to all residents of the county on the condition that such persons comply with rules and regulations of the library as prescribed by the board of directors. Holders of library cards are responsible for all library materials borrowed on such cards. Whenever library materials are lost, destroyed or taken from the library and not returned the library board may institute proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction to recover the materials or the value thereof. The library board may establish and maintain branch libraries, stations and other library services and facilities.

(d) Two (2) or more county library boards may contract to establish a federation of the libraries under their jurisdiction for the purpose of providing cooperative library services. Contracts shall be written, signed by the members of the contracting library boards and are binding upon the contracting library boards and their successors. The participating libraries may reserve the right to terminate the contracts by mutual agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice given to each contracting library board.

**18 7 106. Directors to keep records and make annual report.**

Each library board of directors shall keep a record of all its proceedings, file in the library all vouchers for expenditures, and after the close of the fiscal year submit an annual financial, statistical and operational report to the county commissioners and to the Wyoming state library. Whenever practical the annual report shall contain information and data requested or required by the county commissioners and the Wyoming state library.

## **Wyoming Public Library Endowment Challenge**

**18 7 201. Wyoming public library endowment challenge program.**

The Wyoming public library endowment challenge program is created.

**18 7 202. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Challenge fund" means the public library endowment challenge fund created under this article;

(ii) "Endowment gift" means an irrevocable gift or transfer to a Wyoming public library foundation of money or other property, whether real, personal, tangible or intangible, and whether or not the donor or transferor retains an interest in the property, where the gift of the foundation's interest in the property is required to be used by the foundation exclusively for endowment purposes, where:

(A) The gift was received or the transfer occurred during the period July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2022; or

(B) A commitment to make the gift or transfer was made in writing to the respective public library foundation, which commitment was received during the period July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2022, and the gift was received or the transfer occurred not later than December 31, 2023.

(iii) "Foundation" means an organization established for each public library that among other purposes, exists to generate additional revenues for public library programs and activities;

(iv) "Match" means the level of funds the state treasurer will provide to each public library foundation, where:

(A) The amount disbursed by the state treasurer will be three (3) times the amount raised by the library foundation of any of the following counties: Albany, Big Horn, Hot Springs, Platte, Crook, Weston, Washakie, Goshen and Niobrara;

(B) The amount disbursed by the state treasurer will be two (2) times the amount raised by the library foundation of any of the following counties: Johnson, Lincoln, Carbon, Uinta, Laramie, Park, Sheridan and Converse;

(C) The amount disbursed by the state treasurer will be equal to the amount raised by the library foundation of any of the following counties: Campbell, Sublette, Sweetwater, Fremont, Natrona and Teton.

(v) "Permanent endowment funds managed by a Wyoming public library foundation" means the endowment funds that are invested by the respective Wyoming public library foundation on a permanent basis and the earnings on those investments are dedicated to be expended exclusively to benefit and promote the mission, operation or any program or activity of the respective public library, including but not limited to augmentation of collections, programs and projects, capital improvements, increases to the corpus of the endowment and defraying reasonable costs of endowment administration.

**18 7 203. Wyoming public library endowment challenge fund.**

(a) The Wyoming public library endowment challenge fund is created and shall consist of twenty-three (23) separate accounts, one (1) account for each Wyoming public library established pursuant to W.S. 18 7 101.

(b) The state treasurer shall invest funds within the fund created under subsection (a) of this section and shall deposit the earnings from fund investments to the general fund.

**18 7 204. Endowment challenge fund matching program; matching payments; agreements with foundations; annual reports.**

(a) To the extent funds are available in the separate account of any public library within the endowment challenge fund, the state treasurer shall match endowment gifts actually received by that public library's foundation. A match shall be paid under this subsection by the state treasurer at the time any accumulated amounts actually received by a public library foundation total ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or more. The match shall be made by transferring from

the separate challenge fund account to the appropriate public library a match amount calculated as provided by W.S. 18 7 202(a)(iv). The recipient public library shall immediately transfer matching funds received under this subsection to the public library foundation.

(b) Each public library shall enter into an agreement with its foundation under which the foundation shall manage the matching funds received under subsection (a) of this section and under W.S. 18 7 205 in the same manner as other permanent endowment funds are managed by its foundation, including the permanent investment of funds, maintenance of the fund corpus as inviolate and the expenditure of fund earnings for endowment purposes only.

(c) Earnings from endowment funds established with matching funds under this section, and funds received under W.S. 18 7 205, shall be expended only for the purpose of the endowment, including increasing the balance in the fund corpus and reasonable costs of administration.

(d) The state treasurer shall make transfers to the appropriate public library under this section not later than the end of the calendar quarter following the quarter during which foundation gifts total at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). If gifts are made through a series of payments or transfers, no matching funds shall be transferred under this section until the total value of all payments or transfers actually received totals at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).

(e) Except as provided under subsection (j) of this section, matching funds transferred under this article shall not be distributed to or encumbered by any public library foundation in excess of the amount in the challenge fund account for that library. Except to the extent authorized under subsection (j) of this section, matching funds shall not be transferred to any public library by the state treasurer except to match gifts actually received by its foundation.

(f) If any public library board determines that the purpose of an endowment gift to the public library's foundation is not consistent with the mission or capability of that library, the gift shall not qualify for matching funds under this section.

(g) For the purpose of computing the matching amount, the state treasurer shall use the value of an endowment gift based upon its fair market value at the time the gift is received by the public library foundation. The public library shall provide evidence of fair market value for any gift if requested by the state treasurer and shall fund the cost of providing any requested evidence.

(h) Each public library shall on or before October 1 of each year, submit a report to the state treasurer from its foundation on the endowment matching program under this section for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall include a summary of funds raised under this program and the expenditure of endowment earnings. The report required under this subsection shall be for each applicable fiscal year through June 30, 2024.



(j) Notwithstanding subsection (e) of this section, matching funds may be distributed to or encumbered by a public library foundation in excess of the amount within the challenge fund account of that public library if:

(i) Endowment gifts for that public library exceed the amount within its challenge fund account;

(ii) The public library enters into a written agreement with another public library having unencumbered amounts remaining within its challenge fund account;

(iii) The public library with unencumbered amounts within its account agrees to transfer any portion of its unencumbered amount to that public library;

(iv) Matching funds transferred by the state treasurer for amounts transferred between public libraries pursuant to this subsection shall be divided equally between the public libraries participating in the agreement.

**18 7 205. Additional transfer of funds.**

(a) In addition to the transfer of matching funds authorized under W.S. 18 7 204, when the state treasurer determines that the cumulative amount of endowment gifts received by all twenty-three (23) of the public library foundations has reached two million three hundred thousand dollars (\$2,300,000.00), the treasurer shall transfer to each of the public libraries, from its separate challenge fund account, the amount of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) or the amount of the balance remaining in the library's challenge fund account, whichever is less.

(b) A library receiving funds under this section shall immediately transfer the funds to its public library foundation.

## **Statutes Related to County Libraries**

**1 23 107. Individual liability of members of governmental agencies.**

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 1 39 101 through 1 39 120, the members of any governmental board, agency, council, commission or governing body are not individually liable for any actions, inactions or omissions by the governmental board, agency, council, commission or governing body.

(b) This section does not affect individual liability for intentional torts or illegal acts.

**1 39 104. Granting immunity from tort liability; liability on contracts; exceptions.**

(a) A governmental entity and its public employees while acting within the scope of duties are granted immunity from liability for any tort except as provided by W.S. 1 39 105 through 1 39 112. Any immunity in actions based on a contract entered into by a governmental entity is waived except to the extent provided by the contract if the contract was within the powers granted to the entity and was properly executed and except as provided in W.S. 1 39 120(b). The claims procedures of W.S. 1 39 113 apply to contractual claims against governmental entities.

(b) When liability is alleged against any public employee, if the governmental entity determines he was acting within the scope of his duty, whether or not alleged to have been committed maliciously or fraudulently, the governmental entity shall provide a defense at its expense.

(c) A governmental entity shall assume and pay a judgment entered under this act against any of its public employees, provided:

(i) The act or omission upon which the claim is based has been determined by a court or jury to be within the public employee's scope of duties;

(ii) The payment for the judgment shall not exceed the limits provided by W.S. 1 39 118; and

(iii) All appropriate appeals from the judgment have been exhausted or the time has expired when appeals may be taken.

(d) A governmental entity shall assume and pay settlements of claims under this act against its public employees in accordance with W.S. 1 39 115, 1 41 106 or 1 42 204.

**1 39 105. Liability; operation of motor vehicles, aircraft and watercraft.**

A governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from bodily injury, wrongful death or property damage caused by the negligence of public employees while acting within the scope of their duties in the operation of any motor vehicle, aircraft or watercraft.

**1 39 106. Liability; buildings, recreation areas and public parks.**

A governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from bodily injury, wrongful death or property damage caused by the negligence of public employees while acting within the scope of their duties in the operation or maintenance of any building, recreation area or public park.

**8 2 101. Distribution of statutes, supplements and session laws.**

(a) Statutes, supplements and session laws shall be distributed as provided by contract with the publisher or as directed by the management council, to the following, without charge:

(viii) One (1) copy to the principal county library in each county for use therein.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, all copies of the statutes, supplements and session laws shall be sold and distributed by the publisher as contracted for by the management council.

(c) Except for the distribution of sets of the Wyoming statutes to newly elected legislators, the distribution provided by subsection (a) of this section applies to statutes, supplements and session laws published hereafter, and does not require the distribution of additional free copies of publications already distributed.

**9 1 507. Examination of books of state institutions, agencies and certain districts and entities; independent audit authorized; guidelines.**

(a) The director of the state department of audit shall:

(i) Supervise the books, financial accounts and financial records of all state agencies and institutions, counties, school districts and municipalities within the state;

(iii) Require state institutions, state agencies, the entities described in W.S. 16-4-125(c), special districts and other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) and incorporated cities and towns with a population of less than four thousand (4,000) inhabitants to file with the department such reports of the books and accounts of the institution, agency, district or entity as the director deems necessary. The director shall promulgate rules under which special districts and entities described in W.S. 16-4-125(c) or other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) shall prepare and file an annual report of their books and records with the department of audit. These rules shall apply to special districts which are subject to administration by the courts as provided in subsection (e) of this section. These rules shall provide for different levels of oversight, at the expense of the district, depending upon the higher of the total revenues received or expenditures made by the district during the fiscal year under review subject to the following limitations:

(A) At least one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) an audit by a certified public accountant shall be required;

(B) At least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) but less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) requirements shall be greater than those in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph but less than those in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph. The rules shall provide for more stringent oversight requirements

for districts with higher total revenues within this range than the requirements for districts with lower total revenues within this range;

(C) Less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) but more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) the only requirements shall be a proof of cash procedure conducted by an independent third party with a certification from two (2) authorized representatives of the district that the proof of cash procedure was performed by the independent third party in accordance with procedures required by the director and that to the best of their knowledge the financial information used was complete and accurate;

(D) Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) or less – the only requirement shall be the annual report of district revenues, expenses and ending cash balance.

(iv) Require corrections of faults or erroneous systems of accounting and when necessary instruct county and municipal officers in the proper mode of keeping accounts;

(v) Perform an audit or specified procedures of any books and records of any state institution, state agency, incorporated city or town with a population of less than four thousand (4,000) inhabitants or any special district or entity described in W.S. 16-4-125(c) or other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) whenever the director feels the audit or procedures are necessary. In lieu of performing such audit or procedures, the director may accept an audit or specified procedures performed by a certified public accountant. Specified procedures shall include procedures conducted under one (1) of the following standards:

(A) Current government audit standards issued by the United States comptroller general;

(B) Generally accepted principles and quality standards formally approved by the Association of Inspectors General;

(C) Standards recognized by the Institute of Internal Auditors; or

(D) Standards recognized by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

(vi) Conduct performance measure reviews based on the standards developed in W.S. 28 1 115(a)(ii)(A). The director shall determine the means to be used to verify and validate the performance measures. The results of the reviews shall be reported to the agency head, governor and secretary of state;

(vii) Require counties, cities, towns and special districts and entities described in W.S. 16-4-125(c) or other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) in this state to report to the department revenues received and expenditures made each fiscal year. The reports shall be made not later than September 30 for the prior fiscal year. The format of the reports required by this paragraph shall be established by the department of audit by rule. Not later than December 31 of each year, the department shall provide a copy of the report on special districts and entities described in W.S. 16-4-125(c) that receive funding from a municipality as defined by W.S. 16-4-102(a)(xiv) or other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) under this paragraph to the board of county commissioners for each special district and other entity located in that county;

(c) Audit procedures performed on all state agencies, institutions and municipalities as defined in W.S. 16-4-102(a)(xiv) within the state shall be performed in accordance with current government audit standards issued by the United States comptroller general and within the standards for audit of governmental units as promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

(f) No state agency or board shall impose requirements for audit procedures to be performed upon any public entity described in subsection (c) of this section which exceed the requirements of subsection (c) of this section unless those requirements have been authorized through rules or regulations promulgated by the director of the department of audit and the state agency or board provides funding for the additional audit requirements.

(g) No state agency or board shall require of any recipient of grants or funds, as a condition of receiving the grant or funds, any audit procedures to be performed which exceed the requirements in subsection (c) of this section unless the state agency or board provides funding for the additional audit requirements through a specific amount in the grant of funds, or unless the requirements are specifically authorized by statute. All state agencies and boards shall verify that all applicants and recipients of state grants or loans are in compliance with the applicable reporting requirement under paragraph (a)(vii) of this section as a condition of receiving the grant or loan. For purposes of this section, a state grant or loan shall not be those grants or loans which include any federal funds or monies paid in consideration for services rendered to the state agency or board.

(h) The department of audit shall have authority to promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of the audit procedures authorized by this section including, unless otherwise provided, setting the dollar limits at which audits authorized under subsections (f) and (g) of this section are to be performed for governmental entities in this state and any recipient of state funds.

(j) The director of the department of audit shall certify:

(i) To the state treasurer and state auditor by October 5 of each year, a list of counties, cities and towns that failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. The state

treasurer shall withhold the annual distribution, which would otherwise be made under W.S. 9-2-1014.1, to any county, city or town failing to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. The withheld distribution shall be retained in the budget reserve account until the director of the department of audit certifies that the county, city or town has filed the required report. The state auditor shall immediately notify all state agencies and boards of every county, city or town that failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. Upon receipt of notification by the state auditor pursuant to this paragraph, a state agency or board shall withhold state grant and loan payments to every noncompliant county, city or town for the period after October 15 until further notice from the state auditor that a noncompliant county, city or town has come into compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. The department of audit shall certify to the state auditor when a county, city or town comes into compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. The state auditor shall immediately notify all state agencies and boards of every county, city or town that has come into compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. Any withheld state grant or loan payments shall be retained by the state agency or board in the account from which the disbursement would be made until the state agency or board receives notification from the state auditor that the county, city or town is in compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section, or as otherwise provided by law;

(ii) To the board of county commissioners and to the special district or entity described in W.S. 16-4-125(c) that receives funding from a municipality as defined by W.S. 16-4-102(a)(xiv) or other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) by October 5 of each year any special district or other entity in the county, no matter how formed, that failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. If, by November 30 of that same year, the district or other entity has failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section, the director of the department of audit shall file notice with the county commissioners, the county treasurer and the county clerk. The county commissioners shall place a public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county indicating the special district or other entity is in danger of being dissolved due to failure to comply with the legal reporting requirements. The county commissioners shall assess the special district or other entity the cost of the public notice. The county treasurer shall withhold any further distribution of money to the district until the department certifies to the county treasurer that the district or other entity has complied with all reporting requirements. If the special district or other entity fails to file the required report on or before December 30 of that same year, the county commissioners shall seek to dissolve the special district or other entity in accordance with the process described by W.S. 22-29-401 et seq. This paragraph shall apply in addition to any other provision for dissolution in the principal act for a special district or other entity;

(k) The director of the department of audit shall report on or before December 31 of each year to the governor and the legislature, financial information regarding counties, cities, towns and special districts. The information shall be obtained from the annual reports collected from the

required reports in this section and shall be in a form required by the director. The annual reports and the required reports in this section shall be open for public inspection.

**18 4 104. Certificates of indebtedness; purposes for which authorized; interest; precedence over other claims; order of payment; current year defined.**

(b) With the permission of the board of county commissioners, the county hospital, library, welfare or fair board may issue certificates of indebtedness in cases where there are insufficient funds in the county treasury to meet their current obligations for the necessary expenses for continuing the services and functions for which the boards are responsible and the expenses of the boards during July through November.

(c) The certificates of indebtedness shall bear interest at not more than six percent (6%) per annum payable from the funds of the board issuing the certificate. The total amount of certificates issued by each of the boards shall not exceed the following amounts in any one (1) year:

(iii) For county libraries, thirty percent (30%) of the budget estimate of anticipated income for the year of issuance;

(d) The provisions of this section do not give authority to any of the boards to spend in excess of their total budgeted expenditures as approved according to law.

(e) Certificates are issuable by the board of county commissioners and by the county hospital, library, welfare or fair boards even though there may be a balance in the cash reserve fund of each of the boards.

(f) The certificates of indebtedness shall be payable out of the taxes levied and collected for the current year for use of the boards and shall be paid out of the first tax funds available to each board. They shall state they are payable out of the revenues of the county for the year of issuance and shall be clearly distinguishable from county orders or warrants.

(g) When county hospital, library, welfare or fair boards resolve to issue the certificates they shall forward to the county treasurer a copy of the resolution, certified by the presiding officer of the board, setting forth the number and amount of all such certificates to be issued.

(h) The certificates of indebtedness are a first and prior charge upon the taxes collected for the year of their issuance, and shall be first paid out of funds in the county treasury derived from taxes, fines or other sources of revenue collected or paid into the county treasury during the year of issuance, excluding sums received for delinquent taxes or fines for any previous year.

(j) The term "current year" as used in this section means the year commencing at twelve (12:00) noon on the preceding first Monday of January and ending at the same hour on the first Monday of the following January.

**18 4 106. Cancellation of warrants and certificates; generally.**

(a) The county treasurer shall on the first Monday of December in each year cancel all unpaid county warrants which have been issued for more than twelve (12) months. He shall at the same time cancel all county certificates of indebtedness issued by the board of county commissioners or by the county hospital, library, welfare or fair boards which have not been presented for payment within one (1) year after he has given legal notice that there was money in the county treasury to pay them. The county treasurer shall certify to the board of county commissioners or to the county hospital, library, welfare or fair board the number and amount of each county warrant and certificate of indebtedness cancelled. The board of county commissioners and the county hospital, library, welfare or fair boards shall enter the list upon its journal and have the list published in the minutes of the regular December meeting of the board of county commissioners or the county hospital, library, welfare or fair boards.

(b) Any person holding a cancelled county warrant or certificate of indebtedness may present the warrant or certificate to the board of county commissioners within five (5) years after the date of cancellation, and they shall issue the holder of the warrant or certificate a new warrant in the same amount due on the original warrant or certificate at the time cancelled.

**18 4 301. Authority as to issuance; maximum indebtedness permitted.**

Each board of county commissioners may create an indebtedness which with the existing indebtedness of the county does not exceed the constitutional debt limitation for counties, whenever the proposition to create the debt has been submitted and approved by a vote of the people in the county.

**18 4 302. Election upon question of issuance generally; terms; purposes.**

Each board of county commissioners may submit to the electors of the county the question of whether the board of county commissioners shall be authorized to issue registered coupon bonds of the county. The bonds shall be of a certain amount which with the existing indebtedness of the county shall not exceed the constitutional debt limitation for counties, shall bear interest and be issued payable and redeemable in the manner provided by this article. The purpose of the bonds is to provide for the construction, remodeling or enlargement of a courthouse or jail, construction, remodeling or enlargement of a county library or county library branches, planning, creation, construction and equipping of a fiber optic communications system, purchasing a site or the necessary furnishings and equipment for such facilities, or to construct or improve roads, highways, bridges, viaducts or subways of a permanent nature, under the supervision of the board of county commissioners or for joint facilities as provided by W.S. 18 2 105.



**18 4 303. Proposition may be submitted at election.**

The proposition to create the debt may be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county at an election called, conducted, canvassed and returned in the manner provided for bond elections by the Political Subdivision Bond Election Law, W.S. 22 21 101 through 22 21 112.

**18 9 201. Recreational facilities and systems of public recreation; authority to establish and maintain; joint action by political subdivision; tax levies; removal.**

(a) The governing body of any city, town, county or school district either independently or jointly through any combination thereof, may establish a system of public recreation as provided by W.S. 18 9 101(a)(i) through (iii) and, if it does so, shall appoint a board of trustees to control, maintain and supervise the properties. In administering properties under this section, the board may:

(i) Adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the governance and the preservation of property within the area. All rules and regulations adopted shall be promulgated as provided by the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and shall be available for inspection in the office of the board of county commissioners. Any person violating any rule or regulation adopted under this paragraph is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days, or both;

(ii) Acquire, equip and maintain land, buildings or other recreational facilities;

(iii) Employ trained supervisors and directors of recreation;

(iv) Accept gifts, bequests and federal aids in grant for the benefit of the recreational service;

(v) Allocate money and expend funds allocated for recreational purposes.

(b) The board of county commissioners may levy and expend funds for recreational purposes. Any levy imposed by a school district for recreational facilities and systems of public recreation shall not exceed one (1) mill on the assessed valuation of a school district. A levy for recreational facilities and systems of public recreation imposed by a school district is in addition to the tax limitations stated in W.S. 21 13 102.

**39 13 111. Distribution. [Ad Valorem Taxation]**

(a) The following shall apply to the distribution of tax collections:

(i) The county treasurer shall keep accurate records of taxes collected for each governmental entity for which a tax levy is made pursuant to W.S. 39 13 104(k) and shall pay the taxes collected to the treasurer of each governmental unit or settle accounts with the county commissioners as hereafter provided. Prior to any payment, the county may deduct and credit to the county treasury any extraordinary costs including out of county court costs and associated attorney fees, as certified by the board of county commissioners, that the county incurred in order to collect any portion of the tax:

(A) On the first day of each month in the case of cities, towns, irrigation districts, drainage districts, county libraries and the state and statewide levies. One-half percent (.5%) shall be deducted from payments to cities and towns and credited to the county treasury as reimbursement for county expenses in collecting taxes for the city or town;

(b) If taxes are paid under protest to the extent of and due to an appeal pending before the board or any court of competent jurisdiction, the county treasurer shall deposit that protested amount under appeal in an interest bearing escrow account and withhold distribution until a final decision on the appeal has been rendered. To the extent the taxpayer prevails in the appeal, the county treasurer shall refund that amount under appeal, plus interest earned thereon, to the taxpayer within thirty (30) days from the day the final decision is rendered. If the taxpayer pays to the county an amount in excess of the protested amount under appeal, the excess shall be distributed as provided by law.

(c) If a county is unable to collect some or all of the tax due because of nonpayment by a taxpayer, through bankruptcy or otherwise, the county shall not be liable to any other governmental entity for any amount of the tax that is not collected from the taxpayer.

(d) Taxes collected pursuant to W.S. 39-13-113 shall be distributed by the county treasurer on or before the tenth day of the month following the month of receipt. Taxes collected following final reconciliation of the taxes under W.S. 39-13-113(b) shall be distributed by the county treasurer on or before the tenth day of the month following the month of collection.

**39 15 203. Imposition. [Specific Purpose Tax]**

(a) Taxable event. The following shall apply:

(iii) The following provisions apply to imposition of the specific purpose excise tax under W.S. 39 15 204(a)(iii):

(A) Before any proposition to impose the tax or incur the debt shall be placed before the electors, the governing body of a county and the governing bodies of at least fifty percent (50%) of the incorporated municipalities within the county shall adopt a resolution approving the proposition, setting forth a procedure for

qualification of a ballot question for placement on the ballot and specifying how excess funds shall be expended;

(B) The revenue from the tax shall be used in a specified amount for specific purposes authorized by the qualified electors. Specific purposes may include one (1) time major maintenance, renovation or reconstruction of a specifically defined section of a public roadway and may include, in conjunction with another specific purpose, funding a reserve account as provided in subparagraph (H) of this paragraph. Specific purposes shall not include ordinary operations of local government except those operations related to a specific project or as authorized by subparagraph (H) of this paragraph;

(C) No tax shall be imposed under this paragraph until the proposition to impose the tax for specific purposes in specific amounts is approved by the vote of the majority of the qualified electors voting on the proposition. The amount of revenue to be collected and the purpose or purposes for which it is proposed to be used shall be specified in the proposition. The election shall be held in accordance with W.S. 22 21 101 through 22 21 112. Any debt created may also be repaid, in whole or in part, by a property tax levy if general obligation bonds are authorized by the electors. If a county seeks to increase a tax rate previously approved by the qualified electors of the county that increase shall be separately proposed and voted upon, provided that the total amount of the separate propositions is subject to the limitations specified in W.S. 39 15 204(a)(iii) and (iv). Any excise tax imposed under this subsection shall commence as provided by W.S. 39 15 207(c) following the election approving the imposition of the tax, except that it shall commence on the first day of any subsequent month following the receipt of tax funds in the approved amount by any tax previously imposed under this subsection as provided by subparagraph (E) of this paragraph. Unless terminated earlier by the sponsoring entities pursuant to subparagraph (G) of this paragraph, the relevant portion of the tax shall terminate as provided by W.S. 39 15 207(c) when the amount approved by the electors is collected;

(D) No debt may be incurred or approved which when added to the existing indebtedness of the sponsoring entity or entities, would exceed the constitutional debt limitation of the sponsoring entity or entities. However, nothing herein prohibits the approval of a proposition which establishes a fund for accumulation of funds sufficient to carry out the purpose approved or to pay a sufficient amount of the cost so as to bring the remainder of the debt within the debt limitation of the sponsoring entity or entities;

(G) The sponsoring entities may agree to terminate the tax if the tax collected reaches the actual cost of the completed projects and the amount specified in the proposition exceeds the actual cost of the completed projects. The

sponsoring entities shall inform the department of revenue and the county treasurer that the tax is terminated;

(H) If approved in the resolution adopted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and approved by the qualified electors pursuant to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, a specified amount of revenue from the tax or the tax revenue from a specified period not to exceed the specified amount may be deposited into a reserve account. Funds in the reserve account may be invested as provided in W.S. 9-4-831 and may be expended for specific purposes previously authorized under this paragraph and for the ordinary operations of local government. A reserve account under this paragraph may be designated as a maintenance and sinking fund for a specific project or projects and the earnings and principal amount in the fund may be expended for the applicable project or projects. A reserve account under this paragraph may be designated as an inviolate account to constitute a permanent or perpetual trust fund which shall be invested in a manner to obtain the highest return possible consistent with preservation of the corpus. Any earnings from investment of the corpus of a permanent or perpetual trust fund designated under this subsection shall be deposited in a separate account and may be expended as authorized in this subparagraph.

#### **39 15 204. Taxation rate.**

(a) In addition to the state tax imposed under W.S. 39-15-101 through 39-15-111 any county of the state may impose the following excise taxes and any city or town may impose the taxes authorized by paragraphs (ii) and (vii) of this subsection and any resort district may impose the tax authorized by paragraph (v) of this subsection:

(i) An excise tax at a rate in increments of one-half of one percent (.5%) not to exceed a rate of two percent (2%) upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services made within the county, the purpose of which is for general revenue;

(iii) An excise tax not to exceed two percent (2%) upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services made within the county. The total excise tax imposed within any county under this paragraph shall not exceed two percent (2%). The revenue from the tax shall be used in a specified amount for specific purposes authorized by the qualified electors and as provided in W.S. 39-15-211(b)(iv). Specific purposes shall not include ordinary operations of local government except those operations related to a specific project or as authorized by W.S. 39-15-203(a)(iii)(H);

(iv) In no event shall the total excise tax imposed within any county under the provisions of paragraphs (i), (iii) and (vi) of this subsection exceed three percent (3%);

(vi) An excise tax at a rate in increments of one quarter of one percent (.25%) not to exceed a rate of one percent (1%) upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services made within the county, the purpose of which is for economic development;

(vii) An excise tax at a rate in increments of one-quarter of one percent (.25%) not to exceed a rate of one percent (1%) upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services made within the city or town, the purpose of which is for general revenue or for a specific purpose and in a specified amount as provided in the proposition to impose the tax.

## OTHER COUNTY BOARDS

### **18 9 101. Authority of board of commissioners to acquire property, appoint board of trustees; purposes and uses; authority to levy taxes, issue bonds or incur indebtedness; county fair fund.**

(a) Each board of county commissioners may:

(iii) Appoint a board of trustees to control, maintain and manage the fairgrounds, airports, parks and pleasure grounds and to conduct agricultural, industrial and other fairs and exhibitions;

(v) Dissolve any board of trustees appointed under this subsection in accordance with W.S. 18-3-525;

### **18 10 103. Board of trustees; appointment; composition; qualifications of members; terms of office; vacancies; removal.**

(a) Each board of county commissioners of any county owning, constructing or acquiring any museum or collection of exhibits shall appoint a board of trustees for the museum or collection composed of five (5) electors of the county.

### **18 11 101. Solid waste disposal districts; creation.**

(a) Each board of county commissioners may establish by resolution one (1) or more solid waste disposal districts composed of any portion of the county. Areas may be added to or subtracted from an existing district in the same manner.

### **18 3 525. Dissolution of boards; procedure.**

(a) Each board of county commissioners may dissolve any board or district created under W.S. 18-10-103, 18-11-101 or chapter 9, article 1 of this title in accordance with the following:

(i) Before any dissolution authorized under this subsection, the board of county commissioners shall at a regular meeting disclose its intent to dissolve a specified board or district. Not later than thirty (30) days before the meeting required under this paragraph, the board of county commissioners shall provide written notice of the date, time and location of the meeting to the affected board or district, which notice shall include an explanation substantiating the reasons for the proposed dissolution. The affected board or district shall be provided sufficient opportunity at the meeting required under this paragraph to respond to the proposed dissolution;

(ii) Not later than one hundred twenty (120) days before the proposed dissolution, the board of county commissioners shall publish not less than two (2) times in the newspaper designated under W.S. 18-3-517 a plan to dissolve and terminate the board or district previously created. The plan shall provide for, at a minimum:

(A) Payment of all bonded and other indebtedness against the board or district;

(B) The disposition of assets in accordance with the following:

(I) Any surplus funds remaining to the credit of the board or district, after payment of the indebtedness of the board or district, shall be transferred to the county treasurer for disposition as provided in subdivision (II) of this subparagraph. If the assets of the board or district are insufficient, the board or district shall levy taxes, within the limits of the board's or district's authority, for the liquidation of the indebtedness;

(II) Any surplus funds remaining shall be disposed of as provided under one (1) of the following procedures, as selected by the county assessor:

(1) The funds may be offset against the portion of the levies of taxing units levied against the property values of property within the board or district to be dissolved. If the funds are offset as provided under this subdivision, the funds shall be distributed to each taxing unit in the amount of that taxing unit's offset;

(2) The amount may be credited to each property appearing on the tax roll within the dissolved district or board on the basis of current assessed value. If the surplus funds are distributed under this subdivision, the surplus funds shall be deposited in the unsegregated tax collections account established and distributed in the same manner as other funds in that account.

(C) Resolution or reassignment of all contracts, regulatory agreements and other obligations to which the board or district is a party.

(iii) Not later than thirty (30) days before the proposed dissolution, the board of county commissioners shall hold a public meeting and provide an opportunity for public comment both at the meeting and in writing;

(iv) After public notice and an opportunity for public comment has been completed, the board of county commissioners may revise the plan for dissolution and shall disapprove or approve by resolution the plan for dissolution and termination of the created board or district.

(b) Upon approval and passage of a resolution dissolving the created board or district, the created board or district shall take all actions necessary to effectuate the plan for dissolution and termination and dissolve and terminate the board or district.

(c) Not later than ninety (90) days after the passage of a resolution dissolving the created board or district, the board or district shall terminate its existence.

## **Wyoming State Library**

### **9 2 419. Marking, defacing, removing or tampering with certain materials; penalty.**

Any person marking, defacing, removing or tampering in any manner whatsoever with any property acquired under W.S. 9-2-404 through 9-2-415, by the director or, acquired under W.S. 9-2-3210 through 9-2-3212 by the state librarian or state library board is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

## **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION & INFORMATION**

### **9 2 3202. Definitions; powers generally; duties of governor; provisions construed; cooperation with legislature and judiciary; divisions enumerated.**

(d) The department shall consist of the following divisions in addition to the office of the director of the department:

- (ii) General services division;
- (iii) Human resources division;
- (vi) Economic analysis division;
- (x) State library division.

**9 2 3203. Director and division administrators; appointment; removal; powers of director.**

(a) The governor shall appoint a director of the department with the advice and consent of the senate who shall be the department's executive and administrative head, and who shall hold an ex officio seat on all boards and councils which advise or are within the department.

(b) With the approval of the governor, the director may appoint administrators for each of the divisions. The governor may remove the director and division administrators as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(c) The director may:

(i) Employ professional, technical and other assistants to work in the director's office or in any of the divisions, along with other employees necessary to carry out the purpose of this act;

(iii) Adopt reasonable rules and regulations to administer this act pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act;

(iv) Formulate through his office the policies and programs to be carried out by the department through its respective divisions.

(d) The director shall administer through his office all accounting, billing and collection functions required by the department.

**9 2 3210. Federal library funds.**

(a) The director may accept and receive all funds, monies or library materials made available by the federal government for the improvement and development of public library services in the state.

(b) The state treasurer is custodian of all federal funds allocated to the state for statewide library services. The director shall disburse the funds subject to all provisions of law and submit receipt and acknowledgement to the state treasurer.

**9 2 3211. State librarian; appointment; qualifications; filing of state publications; deposit of designated documents; exchange of session laws.**

(a) A state librarian shall be appointed by the director of the department of administration and information and shall serve as the administrator of the state library division of the department. The state librarian shall have:



(i) Completed the required courses in a recognized or accredited library school or shall have educational and library administrative experience required by the human resources division of the department;

(ii) Charge and custody of all materials belonging to the state library.

(b) With the approval of the director, the state librarian may employ within the state library division necessary deputies, assistants and employees and shall:

(i) Develop a budget for the state library and control the expenditures of funds appropriated for and received by the library;

(ii) Accept gifts or grants of any nature for the purpose of carrying on the work of the state library division;

(iii) Report to the director regarding the receipts, disbursements, work and needs of the state library division;

(iv) Expend or disburse gifts and grants as approved in writing by the director;

(v) Adopt policies and projects to fulfill the purposes of this act regarding the state library division.

(c) For purposes of maintaining a state publications depository system, up to seven (7) copies of each publication issued by a state officer, commission, commissioner or board of a state institution shall be deposited with the state library for distribution as follows:

(i) Three (3) copies to the state library permanent file;

(ii) Two (2) copies to the university library;

(iii) One (1) copy to the library of congress;

(iv) One (1) copy to the council of state governments; and

(v) The total number of copies and distributions may be modified at the discretion of the state librarian.

(d) All officers and persons who receive any books, maps, charts or other documents designed for the use of the state library or the department, shall deposit the same immediately on receipt thereof with either the state librarian or the director.

(f) The state librarian shall guide local library agencies participating in any state plan for the expenditure of any federal funds or materials. The state librarian shall assure compliance with the policies and methods of administration under the state plan.

(g) The state librarian is responsible for the extension and development of library services throughout the state and shall supervise and superintend the expenditures of monies provided for library services and federal funds allocated to the state for these purposes.

**9 2 3212. State librarian; acquisition of books and materials; disposition of outdated and unused books; disposition of unused materials and supplies; promulgation of rules.**

(a) With the approval of the director, the state librarian may:

(i) Acquire books, materials, equipment and supplies which are necessary for the efficient operation of the state library;

(ii) Sell outdated and unused books in the collection of the state library when the director deems the sale necessary due to limited shelf space;

(iii) Regulate the hours during which the library is open for the use of educators, students and researchers. To accommodate these uses, he may stagger the working schedules of the library employees in accordance with rules and regulations of the human resources division of the department.

(b) Prior to sale under subsection (a) of this section the department of state parks and cultural resources shall be given an opportunity to choose, without charge, books which have special historical value. After the department of state parks and cultural resources has had an opportunity to choose books it desires, any library in this state which is supported by public funds shall be given an opportunity to take, without charge, books it desires to add to its collection.

(c) At the recommendation of the state librarian the department may dispose of unused materials, supplies or equipment belonging to the state library in any manner provided by law.

(d) The department may promulgate necessary rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this section.

**INTERSTATE LIBRARY COMPACT**

**9 2 3213. Interstate Library Compact; enactment; form.**

The Interstate Library Compact is hereby enacted into law and entered into by this state with all states legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:

## **INTERSTATE LIBRARY COMPACT**

### **Article I**

Because the desire for the services provided by libraries transcends governmental boundaries and can most effectively be satisfied by giving such services to communities and people regardless of jurisdictional lines, it is the policy of the states party to this compact to cooperate and share their responsibilities; to authorize cooperation and sharing with respect to those types of library facilities and services which can be more economically or efficiently developed and maintained on a cooperative basis, and to authorize cooperation and sharing among localities, states and others in providing joint or cooperative library services in areas where the distribution of population or of existing and potential library resources make the provision of library service on an interstate basis the most effective way of providing adequate and efficient service.

### **Article II**

(a) As used in this compact:

(i) "Public library agency" means any unit or agency of local or state government operating or having power to operate a library;

(ii) "Private library agency" means any nongovernmental entity which operates or assumes a legal obligation to operate a library;

(iii) "Library agreement" means a contract establishing an interstate library district pursuant to this compact or providing for the joint or cooperative furnishing of library services.

### **Article III**

(a) Any one (1) or more public library agencies in a party state in cooperation with any public library agency or agencies in one (1) or more other party states may establish and maintain an interstate library district. Subject to the provisions of this compact and any other laws of the party states which pursuant hereto remain applicable, such district may establish, maintain and operate some or all of the library facilities and services for the area concerned in accordance with the terms of a library agreement therefor. Any private library agency or agencies within an interstate library district may cooperate therewith, assume duties, responsibilities and obligations thereto, and receive benefits therefrom as provided in any library agreement to which such agency or agencies become party.

(b) Within an interstate library district, and as provided by a library agreement, the performance of library functions may be undertaken on a joint or cooperative basis or may be undertaken by means of one (1) or more arrangements between or among public or private

library agencies for the extension of library privileges to the use of facilities or services operated or rendered by one (1) or more of the individual library agencies.

(c) If a library agreement provides for joint establishment, maintenance or operation of library facilities or services by an interstate library district, such district shall have power to do any one (1) or more of the following in accordance with such library agreement:

(i) Undertake, administer and participate in programs or arrangements for securing, lending or servicing of books and other publications, any other materials suitable to be kept or made available by libraries, library equipment or for the dissemination of information about libraries, the value and significance of particular items therein, and the use thereof;

(ii) Accept for any of its purposes under this compact any and all donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, (conditional or otherwise), from any state or the United States or any subdivision or agency thereof, or interstate agency, or from any institution, person, firm or corporation, and receive, utilize and dispose of the same;

(iii) Operate mobile library units or equipment for the purpose of rendering bookmobile service within the district;

(iv) Employ professional, technical, clerical and other personnel, and fix terms of employment, compensation and other appropriate benefits; and where desirable, provide for the in-service training of such personnel;

(v) Sue and be sued in any court of competent jurisdiction;

(vi) Acquire, hold, and dispose of any real or personal property or any interest or interests therein as may be appropriate to the rendering of library service;

(vii) Construct, maintain and operate a library, including any appropriate branches thereof;

(viii) Do such other things as may be incidental to or appropriate for the carrying out of any of the foregoing powers.

#### **Article IV**

(a) An interstate library district which establishes, maintains or operates any facilities or services in its own right shall have a governing board which shall direct the affairs of the district and act for it in all matters relating to its business. Each participating public library agency in the district shall be represented on the governing board which shall be organized and conduct its

business in accordance with provision therefor in the library agreement. But in no event shall a governing board meet less often than twice a year.

(b) Any private library agency or agencies party to a library agreement establishing an interstate library district may be represented on or advise with the governing board of the district in such manner as the library agreement may provide.

#### **Article V**

Any two (2) or more state library agencies of two (2) or more of the party states may undertake and conduct joint or cooperative library programs, render joint or cooperative library services, and enter into and perform arrangements for the cooperative or joint acquisition, use, housing and disposition of items or collections of materials which, by reason of expense, rarity, specialized nature, or infrequency of demand therefor would be appropriate for central collection and shared use. Any such programs, services or arrangements may include provision for the exercise on a cooperative or joint basis of any power exercisable by an interstate library district and an agreement embodying any such program, service or arrangement shall contain provisions covering the subjects detailed in article VI of this compact for interstate library agreements.

#### **Article VI**

(a) In order to provide for any joint or cooperative undertaking pursuant to this compact, public and private library agencies may enter into library agreements. Any agreement executed pursuant to the provisions of this compact shall, as among the parties to the agreement:

(i) Detail the specific nature of the services, programs, facilities, arrangements or properties to which it is applicable;

(ii) Provide for the allocation of costs and other financial responsibilities;

(iii) Specify the respective rights, duties, obligations and liabilities of the parties;

(iv) Set forth the terms and conditions for duration, renewal, termination, abrogation, disposal of joint or common property, if any, and all other matters which may be appropriate to the proper effectuation and performance of the agreement.

(b) No public or private library agency shall undertake to exercise itself, or jointly with any other library agency, by means of a library agreement any power prohibited to such agency by the constitution or statutes of its state.

(c) No library agreement shall become effective until filed with the compact administrator of each state involved, and approved in accordance with article VII of this compact.

## **Article VII**

(a) Every library agreement made pursuant to this compact shall, prior to and as a condition precedent to its entry into force, be submitted to the attorney general of each state in which a public library agency party thereto is situated, who shall determine whether the agreement is in proper form and compatible with the laws of his state. The attorneys general shall approve any agreement submitted to them unless they shall find that it does not meet the conditions set forth herein and shall detail in writing addressed to the governing bodies of the public library agencies concerned the specific respects in which the proposed agreement fails to meet the requirements of law. Failure to disapprove an agreement submitted hereunder within ninety (90) days of its submission shall constitute approval thereof.

(b) In the event that a library agreement made pursuant to this compact shall deal in whole or in part with the provision of services or facilities with regard to which an officer or agency of the state government has constitutional or statutory powers of control, the agreement shall, as a condition precedent to its entry into force, be submitted to the state officer or agency having such power of control and shall be approved or disapproved by him or it as to all matters within his or its jurisdiction in the same manner and subject to the same requirements governing the action of the attorneys general pursuant to paragraph (a) of this article. This requirement of submission and approval shall be in addition to and not in substitution for the requirement of submission to and approval by the attorneys general.

## **Article VIII**

Nothing in this compact or in any library agreement shall be construed to supersede, alter or otherwise impair any obligation imposed on any library by otherwise applicable law, nor to authorize the transfer or disposition of any property held in trust by a library agency in a manner contrary to the terms of such trust.

## **Article IX**

(a) Any public library agency party to a library agreement may appropriate funds to the interstate library district established thereby in the same manner and to the same extent as to a library wholly maintained by it and, subject to the laws of the state in which such public library agency is situated, may pledge its credit in support of an interstate library district established by the agreement.

(b) Subject to the provisions of the library agreement pursuant to which it functions and the laws of the states in which such district is situated, an interstate library district may claim and receive any state and federal aid which may be available to library agencies.

## **Article X**

Each state shall designate a compact administrator with whom copies of all library agreements to which his state or any public library agency thereof is party shall be filed. The administrator shall have such other powers as may be conferred upon him by the laws of his state and may consult and cooperate with the compact administrators of other party states and take such steps as may effectuate the purposes of this compact. If the laws of a party state so provide, such state may designate one (1) or more deputy compact administrators in addition to its compact administrator.

#### **Article XI**

(a) This compact shall enter into force and effect immediately upon its enactment into law by any two (2) states. Thereafter, it shall enter into force and effect as to any other state upon the enactment thereof by such state.

(b) This compact shall continue in force with respect to a party state and remain binding upon such state until six (6) months after such state has given notice to each other party state of the repeal thereof. Such withdrawal shall not be construed to relieve any party to a library agreement entered into pursuant to this compact from any obligation of that agreement prior to the end of its duration as provided therein.

#### **Article XII**

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state party thereto, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the state affected as to all severable matters.

#### **9 2 3214. Compliance with local laws prerequisite to entering into library agreement.**

No city, town, county, school district or public district of any sort of this state shall be party to a library agreement which provides for the construction or maintenance of a library pursuant to article III, paragraph (c)(vii) of the Interstate Library Compact, nor pledge its credit in support of such a library, or contribute to the capital financing thereof, except after compliance with any laws applicable to such cities, towns, counties, school districts or public districts of any sort relating to or governing capital outlays and the pledging of credit.

**9 2 3215. "State library agency".**

As used in the Interstate Library Compact, "state library agency", with reference to this state, means the state library division of the department.

**9 2 3216. State and federal aid to interstate library districts.**

An interstate library district lying partly within this state may claim and be entitled to receive state aid in support of any of its functions to the same extent and in the same manner as such functions are eligible for support when carried on by entities wholly within this state. For the purpose of computing and apportioning state aid to an interstate library district, this state will consider that portion of the area which lies within this state as an independent entity for the performance of the aided function or functions and compute and apportion the aid accordingly. Subject to any applicable laws of this state, such a district also may apply for and be entitled to receive federal aid for which it may be eligible.

**9 2 3217. Appointment of compact administrator and deputy administrators; removal.**

The governor shall appoint an officer of this state who shall be the compact administrator pursuant to article X of the compact. The governor may also appoint one (1) or more deputy Interstate Library Compact administrators pursuant to article X. The governor may remove any appointee under this section as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

**9 2 3218. Notice of withdrawal from compact.**

In the event of withdrawal from the interstate Library Compact the governor shall send and receive any notices required by article XI(b) of the compact.

## **Law Libraries**

### **WYOMING STATE LAW LIBRARY**

**5 2 401. Authority to contract for publication of reports.**

The supreme court of the state of Wyoming is hereby vested with full and complete authority to arrange and contract for timely publication of its opinions from time to time, as may be required, and the legislature shall make adequate appropriation to defray the expenses thereof.

**5 2 402. Distribution of copies of reports.**

The books delivered to the librarian shall be distributed as provided in this section. One (1) copy of each volume shall upon request be delivered to each justice of the supreme court and to each district judge there shall upon request be delivered as many copies as he has counties in



his district. The books shall be retained in the offices of said officials and by them delivered to their respective successors in office. One (1) copy may be furnished to the library of the supreme court of the United States at Washington, one (1) copy to the office of the attorney general of the United States, and one (1) copy to the United States district court for the district of Wyoming. The remaining copies may be used in exchange for the reports of other states and territories and governments as may be determined upon by the justices of the supreme court, and a reasonable number may be kept in the state law library.

**5 2 501. Expenditures.**

The judges of the supreme court shall superintend and direct all expenditures of money for the law library.

**5 2 502. Session law exchange.**

Upon request, the state law librarian may send to the library of each state and territory of the United States, free of expense, one (1) copy of the session laws of this state in exchange for the laws of the requesting state or territory. All the laws received in the exchange shall be deposited by the state law librarian in the state law library and become the property of this state.

## COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES

**5 3 111. County law library.**

The board of county commissioners shall have the power to establish and maintain in their respective counties, a county law library, for the use and benefit of the judge of the district court and other citizens of the state and shall have the power to appropriate and set aside for the maintenance and support of said library, such moneys as it shall deem necessary or see fit. The district court of such county shall superintend and direct all expenditures made for said library, and shall have full power to make any rules and regulations, proper and necessary for the preservation, increase and use of the library, not inconsistent with law.

## City and Town Libraries

**15 1 103. General powers of governing bodies.**

(a) The governing bodies of all cities and towns may:

(xxxii) Establish, maintain and in a manner the governing body determines provide for the housing of public libraries and reading rooms and in connection therewith or separately public museums and:

- (A) Purchase books and other appropriate material;
- (B) Purchase and receive as gifts or on loan any books, pictures, articles or artifacts relating to the history, resources and development of the United States and its parts and lands;
- (C) Place a museum temporarily in charge of donors; and
- (D) Receive donations and bequests for the museum, in trust or otherwise, and make contracts and regulations for the care, protection and government thereof.

## **Public Funds**

### **9 4 831. Investment of public funds.**

(a) The state treasurer, or treasurer of any political subdivision, municipality or special district of this state, and the various boards of trustees and boards of directors of county hospitals, airports, fairs and other duly constituted county boards and commissions, may invest in:

(i) United States treasury bills, notes or bonds, including stripped principal or interest obligations of such issuances, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;

(ii) Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by or guaranteed by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to the following to the extent that they remain federal government agencies or instrumentalities, federal national mortgage association, federal home loan bank, federal farm credit bank, federal home loan mortgage corporation and government national mortgage association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal agencies or instrumentalities;

(iii) Repurchase agreements involving securities which are authorized investments under paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection. The securities may be held in a custodial arrangement with a member bank of the federal reserve system or in a segregated account at a federal reserve system bank. The repurchase agreement must provide for daily valuation and have a minimum excess market price reserve of one hundred two percent (102%) of the investment;

(iv) In accordance with W.S. 9 4 803 with respect to the state and W.S. 9 4 817 with respect to local governments, deposits in financial institutions located within the state of Wyoming which offer federal deposit insurance corporation insurance on deposits in the institutions;

(v) Mortgage backed securities that are obligations of or guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, instrumentalities or organizations created by an act of congress excluding those defined as high risk. High risk mortgage backed securities are defined as any security which meets either of the following criteria:

(A) Is rated V 6 or higher by Fitch Investors Service or at an equivalent rating by another nationally recognized rating service; or

(B) Is defined as a high risk mortgage security under Section III of the Supervisory Policy Concerning Selection of Securities Dealers and Unsuitable Investment Practices, as amended by the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council as created under 12 U.S.C. 3301, et seq., or its successor.

(vi) In bankers acceptances of United States banks eligible for purchase by the federal reserve system;

(vii) In a guaranteed investment contract if issued and guaranteed by a United States commercial bank or a United States insurance company. The credit quality of the issuer and guarantor shall be the highest category of either A. M. Best, Moody's or Standard and Poor's rating service. The contract shall provide the governmental entity a nonpenalized right of withdrawal of the investment if the credit quality of the investment is downgraded;

(viii) A commingled fund of eligible securities listed in this section if the securities are held through a trust department of a bank authorized to do business in this state or through a trust company authorized to do business in this state with total capital of at least ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) or which has an unconditional guarantee with respect to those securities from an entity with total capital of at least one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00);

(ix) Interest bearing deposits of a savings and loan association or a federal savings bank authorized to do business in this state to the extent that they are fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation, or:

(A) Secured by a pledge of assets and the federal savings bank or savings and loan association is otherwise authorized as a depository as prescribed by law; or

(B) The federal savings bank or savings and loan association is otherwise authorized as a depository as prescribed by law and:

(l) In lieu of a pledge of assets securing an interest bearing deposit, a selected savings and loan association or federal savings bank shall arrange for the deposit of the public funds in interest bearing deposits in

one (1) or more banks or savings and loan associations or federal savings banks wherever located in the United States, for the account of the public funds depositor;

(II) At the same time the public funds are deposited pursuant to this subparagraph, the selected savings and loan association or federal savings bank shall receive an amount of deposits from customers of other financial institutions equal to the amount of the public funds initially placed by the public funds depositor;

(III) Each interest bearing deposit shall be insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation; and

(IV) The selected savings and loan association or federal savings bank shall act as custodian for the public funds depositor with respect to the interest bearing deposits placed in the public funds depositor's account.

(x) Interest bearing deposits of a bank authorized to do business in this state to the extent that they are fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation or:

(A) Secured by a pledge of assets and the bank is otherwise authorized as a depository as prescribed by law; or

(B) The bank is otherwise authorized as a depository as prescribed by law and:

(I) In lieu of a pledge of assets securing an interest bearing deposit, a selected bank shall arrange for the deposit of the public funds in interest bearing deposits in one (1) or more banks or savings and loan associations or federal savings banks wherever located in the United States, for the account of the public funds depositor;

(II) At the same time the public funds are deposited pursuant to this subparagraph, the selected bank shall receive an amount of deposits from customers of other financial institutions equal to the amount of the public funds initially placed by the public funds depositor;

(III) Each interest bearing deposit shall be insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation; and

(IV) The selected bank shall act as custodian for the public funds depositor with respect to the interest bearing deposits placed in the public funds depositor's account.

(xi) As authorized by W.S. 37-5-605, bonds of the Wyoming energy authority;

(xii) Shares of a money market fund as specified in subsection (g) of this section;

(xxvi) Commercial paper of corporations organized and existing under the laws of any state of the United States, provided that at the time of purchase, the commercial paper shall:

(A) Have a maturity of not more than two hundred seventy (270) days; and

(B) Be rated by Moody's as P-1 or by Standard & Poor's as A-1+ or equivalent ratings indicating that the commercial paper issued by a corporation is of the highest quality rating.

(xxvii) Investments as provided in W.S. 9 4 715(a), (d) and (e). Upon request by any county, municipality, school district, joint powers board or any other local governmental entity the state treasurer may provide an investment fund for local government entities under the same terms and conditions as provided in W.S. 9 1 416. The fund shall:

(A) Be a second local investment pool with more long term redemption options than the local investment pool established under W.S. 9 1 416 and with additional penalties for early withdrawal of funds as provided by rule and regulation adopted by the state treasurer;

(B) Be subject to rules and regulations adopted by the state treasurer as provided in W.S. 9 1 416;

(C) Be invested in a manner to obtain the highest return possible consistent with the preservation of the corpus; and

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, be managed in accordance with W.S. 9 1 416.

(b) No investment of public funds under this section shall be made by any of the officials above designated, until the affected fiscal board of the state of Wyoming, the board of county commissioners, the municipal council or the school district board of trustees as the case may be, has first authorized the same.

(g) Investments in shares of a diversified money market fund are authorized except that no entity of Wyoming government shall at any time own more than ten percent (10%) of the fund's net assets or shares outstanding. Investments under this subsection are limited to a diversified money market fund which seeks to maintain a stable share value of one dollar (\$1.00), is registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and has qualified under state registration requirements, if any, to sell shares in the state and which:

(i) Invests its assets:

(A) Solely in securities or instruments that have a remaining maturity of three hundred ninety seven (397) days or less at the time of purchase of shares;

(B) Solely in securities issued by the United States treasury, obligations or securities issued by or guaranteed by any federal government agency or instrumentality, and repurchase agreements collateralized by such instruments at not less than the repurchase price including accrued interest;

(C) So that an average dollar weighted maturity of ninety (90) days or less is maintained at all times; and

(D) Under limitations such that the fund may borrow funds for temporary purposes only by entering into repurchase agreements and only to the extent permitted by federal law.

(ii) Does not impose a sales charge;

(iii) Maintains the highest quality rating from at least one (1) of the nationally recognized rating organizations, such as Standard & Poor's Corporation or Moody's Investor Services;

(iv) Has an operating history of not less than five (5) consecutive years;

(v) Requires submission of sixty (60) days advance notice of any investment policy change, in the case where such policy changes may be approved without approval of the fund's shareholders or requires approval by shareholders entitled to vote a majority, as the term is defined under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, of the fund's shares;

(vi) Is purchased from a person licensed to sell securities in Wyoming through or for an account with an entity which, at the time the investment is made by the state or local government:

(A) Has been continuously engaged in the business of selling securities in Wyoming for the preceding two (2) years or a financial institution authorized to do business in Wyoming and qualified by law to act as a depository of public funds in this state; and

(B) Currently, and during the preceding two (2) years, continuously had at least one (1) established place of business in this state. As used in this subparagraph, "established place of business" means a place in this state which is actually

occupied either continuously or at regular periods by employees or agents of the entity who are licensed to sell securities in this state and where a large share of the entity's business in this state is actually conducted.

(h) Every political subdivision shall have on file a "Statement of Investment Policy." Except for investments by special hospital district boards pursuant to W.S. 35 2 403(d) or county memorial hospitals pursuant to W.S. 18 8 104(d), this policy shall be at least as restrictive with respect to the types of investments authorized as those listed under subsection (a) of this section. The policy shall require that before any person effects any investment transaction on behalf of a political subdivision or offers any investment advice to the governing body of a political subdivision, that person shall sign a statement indicating that he has read the policy and agrees to abide by applicable state law with respect to advice he gives and the transactions he undertakes on behalf of the political subdivision. As used in this subsection, "person" does not include any officer, employee or member of the governing board of the political subdivision for which the investment is made or to which advice is given. As used in this subsection and subsection (j), "political subdivision" means the local government entities listed in the introductory paragraph of subsection (a) of this section. As used in this subsection, "investment" for the purpose of "investment transactions" and "investment advice" does not include deposits in financial institutions as authorized by law. As used in this subsection and paragraph (a)(iv) of this section, "financial institution" means as defined in W.S. 13 1 101(a)(ix).

(j) To enhance the background and working knowledge of political subdivision treasurers in governmental accounting, portfolio reporting and compliance, and investments and cash management, the state auditor and the state treasurer shall conduct voluntary education programs for persons elected or appointed for the first time to any office or as an employee of any political subdivision where the duties of that office or position of employment include taking actions related to investment of public funds and shall also hold annual voluntary continuing education programs for persons continuing to hold those offices and positions of employment. The state treasurer and state auditor may contract with other persons with special knowledge in this area to provide the training and may also charge a fee for attendance sufficient to defray the cost of the educational program. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as preventing the state auditor and state treasurer from allowing the general public to attend these education programs upon payment of the appropriate fee.

(k) In connection with, or incidental to, the issuance or carrying of bonds, but only for the purpose of reducing the amount or duration of payment, interest rate, spread or similar risk, or to result in a lower cost of borrowing, and not for purposes of investment, the state treasurer or treasurer of any political subdivision, municipality or special district of this state and the various boards of trustees and boards of directors of county hospitals, airports, fairs and other duly constituted county boards and commissions may enter into contracts which are determined to be necessary or appropriate to hedge risk or to place the obligation of the bonds, in whole or in part, on the interest rate, cash flow or other basis desired, including, but not limited to, contracts commonly known as interest rate swap agreements, interest rate caps or floors, forward payment conversion agreements, futures or hedge contracts.

(m) Any local governmental entity, including the treasurer of any political subdivision, municipality or special district of this state, the various boards of trustees and boards of directors of county hospitals, airports, fairs and other duly constituted county boards and commissions, or their designee, that invests public funds under subsection (a) of this section shall:

(i) Exercise the judgment and care of a prudent investor as specified by the Wyoming Uniform Prudent Investor Act, W.S. 4 10 901 through 4 10 913;

(ii) If the local governmental entity contracts with another person to aid in the investment of public funds, require that the person:

(A) Submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state; and

(B) Act as a fiduciary with respect to the investment of public funds by acting solely in the interest of the public and by acting with the care, skill and caution which a prudent person in a like capacity and familiar with those matters would use in the conduct of an activity of like character and purpose. The contracted person shall incur only costs that are appropriate and reasonable and shall act in accordance with a good faith interpretation of the law governing the investment of public funds.

## **Elections**

### **22 2 111. Employees time off to vote.**

(a) Any person entitled to vote at any primary or general election or special election to fill a vacancy in the office of representatives in the congress of the United States is, on the day of such election, entitled to absent himself from any service or employment in which he is then engaged or employed for a period of one (1) hour, other than meal hours, the hour being at the convenience of the employer, between the time of opening and closing of the polls. Such elector shall not, because of so absenting himself, lose any pay, providing he actually casts his legal vote.

### **22 25 115. Written campaign advertising; prohibiting placement on public property; exception.**

Except as provided herein, written campaign advertising shall not be placed on or attached to any real or personal property of the state or its political subdivisions. This prohibition shall not apply to fairgrounds of the Wyoming state fair or of any county fair organized under the laws of this state. The University of Wyoming, any community college and school district may permit such advertising subject to regulation by their governing board as to time, place and manner.



Any rules and regulations adopted shall provide for equal access to opposing political views. Subject to the approval of the landowner and any rules and regulations adopted by a municipality, campaign materials may be placed on municipal street rights-of-way. The department of transportation shall allow campaign materials to be placed on a state right-of-way within a municipality to the same extent which the municipality allows campaign materials to be placed on municipal street rights-of-way. Nothing in this section shall apply to any interstate highway.

## **Surety Bonds**

### **38 2 101. Bonds of officers having custody of money; of whom required; conditions.**

The state treasurer and the treasurer of each county, city, town, school district, irrigation district, drainage district, and any other public officer having the custody of moneys, shall be required to furnish a bond in the amount required by law, which bond shall be conditioned that he shall faithfully perform all of the duties of his office as prescribed by law, and that he will safely keep all moneys which may come into his hands by virtue of his office, that he will promptly pay over to the person or persons legally authorized to receive the same all such moneys in the manner provided by law, and that he will deliver over to his successor in office all moneys held by him as such officer. Each of the said officers, and his bondsmen and sureties, respectively, shall be responsible for the safekeeping and paying over according to law of all funds which shall come into his hands by virtue of his office.

### **38 2 102. Sureties and bondsmen on official bonds.**

The sureties and bondsmen on such official bonds shall be residents of the state of Wyoming, who shall duly qualify to own property in the state amounting in the aggregate to double the amount of the bond upon which they become sureties. Provided, however, that any surety or guaranty company, duly qualified to act as surety or guarantor in this state upon executing such bonds, shall be accepted in lieu of such sureties.

## **Wyoming Administrative Procedures**

### **16 3 101. Short title; definitions.**

(a) This act may be cited as the "Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act".

(b) As used in this act:

(i) "Agency" means any authority, bureau, board, commission, department, division, officer or employee of the state, a county, city or town or other political subdivision of the state, except the governing body of a city or town, the state legislature, the

University of Wyoming, the judiciary, the consensus revenue estimating group as defined in W.S. 9 2 1002 and the investment funds committee created by W.S. 9 4 720;

(ii) "Contested case" means a proceeding including but not restricted to ratemaking, price fixing and licensing, in which legal rights, duties or privileges of a party are required by law to be determined by an agency after an opportunity for hearing but excludes designations under W.S. 9-2-3207(h)(i);

(iii) "License" includes the whole or part of any agency permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter or similar form of permission required by law, but it does not include a license required solely for revenue purposes;

(iv) "Licensing" includes the agency process respecting the grant, denial, renewal, revocation, suspension, annulment, withdrawal or amendment of a license;

(v) "Local agency" means any agency with responsibilities limited to less than statewide jurisdiction, except the governing body of a city or town;

(vi) "Party" means each person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party;

(vii) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, municipality, governmental subdivision or public or private organization of any character other than an agency;

(viii) "Registrar of rules" for state agency rules means the secretary of state. "Registrar of rules" for local agency rules means the county clerk of the county in which the rule is to be effective;

(ix) "Rule" means each agency statement of general applicability that implements, interprets and prescribes law, policy or ordinances of cities and towns, or describes the organization, procedures, or practice requirements of any agency. The term includes the amendment or repeal of a prior rule, but does not include:

(A) Statements concerning only the internal management of an agency and not affecting private rights or procedures available to the public; or

(B) Rulings issued pursuant to W.S. 16 3 106; or

(C) Intraagency memoranda; or

(D) Agency decisions and findings in contested cases; or

(E) Rules concerning the use of public roads or facilities which are indicated to the public by means of signs and signals; or

(F) Ordinances of cities and towns; or

(G) Designations under W.S. 9-2-3207(h)(i); or

(H) A general permit.

(x) "State agency" means any agency with statewide responsibilities;

(xi) "General permit" means a permit issued by the department of environmental quality which authorizes a category or categories of discharges or emissions;

(xii) "Internet" means as defined in W.S. 9-2-3219(a)(iii);

(xiii) "This act" means W.S. 16 3 101 through 16 3 115.

**16 3 102. General rulemaking requirements; assistance and authority of attorney general.**

(a) In addition to other rulemaking requirements imposed by law, each agency shall:

(i) Adopt rules of practice setting forth the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available in connection with contested cases;

(ii) Make available for public inspection all rules and all other written statements of policy or interpretations formulated, adopted or used by the agency in the discharge of its functions;

(iii) Make available for public inspection all final orders, decisions and opinions.

(b) No agency rule, order or decision is valid or effective against any person or party, nor may it be invoked by the agency for any purpose, until it has been filed with the registrar of rules and made available for public inspection as required by this act. This subsection does not apply to orders or decisions in favor of any person or party with actual knowledge of the rule, order or decision.

(c) In formulating rules of practice as required by this section, each agency may request the assistance of the attorney general and upon request the attorney general shall assist the agency or agencies in the preparation of rules of practice.

(d) The office of administrative hearings shall adopt uniform rules for the use of state agencies setting forth the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available in connection with contested cases.

(e) The attorney general may repeal administrative rules of a state agency in accordance with this act if the rules have become obsolete and no other existing agency has authority to repeal the rules.

**16 3 103. Adoption, amendment and repeal of rules; notice; hearing; emergency rules; proceedings to contest; review and approval by governor.**

(a) Prior to an agency's adoption, amendment or repeal of all rules other than interpretative rules or statements of general policy, the agency shall:

(i) Give at least forty five (45) days notice of its intended action. Notice shall be mailed to all persons making timely requests of the agency for advanced notice of its rulemaking proceedings and to the attorney general, the secretary of state's office as registrar of rules, and the legislative service office if a state agency. The agency shall submit a copy of the proposed rules, in a format conforming to any requirements prescribed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, with the notice given to the legislative service office. The notice shall include:

(A) The time when, the place where and the manner in which interested persons may present their views on the intended action;

(B) A statement of the terms and substance of the proposed rule or a description of the subjects and issues involved;

(C) If an amendment or a repeal, the citation to the agency rule to be amended or repealed;

(D) If new rules, a statement that they are new rules and a citation of the statute which authorizes adoption of the rules;

(E) The place where an interested person may obtain a copy of the proposed rules in a format conforming to any requirements prescribed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section;

(F) If the agency asserts that all or a portion of a rule is proposed to be adopted, amended or repealed in order for the state to comply with federal law or regulatory requirements:

(I) A statement that the adoption, amendment or repeal of the rule is required by federal law or regulation together with citations to the applicable federal law or regulation; and

(II) A statement whether the proposed rule change meets minimum federal requirements or whether the proposed rule change exceeds minimum federal requirements.

(G) A statement whether the proposed rule change meets minimum substantive state statutory requirements or whether the proposed rule change exceeds minimum substantive state statutory requirements. If the rule change exceeds minimum substantive state statutory requirements, the agency shall include a statement explaining the reason why the rule exceeds minimum substantive statutory requirements;

(H) A statement that the agency has complied with the requirements of W.S. 9 5 304 and the location where an interested person may obtain a copy of the assessment used to evaluate the proposed rule pursuant to W.S. 9 5 304;

(J) A concise statement of the principal reasons for adoption of the rule. In compliance with *Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. v. Environmental Quality Council*, 590 P.2d 1324 (Wyo. 1979), the statement shall include a brief explanation of the substance or terms of the rule and the basis and purpose of the rule;

(K) If a state agency is proposing a rule that differs from the uniform rules listed in subsection (j) of this section, a statement of the reasons for varying from the uniform rules.

(ii) Afford all interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit data, views or arguments, orally or in writing, provided this period shall consist of at least forty-five (45) days from the later of the dates specified under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, and provided:

(A) In the case of substantive rules, opportunity for oral hearing shall be granted if requested by twenty five (25) persons, or by a governmental subdivision, or by an association having not less than twenty five (25) members. No hearing under this subparagraph shall be conducted until at least forty five (45) days after the later of:

(I) The date notice of intended action is given under paragraph (i) of this subsection; or

(II) The date notice is published if publication is required by subsection (e) of this section.

(B) The agency shall consider fully all written and oral submissions respecting the proposed rule;

(C) If prior to final adoption any person objects to the accuracy of a statement made by the agency pursuant to W.S. 16 3 103(a)(i)(F)(I) or (II), the agency shall:

(I) Provide the objecting person with a written response explaining and substantiating the agency's position by reference to federal law or regulations; and

(II) Include with the final rules submitted for review to the governor and legislative service office a concise statement of the objection and the agency's response.

(D) Upon adoption of the rule, the agency, if requested to do so by an interested person, either prior to adoption or within thirty (30) days thereafter, shall issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for overruling the consideration urged against its adoption.

(iii) Comply with the requirements of W.S. 9 5 304.

(b) When an agency finds that an emergency requires the agency to proceed without notice or opportunity for hearing required by subsection (a) of this section, it may adopt emergency rules. An emergency rule is effective when filed. A state agency emergency rule shall bear the endorsement of the governor's concurrence on the finding of emergency before the registrar of rules accepts the rule for filing. The rule so adopted shall be effective for no longer than one hundred twenty (120) days but the adoption of an identical rule under W.S. 16 3 103(a) or of an emergency rule under this subsection is not precluded. In no case shall identical or substantially similar emergency rules be effective for a total period of more than two hundred forty (240) days. A local agency may proceed with the emergency rule when notice of the emergency is filed with the local registrar of rules.

(c) No rule is valid unless submitted, filed and adopted in substantial compliance with this section. A proceeding to contest any rule on the ground of noncompliance with the procedural requirements of this section must be commenced within two (2) years from the effective date of the rule.

(d) No state agency rule or any amendment, repeal, modification or revision of the rule may be filed with the registrar of rules unless the rule has been submitted to the governor for review and the governor has approved and signed the rule. Except in the case of emergency rules and rules adopted by the game and fish commission fixing general hunting or fishing regulations, season or bag limits or establishing hunting areas, the governor shall not approve any rule until the date of receipt of the legislative management council's recommendation under W.S. 28 9 106(a) or until forty (40) days after the rule is filed with the legislative service office pursuant to W.S. 28 9 103(b), whichever is sooner. During the process of approving rules, the governor may disapprove any portion of a rule not conforming to paragraphs (d)(i), (ii) or (iii) of this section by

clearly indicating the portion of the rule disapproved and the basis for the disapproval. Only those portions of a rule approved by the governor shall be filed with the registrar of rules as provided by W.S. 16-3-104(a). Any portion of a rule disapproved by the governor shall be returned to the agency and shall be null and void and shall not be filed, implemented or enforced. The governor shall report his disapproval of any rule or portion thereof to the management council within fifteen (15) days. The governor shall not approve any rule or any amendment, repeal, modification or revision of the rule unless it:

- (i) Is within the scope of the statutory authority delegated to the adopting agency;
- (ii) Appears to be within the scope of the legislative purpose of the statutory authority;  
and
- (iii) Has been adopted in compliance with the procedural requirements of this act. For the purposes of this subsection, an "agency" means any authority, bureau, board, commission, department, division, officer or employee of the state, excluding the state legislature and the judiciary.

(e) If a state agency created as a licensing or regulatory board or commission for any profession or occupation regulated under title 33 regularly publishes a newsletter, memorandum or other written or electronic communication which serves as a medium to provide information to members of the regulated profession or occupation, then in addition to the notice requirements of subsection (a) of this section, the agency shall publish within that medium the proposed rules in a format conforming to any requirements prescribed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. If the agency determines publication in such manner is not practicable, it shall publish within the chosen medium at least once prior to taking final action to adopt, amend or repeal any rule notice of its intended rulemaking proceedings and make available the full text of all proposed changes in the format conforming to any requirements prescribed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. This subsection shall not apply to emergency rules adopted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(f) The state registrar of rules shall prescribe a format for state agencies to follow in preparing proposed amendments to existing rules which shall ensure that additions to and deletions from existing language are clearly indicated.

(g) Upon receipt of a notice of intended action from a state agency under paragraph (a)(i) of this section, the secretary of state's office shall maintain a file of these notices and make them available for public inspection during regular business hours. A notice shall remain in the file until the rules are adopted or until the agency determines not to take action to adopt the proposed rules. To the extent that resources enable the office to do so, the secretary of state's office shall make these notices available to the public electronically. The secretary of state may promulgate rules specifying the format of notices submitted by state agencies under this subsection. Compliance with this subsection shall not affect the validity of rules promulgated by state agencies.

(h) An agency may incorporate, by reference in its rules and without publishing the incorporated matter in full, all or any part of a code, standard, rule or regulation that has been adopted by an agency of the United States or of this state, another state or by a nationally recognized organization or association, provided:

(i) The agency determines that incorporation of the full text in agency rules would be cumbersome or inefficient given the length or nature of the rules;

(ii) The reference in the rules of the incorporating agency fully identifies the incorporated matter by location, date and otherwise, and states that the rule does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter;

(iii) The agency, organization or association originally issuing the incorporated matter makes copies of it readily available to the public;

(iv) The incorporating agency maintains and makes available for public inspection a copy of the incorporated matter at cost from the agency and the rules of the incorporating agency state where the incorporated matter is available on the internet as defined in W.S. 9-2-3219(a)(iii); and

(v) The incorporating agency otherwise complies with all procedural requirements under this act and the rules of the registrar of state agency rules governing the promulgation and filing of agency rules.

(j) Each state agency shall adopt as much of the uniform rules promulgated pursuant to the following provisions as is consistent with the specific and distinct requirements of the agency and state or federal law governing or applicable to the agency:

(i) W.S. 16 3 102(d);

(ii) W.S. 16 4 204(e).

**16 3 104. Filing of copies of rules; permanent register; effective dates; manner of preparation; advice and assistance of attorney general.**

(a) Each agency shall file in the office of the registrar of rules a certified copy of each rule adopted by it as approved by the governor. State agencies shall file each rule within seventy-five (75) days of the date of agency action adopting the rule or it is not effective. There shall be noted upon the rule a citation of the authority by which it or any part of it was adopted. The registrar of rules shall keep a permanent register of the rules open to public inspection. Not more than ten (10) days after a state agency files a copy of a rule in the office of the registrar of rules, the agency shall mail a notice that the rule has been filed to each person who was sent a notice under W.S. 16 3 103(a)(i). The notice shall contain a citation to the rule and the date it



was filed. Failure to send the notice required under this subsection does not affect the effectiveness of the rule.

(b) Each rule and any amendment or repeal adopted after June 1, 1982 is effective after filing in accordance with subsection (a) of this section and W.S. 28 9 108 except:

(i) If a later date is required by statute or specified in the rule, the later date is the effective date;

(ii) Where the agency finds that an emergency exists and the finding is concurred in by the governor, a rule or amendment or repeal may be effective immediately upon filing with the registrar of rules and if a state agency, also with the legislative service office. Existing rules remain in effect unless amended or repealed, subject to this section or W.S. 28 9 105 or 28 9 106.

(c) Rules shall be prepared in the manner and form prescribed by the state registrar of rules. The registrar of rules may refuse to accept for filing any rule that does not conform to the prescribed form.

(d) The attorney general shall furnish advice and assistance to all state agencies in the preparation of their regulations, and in revising, codifying and editing existing or new regulations.

**16 3 105. Compilation and indexing of administrative code; charges for copies; authentication by registrar.**

(a) The registrar of state agency rules shall compile, index and publish a Wyoming administrative code. The code shall:

(i) Contain each rule adopted by a state agency, but shall not contain emergency rules;

(ii) Be compiled, numbered and indexed in a unified manner that permits the code to be easily amended and affords ease of use and accessibility to the public, including strong and effective word search capabilities;

(iii) Be available to the public at no charge through the Internet;

(iv) Be updated on the Internet as soon as practicable after the effective date of newly filed or amended rules.

(b) The registrar of state agency rules may make a reasonable charge for any rules published except those furnished to state officers, agencies, members of the legislature or the legislative service office and others in the employment of the state and its political subdivisions requiring

the rules in the performance of their duties. The registrar of local agency rules may make a reasonable charge for copies of any rule on file.

(c) The registrar's authenticated file stamp on a rule or publication of a rule shall raise a rebuttable presumption that the rule was adopted and filed in compliance with all requirements necessary to make it effective.

(d) The registrar of state agency rules shall maintain and publish a current index of all state agency rules filed with the registrar. The index shall list the effective date of each set of rules or the effective date of each set of amendments to an agency's rules. Copies of the index shall be distributed as provided by W.S. 16 3 105(b).

### **16 3 106. Petition for promulgation, amendment or repeal of rules.**

Any interested person may petition an agency requesting the promulgation, amendment or repeal of any rule and may accompany his petition with relevant data, views and arguments. Each agency may prescribe by rule the form of the petition and the procedure for its submission, consideration and disposition. Upon submission of a petition, the agency as soon as practicable either shall deny the petition in writing (stating its reasons for the denials) or initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with W.S. 16 3 103. The action of the agency in denying a petition is final and not subject to review.

## **Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures**

### **16 4 101. Short title.**

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures Act".

### **16 4 102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "AICPA" means the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

(ii) "Appropriation" means an allocation of money to be expended for a specific purpose;

(iii) "Budget" means a plan of financial operations for a fiscal year or two (2) fiscal years, embodying estimates of all proposed expenditures for given purposes, the proposed means of financing them and what the work or service is to accomplish. "Budget" includes the budget of each fund for which a budget is required by law and the collective budgets for all the funds based upon the functions, activities and projects;

- (iv) "Budget officer" means any official appointed by the governing body of a municipality and the county clerk in the case of counties;
- (v) "Budget year" means the fiscal year or years for which a budget is prepared;
- (vi) "Current year" means the fiscal year in which a budget is prepared and adopted for the ensuing budget year;
- (vii) "Department" means a functional unit within a fund which carries on a specific activity, such as a police department within a city general fund, the office of an elected county official or a major program category such as "instruction" in a school district fund;
- (viii) "Estimated revenue" means the amount of revenues estimated to be received during the budget year in each fund;
- (ix) "Financial and compliance audit" means the determination in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards:
- (A) Whether financial operations are properly conducted;
  - (B) Whether the financial reports of an audited entity are presented fairly; and
  - (C) Whether the entity has complied with applicable laws and regulations.
- (x) "Fiscal year" means the annual period for recording fiscal operations beginning July 1 and ending June 30;
- (xi) "Fund balance" means the excess of the assets over liabilities, reserves and contributions, as reflected by a municipality's books of account;
- (xii) "Fund deficit" means the excess of liabilities, reserves and contributions over fund assets, as reflected by a municipality's books of account;
- (xiii) "Independent auditors" means independent public accountants who have no personal interest in the financial affairs of the entity or in affairs of the officers of the entity being audited and who audit under the standards promulgated by the AICPA for state and local governments;
- (xiv) "Municipality" means:
- (A) All incorporated first class cities, towns having a population in excess of four thousand (4,000) inhabitants and all towns operating under the city manager form of government;

- (B) Counties;
- (C) School districts;
- (D) Community colleges.

(xv) "Proposed budget" means the budget presented for public hearing as required by W.S. 16 4 109 and formatted as required by W.S. 16 4 104(b);

(xvi) "Requested budget" means a budget presented by the budget officer to the governing body on or before May 15;

(xvii) "Unanticipated income" means income which is received during the budget year which could not reasonably have been expected to be available during the current budget year;

(xviii) "Unappropriated surplus" means the portion of the fund balance of a budgetary fund which has not been appropriated or reserved in an ensuing budget year;

(xix) "Uniform chart of accounts" means the chart of accounts designed for municipalities which have been approved by the director of the state department of audit;

(xx) "This act" means W.S. 16 4 101 through 16 4 125.

#### **16 4 103. Budget requirements.**

(a) Municipal budgets are required each fiscal year or every other year as provided for in W.S. 16 4 104(h) for all expenditures and funds of the municipalities.

(b) Intragovernmental and enterprise fund municipal budgets are required for adequate management control and for public information including financial statements of condition, work programs and any other costs as the municipal governing body may request. These fund accounts shall not be deemed to have spent amounts in excess of those budgeted when the funds available from all sources are sufficient to cover the additional operating expenditures which have been approved by the governing bodies.

#### **16 4 104. Preparation of budgets; contents; review; subsequent authorized projects.**

(a) All departments shall submit budget requests to the appropriate budget officer on or before May 1, except as provided for in subsection (h) of this section. On or before May 15, the budget officer shall prepare a requested budget for each fund and file the requested budget with the governing body, except as provided for in subsection (h) of this section. The requested

budget shall be prepared to best serve the municipality and county budget officers shall include all departmental requests. The governing body may amend the requested budget and the requested budget as amended shall be the budget proposed for adoption.

(b) The appropriate budget officer shall prepare a proposed budget for each fund and file the proposed budget with the governing body in a timely fashion allowing the governing body to meet the hearing date and notice requirements established by W.S. 16 4 109. The format of the proposed budget shall be prepared to best serve the municipality except that the budget formats for community colleges shall be uniform and approved by the community college commission and the director of the state department of audit. The proposed budget shall set forth:

- (i) Actual revenues and expenditures in the last completed budget year;
- (ii) Estimated total revenues and expenditures for the current budget year;
- (iii) The estimated available revenues and expenditures for the ensuing budget year.

(c) Each proposed and adopted budget shall contain the estimates of expenditures and revenues developed by the budget officer together with specific work programs and other supportive data as the governing body requests. The estimates of revenues shall contain estimates of all anticipated revenues from any source whatsoever including any revenues from state distribution of taxes including sales and use tax including any local optional sales and use tax, lodging tax, fuel tax, cigarette tax and severance tax, federal mineral royalties from the state, any mineral royalty grants from the state loan and investment board, and any local sources including business permits and building permits. The estimates shall be made according to budget year, including the difference from the previous budget year for each source.

(d) Each proposed and adopted budget shall be accompanied by a budget message in explanation of the budget. The budget message shall contain an outline of the proposed financial policies for the budget year and describe in connection therewith the important features of the budgetary plan. It shall also state the reasons for changes from the previous year in appropriation and revenue items and explain any major changes in financial policy.

(e) The proposed budget shall be reviewed and considered by the governing body in a regular or special meeting called for this purpose. Following a public hearing as provided in W.S. 16 4 109, the governing body shall adopt a budget.

(f) This act does not prevent the municipality from undertaking any project authorized by vote of the people after adoption of the budget.

(h) Any incorporated city or town may employ a two (2) year budget cycle and adopt a two (2) year budget under the following conditions:

(i) The two (2) year period shall begin with the city's or town's first fiscal year following a budget session of the legislature;

(ii) For the second year of the budget cycle, the budget officer shall prepare a budget adjustment that includes the original budget and any proposed changes in revenues and expenditures. The governing body shall consider and adopt the second year budget adjustment according to the same procedure that was used for the original two (2) year budget, including all public notices and hearings;

(iii) The city or town shall comply with all other provisions of this act. The requirements of this act may be performed on a biennial basis pursuant to this subsection unless this act specifies that the requirement be performed on a fiscal year or annual basis and the provision in which the requirement appears does not reference this subsection. Any other provision of law imposing reporting or other requirements upon a city or town on an annual or fiscal year basis shall not be affected by the adoption of a biennial year budget pursuant to this subsection unless the provision in which the requirement appears references this subsection.

**16 4 105. Accumulated retained earnings or fund surplus; capital improvements reserve.**

(a) A municipality may accumulate retained earnings in any enterprise or intragovernmental service fund or accumulate a fund surplus in any other fund. With respect to the general fund the accumulated fund balance may be used to meet any legal obligation of the municipality or to:

(i) Provide cash to finance expenditures from the beginning of the budget year until general property taxes and other revenues are collected;

(ii) Provide a reserve to meet emergency expenditures; or

(iii) Provide a reserve by the carryover from one (1) biennium to another of any surplus generated by community service and continuing education programs operated by community colleges.

(b) A municipality may appropriate funds from estimated revenue in any budget year to a reserve for capital improvements and for depreciation within any capital improvements fund, and for the purpose of purchasing or replacing specified equipment or a depreciation reserve for equipment, which has been duly established by ordinance. Money in the reserves may be allowed to accumulate from year to year until the accumulated total is sufficient to permit economical expenditure for the specified purposes. Disbursements from reserves shall be made only by transfer to a revenue account within a capital improvements fund pursuant to an appropriation for the fund. The amount appropriated to reserves under this subsection in any budget year shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the municipality's total revenues for that budget year.

(c) Expenditures from capital improvement or equipment budget accounts shall conform to all requirements of this act as it relates to the execution and control of budgets.

**16 4 106. Property tax levy.**

The amount of estimated revenue from property tax required by the budget shall constitute the basis for determination of the property tax to be levied for the corresponding tax years subject to legal limitations. The amount of tax shrinkage allowed shall not exceed the actual percentage of uncollected taxes to the total taxes levied for the preceding fiscal year or preceding two (2) fiscal years pursuant to W.S. 16 4 104(h). This section also applies to entities described in W.S. 16 4 125(c).

**16 4 107. Authorized purchases or encumbrances.**

All purchases or all encumbrances on behalf of any municipality shall be made or incurred only upon an order or approval of the person duly authorized to make such purchases except encumbrances or expenditures directly investigated and reported and approved by the governing body.

**16 4 108. Limitation on expenditures or encumbrances; documentation of expenditures.**

(a) No officer or employee of a municipality shall make any expenditure or encumbrance in excess of the total appropriation for any department. The budget officer shall report to the governing body any expenditure or encumbrance made in violation of this subsection.

(b) The expenditure of municipality monies, other than employee contract payments, may be authorized by the governing body when the payee has provided the municipality with an invoice or other document identifying the quantity and total cost per item or for the services rendered included on the invoice or other document and the claim is certified under penalty of perjury by the vendor or by an authorized person employed by the municipality receiving the items or for whom the services were rendered.

**16 4 109. Budget hearings.**

(a) A summary of the proposed budget shall be entered into the minutes and the governing body shall publish the summary at least one (1) week before the hearing date in a newspaper having general circulation in which the municipality is located, if there is one, otherwise by posting the notice in three (3) conspicuous places within the municipality.

(b) Hearings for county budgets shall be held not later than the third Monday in July, for city and town budgets not later than the third Tuesday in June, for school districts and community college districts not later than the third Wednesday in July. The governing board of each municipality shall arrange for and hold the hearings and provide accommodations for

interested persons. Copies of publications of hearings shall be furnished to the director of the state department of audit and school districts shall also furnish copies to the state department of education. This section also applies to entities described in W.S. 16 4 125(c) excluding incorporated towns not subject to this act.

**16 4 110. Limitation on appropriations.**

The governing body of a municipality shall not make any appropriation in the final budget of any fund in excess of the estimated expendable revenue of the fund for the budget year.

**16 4 111. Adoption of budget.**

(a) Within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the public hearing under W.S. 16 4 109(b), the governing body of each municipality shall, by resolution or ordinance, make the necessary appropriations and adopt the budget, which, subject to future amendment, shall be in effect for the next fiscal year or two (2) fiscal years pursuant to W.S. 16 4 104(h).

(b) Prior to adopting the budget, the county commissioners may veto, in whole or in part, line items of budgets presented by boards which were totally appointed by the county commissioners.

(c) Boards, the members of which are appointed by the county commissioners, shall expend funds only as authorized by the approved budget unless a departure from the budget is authorized by the board of county commissioners.

(d) As provided by W.S. 39 13 104(k), a copy of the adopted budget, certified by the budget officer, shall be furnished the county commissioners for the necessary property tax levies. Certified copies of the adopted budget shall be on file in the office of the budget officer for public inspection. Copies of school district budgets shall be furnished to the state department of education and copies of community college budgets shall be furnished to the community college commission. This section also applies to entities described in W.S. 16 4 125(c) excluding incorporated cities and towns under four thousand (4,000) inhabitants.

**16 4 112. Transfer of unencumbered or unexpended appropriation balances.**

At the request of the budget officer or upon its own motion after publication of notice, the governing body may by resolution transfer any unencumbered or unexpended appropriation balance or part thereof from one (1) fund, department or account to another.

**16 4 113. General fund budget increase.**

The budget of the general fund may be increased by resolution of the governing body. The source of the revenue shall be shown whether unanticipated, unappropriated surplus, donations, etc.



**16 4 114. Emergency expenditures.**

If the governing body determines an emergency exists and the expenditure of money in excess of the general fund budget is necessary, it may make the expenditures from revenues available under W.S. 16 4 105(a)(ii) as reasonably necessary to meet the emergency. Notice of the declaration of emergency shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality.

**16 4 115. Appropriations lapse; prior claims.**

All appropriations excluding appropriations for capital projects shall lapse following the close of the budget year to the extent they are not expended or encumbered. All claims incurred prior to the close of any fiscal year shall be treated as if properly encumbered.

**16 4 116. Transfer of special fund balances.**

If the necessity to maintain any special revenue or assessment fund ceases and there is a balance in the fund, the governing body shall authorize the transfer of the balance to the fund balance account in the general fund. Any balance which remains in a capital improvements or capital projects fund shall be transferred to the appropriate debt service fund or other fund as the bond ordinance requires or to the general fund balance account.

**16 4 117. Interfund loans.**

The governing body may authorize interfund loans from one (1) fund to another at interest rates and terms for repayment as it may prescribe and may invest available cash in any fund as provided by law.

**16 4 118. Special assessments.**

Money received by the municipal treasurer from any special assessment shall be applied towards payment of the improvement for which the assessment was approved. The money shall be used exclusively for the payment of the principal and interest on the bonds or other indebtedness incurred to finance the improvements except as provided in W.S. 16 4 116.

**16 4 119. Financial statements and reports; public inspection.**

(a) The budget officer shall present to the governing body the statement and reports provided by subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Appropriate interim financial statements and reports of financial position, operating results and other pertinent information may be prepared to facilitate management control of financial

operations and, where necessary or desired, for external reporting purposes as required by the governing body.

(c) All financial statements made pursuant to this section shall be open for public inspection during regular business hours.

**16 4 120. Prescribed accounting systems.**

(a) Each municipality shall maintain their accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(b) Each school district and community college shall continue to maintain the uniform system of accounting prescribed by the state department of education and the community college commission.

(c) Each county and special district hospital shall continue to maintain the uniform system of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and federal hospital regulations.

**16 4 121. Required annual audits; conduct; expenses; commencement and completion; additional requirements for school audits.**

(a) The governing body of each municipality shall cause to be made an annual audit of the financial affairs and transactions of all funds and activities of the municipality for each fiscal year. At the option of the governing body, audits may be made at more frequent intervals.

(b) The governing body shall make available all documents and records required to perform the audit upon request by the independent auditor.

(c) The audits shall be conducted by independent auditors in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as promulgated by the AICPA in their guidelines for audits of state and local government units. The audit procedures shall be performed in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards", issued by the comptroller general of the United States. Any audit performed shall comply with the requirements of W.S. 9 1 507.

(d) The expenses of audits required by this act shall be paid by the municipality for which the audit is made.

(e) The first audit shall commence with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1982 and thereafter at the end of each fiscal year. Except for school audits which shall be completed by November 15 following the end of the audited fiscal year, the audits shall be completed not more than six (6) months after the end of the fiscal year being audited. If within seven (7) months after the end of the fiscal year, a copy of an audit report has not been received by the director of the state department of audit, inquiry shall be made by the director. If the municipality has failed to

have an annual audit commenced, the director shall make written demand on the governing body to commence the annual audit within thirty (30) days. If the annual audit report of a municipality is not filed with the director within nine (9) months after the end of the fiscal year, the director shall contract with an independent auditor to conduct the audit and shall reimburse the independent auditor from sufficient state revenues and grants withheld from the municipality when certified by the director to the state treasurer, to pay the expenses of the audit. If there are no state funds which may be withheld, the director shall require the municipality to pay the audit expenses from any funds available and certify the amount to be collected to the attorney general for appropriate legal proceedings.

(g) Each year an audit shall be made in accordance with the requirements of subsection (c) of this section and a report filed for the immediately succeeding fiscal year as necessary to determine foundation program guarantees and account expenditures by school districts.

**16 4 122. Required annual audits; reports; contents and filing.**

(a) Audit reports shall conform to generally accepted accounting principles as provided by W.S. 16 4 121(c).

(b) Copies of the audit reports shall be filed with and preserved by the county clerk of each affected county and shall be open to inspection by any interested person. Copies of all audits shall also be filed with the director of the state department of audit. Copies of school audits shall also be filed with the state department of education on or before December 15 following the end of the audited fiscal year. Copies of community college audit findings shall also be filed with the community college commission and the state budget department as provided by W.S. 21-18-204.

**16 4 123. Examinations of audit reports; violations; malfeasance by public officers and employees.**

(a) The director of the state department of audit shall monitor and may examine each audit to determine if the audit is in compliance with this act. The director shall have access to the working papers of the auditor. If the director determines an audit is not in compliance with this act, he shall notify the governing body of the municipality and the auditor submitting the audit report and in the case of a school district audit, the state department of education, by submitting to them a statement of deficiencies. If the deficiencies are not corrected within ninety (90) days from the date of the statement of deficiencies or within twelve (12) months after the end of the fiscal year of the municipality, whichever is later, the director shall proceed in the same manner as if no report had been filed.

(b) If the director of the state department of audit, in examining any audit report, finds an indication of violation of state law, he shall, after making an investigation as deemed necessary, consult with the attorney general, and if after investigation and consultation there is reason to

believe there has been a violation of state law on the part of any person, the facts shall be certified to the attorney general who shall cause appropriate proceedings to be brought.

(c) If it appears an auditor has knowingly issued an audit report under the provisions of this act containing any false or misleading statement, the director of the state department of audit shall report the matter in writing to the Wyoming board of certified public accountants and to the municipality.

(d) Any member of the governing body or any member, officer, employee or agent of any department, board, commission or other agency who knowingly and willfully fails to perform any of the duties imposed upon him by this act, or who knowingly and willfully violates any of the provisions of this act, or who knowingly and willfully furnishes to the auditor or his employee any false or fraudulent information is guilty of malfeasance and, upon conviction thereof, the court shall enter judgment to remove the person from office or employment. It is the duty of the court rendering the judgment to cause immediate notice of removal from office or employment to be given to the proper officer of the municipality so the vacancy thus caused may be filled.

(e) The director of the state department of audit shall report willful violations of this act by any municipal officer to the attorney general for appropriate criminal and civil proceedings. The county or district attorney shall furnish assistance to the attorney general when requested.

**16 4 124. Payment of expenses to conventions or meetings; required specific appropriation; violation.**

It is unlawful for any board of county commissioners or any town or city council to allow or pay out of the county or city funds, any bill for expenses incurred by any county officer or representative of the county, or of any municipal officer, representative or employee incurred while attending any convention or meeting of any peace officers or other convention or meeting of officers, employees or representatives either within or without the state of Wyoming, unless the adopted budget for the city, town or county provides for the payment of actual expense of any officer while attending meetings or conventions within or without the state of Wyoming and then only after the city or town council or board of county commissioners, as the case may be, shall specifically appropriate for those purposes. Any person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than thirty (30) days, nor more than ninety (90) days, or both.

**16 4 125. Fiscal year for governmental entities; budget format for certain entities not subject to the Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures Act.**

(a) The fiscal year for all governmental entities within this state, no matter how formed, shall commence on July 1 in each year, except as otherwise specifically provided or authorized by law.

(c) Incorporated towns not subject to the Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures Act and public entities receiving funds from a municipality as defined by W.S. 16 4 102(a)(xiv), shall prepare budgets in a format acceptable to the director of the state department of audit.

## **Public Records**

**16 4 201. Definitions; short title; designation of ombudsman.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Custodian" means the official custodian or any authorized person having personal custody and control of the public records in question;

(ii) "Official custodian" means any officer or employee of a governmental entity, who is responsible for the maintenance, care and keeping of public records, regardless of whether the records are in his actual personal custody and control;

(iii) "Person in interest" means the person who is the subject of a record or any representative designated by the person, except if the subject of the record is under legal disability or is the dependent high school student of his parents, "person in interest" means the parent or duly appointed legal representative;

(iv) "Political subdivision" means every county, city and county, city, incorporated and unincorporated town, school district and special district within the state;

(v) "Public records" when not otherwise specified includes any information in a physical form created, accepted, or obtained by a governmental entity in furtherance of its official function and transaction of public business which is not privileged or confidential by law. Without limiting the foregoing, the term "public records" includes any written communication or other information, whether in paper, electronic, or other physical form, received by a governmental entity in furtherance of the transaction of public business of the governmental entity, whether at a meeting or outside a meeting. Electronic communications solely between students attending a school in Wyoming and electronic communications solely between students attending a school in Wyoming and a sender or recipient using a nonschool user address are not a public record of that school. As used in this paragraph, a "school in Wyoming" means the University of

Wyoming, any community college and any public school within a school district in the state;

(vi) Public records shall be classified as follows:

(A) "Official public records" includes all original vouchers, receipts and other documents necessary to isolate and prove the validity of every transaction relating to the receipt, use and disposition of all public property and public income from all sources whatsoever; all agreements and contracts to which a governmental entity is a party; all fidelity, surety and performance bonds; all claims filed against a governmental entity; all records or documents required by law to be filed with or kept by a governmental entity of Wyoming; and all other documents or records determined by the records committee to be official public records;

(B) "Office files and memoranda" includes all records, correspondence, exhibits, books, booklets, drawings, maps, blank forms, or documents not defined and classified in subparagraph (A) of this subsection as official public records; all duplicate copies of official public records filed with any governmental entity; all documents and reports made for the internal administration of the office to which they pertain but not required by law to be filed or kept with the office; and all other documents or records, determined by the records committee to be office files and memoranda.

(viii) "This act" means W.S. 16 4 201 through 16 4 205;

(ix) "Application" means a written request for a public record. However, a designated public records person may in his discretion deem a verbal request to be an application;

(x) "Information" means opinions, facts, or data of any kind and in whatever physical form kept or maintained, including, but not limited to, written, aural, visual, electronic or other physical form;

(xi) "Peace officer recording" means any audio or video data recorded by a peace officer, as defined in W.S. 6 1 104(a)(vi), on a camera or other device which is:

(A) Provided to or used by the peace officer in the course of the officer performing official business; and

(B) Designed to be worn on the peace officer's body or attached to a vehicle, as defined in W.S. 6 1 104(a)(xi), used by the officer.

(xii) "Designated public records person" means the person designated as required by W.S. 16-4-202(e) or that person's designee;

(xiii) "Governmental entity" means the state of Wyoming, an agency, political subdivision or state institution of Wyoming;

(xiv) "Ombudsman" means the person designated by the governor as required by subsection (c) of this section.

(b) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Public Records Act."

(c) The governor shall designate an ombudsman for purposes of this act. The ombudsman shall:

(i) Receive complaints as provided under this act;

(ii) Upon request of either party, mediate disputes between a governmental entity and an applicant for a public record;

(iii) Keep confidential all records submitted by a governmental entity;

(iv) Provide uniform interpretation and training on the ombudsman's role and recommendations under this act to governmental entities and the general public;

(v) Have other authority and duties as provided in this act.

**16 4 202. Right of inspection; rules and regulations; unavailability; training.**

(a) All public records shall be open for inspection by any person at reasonable times, during business hours of the governmental entity, except as provided in this act or as otherwise provided by law, but the governmental entity may make rules and regulations with reference to the inspection of the records as is reasonably necessary for the protection of the records and the prevention of unnecessary interference with the regular discharge of the duties of the governmental entity. All applications for public records shall be made to the designated public records person.

(b) If the public records requested are not in the custody or control of the governmental entity to whom application is made, the designated public records person shall notify the applicant within seven (7) business days from the date of acknowledged receipt of the request of the unavailability of the records sought and provide the name and contact information of the appropriate designated public records person if known.

(c) If the public records requested are in the custody and control of the governmental entity to whom application is made, the following shall apply:

(i) If the records are in active use or in storage, and therefore not available at the time an applicant asks to examine them, the designated public records person shall

immediately forward the request to the custodian or authorized person having personal custody and control of the public records and shall notify the applicant of this situation within seven (7) business days from the date of acknowledged receipt of the request;

(ii) If a public record is readily available, it shall be released immediately to the applicant so long as the release does not impair or impede the governmental entity's ability to discharge its other duties;

(iii) All public records shall be released not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of acknowledged receipt of the request unless good cause exists preventing release as authorized by paragraph (iv) of this subsection;

(iv) If good cause exists preventing release within the time period specified in paragraph (iii) of this subsection, the public records shall be released on a specified date mutually agreed to by the applicant and the governmental entity. If a release date cannot be agreed upon, the applicant may file a complaint with the ombudsman as provided by paragraph (v) of this subsection;

(v) The applicant may at any time file a complaint with an ombudsman designated by the governor or may petition the district court for a determination as to whether the custodian has demonstrated good cause. In determining whether good cause existed, the ombudsman or district court may consider whether the records are privileged or confidential by law or whether release of the records impairs or impedes the governmental entity's ability to discharge its other duties. The ombudsman or the district court shall review the records in camera and determine whether redaction of privileged or confidential information would permit release of the records.

(d) If a public record exists primarily or solely in an electronic format, the custodian of the record shall so inform the requester. Electronic record inspection and copying shall be subject to the following:

(i) The reasonable costs of producing a copy of the public record shall be borne by the party making the request. The costs may include the cost of producing a copy of the public record and the cost of constructing the record, including the cost of programming and computer services;

(ii) A governmental entity shall provide an electronic record, if requested, in alternative electronic file types unless doing so is impractical or impossible;

(iii) A governmental entity shall not be required to compile data, extract data or create a new document to comply with an electronic record request;

(iv) A governmental entity shall not be required to allow inspection or copying of a record in its electronic format if doing so would jeopardize or compromise the security



or integrity of the original record or of any proprietary software in which it is maintained;

(v) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the governor from enacting any rules pursuant to his authority under W.S. 19-13-104(c)(i).

(e) Each governmental entity shall designate a person to receive all applications for public records. The designated public records person shall be an employee, officer, contractor or agent of the governmental entity. The governmental entity shall submit the name, business email address and business mailing address of the designated public records person to the department of administration and information for publication on the department of administration and information official website. The designated public records person shall serve as a point of contact between the governmental entity and applicants seeking public records.

**16 4 203. Right of inspection; grounds for denial; access of news media; order permitting or restricting disclosure; exceptions.**

(a) The custodian of any public records shall allow any person the right of inspection of the records or any portion thereof except on one (1) or more of the following grounds or as provided in subsection (b) or (d) of this section:

(i) The inspection would be contrary to any state statute;

(ii) The inspection would be contrary to any federal statute or regulation issued thereunder having the force and effect of law; or

(iii) The inspection is prohibited by rules promulgated by the supreme court or by the order of any court of record.

(b) The custodian may deny the right of inspection of the following records, unless otherwise provided by law, on the ground that disclosure to the applicant would be contrary to the public interest:

(i) Records of investigations conducted by, or of intelligence information or security procedures of, any sheriff, county attorney, city attorney, the attorney general, the state auditor, police department or any investigatory files compiled for any other law enforcement or prosecution purposes;

(ii) Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data pertaining to administration of a licensing examination and examination for employment or academic examination. Written promotional examinations and the scores or results thereof shall be available for inspection, but not copying or reproduction, by the person in interest after the examination has been conducted and graded;

(iii) The specific details of bona fide research projects being conducted by a governmental entity or any other person;

(iv) Except as otherwise provided by Wyoming statutes or for the owner of the property, the contents of real estate appraisals made for the governmental entity, relative to the acquisition of property or any interest in property for public use, until such time as title of the property or property interest has passed to the governmental entity. The contents of the appraisal shall be available to the owner of the property or property interest at any time;

(v) Interagency or intraagency memoranda or letters which would not be available by law to a private party in litigation with the agency;

(vi) To the extent that the inspection would jeopardize the security of any structure owned, leased or operated by a governmental entity, facilitate the planning of a terrorist attack or endanger the life or physical safety of an individual, including:

(A) Vulnerability assessments, specific tactics, emergency procedures or security procedures contained in plans or procedures designed to prevent or respond to terrorist attacks or other security threats;

(B) Building plans, blueprints, schematic drawings, diagrams, operational manuals or other records that reveal the building's or structure's internal layout, specific location, life and safety and support systems, structural elements, surveillance techniques, alarms, security systems or technologies, operational and transportation plans or protocols, personnel deployments for airports and other mass transit facilities, bridges, tunnels, emergency response facilities or structures, buildings where hazardous materials are stored, arenas, stadiums and waste and water systems;

(C) Records of any other building or structure owned, leased or operated by a governmental entity that reveal the building's or structure's life and safety systems, surveillance techniques, alarm or security systems or technologies, operational and evacuation plans or protocols or personnel deployments; and

(D) Records prepared to prevent or respond to terrorist attacks or other security threats identifying or describing the name, location, pharmaceutical cache, contents, capacity, equipment, physical features, or capabilities of individual medical facilities, storage facilities or laboratories established, maintained, or regulated by a governmental entity.

(c) If the right of inspection of any record falling within any of the classifications listed in this section is allowed to any officer or employee of any newspaper, radio station, television station

or other person or agency in the business of public dissemination of news or current events, it may be allowed to all news media.

(d) The custodian shall deny the right of inspection of the following records, unless otherwise provided by law:

(iii) Personnel files except those files shall be available to the duly elected and appointed officials who supervise the work of the person in interest. Applications, performance ratings and scholastic achievement data shall be available only to the person in interest and to the duly elected and appointed officials who supervise his work. Employment contracts, working agreements or other documents setting forth the terms and conditions of employment of public officials and employees are not considered part of a personnel file and shall be available for public inspection;

(iv) Letters of reference;

(vi) Library, archives and museum material contributed by private persons, to the extent of any limitations placed thereon as conditions of the contributions;

(viii) School district records containing information relating to the biography, family, physiology, religion, academic achievement and physical or mental ability of any student except to the person in interest or to the officials duly elected and appointed to supervise him;

(ix) Library patron transaction and registration records except as required for administration of the library or except as requested by a custodial parent or guardian to inspect the records of his minor child;

(x) Information obtained through a 911 emergency telephone system or through a verification system for motor vehicle insurance or bond as provided under W.S. 31 4 103(e) except to law enforcement personnel or public agencies for the purpose of conducting official business, to the person in interest, or pursuant to a court order;

(xi) Records or information compiled solely for purposes of investigating violations of, and enforcing, internal personnel rules or personnel policies the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(xii) Information regarding the design, elements and components, and location of state information technology security systems and physical security systems;

(xvi) Except as required in a contested case hearing, any individual records involved in any workers' compensation claim, however information derived from these documents may be released if sufficiently aggregated or redacted so that the persons or entities involved cannot be identified individually;

(xviii) Information obtained through a peace officer recording provided that:

(A) The custodian shall allow the right of inspection to law enforcement personnel or public agencies for the purpose of conducting official business or pursuant to a court order;

(B) The custodian may allow the right of inspection:

(I) To the person in interest;

(II) If the information involves an incident of deadly force or serious bodily injury as defined in W.S. 6 1 104(a)(x);

(III) In response to a complaint against a law enforcement personnel and the custodian of the information determines inspection is not contrary to the public interest;

(IV) In the interest of public safety.

(e) If the custodian denies access to any public record, the applicant may request a written statement of the grounds for the denial. The statement shall cite the law or regulation under which access is denied and shall be furnished to the applicant.

(f) Any person aggrieved by the failure of a governmental entity to release records on the specified date mutually agreed upon pursuant to W.S. 16-4-202(c)(iv) or by the failure of a governmental entity to comply with an order of the ombudsman pursuant to W.S. 16-4-202(c)(v) may:

(i) Apply to the district court of the district wherein the record is found for an order to direct the custodian of the record to show cause why he should not permit the inspection of the record and to compel production of the record if applicable. An order issued by the district court under this paragraph may waive any fees charged by the state governmental entity;

(ii) File a complaint with the ombudsman who may:

(A) Mediate disputes between the governmental entity and the person;

(B) Prescribe timelines for release of the records;

(C) Waive any fees charged by the governmental entity.

(g) If, in the opinion of the official custodian of any public record, disclosure of the contents of the record would do substantial injury to the public interest, notwithstanding the fact that the record might otherwise be available to public inspection, he may apply to the district court of the district in which the record is located for an order permitting him to restrict disclosure. After hearing, the court may issue an order upon a finding that disclosure would cause substantial injury to the public interest. The person seeking permission to examine the record shall have notice of the hearing served upon him in the manner provided for service of process by the Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure and has the right to appear and be heard.

**16 4 204. Right of inspection; copies, printouts or photographs; fees.**

(a) In all cases in which a person has the right to inspect and copy any public records he may request that he be furnished copies, printouts or photographs for a reasonable fee to be set by the official custodian. Where fees for certified copies or other copies, printouts or photographs of the record are specifically prescribed by law, the specific fees shall apply. Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing a fee to be charged as a condition of making a public record available for inspection.

(b) If the custodian does not have the facilities for making copies, printouts or photographs of records which the applicant has the right to inspect, then the applicant shall be granted access to the records for the purpose of making copies, printouts or photographs. The copies, printouts or photographs shall be made while the records are in the possession, custody and control of the custodian thereof and are subject to the supervision of the custodian. When practical the copy work shall be made in the place where the records are kept, but if it is impractical to do so, the custodian may allow arrangements to be made for this purpose. If other facilities are necessary the cost of providing them shall be paid by the person desiring a copy, printout or photograph of the records. The official custodian may establish a reasonable schedule of time for making copies, printouts or photographs and may charge a reasonable fee for the services rendered by him or his deputy in supervising the copying, printing out or photographing as he may charge for furnishing copies under this section.

(c) After July 1, 2003, any fees or charges assessed by a custodian of a public record shall first be authorized by duly enacted or adopted statute, rule, resolution, ordinance, executive order or other like authority.

(d) All state agencies may adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act establishing reasonable fees and charges that may be assessed for the costs and services set forth in this section.

(e) The department of administration and information shall adopt uniform rules for the use of state agencies establishing procedures, fees, costs and charges for inspection, copies and production of public records under W.S. 16 4 202(d)(i), 16 4 203(h)(i) and 16 4 204.

#### **16 4 205. Penalties; remedies.**

Any person who knowingly or intentionally violates the provisions of this act is liable for a penalty not to exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00). The penalty may be recovered in a civil action and damages may be assessed by the court.

## **Records Retention**

#### **9 2 401. Definitions.**

(a) As used in W.S. 9 2 401 through 9 2 415:

- (ii) "Department" means the department of state parks and cultural resources;
- (iii) "Director" means the director of the department;
- (iv) "Political subdivision" means a county, municipality, special district or other local government entity;
- (v) "Public record" includes the original and all copies of any paper, correspondence, form, book, photograph, photostat, film, microfilm, scan, sound recording, map, drawing or other document, regardless of physical, digital or electronic form or characteristics, which have been made or received in transacting public business by the state, a political subdivision or an agency of the state;
- (vi) "Commission" means the Wyoming parks and cultural resources commission.

#### **9 2 405. Classifications of public records.**

(a) Public records shall be classified as follows:

- (i) Official public records include:
  - (A) All original vouchers, receipts and other documents necessary to isolate and prove the validity of every transaction relating to the receipt, use and disposition of all public property and public income from all sources whatsoever;
  - (B) All agreements and contracts to which the state or any agency or political subdivision thereof is a party;
  - (C) All fidelity, surety and performance bonds in which the state is a beneficiary;

(D) All claims filed against the state or any agency or political subdivision thereof;

(E) All records or documents required by law to be filed with or kept by any agency of the state; and

(F) All other documents or records determined by the records committee to be official public records.

(ii) Office files and memoranda include:

(A) All records, correspondence, exhibits, books, booklets, drawings, maps, blank forms or documents not defined and classified as official public records;

(B) All duplicate copies of official public records filed with any agency of the state or political subdivision thereof;

(C) All documents and reports made for the internal administration of the office to which they pertain but not required by law to be filed or kept with the agency; and

(D) All other documents or records determined by the records committee to be office files and memoranda.

**9 2 406. Director; management of public records.**

(a) The director shall properly manage and safely keep all public records in his custody, and administer the state archives. He shall:

(i) Manage the archives of the state;

(ii) Centralize the archives of the state to make them available for reference and scholarship and to insure their proper preservation;

(iii) Inspect, inventory, catalog and arrange retention and transfer schedules on all record files of all state departments and other agencies of state government;

(iv) Maintain and secure all state public records and establish safeguards against unauthorized removal or destruction;

(v) Establish and operate state record centers for preserving, servicing, screening and protecting all state public records which must be preserved temporarily or permanently, but which need not be retained in office space and equipment. Centers established and

operated pursuant to this paragraph may include one (1) or more digital repositories for temporary or permanent digital records;

(vi) Gather and disseminate to interested agencies information on all phases of records management and current practices, methods, procedures and devices for efficient and economical management of records;

(vii) Establish and operate a state imaging center in which all public records may be scanned or microfilmed. The center shall scan or microfilm public records approved by the head of the office of origin and by the director. All state departments, agencies and political subdivisions thereof shall consult with the director prior to scanning or microfilming within the departments, agencies or political subdivisions and shall comply with the standards for all scanning and microfilming which shall be established by the state archives. The center may scan or microfilm records which are required to be kept a specified length of time or permanently, or to be destroyed by specific methods or under specific supervision. When records are scanned or microfilmed, the reproductions may be substituted for the original documents and retained in lieu of the original documents and the original documents may be destroyed. One (1) copy shall be made and sent to the director whenever any process is used to reproduce public records scheduled for permanent retention with the intent of disposing of the original or copies of the original;

(viii) Maintain necessary facilities for the review of records approved for destruction and their economical disposition by any method approved by the records committee, and supervise the destruction of public records.

**9 2 407. Director; duties regarding public records in his custody.**

(a) The director shall collect, arrange and make available to the public at reasonable times in his office in original or reproduced form, all records in his custody not restricted by law, including official records of the state and its political subdivisions, of the United States or of foreign nations. He is the legal custodian of all public records in the custody of the commission.

(b) The director may designate an employee of the department to serve as state archivist who may perform all the duties of the director under this act with respect to state records and archives. The director shall furnish certified copies or photocopies of records in his custody on payment in advance of fees prescribed by the department. Copies of public records transferred pursuant to law from the office of their origin to the custody of the director when certified under seal by the director to be true, complete and correct have the same legal force and effect as evidence as if certified by their original custodian, and shall be admissible in all courts and before all tribunals the same as the originals thereof.

(c) The director has the right of reasonable access to and may examine all public records in Wyoming. He shall examine into and report to the commission on their condition. He shall



require their custodians to put them in the custody and condition prescribed by law and to secure their custody, the recovery of records belonging to their offices, the delivery of records to their successors in office and the adoption of sound practices relative to the long term preservation of records.

**9 2 408. Transfer of public records to archives; transfer of records of uncollectible accounts receivable to department; duties of department thereto.**

(a) All public records, not required in the current operation of the office where they are made or kept, and all records of every public office of the state, agency, commission, committee or any other activity of the state or political subdivisions which are abolished or discontinued, shall be transferred to the state archives. The transfer of records shall be in accordance with standards and procedures issued by the records committee and subject to an agreement that ensures the safety, preservation and public availability of the records. Any public officer in Wyoming may deliver to the director for preservation and administration records in his custody if the director is willing and able to receive and care for them.

**9 2 409. Designation of records officer by state departments or agencies; duties.**

Each department or agency of the state government shall designate a records officer who shall supervise the departmental records program, review record retention schedules and represent the office in all departmental matters before the records committee. The records officer and the director shall prepare transfer schedules for the transfer of public records to the records centers or to the archives.

**9 2 410. Records as property of state; delivery by outgoing officials and employees to successors; management and disposition thereof.**

All public records are the property of the state. They shall be delivered by outgoing officials and employees to their successors and shall be preserved, stored, transferred, destroyed or disposed of, and otherwise managed, only in accordance with W.S. 9 2 405 through 9 2 413.

**9 2 411. Records committee created; composition; expenses; meetings; action by majority vote; duties as to retention and disposition of public records.**

The records committee is created to be composed of the director or his deputy, who shall act as chairman and secretary of the committee, the attorney general or his appointee and the director of the state department of audit or his appointee. Committee members shall serve without additional salary, but shall be entitled to traveling expenses incurred incident to committee business. Expenses shall be paid from the appropriations made for operation of their respective departments or offices. The records committee shall meet upon call by the chairman at least once every quarter. Action by the committee shall be by majority vote and records shall be kept of all committee business. When the disposition of records is considered by the records committee, it shall ascertain the recommendations of the head of the

department or the departmental records officer. The records committee shall approve, modify or disapprove the recommendations on retention schedules of all public records and act upon requests to destroy any public records. Any modification of a request or recommendation shall be approved by the head of the agency originating the request or recommendation. The department shall provide forms, approved by the records committee, upon which it shall prepare recommendations to the committee in cooperation with the records officer of the department or other agency whose records are involved. The records committee may issue to state departments, agencies and political subdivisions thereof guidelines and best practices on records management and digital preservation.

**9 2 412. Destruction or disposition of public records; procedure.**

Public records of the state and political subdivisions shall be disposed of in accordance with W.S. 9 2 411. The records committee may approve a departmental written request upon proper and satisfactory showing that the retention of certain records for a minimum period of ten (10) years is unnecessary and uneconomical. Recommendations for the destruction or disposition of office files and memoranda shall be submitted to the records committee upon approved forms, prepared by the records officer of the agency concerned and the director. The committee shall determine the period of time that any office file or memorandum shall be preserved and may authorize the state archives to arrange for its destruction or disposition.

**9 2 413. Reproduction of public records of political subdivisions.**

(a) Subject to this section and with the approval of the governing body of the political subdivision, any department, agency, board or individual of any political subdivision may record or copy by any permanent reproductive process approved by the director as required in subsection (c) of this section any public record which the department, agency, board or individual of the political subdivision records, keeps, retains, or is by law, rule or regulation required to record, keep or retain for a period of years or permanently. The permanent reproduction is deemed the original or official copy of the public record so reproduced for all purposes. If any department, agency, board or individual of any political subdivision is required to record any writing or document in books or on other forms, recording done directly onto a permanent storage medium in lieu of the other required form of recordation constitutes compliance with the requirement. One (1) copy shall be made and sent to the director whenever any process is used to reproduce public records with the intent of disposing of the original or copies of the original. One (1) copy of all permanent reproductions shall be retained by the governmental entity or officer having custody of the writings or papers thus recorded or copied as the official copy.

(b) If any document is presented for recording or notation in public records the document shall, after recording, be returned to the party from whom it was received. If the party cannot be located or refuses to accept it, the document shall be disposed of in accordance with W.S. 9 2 411.

(c) Prior to adopting any reproductive process, the governing body of a political subdivision shall consult with the director. If any of the public records which are reproduced pursuant to this section are permanent records or, under the laws, rules or regulations in effect at the time of reproduction, are required to be transferred at a later date to any agency or department of the state, the reproductive process shall be approved by the director as one which clearly and accurately makes copies that will last the time they are to be kept, or can be subsequently reproduced without distortions that substantially affect their legibility.

(d) If the original documents are disposed of as allowed by law, the permanent reproduction retained by the local governmental entity or official shall be stored in a safe place and protected from destruction. Reproductions shall be available to the public for inspection in the same manner as the original documents would have been, and sufficient access shall be available to the public to permit inspection.

(e) The clerk of district court shall not reproduce, for official record purposes, the files of any action or proceeding kept in his office until two (2) years have lapsed since the initial filing in the action or proceeding. The clerk of district court may make certified or other copies of documents in his office for individuals or officials.

(f) In recording, reproducing or copying any public records as authorized by this section and in disposing of the originals or copies, no restrictions or provisions of law regarding recording, reproducing or copying, or the disposition of originals or copies inconsistent with this section apply to the governmental entity or its officers, agents and employees.

## **Public Meetings**

### **16 4 401. Statement of purpose.**

The agencies of Wyoming exist to conduct public business. Certain deliberations and actions shall be taken openly as provided in this act.

### **16 4 402. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Action" means the transaction of official business of an agency including a collective decision, a collective commitment or promise to make a positive or negative decision, or an actual vote upon a motion, proposal, resolution, regulation, rule, order or ordinance at a meeting;

(ii) "Agency" means any authority, bureau, board, commission, committee, or subagency of the state, a county, a municipality or other political subdivision which is created by or pursuant to the Wyoming constitution, statute or ordinance, other than

the state legislature, the judiciary, the consensus revenue estimating group as defined in W.S. 9 2 1002 and the investment funds committee created by W.S. 9 4 720;

(iii) "Meeting" means an assembly of at least a quorum of the governing body of an agency which has been called by proper authority of the agency for the expressed purpose of discussion, deliberation, presentation of information or taking action regarding public business;

(iv) "Assembly" means communicating in person, by means of telephone or electronic communication, or in any other manner such that all participating members are able to communicate with each other contemporaneously;

(v) "This act" means W.S. 16 4 401 through 16 4 408.

**16 4 403. Meetings to be open; participation by public; minutes.**

(a) All meetings of the governing body of an agency are public meetings, open to the public at all times, except as otherwise provided. No action of a governing body of an agency shall be taken except during a public meeting following notice of the meeting in accordance with this act. Action taken at a meeting not in conformity with this act is null and void and not merely voidable.

(b) A member of the public is not required as a condition of attendance at any meeting to register his name, to supply information, to complete a questionnaire, or fulfill any other condition precedent to his attendance. A person seeking recognition at the meeting may be required to give his name and affiliation.

(c) Minutes of a meeting:

(i) Are required to be recorded but not published from meetings when no action is taken by the governing body;

(ii) Are not required to be recorded or published for day-to-day administrative activities of an agency or its officers or employees.

(d) No meeting shall be conducted by electronic means or any other form of communication that does not permit the public to hear, read or otherwise discern meeting discussion contemporaneously. Communications outside a meeting, including, but not limited to, sequential communications among members of an agency, shall not be used to circumvent the purpose of this act.

**16 4 404. Types of meetings; notice; recess.**

(a) In the absence of a statutory requirement, the governing body of an agency shall provide by ordinance, resolution, bylaws or rule for holding regular meetings unless the agency's normal business does not require regular meetings in which case the agency shall provide notice of its next meeting to any person who requests notice. A request for notice may be made for future meetings of an agency. The request shall be in writing and renewed annually to the agency.

(b) Special meetings may be called by the presiding officer of a governing body by giving verbal, electronic or written notice of the meeting to each member of the governing body and to each newspaper of general circulation, radio or television station requesting the notice. The notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted and shall be issued at least eight (8) hours prior to the commencement of the meeting. No other business shall be considered at a special meeting. Proof of delivery of verbal notice to the newspaper of general circulation, radio or television station may be made by affidavit of the clerk or other employee or officer of the agency charged or responsible for distribution of the notice of the meeting.

(c) The governing body of an agency may recess any regular, special, or recessed regular or special meeting to a place and at a time specified in an order of recess. A copy of the order of recess shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the meeting or recessed meeting was held.

(d) The governing body of an agency may hold an emergency meeting on matters of serious immediate concern to take temporary action without notice. Reasonable effort shall be made to offer public notice. All action taken at an emergency meeting is of a temporary nature and in order to become permanent shall be reconsidered and acted upon at an open public meeting within forty-eight (48) hours, excluding weekends and holidays, unless the event constituting the emergency continues to exist after forty-eight (48) hours. In such case the governing body may reconsider and act upon the temporary action at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the agency, but in no event later than thirty (30) days from the date of the emergency action.

(e) Day-to-day administrative activities of an agency, its officers and its employees shall not be subject to the notice requirements of this section.

**16 4 405. Executive sessions.**

(a) A governing body of an agency may hold executive sessions not open to the public:

(i) With the attorney general, county attorney, district attorney, city attorney, sheriff, chief of police or their respective deputies, or other officers of the law, on matters posing a threat to the security of public or private property, or a threat to the public's right of access;

(ii) To consider the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public officer, professional person or employee, or to hear complaints or charges brought against an employee, professional person or officer, unless the employee, professional person or officer requests a public hearing. The governing body may exclude from any public or private hearing during the examination of a witness, any or all other witnesses in the matter being investigated. Following the hearing or executive session, the governing body may deliberate on its decision in executive sessions;

(iii) On matters concerning litigation to which the governing body is a party or proposed litigation to which the governing body may be a party;

(iv) On matters of national security;

(v) When the agency is a licensing agency while preparing, administering or grading examinations;

(vi) When considering and acting upon the determination of the term, parole or release of an individual from a correctional or penal institution;

(vii) To consider the selection of a site or the purchase of real estate when the publicity regarding the consideration would cause a likelihood of an increase in price;

(viii) To consider acceptance of gifts, donations and bequests which the donor has requested in writing be kept confidential;

(ix) To consider or receive any information classified as confidential by law;

(x) To consider accepting or tendering offers concerning wages, salaries, benefits and terms of employment during all negotiations including meetings of the state loan and investment board to receive education regarding and to interview investment managers;

(xi) To consider suspensions, expulsions or other disciplinary action in connection with any student as provided by law;

(xii) To consider, discuss and conduct safety and security planning that, if disclosed, would pose a threat to the safety of life or property.

(b) Minutes shall be maintained of any executive session. Except for those parts of minutes of an executive session reflecting a members' objection to the executive session as being in violation of this act, minutes and proceedings of executive sessions shall be confidential and produced only in response to a valid court order.

(c) Unless a different procedure or vote is otherwise specified by law, an executive session may be held only pursuant to a motion that is duly seconded and carried by majority vote of the members of the governing body in attendance when the motion is made. A motion to hold an executive session which specifies any of the reasons set forth in paragraphs (a)(i) through (xii) of this section shall be sufficient notice of the issue to be considered in an executive session.

**16 4 406. Disruption of public meetings.**

If any public meeting is willfully disrupted by a person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible, and order cannot be restored by the removal of the person or persons who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the governing body of an agency may order the removal of the person or group from the meeting room and continue in session, or may recess the meeting and reconvene at another location. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be acted upon in a meeting recessed to another location. A governing body of an agency shall establish procedures for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for disturbing the conduct of a meeting. Duly accredited members of the press or other news media except those who participated in a disturbance shall be allowed to attend any meeting permitted by this section.

**16 4 407. Conflict of law.**

If the provisions of this act conflict with any other statute, the provisions of this act shall control.

**16 4 408. Penalty.**

(a) Any member or members of an agency who knowingly or intentionally violate the provisions of this act shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) except as provided in this subsection. Any member of the governing body of an agency who attends or remains at a meeting knowing the meeting is in violation of this act shall be liable under this subsection unless minutes were taken during the meeting and the parts thereof recording the member's objections are made public or at the next regular public meeting the member objects to the meeting where the violation occurred and asks that the objection be recorded in the minutes.

(b) If any action is prohibited both by this act and any provision of title 6, the provisions of this act shall not apply and the provisions of title 6 shall apply.

## **Public Contracting**

**6 5 401. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Governmental entity" means any unit of state or local government or any branch, subdivision or agency thereof or any school district or special district;

(ii) "Kickback" means any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, thing of value or compensation of any kind that is provided, directly or indirectly, to any public official, public servant, prime contractor, prime contractor employee, subcontractor or subcontractor employee for the purpose of improperly obtaining or rewarding favorable treatment in connection with a prime contract or in connection with a subcontract relating to a prime contract;

(iii) "Prime contractor" means any person who has entered into a public contract;

(iv) "Prime contractor employee" means any officer, partner, employee or agent of a prime contractor;

(v) "Public contract" means any contract for goods, services or construction awarded to any person with or without bid by any governmental entity, regardless of any procedures for the bid or contract process that are required by law;

(vi) "Public officer" means as defined by W.S. 6-5-101(a)(v);

(vii) "Public servant" means as defined by W.S. 6-5-101(a)(vi);

(viii) "Subcontract" means a contract or contractual action entered into by a prime contractor or subcontractor for the purpose of obtaining goods, services or construction of any kind under a public contract;

(ix) "Subcontractor" means any person, except for the prime contractor, who offers to furnish or furnishes any goods, services or construction of any kind under a public contract or a subcontract entered into in connection with a public contract.

"Subcontractor" shall include any person who offers to furnish or furnishes goods, services or construction to the prime contractor or a higher-tier subcontractor;

(x) "Subcontractor employee" means any officer, partner, employee or agent of a subcontractor.

#### **6 5 402. Bid rigging; penalties; prohibitions.**

(a) A person commits bid rigging when he knowingly conspires with any other person who is or would be a competitor to any submitted or not submitted bid to a governmental entity with the intent that the bid submitted or not submitted will result in the award of a public contract to the person or to another person and the person:



(i) Provides the other person or receives from the other person or another person information concerning the price or a material term of any bid that would otherwise not be disclosed to a competitor in an independent, non-collusive submission of bids; or

(ii) Submits a bid that is of such price or other material term that he does not intend the bid to be accepted.

**6 5 403. Bid rotating; penalties; prohibitions.**

(a) A person commits bid rotating when, pursuant to any collusive scheme, plan or agreement with another, he engages in a pattern of submitting sealed bids to governmental entities with the intent that the award of those bids rotates or is distributed among persons that submit bids on a substantial number of the same or similar public contracts. For purposes of this subsection, a pattern of submitting sealed bids shall include not less than three (3) contract bids within a period of ten (10) years.

**6 5 404. Acquisition or disclosure of bidding information by a public servant.**

(a) A public servant who knowingly opens a sealed bid at a time or place other than that designated in the invitation to bid or as otherwise provided for by state law or local ordinance, or who knowingly opens a bid outside of the presence of witnesses if required by state law or local ordinance, is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

(b) Any public servant who knowingly discloses to any interested person any information related to the terms of a sealed bid, except when the information is obtained as provided by law or if the disclosure is necessary to the public servant's responsibilities relating to the bid, is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both. This subsection shall not apply to any public servant who makes any disclosure of information related to a sealed bid when that disclosure would otherwise be made available to the public upon request.

(c) This section shall apply only to public contracts for which sealed bids are submitted.

**6 5 405. Interference with contract submission and award by a public servant.**

(a) A public servant who knowingly conveys, either directly or indirectly and outside of the publicly available official invitation to bid or pre-qualify to bid or solicitation for contracts, any information concerning the specifications for a contract or the identity of any specific potential prime contractors or subcontractors, when disclosure of that information is intended to influence the likelihood of acceptance of a bid or offer, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both. This subsection shall not apply to a public servant who conveys

information intended to clarify plans or specifications regarding a public contract where disclosure of that information is also made available to the public upon request.

(b) A public servant who, either directly or indirectly, knowingly informs a bidder or offeror that the bid or offer will be accepted or executed only if specified persons are included as subcontractors is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

(c) Any public servant who knowingly awards a public contract based on criteria that were not publicly disseminated via an invitation to bid that is published pursuant to law, a pre-bid or pre-qualification conference or any other lawful procedure for soliciting contracts is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both. This subsection shall not apply to any public servant who provides a person a copy of the transcript or other summary of any pre-bid or pre-qualification conference where the transcript or summary would otherwise be made available to the public upon request.

(d) This section shall apply only to public contracts for which sealed bids are submitted.

**6 5 406. Kickbacks; penalties; civil action.**

(a) A person is guilty of providing or accepting kickbacks when he knowingly:

(i) Provides, attempts to provide or offers to provide any kickback;

(ii) Solicits, accepts or attempts to accept any kickback; or

(iii) Includes, either directly or indirectly, the amount of any kickback in the contract price charged by a subcontractor to a prime contractor or a higher-tier subcontractor or includes, either directly or indirectly, in the contract price the amount of any kickback in the contract price charged by a prime contractor to a governmental entity for a public contract.

(b) Providing or accepting kickbacks is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

(c) A governmental entity may file a civil action to recover a civil penalty of two (2) times the amount of each kickback from any person who knowingly engages in conduct prohibited by paragraph (a)(iii) of this section. This subsection shall not be construed to limit any governmental entity from seeking to recover damages as authorized by any other law. A civil action shall not be commenced under this subsection after six (6) years of the later of the date on which:

(i) The conduct establishing the civil action occurred; or

(ii) The governmental entity knew or should have known that the conduct establishing the civil action occurred.

**6 5 407. Bribery of an inspector employed by a contractor.**

(a) A person commits bribery of an inspector when:

(i) He offers to any person any property or other thing of value with the intent to obtain a wrongful certification or approval of the quality or completion of any goods, services or construction supplied or performed in the course of performing the obligations of a public contract; or

(ii) He is employed by a prime contractor or subcontractor to work pursuant to a public contract and he accepts any property or other thing of value knowing that the property or thing of value was intentionally offered for the purpose of influencing the certification or approval of the quality or completion of any goods, services or construction supplied or performed under a subcontract and he issues a wrongful certification.

**6 5 408. Prohibitions for bidding.**

(a) Any person convicted of any offense under this article or of any substantially similar offense under federal law or the laws of another state shall be barred for three (3) years from the date of conviction from contracting with any governmental entity.

(b) No partnership, company or corporation shall be barred under this section if an employee of the partnership, company or corporation is convicted under this section if the employee is no longer employed by the partnership, company or corporation and the partnership, company or corporation:

(i) Has been found not guilty or the case against the partnership, company or corporation has been dismissed if charged under this section; or

(ii) Demonstrates to the satisfaction of the governmental entity with which it seeks to contract that the employee's offense was not authorized, requested, commanded or performed by a director or officer of the partnership, company or corporation.

# Buildings

## PUBLIC FACILITY LIFE-CYCLE COST ANALYSES

### 16 6 401. Definitions.

(a) As used in W.S. 16 6 401 through 16 6 403:

(i) "Economic life" means the projected or anticipated useful life of a major facility as expressed by a term of years;

(ii) "Energy consumption analysis" means the evaluation of all energy systems and components by demand and type of energy including the internal energy load imposed on a major facility by its occupants, equipment and components, and the external energy load imposed on a major facility by the climatic conditions of its location. The energy consumption projections shall take into account daily and seasonal variations in energy system output during normal operations;

(iii) "Energy systems" means all utilities, including heating, air conditioning, ventilating, lighting and the supplying of domestic hot water;

(iv) "Initial cost" means the monies required for the capital construction or renovation of a major facility;

(v) "Life-cycle cost analysis" means a study to compute life-cycle costs, as required in this act;

(vi) "Life cycle cost" means the cost of a major facility including its initial cost, the cost of the energy consumed over its economic life and the cost of its operation and maintenance;

(vii) "Major facility" means any publicly owned building having eighteen thousand (18,000) square feet or more of gross floor area;

(viii) "Public agency" means every state office, officer, board, commission, committee, bureau, department and all political subdivisions of the state; and

(ix) "Renovation" means revision to a major facility which will affect more than fifty percent (50%) of the gross floor area in the building.

### 16 6 402. Computation of life cycle costs.

(a) Life cycle costs shall be the sum of:

- (i) Initial cost;
  - (ii) The reasonably expected fuel costs over the life of the building based on the energy consumption analysis; and
  - (iii) The reasonable costs of maintenance and operation as they pertain to energy systems.
- (b) Life cycle costs shall be computed for two (2) or more alternatives for construction of the facility.

**16 6 403. Life cycle cost analyses.**

Public agencies shall, prior to the construction or renovation of any major facility, include in the design phase a provision requiring that life cycle cost analyses be prepared for two (2) or more alternatives for the construction of the facility. These life cycle cost analyses shall be available to the public. The life cycle costs shall be a consideration in the selection of a building design by a public agency.

## ACCESSIBILITY OF HANDICAPPED TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS

**16 6 501. Building plans and specifications; required facilities; elevators; curb ramps; inspections; exceptions.**

- (a) The plans and specifications for the construction of or additions to all buildings for general public use built by the state or any governmental subdivision, school district or other public administrative body within the state, shall provide facilities and features conforming with the specifications set forth in the accessibility and supplemental accessibility requirements of the 2012 edition of the International Building Code.
- (b) Every curb or sidewalk to be constructed or reconstructed in Wyoming, where both are provided and intended for public use, whether constructed with public or private funds, shall provide a ramp at points of intersection between pedestrian and motorized lines of travel and no less than two (2) curb ramps per lineal block. Design for curb ramps shall be designed in accordance with the current Americans With Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines.
- (c) Except as provided in this subsection, the state fire marshal or city engineer, or their designee, shall inspect any structure described in subsection (a) of this section at the request of any person. Curb ramps shall be inspected by the city at the request of any person and shall be modified or reconstructed by the contracting authority to meet the requirements of W.S. 16 6 501 through 16 6 504.
- (d) Exceptions for good cause may be granted by the state fire marshal for any structure described in subsection (a) of this section or by the city for curb ramps.

**16 6 502. Building plans and specifications; state fire marshal; review and approval.**

All plans and specifications for the construction of or additions to buildings for general public use, built by the state or any governmental subdivision, school district or other public administrative body within this state, shall be submitted for review and approval by the state fire marshal, who shall approve if he finds the plans provide facilities which conform to the specifications set forth in the accessibility and supplemental accessibility requirements of the 2012 edition of the International Building Code.

## **Protection and Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

**35 13 201. Generally; service and assistance animals.**

(a) Any blind, visually impaired, deaf, hearing impaired person or other person with a disability, subject to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons:

(i) Has the same right as an able bodied person to the full and free use of the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways, public buildings, public facilities and other public places;

(ii) Shall be afforded full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of any place of public accommodation and any other place to which the general public is invited; and

(iii) Shall not be discriminated against in the leasing or rental of apartments and other private residential property because of his disability.

(b) Any blind, visually impaired, deaf, hearing impaired person or other person with a disability may be accompanied by a service animal in any facility of a public entity in accordance with 28 C.F.R. 35.136 and any place of public accommodation in accordance with 28 C.F.R. 36.302(c).

(c) A person shall not be discriminated against in the leasing or rental of residential property because the person has an assistance animal, which shall be permitted in leased or rented residential property in accordance with the federal Fair Housing Act. The person shall be liable for any damage done by his assistance animal to the premises or facilities of the leased or rented residential property.

(d) A public accommodation, or any agent or employee thereof, that permits a service animal or an animal believed in good faith to be a service animal in its place of public accommodation is not liable for any damage or injury caused by the animal.

**35 13 202. Drivers to take precautions; liability.**

The driver of a vehicle approaching a blind, partially blind, deaf or hearing impaired pedestrian carrying a cane predominantly white or chrome metallic in color or using a guide dog shall take all necessary precautions to avoid injury to the pedestrian. Any driver failing to take these precautions is liable in damages for any injury caused the pedestrian.

**35 13 203. Interfering with rights; misrepresentation of a service or assistance animal; penalties.**

(a) Any person denying or interfering with admittance to or enjoyment of any place or facility referenced in W.S. 35 13 201(a) through (c) or otherwise interfering with the rights of the blind, partially blind, deaf, hearing impaired person or other person with a disability is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00).

(b) Any person who knowingly and intentionally misrepresents that an animal is a service animal or an assistance animal for the purpose of obtaining any of the rights or privileges set forth in this article is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00).

**35 13 205. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(ii) "Person with a disability" means an individual who has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one (1) or more major life activities;

(iii) "Major life activities" means functions associated with the normal activities of independent daily living such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing or speaking;

(iv) "Assistance animal" means an animal that works, provides assistance or performs tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, or provides emotional support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability;

(v) "Place of public accommodation" means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 36.104;

(vi) "Public accommodation" means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 36.104;

(vii) "Public entity" means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 35.104;

(viii) "Service animal" means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 35.104 and 28 C.F.R. 36.104 and includes service miniature horses pursuant to 28 C.F.R. 35.136 and 28 C.F.R. 36.302(c).

**35 13 206. Injuring or killing a service or assistance animal prohibited; penalties.**

(a) Any person who knowingly, willfully and without lawful cause or justification inflicts, or permits or directs any animal under his control or ownership to inflict, serious bodily harm, permanent disability or death upon any service animal or assistance animal is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both.

(b) A court shall order a defendant convicted of an offense under subsection (a) of this section to make restitution to the owner of the service animal or assistance animal for:

- (i) Related veterinary or medical bills;
- (ii) The cost of replacing the service animal or assistance animal or retraining an injured service animal or assistance animal; and
- (iii) Any other expense reasonably incurred as a result of the offense.

## **Public Health and Safety**

**35 4 903. Prescription of epinephrine auto-injector or opiate antagonist.**

(a) A practitioner or a pharmacist acting in good faith and exercising reasonable care may, without a prescriber-patient relationship, prescribe an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist to:

- (i) A person at risk of experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose;
- (ii) A person in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose;
- (iii) A person who, in the course of the person's official duties or business, may encounter a person experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose.

(b) A practitioner or pharmacist who prescribes an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist under this article shall provide education to the person to whom the epinephrine auto-injector or opiate antagonist is prescribed, which shall include written instruction on how to:

- (i) Recognize anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose;



(ii) Respond appropriately to an anaphylaxis or opiate related drug overdose event, including how to administer epinephrine through use of an epinephrine auto-injector or administer an opiate antagonist;

(iii) Ensure that a person to whom epinephrine or an opiate antagonist has been administered receives, as soon as possible, additional medical care and a medical evaluation.

**35 4 904. Standing order for epinephrine auto-injector or opiate antagonist; anaphylaxis and drug overdose treatment policy; rules.**

(a) A practitioner acting in good faith and exercising reasonable care may prescribe by a standing order an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist to an entity that, in the course of the entity's official duties or business, may be in a position to assist a person experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose.

(b) An entity prescribed an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist by standing order shall establish an anaphylaxis or a drug overdose treatment policy in accordance with rules adopted by the department of health. The anaphylaxis or drug overdose treatment policy shall:

(i) Provide for the designation of individuals to receive training and instructional materials on how to recognize and respond to anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose and ensure that a person to whom epinephrine or an opiate antagonist has been administered receives additional medical care and a medical evaluation;

(ii) Provide for reporting to the department of health, in the manner and form prescribed by the department, all anaphylaxis events or opiate related drug overdoses for which epinephrine or an opiate antagonist is administered under this article.

(c) The Wyoming state board of medicine and the Wyoming state board of nursing may adopt rules as necessary to implement and administer prescription of an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist by a standing order.

**35 4 905. Voluntary participation.**

This article does not establish a duty or standard of care for a person to prescribe or administer epinephrine, through use of an epinephrine auto-injector, or an opiate antagonist.

**35 4 906. Administration of an epinephrine auto-injector or opiate antagonist; immunity from liability; exemption from unprofessional conduct; relation to other law.**

(a) A person acting in good faith may administer epinephrine through use of an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist to another person who appears to be experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose.

(b) A person who administers epinephrine through use of an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist pursuant to this article is personally immune from civil or criminal liability for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury.

(c) A practitioner or pharmacist who prescribes an epinephrine auto-injector or opiate antagonist pursuant to this article is personally immune from civil or criminal liability for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury.

(d) An entity that establishes an anaphylaxis or drug overdose treatment policy pursuant to this article is immune from civil or criminal liability for any act or omission related to the administration of epinephrine through use of an epinephrine auto-injector or an opiate antagonist resulting in damage or injury.

(e) Prescribing an epinephrine auto-injector or opiate antagonist by a practitioner or pharmacist pursuant to this article shall not constitute unprofessional conduct.

(f) Should any grant of immunity, exception or imposition of liability within the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act conflict with any provision of this article, this article shall prevail.

## **Employment**

### **DISCRIMINATION**

#### **27 9 105. Discriminatory and unfair employment practices enumerated; limitations.**

(a) It is a discriminatory or unfair employment practice:

(i) For an employer to refuse to hire, to discharge, to promote or demote, or to discriminate in matters of compensation or the terms, conditions or privileges of employment against, a qualified disabled person or any person otherwise qualified, because of age, sex, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry or pregnancy;

(ii) For a person, an employment agency, a labor organization, or its employees or members, to discriminate in matters of employment or membership against any person, otherwise qualified, because of age, sex, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry or pregnancy, or a qualified disabled person;

(iii) For an employer to reduce the wage of any employee to comply with this chapter;

(iv) For an employer to require as a condition of employment that any employee or prospective employee use or refrain from using tobacco products outside the course of his employment, or otherwise to discriminate against any person in matters of

compensation or the terms, conditions or privileges of employment on the basis of use or nonuse of tobacco products outside the course of his employment unless it is a bona fide occupational qualification that a person not use tobacco products outside the workplace. Nothing within this paragraph shall prohibit an employer from offering, imposing or having in effect a health, disability or life insurance policy distinguishing between employees for type or price of coverage based upon the use or nonuse of tobacco products if:

(A) Differential rates assessed employees reflect an actual differential cost to the employer; and

(B) Employers provide written notice to employees setting forth the differential rates imposed by insurance carriers.

(b) The prohibitions against discrimination based on age in this section apply only to persons at least forty (40) years of age.

(c) It is not a discriminatory practice for an employer, employment agency or labor organization to observe the terms of a bona fide seniority system or any bona fide employee benefit plan such as a retirement, pension or insurance plan, which is not a subterfuge to evade the purposes of this chapter, except that no employee benefit plan shall excuse the failure to hire any individual, and no seniority system or employee benefit plan shall require or permit involuntary retirement of any individual protected under this chapter because of age. Involuntary retirement is not prohibited if permitted under Title 29, United States Code § 631(c).

(d) As used in this section "qualified disabled person" means a disabled person who is capable of performing a particular job, or who would be capable of performing a particular job with reasonable accommodation to his disability.

**27 9 106. Filing of complaint; determination; appeal for hearing.**

(a) Any person claiming to be aggrieved by a discriminatory or unfair employment practice may, personally or through his attorney, make, sign and file with the department within six (6) months of the alleged violation a verified, written complaint in duplicate which shall state the name and address of the person, employer, employment agency or labor organization alleged to have committed the discriminatory or unfair employment practice, and which shall set forth the particulars of the claim and contain other information as shall be required by the department. The department shall investigate to determine the validity of the charges and issue a determination thereupon.

(k) If the employer, employment agency, labor organization or employee is aggrieved by the department's determination, the aggrieved party may request a fair hearing. The fair hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(m) The department shall issue an order within fourteen (14) days of the decision being rendered, requiring the employer, employment agency or labor organization to comply with the hearing officer's decision. If the employer, employment agency or labor organization does not timely appeal or comply with the order within thirty (30) days, the department may petition the appropriate district court for enforcement of the order.

(n) Where the hearing officer determines that the employer, employment agency or labor organization has engaged in any discriminatory or unfair employment practice as defined in this chapter, the hearing officer's decision may:

(i) Require the employer, employment agency or labor organization to cease and desist from the discriminatory or unfair practice;

(ii) Require remedial action which may include hiring, retaining, reinstating or upgrading of employees, referring of applications for employment by a respondent employment agency or the restoration to membership by a respondent labor organization;

(iii) Require the posting of notices, the making of reports as to the manner of compliance and any other relief that the hearing officer deems necessary and appropriate to make the complainant whole; or

(iv) Require the employer, employment agency or labor organization to pay backpay or front pay.

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

### **27 11 102. Declaration of policy.**

(a) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state of Wyoming, that the primary purposes of this act are:

(i) That the prevention of accidents and occupational diseases and abiding by rules and regulations are the responsibility of both the employer and the employee;

(ii) To help and assist employers and employees in accident and occupational disease prevention through educational means, which shall be made available to all industries, businesses, employees, employee groups and associations;

(iii) The commission shall furnish consultant services on development of safety programs, procedures and training services for employees, supervisors and groups;

(iv) Commission members and its employees shall be neutral in labor management relations in carrying out the provisions of this act;

(v) Enforcement shall be used only to obtain compliance with the act and the rules and regulations established by the commission;

(vi) It is also the purpose of this act to include everyone who works in private or public employment or is self employed; except that in the case of self employed persons in agriculture, its purpose shall be limited to education.

**27 11 103. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Commission" means the occupational health and safety commission;

(ii) "Department" means the department of workforce services of the state of Wyoming;

(iii) "Employee" means a person permitted to work by an employer in employment;

(iv) "Employer" means any individual or organization including the state and all its political subdivisions, which has in its employ one (1) or more individuals performing services for it in employment;

(v) "Employment" means all services for pay under a contract of hire;

(vi) "Party" means each person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party;

(vii) "Person" means an individual, governmental agency, partnership, association, corporation, business, trust, receiver, trustee, legal representative or successor to any of the foregoing;

(viii) "Place of employment" means plant, premises, or any other place where directed by the employer or about which an employee is permitted to work;

(ix) "This act" means W.S. 27 11 101 through 27 11 114.

**27 11 105. Occupational health and safety commission; powers and duties of commission and department.**

(a) The department, in consultation with the commission, has the powers and is hereby charged with the duties:

(ii) To develop and formulate, a comprehensive program for the prevention, control and abatement of unsafe and unhealthy working conditions and to direct state agencies and their staffs to compile statistics, do research, do investigation and any other duties where practical, possible and not inconsistent with the purposes of this act;

(iii) To assure that all agencies and their staffs shall comply with directives of the commission in regard to occupational health and safety;

(vii) To promote accident prevention and occupational disease prevention programs and to provide consultative and educational assistance;

(x) To select or give emphasis to those areas and segments of the business and industrial community which need the concentrated attention and assistance of the commission and its employees;

(xvi) To institute or cause to be instituted appropriate civil or criminal actions to enforce the provisions of this act and the rules and regulations promulgated under this act.

(b) The commission has the following powers and duties:

(vi) To require the employer to be charged with the following duties:

(A) Each employer shall furnish to his employees, a place of employment and employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or that are likely to cause death or serious physical harm;

(B) Each employer shall comply with occupational safety and health standards, rules, regulations and orders issued pursuant to this act.

(vii) To require the employee to be charged with the following duty, each employee shall comply with occupational safety and health standards and all rules, regulations and orders issued pursuant to this act which are applicable to his own actions and conduct.

## WORKER'S COMPENSATION

### **27 14 101. Short title; statement of intent.**

(b) It is the intent of the legislature in creating the Wyoming worker's compensation division that the laws administered by it to provide a worker's benefit system be interpreted to assure the quick and efficient delivery of indemnity and medical benefits to injured and disabled workers at a reasonable cost to the employers who are subject to the Worker's Compensation Act. It is the specific intent of the legislature that benefit claims cases be decided on their merits and that the common law rule of "liberal construction" based on the supposed "remedial" basis of workers' benefits legislation shall not apply in these cases. The worker's

benefit system in Wyoming is based on a mutual renunciation of common law rights and defenses by employers and employees alike. Accordingly, the legislature declares that the Worker's Compensation Act is not remedial in any sense and is not to be given a broad liberal construction in favor of any party.

## VACCINATIONS

### **9 14 103. COVID-19 vaccine mandate; prohibitions.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "COVID-19" means as defined by W.S. 1-1-141(a)(ii);

(ii) "COVID-19 vaccination" means any vaccine that is marketed to prevent COVID-19 or any vaccine that is marketed to diminish or decrease the symptoms of COVID-19;

(iii) "Public entity" means as defined by W.S. 16-6-101(a)(viii) except that "public entity" does not include an entity receiving federal funding that by complying with subsection (b) of this section would lose that federal funding.

(b) No public entity shall enforce any mandate or standard of the federal government, whether emergency, temporary or permanent, that requires an employer to ensure or mandate that an employee shall receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, to the extent that this section conflicts with a federal law, regulation, rule, standard or order, subsection (b) of this section shall not be enforced after the federal law, regulation, rule, standard or order takes legal effect that requires Wyoming employers to comply with a federal COVID-19 vaccine requirement or mandate.

(d) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, subsection (b) of this section shall be enforceable during any period in which the federal law, regulation, rule, standard or order is subject to a federal judicial stay applicable in Wyoming or is otherwise repealed, withdrawn, superseded or declared by a federal court of competent jurisdiction to be unlawful or unenforceable.

## Children

### **14 1 101. Age of majority; rights on emancipation.**

(a) Upon becoming eighteen (18) years of age, an individual reaches the age of majority and as an adult acquires all rights and responsibilities granted or imposed by statute or common law, except as otherwise provided by law.

**14 1 201. Definitions. [Emancipation of Minors]**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Emancipation" means conferral of certain rights of majority upon a minor as provided under this article and includes a minor who:

(A) Is or was married;

(B) Is in the military service of the United States; or

(C) Has received a declaration of emancipation pursuant to W.S. 14 1 203.

(ii) "Minor" means an individual under the age of majority defined by W.S. 14 1 101(a);

(iii) "Parent" means the legal guardian or custodian of the minor, his natural parent or if the minor has been legally adopted, the adoptive parent;

**14 1 202. Application for emancipation decree; effect of decree.**

(a) Upon written application of a minor under jurisdiction of the court and notwithstanding any other provision of law, a district court may enter a decree of emancipation in accordance with this act. In addition to W.S. 14 1 101(b), the decree shall only:

(i) Recognize the minor as an adult for purposes of:

(A) Entering into a binding contract;

(B) Suing and being sued;

(C) Buying or selling real property;

(D) Establishing a residence;

(E) The criminal laws of this state.

**14 1 206. Emancipated minor subject to adult criminal jurisdiction.**

An emancipated minor is subject to jurisdiction of adult courts for all criminal offenses.

**14 3 205. Child abuse or neglect; persons required to report.**

(a) Any person who knows or has reasonable cause to believe or suspect that a child has been abused or neglected or who observes any child being subjected to conditions or circumstances



that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, shall immediately report it to the child protective agency or local law enforcement agency or cause a report to be made. The fact a child, who is at least sixteen (16) years of age, is homeless as defined in W.S. 14-1-102(d) shall not, in and of itself, constitute a sufficient basis for reporting neglect. Female genital mutilation under W.S. 6-2-502(a)(v) when the victim is a minor shall be considered child abuse for mandatory reporting under this section.

(b) If a person reporting child abuse or neglect is a member of the staff of a medical or other public or private institution, school, facility or agency, he shall notify the person in charge or his designated agent as soon as possible, who is thereupon also responsible to make the report or cause the report to be made. Nothing in this subsection is intended to relieve individuals of their obligation to report on their own behalf unless a report has already been made or will be made.

(c) Any employer, public or private, who discharges, suspends, disciplines or penalizes an employee solely for making a report of neglect or abuse under W.S. 14 3 201 through 14 3 215 is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both.

(d) Any person who knowingly and intentionally makes a false report of child abuse or neglect, or who encourages or coerces another person to make a false report of child abuse or neglect, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both.

**6 2 503. Child abuse; penalty.**

(a) A person who is not responsible for a child's welfare as defined by W.S. 14 3 202(a)(i), is guilty of child abuse, a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, if:

(i) The actor is an adult or is at least six (6) years older than the victim; and

(ii) The actor intentionally or recklessly inflicts upon a child under the age of sixteen (16) years:

(A) Physical injury as defined in W.S. 14 3 202(a)(ii)(B);

(B) Mental injury as defined in W.S. 14 3 202(a)(ii)(A); or

(C) Torture or cruel confinement.

(b) A person is guilty of child abuse, a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, if a person responsible for a child's welfare as defined in W.S. 14 3 202(a)(i) intentionally or recklessly inflicts upon a child under the age of eighteen (18) years:

(i) Physical injury as defined in W.S. 14 3 202(a)(ii)(B), excluding reasonable corporal punishment;

(ii) Mental injury as defined in W.S. 14 3 202(a)(ii)(A); or

(iii) Torture or cruel confinement.

(c) Aggravated child abuse is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than twenty five (25) years if in the course of committing the crime of child abuse, as defined in subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the person intentionally or recklessly inflicts serious bodily injury upon the victim or the person intentionally inflicts substantial mental or emotional injury upon the victim by the torture or cruel confinement of the victim.

**6 2 314. Sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree; penalties.**

(a) An actor commits the crime of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree if:

(i) Being sixteen (16) years of age or older, the actor inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim who is less than thirteen (13) years of age;

(ii) Being eighteen (18) years of age or older, the actor inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim who is less than eighteen (18) years of age, and the actor is the victim's legal guardian or an individual specified in W.S. 6 4 402;

(iii) Being eighteen (18) years of age or older, the actor inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim who is less than sixteen (16) years of age and the actor occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim.

**6 2 315. Sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree; penalties.**

(a) Except under circumstance constituting sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree as defined by W.S. 6 2 314, an actor commits the crime of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree if:

(i) Being seventeen (17) years of age or older, the actor inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim who is thirteen (13) through fifteen (15) years of age, and the victim is at least four (4) years younger than the actor;

(ii) Being sixteen (16) years of age or older, the actor engages in sexual contact of a victim who is less than thirteen (13) years of age;

(iii) Being eighteen (18) years of age or older, the actor engages in sexual contact with a victim who is less than eighteen (18) years of age and the actor is the victim's legal guardian or an individual specified in W.S. 6 4 402; or

(iv) Being eighteen (18) years of age or older, the actor engages in sexual contact with a victim who is less than sixteen (16) years of age and the actor occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim.

**6 2 316. Sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree.**

(a) Except under circumstance constituting sexual abuse of a minor in the first or second degree as defined by W.S. 6 2 314 and 6 2 315, an actor commits the crime of sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree if:

(i) Being seventeen (17) years of age or older, the actor engages in sexual contact with a victim who is thirteen (13) through fifteen (15) years of age, and the victim is at least four (4) years younger than the actor;

(ii) Being twenty (20) years of age or older, the actor engages in sexual intrusion with a victim who is either sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age, and the victim is at least four (4) years younger than the actor, and the actor occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim;

(iii) Being less than sixteen (16) years of age, the actor inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim who is less than thirteen (13) years of age, and the victim is at least three (3) years younger than the actor; or

(iv) Being seventeen (17) years of age or older, the actor knowingly takes immodest, immoral or indecent liberties with a victim who is less than seventeen (17) years of age and the victim is at least four (4) years younger than the actor.

**6 2 317. Sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree.**

(a) Except under circumstance constituting sexual abuse of a minor in the first, second or third degree as defined by W.S. 6 2 314 through 6 2 316, an actor commits the crime of sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree if:

(i) Being less than sixteen (16) years of age, the actor engages in sexual contact with a victim who is less than thirteen (13) years of age, and the victim is at least three (3) years younger than the actor; or

(ii) Being twenty (20) years of age or older, the actor engages in sexual contact with a victim who is either sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age, and the victim is at least four (4) years younger than the actor, and the actor occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim.

**6 4 303. Sexual exploitation of children; penalties; definitions.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Child" means a person under the age of eighteen (18) years;

(ii) "Child pornography" means any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether or not made or produced by electronic, mechanical or other means, of explicit sexual conduct, where:

(A) The production of the visual depiction involves the use of a child engaging in explicit sexual conduct;

(B) The visual depiction is of explicit sexual conduct involving a child or an individual virtually indistinguishable from a child; or

(C) The visual depiction has been created, adapted or modified to depict explicit sexual conduct involving a child or an individual virtually indistinguishable from a child.

(iii) "Explicit sexual conduct" means actual or simulated sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital or oral-anal, between persons of the same or opposite sex, bestiality, masturbation, sadistic or masochistic abuse or lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area of any person;

(iv) "Visual depiction" means developed and undeveloped film and videotape, and data stored on computer disk or by electronic means which is capable of conversion into a visual image.

(b) A person is guilty of sexual exploitation of a child if, for any purpose, he knowingly:

(i) Causes, induces, entices, coerces or permits a child to engage in, or be used for, the making of child pornography;

(ii) Causes, induces, entices or coerces a child to engage in, or be used for, any explicit sexual conduct;

(iii) Manufactures, generates, creates, receives, distributes, reproduces, delivers or possesses with the intent to deliver, including through digital or electronic means, whether or not by computer, any child pornography;

(iv) Possesses child pornography, except that this paragraph shall not apply to:

(A) Peace officers, court personnel or district attorneys engaged in the lawful performance of their official duties;

(B) Physicians, psychologists, therapists or social workers, provided such persons are duly licensed in Wyoming and the persons possess such materials in the course of a bona fide treatment or evaluation program at the treatment or evaluation site; or

(C) Counsel for a person charged under this section.

**6 4 305. Dissemination or possession of a nude image of a minor by a minor; definitions; penalties.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Disseminate" means to sell, distribute, deliver, provide, publish, transmit, text, email, exhibit or otherwise make available to another person but does not include any action taken to notify a person in a position of authority of the existence of a nude image of a minor;

(ii) "Juvenile detention facility" means as defined in W.S. 7 1 107(b)(i);

(iii) "Minor" means an individual who is under the age of eighteen (18) years;

(iv) "Nude image" means a photograph or video depicting a person's genitalia, perineum, anus or pubic area or the breast of a female. The term does not include a depiction of explicit sexual conduct as defined in W.S. 6 4 303(a)(iii).

(b) A minor is guilty of dissemination or possession of a nude image of a minor in the third degree if he knowingly:

(i) Disseminates a nude image of himself; or

(ii) Possesses a nude image of another minor who is at least eleven (11) years of age unless the minor inadvertently came into possession of the image and took reasonable steps to destroy the image or notify a person in a position of authority of its existence.

(c) A minor is guilty of dissemination of a nude image of a minor in the second degree if he knowingly disseminates a nude image of another minor who is at least eleven (11) years of age.

(d) A minor is guilty of dissemination or possession of a nude image of a minor in the first degree if, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, torment, harass or otherwise cause emotional distress to another minor, the minor:

- (i) Disseminates or threatens to disseminate a nude image of another minor who is at least eleven (11) years of age; or
- (ii) Captures a nude image of another minor who is at least eleven (11) years of age without the knowledge of the depicted minor.

## Crimes and Offenses

### SEXUAL ASSAULT

#### **6 2 301. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

- (i) "Actor" means the person accused of criminal assault;
- (ii) "Intimate parts" means the external genitalia, perineum, anus or pubes of any person or the breast of a female person;
- (iii) "Physically helpless" means unconscious, asleep or otherwise physically unable to communicate unwillingness to act;
- (iv) "Position of authority" means that position occupied by a parent, guardian, relative, household member, teacher, employer, custodian, health care provider or any other person who, by reason of his position, is able to exercise significant influence over a person;
- (v) "Sexual assault" means any act made criminal pursuant to W.S. 6 2 302 through 6 2 319;
- (vi) "Sexual contact" means touching, with the intention of sexual arousal, gratification or abuse, of the victim's intimate parts by the actor, or of the actor's intimate parts by the victim, or of the clothing covering the immediate area of the victim's or actor's intimate parts;
- (vii) "Sexual intrusion" means:
  - (A) Any intrusion, however slight, by any object or any part of a person's body, except the mouth, tongue or penis, into the genital or anal opening of another person's body if that sexual intrusion can reasonably be construed as being for the purposes of sexual arousal, gratification or abuse; or

(B) Sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, analingus or anal intercourse with or without emission.

(viii) "Victim" means the person alleged to have been subjected to sexual assault;

(ix) "Health care provider" means an individual who is licensed, certified or otherwise authorized or permitted by the laws of this state to provide care, treatment, services or procedures to maintain, diagnose or otherwise treat a patient's physical or mental condition;

**6 2 302. Sexual assault in the first degree.**

(a) Any actor who inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim commits a sexual assault in the first degree if:

(i) The actor causes submission of the victim through the actual application, reasonably calculated to cause submission of the victim, of physical force or forcible confinement;

(ii) The actor causes submission of the victim by threat of death, serious bodily injury, extreme physical pain or kidnapping to be inflicted on anyone and the victim reasonably believes that the actor has the present ability to execute these threats;

(iii) The victim is physically helpless, and the actor knows or reasonably should know that the victim is physically helpless and that the victim has not consented; or

(iv) The actor knows or reasonably should know that the victim through a mental illness, mental deficiency or developmental disability is incapable of appraising the nature of the victim's conduct.

**6 2 303. Sexual assault in the second degree.**

(a) Any actor who inflicts sexual intrusion on a victim commits sexual assault in the second degree if, under circumstances not constituting sexual assault in the first degree:

(i) The actor causes submission of the victim by threatening to retaliate in the future against the victim or the victim's spouse, parents, brothers, sisters or children, and the victim reasonably believes the actor will execute this threat. "To retaliate" includes threats of kidnapping, death, serious bodily injury or extreme physical pain;

(ii) The actor causes submission of the victim by any means that would prevent resistance by a victim of ordinary resolution;

(iii) The actor administers, or knows that someone else administered to the victim, without the prior knowledge or consent of the victim, any substance which substantially impairs the victim's power to appraise or control his conduct;

(iv) The actor knows or should reasonably know that the victim submits erroneously believing the actor to be the victim's spouse;

(vi) The actor is in a position of authority over the victim and uses this position of authority to cause the victim to submit;

(vii) The actor is an employee, independent contractor or volunteer of a state, county, city or town, or privately operated adult or juvenile correctional system, including but not limited to jails, penal institutions, detention centers, juvenile residential or rehabilitative facilities, adult community correctional facilities or secure treatment facilities and the victim is known or should be known by the actor to be a resident of such facility or under supervision of the correctional system;

(ix) The actor is an employee or volunteer of an elementary or secondary public or private school who, by virtue of the actor's employment or volunteer relationship with the school, has interaction with the victim who is a student or participant in the activities of the school and is more than four (4) years older than the victim.

(b) A person is guilty of sexual assault in the second degree if he subjects another person to:

(i) Sexual contact or sexual intrusion in the person's capacity as a health care provider in the course of providing care, treatment, services or procedures to maintain, diagnose or otherwise treat a patient's physical or mental condition;

(ii) Sexual contact and causes serious bodily injury to the victim under any of the circumstances listed in W.S. 6 2 302(a)(i) through (iv) or paragraphs (a)(i) through (vii) and (ix) of this section.

#### **6 2 304. Sexual assault in the third degree.**

(a) An actor commits sexual assault in the third degree if, under circumstances not constituting sexual assault in the first or second degree:

(iii) The actor subjects a victim to sexual contact under any of the circumstances of W.S. 6 2 302(a)(i) through (iv) or 6 2 303(a)(i) through (vii) and (ix) without inflicting sexual intrusion on the victim and without causing serious bodily injury to the victim.



**6 2 307. Evidence of marriage as defense.**

(a) The fact that the actor and the victim are married to each other is not by itself a defense to a violation of W.S. 6 2 302(a)(i), (ii) or (iii) or 6 2 303(a)(i), (ii), (iii), (vi) or (vii).

(b) Consent of the victim is not a defense to a violation of W.S. 6 2 303(a)(vii) or 6 2 304(a)(iii).

**6 2 308. Criminality of conduct; victim's age.**

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, if criminality of conduct in this article depends on a victim being under sixteen (16) years of age, it is an affirmative defense that the actor reasonably believed that the victim was sixteen (16) years of age or older.

(b) If criminality of conduct in this article depends upon a victim being under twelve (12) years or under fourteen (14) years, it is no defense that the actor did not know the victim's age, or that he reasonably believed that the victim was twelve (12) years or fourteen (14) years of age or older, as applicable.

**6 2 313. Sexual battery.**

(a) Except under circumstances constituting a violation of W.S. 6 2 302 through 6 2 304, 6 2 314 through 6 2 317 or 6 2 502, an actor who unlawfully subjects another person to any sexual contact is guilty of sexual battery.

**6 2 319. Names not to be released; restrictions on disclosures or publication of information; violations; penalties.**

(a) Prior to the filing of an information or indictment in district court charging a violation of an offense under this article, neither the names of the alleged actor or the victim of the charged offense nor any other information reasonably likely to disclose the identities of the parties shall be released or negligently allowed to be released to the public by any public employee except as authorized by the judge with jurisdiction over the criminal charges. The actor's name may be released to the public to aid or facilitate an arrest. This subsection shall not apply if release of the name or information is necessary to enforce an order for protection against the alleged actor.

(b) After the filing of an information or indictment in district court and absent a request to release the identity of a minor victim by the minor or another acting on behalf of a minor victim, the trial court shall, to the extent necessary to protect the welfare of the minor victim, restrict the disclosure of the name of the minor victim, unless the name has been publicly disclosed by the parent or legal guardian of the minor or by law enforcement in an effort to find the victim. The trial court may, to the extent necessary to protect the welfare of the minor victim, restrict disclosure of the information reasonably likely to identify the minor victim.

(d) A release of a name or other information to the public in violation of the proscriptions of this section shall not stand as a bar to the prosecution of a defendant nor be grounds for dismissal of any charges against a defendant.

(e) As used in this section "minor victim" means a person less than the age of eighteen (18) years.

## **PUBLIC INDECENCY, OBSCENITY, AND VOYEURISM**

### **6 4 201. Public indecency; exception; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of public indecency if, while in a public place where he may reasonably be expected to be viewed by others, he:

(i) Performs an act of sexual intrusion, as defined by W.S. 6-2-301(a)(vii); or

(ii) Exposes his intimate parts, as defined by W.S. 6-2-301(a)(ii), with the intent of arousing the sexual desire of himself or another person; or

(iii) Engages in sexual contact, as defined by W.S. 6-2-301(a)(vi), with or without consent, with the intent of arousing the sexual desire of himself or another person.

(b) The act of breastfeeding an infant child, including breastfeeding in any place where the woman may legally be, does not constitute public indecency.

### **6 4 301. Definitions. [Obscenity]**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Disseminate" means to sell, distribute, deliver, provide, exhibit or otherwise make available to another;

(ii) "Material" includes any form of human expression or communication intended for, or capable of, visual, auditory or sensory perception;

(iii) "Obscene" is material which the average person would find:

(A) Applying contemporary community standards, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;

(B) Applying contemporary community standards, depicts or describes sexual conduct in a patently offensive way; and

(C) Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

(iv) "Produce or reproduce" means to bring into being regardless of the process or means employed. Undeveloped photographs, films, molds, casts, printing plates and like articles may be obscene notwithstanding that further processing or other acts are necessary to make the obscenity patent or to disseminate or exhibit the obscene material;

(v) "Sexual conduct" means:

(A) Patently offensive representations or descriptions of ultimate sexual acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated;

(B) Sado-masochistic abuse; or

(C) Patently offensive representations or descriptions of masturbation, excretory functions or lewd exhibitions of the genitals.

**6 4 302. Promoting obscenity; penalties.**

(a) A person commits the crime of promoting obscenity if he:

(i) Produces or reproduces obscene material with the intent of disseminating it;

(ii) Possesses obscene material with the intent of disseminating it; or

(iii) Knowingly disseminates obscene material.

(b) Promoting obscenity is a misdemeanor punishable upon conviction as follows:

(i) If to an adult, by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or by imprisonment for not to exceed one (1) year, or both;

(ii) If to a minor, for each violation, by a fine not to exceed six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) or by imprisonment for not to exceed one (1) year, or both.

(c) This section shall not apply to any person who may produce, reproduce, possess or disseminate obscene material:

(i) In the course of law enforcement and judicial activities;

(ii) In the course of bona fide school, college, university, museum or public library activities or in the course of employment of such an organization.

#### **6 4 304. Voyeurism; penalties.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if he, without the consent of the person being viewed, commits the crime of voyeurism by looking in a clandestine, surreptitious, prying or secretive nature into an area where the person being viewed has a reasonable expectation of privacy, including, but not limited to:

(i) Restrooms;

(vi) Under the clothing being worn by another person, regardless of whether the person is in a place where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both, if he:

(i) Commits the offense specified in subsection (a) of this section by knowingly or intentionally capturing an image by means of a camera, a video camera or any other image recording device; or

(ii) Uses a camera, video camera or any other image recording device:

(A) For the purpose of observing, viewing, photographing, filming, recording, livestreaming or videotaping the intimate areas of another person;

(B) Under clothing being worn by the other person; and

(C) Without the consent of the other person.

(g) As used in this section, "intimate area" means any portion of a person's pubic area, buttocks, vulva, genitals, female breast or undergarments intended to cover those portions. "Intimate area" does not include intimate areas visible through a person's clothing or intimate areas knowingly exposed in public.

#### **SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION**

##### **7 19 301. Definitions.**

(a) Unless otherwise provided, for the purposes of this act:

(iii) "Convicted" includes pleas of guilty, nolo contendere, verdicts of guilty upon which a judgment of conviction may be rendered and adjudications as a delinquent for

offenses specified in W.S. 7 19 302(j). "Convicted" shall not include dispositions pursuant to W.S. 7 13 301;

(viii) "Offender" means a person convicted of a criminal offense specified in W.S. 7 19 302(g) through (j), 6 2 702, 6 2 703, 6 2 705 or 6 2 706. "Offender" shall also include any person convicted:

(A) As an accessory before the fact as provided in W.S. 6 1 201 for a criminal offense specified in W.S. 7 19 302(g) through (j), 6 2 702, 6 2 703, 6 2 705 or 6 2 706;

(B) Of a criminal offense in Wyoming or any other jurisdiction containing the same or similar elements, or arising out of the same or similar facts or circumstances, as a criminal offense specified in W.S. 7 19 302(g) through (j), 6 2 702, 6 2 703, 6 2 705 or 6 2 706.

(xi) "Reside" and words of similar import mean the physical address of each residence of an offender, including:

(A) All real property owned by the offender that is used by the offender for the purpose of shelter or other activities of daily living;

(B) Any physical address where the offender habitually visits; and

(C) Temporary residences such as hotels, motels, public or private housing, camping areas, parks, public buildings, streets, roads, highways, restaurants, libraries or other places the offender may frequent and use for shelter or other activities of daily living.

**7 19 302. Registration of offenders; procedure; verification; fees.**

(a) Any offender residing in this state or entering this state for the purpose of residing, attending school or being employed in this state shall register with the sheriff of the county in which he resides, attends school or is employed, or other relevant entity specified in subsection (c) of this section...

**7 19 303. Offenders central registry; dissemination of information.**

(c) The division shall provide notification of registration under this act, including all registration information, to the district attorney of the county where the registered offender is residing at the time of registration or to which the offender moves. In addition, the following shall apply:

(ii) If the offender was convicted of an offense specified in W.S. 7 19 302(h) or (j), notification shall be provided by mail, personally or by any other means reasonably

calculated to ensure delivery of the notice to residential neighbors within at least seven hundred fifty (750) feet of the offender's residence, organizations in the community, including schools, religious and youth organizations by the sheriff or his designee. In addition, notification regarding an offender employed by or attending school at any educational institution shall be provided upon request by the educational institution to a member of the institution's campus community as defined by subsection (h) of this section;

(iii) Notification of registration under this act shall be provided to the public through a public registry, as well as to the persons and entities required by paragraph (ii) of this subsection. The division shall make the public registry available to the public, with the exception of internet identifiers, telephone numbers and adjudications as delinquent unless disclosure is authorized pursuant to W.S. 7 19 309, through electronic internet technology and shall include:

- (A) The offender's name, including any aliases;
- (B) Physical address;
- (C) Date and place of birth;
- (D) Date and place of conviction;
- (E) Crime for which convicted;
- (F) Photograph;
- (G) Physical characteristics including race, sex, height, weight, eye and hair color;
- (H) History of all criminal convictions subjecting an offender to the registration requirements of this act;
- (J) The license plate or registration number and a description of any vehicle owned or operated by the offender; and
- (K) The physical address of any employer that employs the offender; and
- (M) The physical address of each educational institution in this state at which the person is attending school.

(h) An educational institution in this state shall instruct members of its campus community, by direct advisement, publication or other means, that a member can obtain information regarding offenders employed by or attending school at the institution by contacting the

campus police department or other law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the institution. For the purposes of this subsection, "member of the campus community" means a person employed by or attending school at the educational institution at which the offender is employed or attending school, or a person's parent or guardian if the person is a minor.

(k) The legislature directs the division to facilitate access to the information on the public registry available through electronic internet technology without the need to consider or assess the specific risk of reoffense with respect to any individual prior to his inclusion within the registry, and the division shall place a disclaimer on the division's internet website indicating that:

- (i) No determination has been made that any individual included in the registry is currently dangerous;
- (ii) Individuals included within the registry are included solely by virtue of their conviction record and state law; and
- (iii) The main purpose of providing the information on the internet is to make the information more easily available and accessible, not to warn about any specific individual.

## LARCENY AND RELATED OFFENSES

### **6 3 402. Theft; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of theft if he knowingly takes, obtains, procures, retains or exercises control over or makes an unauthorized transfer of an interest in the property of another person without authorization or by threat or by deception, or he receives, loans money by pawn or pledge on or disposes of the property of another person that he knew or reasonably should have known was stolen, and he:

- (i) Intends to deprive the other person of the use or benefit of the property;
- (ii) Knowingly uses, receives, conceals, abandons or disposes of the property in such manner as to deprive the other person of its use or benefit; or
- (iii) Demands anything of value to which he has no legal claim as a condition for returning or otherwise restoring the property to the other person.

### **6 2 401. Robbery; aggravated robbery; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of robbery if in the course of committing a crime defined by W.S. 6-3-402, he:

(i) Inflicts bodily injury upon another; or

(ii) Threatens another with or intentionally puts him in fear of immediate bodily injury.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, robbery is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years.

(c) Aggravated robbery is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than twenty-five (25) years if in the course of committing the crime of robbery the person:

(i) Intentionally inflicts or attempts to inflict serious bodily injury; or

(ii) Uses or exhibits a deadly weapon or a simulated deadly weapon.

(d) As used in this section "in the course of committing the crime" includes the time during which an attempt to commit the crime or in which flight after the attempt or commission occurred.

**6 3 301. Burglary; aggravated burglary; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of burglary if, without authority, he enters or remains in a building, occupied structure or vehicle, or separately secured or occupied portion thereof, with intent to commit theft or a felony therein.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, burglary is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

(c) Aggravated burglary is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than twenty-five (25) years, a fine of not more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00), or both, if, in the course of committing the crime of burglary, the person:

(i) Is or becomes armed with or uses a deadly weapon or a simulated deadly weapon;

(ii) Knowingly or recklessly inflicts bodily injury on anyone; or

(iii) Attempts to inflict bodily injury on anyone.

(d) As used in this section "in the course of committing the crime" includes the time during which an attempt to commit the crime or in which flight after the attempt or commission occurred.



**6 3 304. Possession of burglar's tools; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of possession of burglar's tools if he possesses an explosive, tool, instrument or other article adapted, designed or commonly used for committing or facilitating the commission of a crime involving forcible entry into buildings or occupied structures with intent to use the article possessed in the commission of such a crime.

**6 3 305. Breaking, opening or entering of coin machine with intent to commit theft; penalties.**

A person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both, if he breaks, opens or enters a coin machine with intent to commit theft.

**CRIMINAL INTRUSION**

**6 3 302. Criminal entry; penalties; affirmative defenses.**

(a) A person is guilty of criminal entry if, without authority, he knowingly enters a building, occupied structure, vehicle or cargo portion of a truck or trailer, or a separately secured or occupied portion of those enclosures.

(b) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that:

(i) The entry was made because of a mistake of fact or to preserve life or property in an emergency;

(ii) The enclosure was abandoned;

(iii) The enclosure was at the time open to the public and the person complied with all lawful conditions imposed on access to or remaining in the enclosure; or

(iv) The person reasonably believed that the owner of the enclosure, or other person empowered to license access to the enclosure, would have authorized him to enter.

**6 3 303. Criminal trespass; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of criminal trespass if he enters or remains on or in the land or premises of another person, knowing he is not authorized to do so, or after being notified to depart or to not trespass. For purposes of this section, notice is given by:

(i) Personal communication to the person by the owner or occupant, or his agent, or by a peace officer; or

(ii) Posting of signs reasonably likely to come to the attention of intruders.

(c) This section does not supersede W.S. 1-21-1003.

## ASSAULT AND BATTERY

### **6 2 501. Simple assault; battery; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of simple assault if, having the present ability to do so, he unlawfully attempts to cause bodily injury to another.

(b) A person is guilty of battery if he intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another person by use of physical force.

(g) A person is guilty of unlawful contact if he:

(i) Touches another person in a rude, insolent or angry manner without intentionally using sufficient physical force to cause bodily injury to another; or

(ii) Recklessly causes bodily injury to another person.

### **6 2 502. Aggravated assault and battery; female genital mutilation; penalty.**

(a) A person is guilty of aggravated assault and battery if he engages in any of the following:

(i) Causes or attempts to cause serious bodily injury to another intentionally, knowingly or recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life;

(ii) Attempts to cause, or intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon;

(iii) Threatens to use a drawn deadly weapon on another unless reasonably necessary in defense of his person, property or abode or to prevent serious bodily injury to another;

(iv) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to a woman whom he knows is pregnant;

(v) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes female genital mutilation to be performed on a person who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years.

(c) It is not a defense in a prosecution under paragraph (a)(v) of this section that a female under eighteen (18) years of age or the parent, guardian or custodian of the female under

eighteen (18) years of age consented to the female genital mutilation. Religion, ritual, custom or standard practice shall not be a defense to the offense of female genital mutilation.

## ENDANGERING, THREATS, STALKING

### **6 2 504. Reckless endangering; penalty.**

(a) A person is guilty of reckless endangering if he recklessly engages in conduct which places another person in danger of death or serious bodily injury.

(b) Any person who knowingly points a firearm at or in the direction of another, whether or not the person believes the firearm is loaded, is guilty of reckless endangering unless reasonably necessary in defense of his person, property or abode or to prevent serious bodily injury to another or as provided for under W.S. 6 2 602.

### **6 2 505. Terroristic threats; penalty.**

(a) A person is guilty of a terroristic threat if he threatens to commit any violent felony with the intent to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation, or otherwise to cause serious public inconvenience, or in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such inconvenience.

### **6 2 506. Stalking; penalty.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over any period of time evidencing a continuity of purpose;

(ii) "Harass" means to engage in a course of conduct, including but not limited to verbal threats, written threats, lewd or obscene statements or images, vandalism or nonconsensual physical contact, directed at a specific person that the defendant knew or should have known would cause:

(A) A reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress;

(B) A reasonable person to suffer substantial fear for their safety or the safety of another person; or

(C) A reasonable person to suffer substantial fear for the destruction of their property.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a person commits the crime of stalking if, with intent to harass another person, the person engages in a course of conduct reasonably likely to harass that person, including but not limited to any combination of the following:

(i) Communicating, anonymously or otherwise, or causing a communication with another person by verbal, electronic, mechanical, telegraphic, telephonic or written means in a manner that harasses;

(ii) Following a person, other than within the residence of the defendant;

(iii) Placing a person under surveillance by remaining present outside his or her school, place of employment, vehicle, other place occupied by the person, or residence other than the residence of the defendant;

(iv) Using any electronic, digital or global positioning system device or other electronic means to place another person under surveillance or to surveil another person's internet or wireless activity without authorization from the other person; or

(v) Otherwise engaging in a course of conduct that harasses another person.

(c) This section does not apply to an otherwise lawful demonstration, assembly or picketing.

(d) Except as provided under subsection (e) of this section, stalking is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both. If a person sentenced under this subsection is placed on probation, the court may, notwithstanding any other provision of law, impose a term of probation exceeding the maximum one (1) year imprisonment, provided the term of probation, including extensions, shall not exceed three (3) years.

(e) A person convicted of stalking under subsection (b) of this section is guilty of felony stalking punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, if:

(i) The act or acts leading to the conviction occurred within five (5) years of the completion of the sentence, including all periods of incarceration, parole and probation, of a prior conviction under this subsection, or under subsection (b) of this section, or under a substantially similar law of another jurisdiction;

(ii) The defendant caused serious bodily harm to the victim or another person in conjunction with committing the offense of stalking;

(iii) The defendant committed the offense of stalking in violation of any condition of probation, parole or bail; or

(iv) The defendant committed the offense of stalking in violation of a temporary or permanent order of protection issued pursuant to W.S. 7 3 508, 7 3 509, 35 21 104 or 35 21 105 or pursuant to a substantially similar law of another jurisdiction.

(f) An offense under this section may be deemed to have been committed at the place where any:

(i) Act within the course of conduct that constitutes stalking was initiated; or

(ii) Communication within the course of conduct that constitutes stalking was received by the victim then present in Wyoming; or

(iii) Act within the course of conduct that constitutes stalking caused an effect on the victim then present in Wyoming.

(g) An act that indicates a course of conduct but occurs in more than one (1) jurisdiction may be used by any jurisdiction in which the act occurred as evidence of a continuing course of conduct.

**6 2 507. Abuse, neglect, abandonment, intimidation or exploitation of a vulnerable adult; penalties.**

(a) Except under circumstances constituting a violation of W.S. 6 2 502, a person is guilty of abuse, neglect, abandonment or exploitation of a vulnerable adult if the person intentionally or recklessly abuses, neglects, abandons, intimidates or exploits a vulnerable adult.

(b) Reckless abuse, neglect, abandonment, intimidation or exploitation of a vulnerable adult is a misdemeanor, punishable by not more than one (1) year in jail, a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both, and registration of the offender's name on the central registry.

(c) Intentional abuse, neglect or abandonment of a vulnerable adult is a felony punishable by not more than ten (10) years in prison, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, and registration of the offender's name on the central registry.

(d) Exploitation of a vulnerable adult is a felony punishable by not more than ten (10) years in prison, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, and registration of the offender's name on the central registry.

(e) As used in this section:

(i) "Abandonment" means as defined in W.S. 35 20 102(a)(i);

(ii) "Abuse" means as defined in W.S. 35 20 102(a)(ii);

- (iii) Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 87, § 3.
- (iv) "Central registry" means the registry established under W.S. 35 20 115;
- (v) "Exploitation" means as defined in W.S. 35 20 102(a)(ix);
- (vi) "Neglect" means as defined in W.S. 35 20 102(a)(xi);
- (vii) "Vulnerable adult" means as defined in W.S. 35 20 102(a)(xviii).

## ARSON

### **6 3 101. Arson; first degree; aggravated arson; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of first-degree arson if he maliciously starts a fire or causes an explosion with intent to destroy or damage an occupied structure.

(c) A person is guilty of aggravated arson if he maliciously starts a fire or causes an explosion with intent to destroy an occupied structure, under circumstances evidencing reckless disregard for human life, and serious bodily injury or death occurs to another person, either at the scene or while in emergency response to the incident.

### **6 3 102. Arson; second degree; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of second-degree arson if he starts a fire or causes an explosion with intent to destroy or damage any property to cause collection of insurance for the loss.

### **6 3 103. Arson; third degree; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of third-degree arson if he intentionally starts a fire or causes an explosion and intentionally, recklessly or with criminal negligence:

- (i) Places another in danger of bodily injury; or
- (ii) Destroys or damages any property of another which has a value of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more.

### **6 3 104. Arson; fourth degree; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of fourth-degree arson if he intentionally starts a fire or causes an explosion and intentionally, recklessly or with criminal negligence destroys or damages any property of another as defined in W.S. 6-3-103(c) which has a value of less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

## PROPERTY DESTRUCTION AND DEFACEMENT

### **6 3 201. Property destruction and defacement; grading; penalties; aggregated costs or values.**

(a) A person is guilty of property destruction and defacement if he knowingly defaces, injures or destroys property of another without the owner's consent.

(b) Property destruction and defacement is:

(i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if the cost of restoring injured property or the value of the property if destroyed is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00);

(iii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the cost of restoring injured property or the value of the property if destroyed is one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more.

(c) If a series of injuries results from a single continuing course of conduct, a single violation of this section may be charged and penalties imposed based upon the aggregate cost or value of the property injured or destroyed.

### **6 3 204. Littering; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of littering if he places, throws, scatters or deposits garbage, debris, refuse or waste material, objects or substances, including abandoned or junked vehicles, upon the property of another. Operators of motor vehicles are responsible under this section for the disposition or ejection of garbage, debris or other material from the vehicle while the vehicle is being operated on the roads or highways of this state.

## COMPUTER CRIMES

### **6 3 502. Crimes against intellectual property; penalties.**

(a) A person commits a crime against intellectual property if he knowingly and without authorization:

(i) Modifies data, programs or supporting documentation residing or existing internal or external to a computer, computer system or computer network;

(ii) Destroys data, programs or supporting documentation residing or existing internal or external to a computer, computer system or computer network;

(iii) Discloses or takes data, programs, or supporting documentation having a value of more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) and which is a trade secret or is confidential, as provided by law, residing or existing internal or external to a computer, computer system or computer network.

(b) A crime against intellectual property is:

(i) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years, a fine of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), or both, except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(ii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the crime is committed with the intention of devising or executing a scheme or artifice to defraud or to obtain property.

**6 3 503. Crimes against computer equipment or supplies; interruption or impairment of governmental operations or public services; penalties.**

(a) A person commits a crime against computer equipment or supplies if he knowingly and without authorization, modifies equipment or supplies used or intended to be used in a computer, computer system or computer network. A crime against computer equipment or supplies is:

(i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(ii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the crime is committed with the intention of devising or executing a scheme or artifice to defraud or to obtain property.

(b) A person who knowingly and without authorization destroys, injures or damages a computer, computer system or computer network and thereby interrupts or impairs governmental operations or public communication, transportation or supplies of water, gas or other public service, is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years, a fine of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), or both.

**6 3 504. Crimes against computer users; penalties.**

(a) A person commits a crime against computer users if he knowingly and without authorization:



(i) Accesses a computer, computer system or computer network;

(ii) Denies computer system services to an authorized user of the computer system services which, in whole or part, are owned by, under contract to, or operated for, on behalf of, or in conjunction with another.

(b) A crime against computer users is:

(i) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years, a fine of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), or both except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(ii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the crime is committed with the intention of devising or executing a scheme or artifice to defraud or to obtain property.

### **6 3 506. Computer trespass; penalties.**

(a) A person commits a computer trespass if he knowingly, with intent to damage or cause the malfunction of the operation of a computer, computer system or computer network and without authorization transfers or sends electronically into a computer, computer system or computer network or causes to be transferred or sent electronically into a computer, computer system or computer network any malware, or other data, program or other information which alters, damages or causes the malfunction of the operation of the computer, computer system or computer network or which causes the computer, computer system or computer network to disseminate sensitive information.

(b) A computer trespass is:

(i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if the resulting damages are less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00);

(ii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the resulting damages are ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or more.

(d) For purposes of this section, "malware" means, but is not limited to, viruses, worms, trojan horses, rootkits, keyloggers, backdoors, dialers, ransomware, spyware, adware, malicious browser helper objects, rogue security software and other malicious programs used or designed to disrupt a computer operation, gather sensitive information, steal sensitive

information or otherwise gain unauthorized access to a computer, computer system or computer network.

**6 3 507. Computer extortion; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of computer extortion if he knowingly and without authorization introduces, attempts to introduce or directs or induces another to introduce, any ransomware into a computer, computer system or computer network which requires the payment of money or other consideration to remove the ransomware or repair the damage caused to the computer, computer system or computer network by the ransomware.

(c) For purposes of this section:

(i) "Computer or data contaminant" means any virus, worm or other similar computer program designed to encrypt, modify, damage, destroy, record or transmit information within a computer, computer system or computer network;

(ii) "Ransomware" means a computer or data contaminant, encryption or lock that restricts an owner's access to a computer, computer data, computer system or computer network in any way. "Ransomware" does not include authentication required to upgrade or access purchased content.

**40 12 502. Computer security breach; notice to affected persons.**

(a) An individual or commercial entity that conducts business in Wyoming and that owns or licenses computerized data that includes personal identifying information about a resident of Wyoming shall, when it becomes aware of a breach of the security of the system, conduct in good faith a reasonable and prompt investigation to determine the likelihood that personal identifying information has been or will be misused. If the investigation determines that the misuse of personal identifying information about a Wyoming resident has occurred or is reasonably likely to occur, the individual or the commercial entity shall give notice as soon as possible to the affected Wyoming resident. Notice shall be made in the most expedient time possible and without unreasonable delay, consistent with the legitimate needs of law enforcement and consistent with any measures necessary to determine the scope of the breach and to restore the reasonable integrity of the computerized data system.

(b) The notification required by this section may be delayed if a law enforcement agency determines in writing that the notification may seriously impede a criminal investigation.

(d) For purposes of this section, notice to consumers may be provided by one (1) of the following methods:

(i) Written notice;

(ii) Electronic mail notice;

(iii) Substitute notice, if the person demonstrates:

(A) That the cost of providing notice would exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for Wyoming-based persons or businesses, and two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) for all other businesses operating but not based in Wyoming;

(B) That the affected class of subject persons to be notified exceeds ten thousand (10,000) for Wyoming-based persons or businesses and five hundred thousand (500,000) for all other businesses operating but not based in Wyoming;  
or

(C) The person does not have sufficient contact information.

(iv) Substitute notice shall consist of all of the following:

(A) Conspicuous posting of the notice on the Internet, the World Wide Web or a similar proprietary or common carrier electronic system site of the person collecting the data, if the person maintains a public Internet, the World Wide Web or a similar proprietary or common carrier electronic system site; and

(B) Notification to major statewide media. The notice to media shall include a toll-free phone number where an individual can learn whether or not that individual's personal data is included in the security breach.

(e) Notice required under subsection (a) of this section shall be clear and conspicuous and shall include, at a minimum:

(i) A toll-free number:

(A) That the individual may use to contact the person collecting the data, or his agent; and

(B) From which the individual may learn the toll-free contact telephone numbers and addresses for the major credit reporting agencies.

(ii) The types of personal identifying information that were or are reasonably believed to have been the subject of the breach;

(iii) A general description of the breach incident;

(iv) The approximate date of the breach of security, if that information is reasonably possible to determine at the time notice is provided;

(v) In general terms, the actions taken by the individual or commercial entity to protect the system containing the personal identifying information from further breaches;

(vi) Advice that directs the person to remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports;

(vii) Whether notification was delayed as a result of a law enforcement investigation, if that information is reasonably possible to determine at the time the notice is provided.

(f) The attorney general may bring an action in law or equity to address any violation of this section and for other relief that may be appropriate to ensure proper compliance with this section, to recover damages, or both. The provisions of this section are not exclusive and do not relieve an individual or a commercial entity subject to this section from compliance with all other applicable provisions of law.

## FRAUD

### **6 3 601. "Writing" defined.**

As used in this article "writing" means printing or any other method of recording information, money, coins, tokens, stamps, seals, credit cards, badges, trademarks, and other symbols of value, right, privilege or identification.

### **6 3 602. Forgery; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of forgery if, with intent to defraud, he:

(i) Alters any writing of another without authority;

(ii) Makes, completes, executes, authenticates, issues or transfers any writing so that it purports to be the act of another who did not authorize that act, or to have been executed at a time or place or in a numbered sequence other than was in fact the case, or to be a copy of an original when no such original existed; or

(iii) Utters any writing which he knows to be forged in a manner specified in paragraphs (i) or (ii) of this subsection.

### **6 3 615. Use of false identity, citizenship or resident alien documents, penalty.**

(a) Any person who intentionally uses false documents to conceal his true identity, citizenship or resident alien status to obtain access to public resources or services is guilty of a

misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both.

(b) An official who is presented with any document in connection with an application for a driver's license or Wyoming identification card issued by the Wyoming department of transportation, and who has probable cause to believe that it is a false document in violation of subsection (a) of this section, is authorized to seize and retain the document. Upon seizure, the document shall be delivered to a law enforcement official having jurisdiction to investigate the violation as soon as reasonably possible. If the investigation shows that the document is not a false document, the document shall be returned to the person immediately.

**6 3 702. Fraud by check; penalties.**

(a) Any person who knowingly issues a check which is not paid because the drawer has insufficient funds or credit with the drawee has issued a fraudulent check and commits fraud by check.

(b) Fraud by check is:

(i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if the fraudulent check was for a sum of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00); or

(iii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the fraudulent check was for the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more, or if the offender is convicted of fraud by check involving two (2) or more checks issued within any sixty (60) day period in the state of Wyoming totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more in the aggregate.

**6 3 802. Unlawful use of credit card; penalties.**

(a) A person is guilty of unlawful use of a credit card if, with the intent to obtain property or services by fraud, he:

(i) Uses a credit card, or the number or description of a credit card, issued to another person without the consent of that person;

(ii) Uses a credit card which he knows has been revoked, cancelled or expired; or

(iii) Knowingly uses a falsified, mutilated or altered credit card or the number or description thereof.

(b) Unlawful use of a credit card is:

(i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if the value of the property or services purchased or obtained is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00); or

(iii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if the value of the property or services purchased or obtained in violation of this section within any sixty (60) day period in the state of Wyoming totals one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more in the aggregate.

**6 3 803. Unlawful skimming of credit, debit or other electronic payment cards; penalties.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Authorized card user" means any person with the empowerment, permission or competence to act in the usage of any electronic payment card including, but not limited to, a credit card, charge card, debit card, hotel key card, stored value card or any other card that allows the user to obtain, purchase or receive goods, services, money or anything else of value from a merchant;

(ii) "Electronic payment card" means a credit card, charge card, debit card, hotel key card, stored value card or any other card that is issued to an authorized card user and that allows the user to obtain, purchase or receive goods, services, money or anything else of value from a merchant;

(iii) "Merchant" means an owner or operator of any retail mercantile establishment or his agent, employee, lessee, consignee, officer, director, franchisee or independent contractor who receives from an authorized user of an electronic payment card, or someone the person believes to be an authorized user, an electronic payment card or information from an electronic payment card, or what the person believes to be an electronic payment card or information from an electronic payment card, as the instrument for obtaining, purchasing or receiving goods, services, money or anything else of value from the person;

(iv) "Re-encoder" means an electronic device that places encoded information from the magnetic strip or stripe of an electronic payment card onto the magnetic strip or stripe of a different electronic payment card;

(v) "Scanning device" means a scanner, reader or any other electronic device that is used to access, read, scan, obtain, memorize or store, temporarily or permanently, information encoded on the magnetic strip or stripe of an electronic payment card.

(b) A person is guilty of unlawful skimming if the person uses:

(i) A scanning device to access, read, obtain or memorize, temporarily or permanently, information encoded on the magnetic strip or stripe of an electronic payment card without the permission of the authorized user of the electronic payment card, with the intent to defraud the authorized user, the issuer of the authorized user's electronic payment card or a merchant;

(ii) A re-encoder to place information encoded on the magnetic strip or stripe of an electronic payment card onto the magnetic strip or stripe of a different card without the permission of the authorized user of the card from which the information is being re-encoded, with the intent to defraud the authorized user, the issuer of the authorized user's electronic payment card or a merchant.

**6 3 901. Unauthorized use of personal identifying information; penalties; restitution.**

(a) Every person who willfully obtains personal identifying information of another person, and uses that information for any unlawful purpose, including to obtain, or attempt to obtain, credit, goods, services or medical information in the name of the other person without the consent of that person is guilty of theft of identity.

(b) As used in this section "personal identifying information" means the name or any of the following data elements of an individual person:

(i) Address;

(ii) Telephone number;

(iii) Social security number;

(iv) Driver's license number;

(v) Account number, credit card number or debit card number in combination with any security code, access code or password that would allow access to a financial account of the person;

(vi) Tribal identification card;

(vii) Federal or state government issued identification card;

(viii) Shared secrets or security tokens that are known to be used for data based authentication;

(ix) A username or email address, in combination with a password or security question and answer that would permit access to an online account;

(x) A birth or marriage certificate;

(xi) Medical information, meaning a person's medical history, mental or physical condition, or medical treatment or diagnosis by a health care professional;

(xii) Health insurance information, meaning a person's health insurance policy number or subscriber identification number, any unique identifier used by a health insurer to identify the person or information related to a person's application and claims history;

(xiii) Unique biometric data, meaning data generated from measurements or analysis of human body characteristics for authentication purposes;

(xiv) An individual taxpayer identification number.

(c) Theft of identity is:

(i) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if no economic benefit was gained or was attempted to be gained, or if an economic benefit of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) was gained or was attempted to be gained by the defendant; or

(ii) A felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if an economic benefit of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more was gained or was attempted to be gained by the defendant.

(e) In any case in which a person willfully obtains personal identifying information of another person, and without the authorization of that person uses that information to commit a crime in addition to a violation of subsection (a) of this section, and is convicted of that crime, the court records shall reflect that the person whose identity was falsely used to commit the crime did not commit the crime.

**6 3 902. Unlawful impersonation through electronic means; penalties; definitions; civil remedies.**

(a) A person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both, if he knowingly and without consent intentionally impersonates another person or that person's personal or organizational digital identity through, or on, an internet website or by other electronic means, including, but not limited to spoofing, and:



- (i) Causes or attempts to cause harm;
- (ii) Harasses or attempts to harass another person while using false self identifying information related to the person impersonated; or
- (iii) Uses or attempts to use false self identifying information related to the person impersonated as an unauthorized deceptive means to facilitate contact with another person.

(b) For purposes of this section:

- (i) "Electronic means" includes opening an e-mail account or an account or profile on a site transmitted via the internet;
- (ii) "Internet" means as defined in W.S. 9-2-3219(a)(iii);
- (iii) "Spoofing" means falsifying the name or phone number appearing on caller identification systems;
- (iv) "Personal digital identity" means as defined in W.S. 8-1-102(a)(xviii);
- (v) "Organizational digital identity" means as defined in W.S. 8-1-102(a)(xix).

## DISTURBANCES OF PUBLIC ORDER

### **6 6 101. Fighting in public; penalties.**

A person commits a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if, by agreement, he fights with one (1) or more persons in public.

### **6 6 102. Breach of the peace; penalties.**

(a) A person commits breach of the peace if he disturbs the peace of a community or its inhabitants by unreasonably loud noise or music or by using threatening, abusive or obscene language or violent actions with knowledge or probable cause to believe he will disturb the peace.

### **6 6 103. Telephone calls; unlawful acts; penalties; communicating a threat of bodily injury or death; place of commission of crime.**

(a) A person commits a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both, if he telephones

another anonymously or under a false or fictitious name and uses obscene, lewd or profane language or suggests a lewd or lascivious act with intent to terrify, intimidate, threaten, harass, annoy or offend.

(b) A person commits a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both, if:

(i) By repeated anonymous telephone calls, he disturbs the peace, quiet or privacy of persons where the calls were received; or

(ii) He telephones or otherwise electronically or in writing communicates with a person and threatens to:

(A) Inflict death to the person, to the person's immediate family or to anyone at the school in which the person is a student or employee; or

(B) Inflict injury or physical harm to the person, to the person's immediate family or to property of the person.

(c) A crime under this section is committed at the place where the calls or other electronic or written communications either originated or were received.

(d) For purposes of this section, "immediate family" means a spouse, parent, sibling, child or other person living in the person's household.

**6 6 104. Unlawful automated telephone solicitation; exceptions; penalties.**

(a) No person shall use an automated telephone system or device for the selection and dialing of telephone numbers and playing of recorded messages if a message is completed to the dialed number, for purposes of:

(i) Offering any goods or services for sale;

(ii) Conveying information on goods or services in soliciting sales or purchases;

(iii) Soliciting information;

(iv) Gathering data and statistics; or

(v) Promoting or any other use related to a political campaign.

(b) This section shall not prohibit the use of an automated telephone system or device described under subsection (a) of this section for purposes of informing purchasers of the receipt, availability or delivery of goods or services, any delay or other pertinent information on

the status of any purchased goods or services or responding to an inquiry initiated by any person, or the use of an automated telephone dialing system as authorized by W.S. 40 12 303.

## UNLAWFUL CONDUCT WITHIN GOVERNMENTAL FACILITIES

### **6 6 301. Definitions.**

(a) As used in W.S. 6-6-301 through 6-6-307:

(i) "Governing body" means any elected or appointed commission, board, agency, council, trustees or other body created or authorized by the laws of this state and vested with authority to perform specified governmental, educational, proprietary or regulatory functions;

(ii) "Facilities" means any lands, buildings or structures.

### **6 6 302. Obstructive or disruptive conduct within governmental facilities prohibited.**

(a) No person, acting either singly or in concert with others, shall go into or upon facilities owned by, or under the control of, a governing body and obstruct or disrupt, by force, violence or other conduct which is in fact obstructive or disruptive, the activities conducted therein or thereon or the uses made thereof under the authority of the governing body. Obstructive or disruptive activities include restricting lawful:

(i) Freedom of movement on or within a facility;

(ii) And designated use of a facility;

(iii) Ingress or egress on or within a facility.

### **6 6 303. Refusing to desist or remove oneself from facilities.**

No person within or upon the facilities of a governing body shall refuse to desist from a course of conduct or to remove himself from the facilities upon request by an authorized representative of the governing body, after having been notified that the conduct or the presence of the person is contrary to or in violation of established policies, rules or regulations of the governing body which are reasonably related to the furtherance of the lawful purposes of the governing body and incident to the maintenance or orderly and efficient use of its facilities for the purposes for which acquired or designated.

**6 6 304. Freedom of speech, press or assembly not abridged.**

Nothing in W.S. 6-6-301 through 6-6-307 prevents, denies or abridges the freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble to consult for the common good, to make known their opinions, and to petition for the redress of grievances.

**6 6 306. Identification may be required; ejection from facilities when presence unlawful or prohibited.**

Every governing body, acting through its officers and employees, may require identification of any person within or upon its facilities and eject any person from the facilities upon his refusal to leave peaceably upon request, when his presence in a facility is unlawful or otherwise prohibited by the governing body.

**6 6 307. No restriction on powers of governing body.**

Nothing within W.S. 6-6-301 through 6-6-307 is intended, nor shall operate, to limit or restrict each governing body from carrying out its purposes and objectives through the exercise of powers otherwise granted by law nor shall preclude a governing body from taking disciplinary action against those violating W.S. 6-6-301 through 6-6-307 who are subject to its disciplinary authority.

**OFFENSES BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

**6 5 101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Government" includes any branch, subdivision or agency of the state of Wyoming or any city, town, county, school district or special district within it;

(ii) "Governmental function" includes any activity which a public servant is legally authorized to undertake on behalf of a government;

(iii) "Harm" means loss, disadvantage or injury;

(iv) "Pecuniary benefit" is benefit in the form of property;

(v) "Public officer" means a person who holds an office which is created or granted authority by the constitution or the legislature and who exercises a portion of the sovereign power of the state;

(vi) "Public servant" means any public officer, employee of government, or any person participating, as juror, witness, advisor, consultant or otherwise, in performing a governmental function.

**6 5 102. Bribery; penalties.**

(a) A person commits bribery, if:

(i) He offers, confers or agrees to confer any pecuniary benefit, testimonial, privilege or personal advantage upon a public servant as consideration for the public servant's vote, exercise of discretion or other action in his official capacity; or

(ii) While a public servant, he solicits, accepts or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit, testimonial, privilege or personal advantage upon an agreement or understanding that his vote, exercise of discretion or other action as a public servant will thereby be influenced.

**6 5 103. Compensation for past official behavior; penalties.**

(a) A person commits an offense if he solicits, accepts or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit as compensation for having, as a public servant, given a decision or vote favorable to another, or for having otherwise exercised a discretion in his favor, or for having violated his statutory duties. For purposes of this section, "compensation" does not include mere acceptance of an offer of employment.

**6 5 104. Soliciting unlawful compensation; penalties.**

(a) A public servant commits soliciting unlawful compensation if he solicits, accepts or agrees to accept a pecuniary benefit for the performance of an official action knowing that he was required to perform that action without compensation or at a level of compensation lower than that requested.

**6 5 105. Unlawful designation of provider of services or goods; penalties; affirmative defense.**

(a) No public servant shall require or direct a bidder or contractor to deal with a particular person in procuring any goods or service required in submitting a bid to or fulfilling a contract with any government.

(b) A provision in an invitation to bid or a contract document which violates this section is against public policy and voidable.

(c) It is an affirmative defense that the defendant was a public servant acting within the scope of his authority exercising the right to reject any material, subcontractor, service, bond or

contract tendered by a bidder or contractor because it did not meet bona fide specifications or requirements relating to quality, availability, experience or financial responsibility.

**6 5 106. Conflict of interest; penalties; disclosure of interest and withdrawal from participation.**

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, a public servant commits an offense if he requests or receives any pecuniary benefit, other than lawful compensation, on any contract, or for the letting of any contract, or making any appointment where the government employing or subject to the discretion or decisions of the public servant is concerned.

(b) If any public servant discloses the nature and extent of his pecuniary interest to all parties concerned therewith and does not participate during the considerations and vote thereon and does not attempt to influence any of the parties and does not act for the governing body with respect to the contracts or appointments, then the acts are not unlawful under subsection (a) of this section. Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to the operation, administration, inspection or performance of banking and deposit contracts or relationships after the selection of a depository.

**6 5 107. Official misconduct; penalties.**

(a) A public servant commits a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), if, with intent to obtain a pecuniary benefit or maliciously to cause harm to another, he knowingly:

- (i) Commits an act relating to his official duties that the public servant does not have the authority to undertake;
- (ii) Refrains from performing a duty imposed upon him by law; or
- (iii) Violates any statute relating to his official duties.

(b) A public officer commits a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) if he intentionally fails to perform a duty in the manner and within the time prescribed by law.

**6 5 108. Issuing false certificate; penalties.**

(a) A public servant commits a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both, if he makes and issues an official certificate or other official written instrument which he is authorized to make and issue containing a statement which he knows to be false with intent to obtain a benefit or maliciously to cause harm to another.

(b) A public servant commits a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both, if he makes and issues an official certificate or other official written instrument which he is authorized to make and issue containing a statement which he knows to be false.

**6 5 110. Wrongful appropriation of public property; penalties.**

(a) A public servant who lawfully or unlawfully comes into possession of any property of any government and who, with intent temporarily to deprive the owner of its use and benefit, converts any of the public property to his own use or any use other than the public use authorized by law is guilty of wrongful appropriation of public property.

(c) This section shall not apply to limited use of government property or resources for personal purposes if the use does not interfere with the performance of a governmental function and either the cost or value related to the use is de minimis or the public servant reimburses the government for the cost of the use.

**6 5 111. Failure or refusal to account for, deliver or pay over property; penalties.**

A public servant who fails or refuses to account for, deliver and pay over property received by virtue of the office, when legally required by the proper person or authority is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

**6 5 113. Removal from office after judgment of conviction.**

A judgment of conviction rendered under W.S. 6 5 102 through 6 5 112 and 6 5 117 against any public servant, except state elected officials, supreme court justices, district court judges and circuit court judges, shall result in removal from office or discharge from employment.

**6 5 114. Notarial officers; issuance of certificate without proper acknowledgment; penalties.**

A notarial officer commits a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both, if he signs and affixes his stamp to a certificate of acknowledgment when the party executing the instrument has not first acknowledged the execution of the instrument in the presence of, as defined in W.S. 32-3-102(a)(iii), the notarial officer, if by law the instrument is required to be recorded or filed and cannot be filed without a certificate of acknowledgment signed and sealed by a notarial officer.

**6 5 116. Public officer acting before qualifying; penalty.**

An elected or appointed public officer or his deputy commits a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) if he performs any duty of his office

without taking and subscribing the oath prescribed by law or before giving and filing the bond required by law. This section shall not apply to training and similar minor preparation for taking office.

**6 5 117. Public officer demanding kickback from deputy; penalties.**

A public officer who requires a deputy appointed by him to divide or pay back to the officer a part of the deputy's salary or requires any type of compensation of any form in return for the deputy's continued employment is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

**6 5 118. Conflict of interest; public investments; disclosure required; penalty; definitions.**

(a) No public servant who invests public funds for a unit of government, or who has authority to decide how public funds are invested, shall transact any personal business with, receive any pecuniary benefit from or have any financial interest in any entity, other than a governmental entity, unless he has disclosed the benefit or interest in writing to the body of which he is a member or entity for which he is working. Disclosures shall be made annually in a public meeting and shall be made part of the record of proceedings. The public servant shall make the written disclosure prior to investing any public funds in any entity, other than a governmental entity, which:

(i) Provides any services related to investment of funds by that same unit of government; or

(ii) Has a financial interest in any security or other investment made by that unit of government.

(c) The definitions in W.S. 6 5 101 shall apply to this section except "pecuniary benefit" shall also include benefits in the form of services such as, but not limited to, transportation and lodging. As used in this section, "personal business" means any activity that is not a governmental function as defined in W.S. 6 5 101(a)(ii).

## **School Libraries**

**21 2 201. General supervision of public schools entrusted to state superintendent.**

(a) The general supervision of the public schools shall be entrusted to the state superintendent who shall be the administrative head and chief executive officer of the department of education.



## **21 2 202. Duties of the state superintendent.**

(a) In addition to any other duties assigned by law, the state superintendent shall:

(i) Make rules and regulations, consistent with this code, as may be necessary or desirable for the proper and effective administration of the state educational system and the statewide education accountability system pursuant to W.S. 21 2 204. Nothing in this section shall be construed to give the state superintendent rulemaking power in any area specifically entrusted to the state board;

(ii) Consult with and advise the state board, local school boards, local school administrators, teachers and interested citizens, and seek in every way to develop public support for a complete and uniform system of education for the citizens of this state;

(xix) Serve as the state agency to accept all federal funds for aid to education, except as provided in W.S. 21 2 307 and 21 2 601, and as the agency to administer or supervise the administration of any state plan established or federal funds subject to federal requirements. Each acceptance is restricted in its effect to the specific situation involved.

(xxxv) Review and make available suitable materials for suicide prevention education as required for school district teachers and school administrators under W.S. 21 3 110(a)(xxxiii);

(e) In addition to paragraph (a)(i) of this section, the state superintendent shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the administration of the Wyoming education resource block grant model adopted by the Wyoming legislature as defined under W.S. 21 13 309, and governing the operation of the model in determining school district foundation program payments in accordance with chapter 13, article 3 of this title and other applicable law. The block grant model, as defined under W.S. 21 13 101(a)(xiv) and as maintained under this subsection, shall be made available for public inspection by the state superintendent in electronic format. Copies of the block grant model spreadsheets as administered under department rule and regulation shall be provided to school districts by the state superintendent for district use in district budgeting and in complying with mandatory financial reporting requirements imposed under W.S. 21 13 307(b) and by other provisions of law. To maintain the integrity of the block grant model, copies of the model and model spreadsheets made available under this subsection for public inspection and school district use shall be by protected version only, prohibiting the editing of model components, model data and model formulas. Following adoption of any recalibration of or modification to the block grant model by the Wyoming legislature, and prior to computing the foundation program amount for each school district under W.S. 21 13 309(p) and determining the amount to be distributed to a district under W.S. 21 13 311 or recaptured from a district subject to W.S. 21 13 102(b), the state superintendent shall certify to the legislature that the block grant model as enacted by the legislature is properly incorporated into the administration of the model for the appropriate school year of

model application and is made available for public inspection. Technical corrections to model spreadsheets necessary for model administration between any session of the legislature shall be implemented by the state superintendent, shall be in accordance with procedures specified by rule and regulation filed with the secretary of state, shall be reported to the legislature together with the associated fiscal and technical impact of the correction, and shall be incorporated into the electronic version of the model available for public inspection. As used in this subsection, "technical corrections to model spreadsheets" means corrections necessary to ensure model operation and current school year district payments are in accordance with law and the model is properly computing school foundation program payments to school districts as required by law. Notwithstanding W.S. 16-3-114(c), no judicial review of rules promulgated and adopted under this subsection shall hold unlawful or set aside action of the state superintendent in promulgating or adopting rules unless the rules are by clear and convincing evidence, shown to exceed statutory authority.

(f) The state superintendent shall identify professional development needs for Wyoming schools and teachers, establish a plan to address the professional development needs, contract with necessary expertise to provide professional development to Wyoming certified teachers and conduct up to five (5) regional workshops each year providing the identified professional development needs.

## **Nonprofit 501(c)3 Entities**

### **1-1-125. Immunity for volunteers; volunteer firefighters; search and rescue.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Compensation" does not include actual and necessary expenses that are incurred by a volunteer in connection with the services that the volunteer performs for a nonprofit organization and that are reimbursed to the volunteer or otherwise paid nor does it include any incidental personal privileges received by volunteers for their services;

(ii) "Nonprofit organization" means those nonprofit organizations exempt from federal income tax pursuant to section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(iii) "Volunteer" means:

(A) An officer, director, trustee or other person who performs services for a nonprofit organization but does not receive compensation, either directly or indirectly, for those services;

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a volunteer who provides services or performs duties on behalf of a nonprofit organization, a volunteer fire department or a sheriff

as part of a search and rescue operation is personally immune from civil liability for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury if at the time of the act or omission:

(i) The person was acting within the scope of his duties as a volunteer for the nonprofit organization, volunteer fire department or a sheriff as part of a search and rescue operation; and

(ii) The act or omission did not constitute willful or wanton misconduct or gross negligence.

(c) This section does not grant immunity to any person causing damage as a result of the negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

## UNIFORM PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL FUNDS

### **17 7 301. Short title.**

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.

### **17 7 302. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Charitable purpose" means the relief of poverty, the advancement of education or religion, the promotion of health, the promotion of a governmental purpose or any other purpose the achievement of which is beneficial to the community;

(ii) "Endowment fund" means an institutional fund or part thereof that, under the terms of a gift instrument, is not wholly expendable by the institution on a current basis. The term does not include assets that an institution designates as an endowment fund for its own use;

(iii) "Gift instrument" means a record or records, including an institutional solicitation, under which property is granted to, transferred to or held by an institution as an institutional fund;

(iv) "Institution" means:

(A) A person, other than an individual, organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes;

(B) A government or governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality to the extent that it holds funds exclusively for a charitable purpose; or

(C) A trust that had both charitable and noncharitable interests, after all noncharitable interests have been terminated.

(v) "Institutional fund" means a fund held by an institution exclusively for charitable purposes. The term does not include:

(A) Program-related assets;

(B) A fund held for an institution by a trustee that is not an institution; or

(C) A fund in which a beneficiary that is not an institution has an interest, other than an interest that could arise upon violation or failure of the purposes of the fund.

(vi) "Person" means as defined by W.S. 8 1 102;

(vii) "Program-related asset" means an asset held by an institution primarily to accomplish a charitable purpose of the institution and not primarily for investment;

(viii) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form;

(ix) "This act" means W.S. 17 7-301 through 17 7 307.

**17 7 303. Standard of conduct in managing and investing institutional fund.**

(a) Subject to the intent of a donor expressed in a gift instrument, an institution, in managing and investing an institutional fund, shall consider the charitable purposes of the institution and the purposes of the institutional fund.

(b) In addition to complying with the duty of loyalty imposed by law other than this act, each person responsible for managing and investing an institutional fund shall manage and invest the fund in good faith and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.

(c) In managing and investing an institutional fund, an institution:

(i) May incur only costs that are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the assets, the purposes of the institution and the skills available to the institution; and

(ii) Shall make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to the management and investment of the fund.

(d) An institution may pool two (2) or more institutional funds for purposes of management and investment.

(e) Except as otherwise provided by a gift instrument, the following rules shall apply:

(i) In managing and investing an institutional fund, the following factors if relevant shall be considered:

(A) General economic conditions;

(B) The possible effect of inflation or deflation;

(C) The expected tax consequences, if any, of investment decisions or strategies;

(D) The role that each investment or course of action plays within the overall investment portfolio of the fund;

(E) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;

(F) Other resources of the institution;

(G) The needs of the institution and the fund to make distributions and to preserve capital; and

(H) An asset's special relationship or special value, if any, to the charitable purposes of the institution.

(ii) Management and investment decisions about an individual asset shall be made not in isolation but rather in the context of the institutional fund's portfolio of investments as a whole and as a part of an overall investment strategy having risk and return objectives reasonably suited to the fund and to the institution;

(iii) Except as otherwise provided by law other than this act, an institution may invest in any kind of property or type of investment consistent with this section;

(iv) An institution shall diversify the investments of an institutional fund unless the institution reasonably determines that, because of special circumstances, the purposes of the fund are better served without diversification;

(v) Within a reasonable time after receiving property, an institution shall make and carry out decisions concerning the retention or disposition of the property or to rebalance a portfolio in order to bring the institutional fund into compliance with the purposes, terms and distribution requirements of the institution as necessary to meet other circumstances of the institution and the requirements of this act;

(vi) A person who has special skills or expertise, or is selected in reliance upon the person's representation that the person has special skills or expertise, has a duty to use those skills or that expertise in managing and investing institutional funds.

**17 7 304. Appropriation for expenditure or accumulation of endowment fund; rules of construction.**

(a) Subject to subsection (d) of this section and to the intent of a donor expressed in the gift instrument, an institution may appropriate for expenditure or accumulate so much of an endowment fund as the institution determines is prudent for the uses, benefits, purposes and duration for which the endowment fund is established. Unless stated otherwise in the gift instrument, the assets in an endowment fund are donor-restricted assets until appropriated for expenditure by the institution. In making a determination to appropriate or accumulate, the institution shall act in good faith, with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and shall consider, if relevant, the following factors:

- (i) The duration and preservation of the endowment fund;
- (ii) The purposes of the institution and the endowment fund;
- (iii) General economic conditions;
- (iv) The possible effect of inflation or deflation;
- (v) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;
- (vi) Other resources of the institution; and
- (vii) The investment policy of the institution.

(b) To limit the authority to appropriate for expenditure or accumulate under subsection (a) of this section, a gift instrument shall specifically state the limitation.

(c) Terms in a gift instrument designating a gift as an endowment, or a direction or authorization in the gift instrument to use only "income", "interest", "dividends", or "rents, issues or profits", or "to preserve the principal intact" or words of similar import:

- (i) Create an endowment fund of permanent duration unless other language in the gift instrument limits the duration or purpose of the fund; and
- (ii) Do not otherwise limit the authority to appropriate for expenditure or accumulate under subsection (a) of this section.

(d) The appropriation for expenditure in any year of an amount greater than seven percent (7%) of the fair market value of an endowment fund, calculated on the basis of market values determined at least quarterly and averaged over a period of not less than three (3) years immediately preceding the year in which the appropriation for expenditure is made, creates a rebuttable presumption of imprudence. For an endowment fund in existence for fewer than three (3) years, the fair market value of the endowment fund shall be calculated for the period the endowment fund has been in existence. This subsection shall not:

(i) Apply to an appropriation for expenditure permitted under law other than this act or by the gift instrument; or

(ii) Create a presumption of prudence for an appropriation for expenditure of an amount less than or equal to seven percent (7%) of the fair market value of the endowment fund.

**17 7 305. Delegation of management and investment functions.**

(a) Subject to any specific limitation set forth in a gift instrument or in law other than this act, an institution may delegate to an external agent the management and investment of an institutional fund to the extent that an institution could prudently delegate under the circumstances. An institution shall act in good faith, with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, in:

(i) Selecting an agent;

(ii) Establishing the scope and terms of the delegation, consistent with the purposes of the institution and the institutional fund; and

(iii) Periodically reviewing the agent's actions in order to monitor the agent's performance and compliance with the scope and terms of the delegation.

(b) In performing a delegated function, an agent owes a duty to the institution to exercise reasonable care to comply with the scope and terms of the delegation.

(c) An institution that complies with subsection (a) of this section is not liable for the decisions or actions of an agent to which the function was delegated.

(d) By accepting delegation of a management or investment function from an institution that is subject to the laws of this state, an agent submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state in all proceedings arising from or related to the delegation or the performance of the delegated function.

(e) An institution may delegate management and investment functions to its committees, officers or employees as authorized by law of this state other than this act.

**17 7 306. Release or modification of restrictions on management, investment or purpose.**

(a) If the donor consents in a record, an institution may release or modify, in whole or in part, a restriction contained in a gift instrument on the management, investment or purpose of an institutional fund. A release or modification may not allow a fund to be used for a purpose other than a charitable purpose of the institution.

(b) The court upon application of an institution, may modify a restriction contained in a gift instrument regarding the management or investment of an institutional fund if the restriction has become impracticable or wasteful, if it impairs the management or investment of the fund, or if, because of circumstances not anticipated by the donor, a modification of a restriction will further the purposes of the fund. If the institution is a governmental institution as defined by W.S. 17-7-302(a)(iv), the institution shall notify the attorney general of the application, and the attorney general shall be given an opportunity to be heard. To the extent practicable, any modification shall be made in accordance with the donor's probable intention.

(c) If a particular charitable purpose or a restriction contained in a gift instrument on the use of an institutional fund becomes unlawful, impracticable, impossible to achieve or wasteful, the court, upon application of an institution, may modify the purpose of the fund or the restriction on the use of the fund in a manner consistent with the charitable purposes expressed in the gift instrument. If the institution is a governmental institution as defined by W.S. 17 7 302(a)(iv), the institution shall notify the attorney general of the application, and the attorney general shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

(d) If an institution determines that a restriction contained in a gift instrument on the management, investment or purposes of an institutional fund is unlawful, impracticable, impossible to achieve or wasteful, the institution, not less than sixty (60) days after notification to the attorney general, may release or modify the restriction, in whole or part, if:

(i) The institutional fund subject to the restriction has a total value of less than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00);

(ii) More than twenty (20) years have elapsed since the fund was established; and

(iii) The institution uses the property in a manner consistent with the charitable purposes expressed in the gift instrument.

**17 7 307. Reviewing compliance.**

Compliance with this act shall be determined in light of the facts and circumstances existing at the time a decision is made or action is taken.



## WYOMING NONPROFIT CORPORATION ACT

### **17 19 203. Incorporation.**

- (a) Unless a delayed effective date is specified, the corporate existence begins when the articles of incorporation are filed.
- (b) The secretary of state's filing of the articles of incorporation is conclusive proof that the incorporators satisfied all conditions precedent to incorporation except in a proceeding by the state to cancel or revoke the incorporation or involuntarily dissolve the corporation.

### **17 19 302. General powers.**

- (a) Unless its articles of incorporation provide otherwise, every corporation has perpetual duration and succession in its corporate name and has the same powers as an individual to do all things necessary or convenient to carry out its affairs including, without limitation, power:
  - (i) To sue and be sued, complain and defend in its corporate name;
  - (ii) To have a corporate seal, which may be altered at will, and to use it, or a facsimile of it, by impressing or affixing or in any other manner reproducing it;
  - (iii) To make and amend bylaws not inconsistent with its articles of incorporation or with the laws of this state, for regulating and managing the affairs of the corporation;
  - (iv) To purchase, receive, lease or otherwise acquire, and own, hold, improve, use and otherwise deal with, real or personal property or any legal or equitable interest in property, wherever located;
  - (v) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property;
  - (vi) To purchase, receive, subscribe for or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, sell, mortgage, lend, pledge or otherwise dispose of, and deal in and with, shares or other interests in, or obligations of any entity;
  - (vii) To make contracts and guaranties, incur liabilities, borrow money, issue notes, bonds and other obligations, and secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of any of its property, franchises or income;
  - (viii) To lend money, invest and reinvest its funds and receive and hold real and personal property as security for repayment, except as limited by W.S. 17 19 832;

- (ix) To be a promoter, partner, member, associate or manager of any partnership, joint venture, trust or other entity;
- (x) To conduct its activities, locate offices and exercise the powers granted by this act within or without this state;
- (xi) To elect or appoint directors, officers, employees and agents of the corporation, define their duties and fix their compensation;
- (xii) To pay pensions and establish pension plans, pension trusts and other benefit and incentive plans for any or all of its current or former directors, officers, employees and agents;
- (xiii) To make donations not inconsistent with law for the public welfare or for charitable, religious, scientific or educational purposes and for other purposes that further the corporate interest;
- (xiv) To impose dues, assessments, admission and transfer fees upon its members;
- (xv) To establish conditions for admission of members, admit members and issue memberships;
- (xvi) To carry on a business;
- (xvii) To do all things necessary or convenient, not inconsistent with law, to further the activities and affairs of the corporation.