



# WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY OFFICERS



**WACO**



## **BETTER TOGETHER**

**SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2023**

**95th Conference**

**Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center**

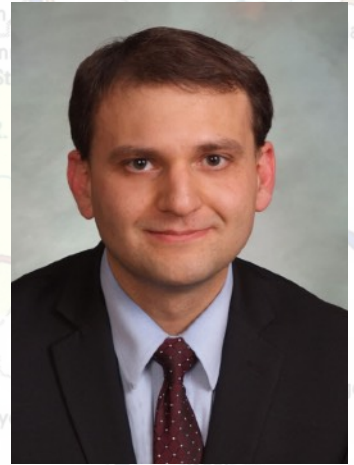
**Casper, WY**

# WYOMING

Statewide Elected Officials  
*and*  
Congressional Delegation



GOVERNOR MARK GORDON



SECRETARY OF STATE CHUCK GRAY



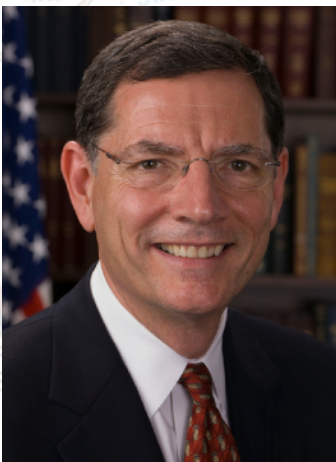
TREASURER CURT MEIER



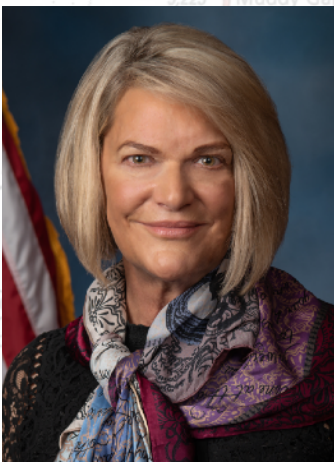
AUDITOR KRISTI RACINES



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
INSTRUCTION MEGAN DEGENFELDER



SENATOR JOHN BARRASSO



SENATOR CYNTHIA LUMMIS



REPRESENTATIVE HARRIET  
HAGEMAN



**2023**

**Guest Speakers**



**GOVERNOR DAVE FREUDENTHAL**



**BOB BUDD**



**SETH JAHN**

## **WACO's Mission**

- To perpetuate and develop the Association as an entity for the operation of the elective County Officers of the State of Wyoming in the practical study of County affairs and endeavors.
- To promote the general welfare of the Counties of the State of Wyoming and of the County Officers thereof, by holding an annual meeting together with conferences, and to gather and disseminate information on any problems, concerns or issues.
- To gather and circulate information and experiences on the most improved methods of administration of all branches of County Government.
- To secure the enactment of legislation, beneficial to Counties and County Officers, and to prevent the enactment of unfavorable legislation.
- To urge affiliation of all County Officers with the National Association of Counties (NACo) and support and fund a seat or seats on the NACo Board of Directors as approved by the WACO Board of Directors.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

*All events are held at the Ramkota Ballroom unless otherwise noted. All times and events are tentative and subject to change.*

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ..... **Public Officer Training**

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM ..... **Sponsor Booth Set-Up**

*Booths may be set up at any time between 1:00 PM-4:00 PM*

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM ..... **Natrona County Welcome Reception**

*The M Building at 234 E 1st Street, Downtown Casper; transportation provided to and from event from the Ramkota Lobby*

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

*All events are held at the Ramkota Ballroom unless otherwise noted. All times and events are tentative and subject to change.*

8:00 AM - 10:30 AM ..... **WACO General Session**

- ▶ Local Welcome  
*Steve Freel, Natrona County Commission, Chairman and Bruce Knell, Mayor, City of Casper*
- ▶ Presentation of the Colors  
*Jr Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), Natrona County High School*
- ▶ National Anthem  
*Performed by Lily Malone*
- ▶ Invocation  
*Pastor Angela Haigler*
- ▶ President's Welcome and Financial Report  
*Barb Poley, Park County Treasurer*
- ▶ Introduction of Sponsors
- ▶ NACo Board of Directors Report  
*Terry Wolf (Washakie County Commissioner, NACo Board Member) and Bill Novotny (Johnson County Commissioner, NACo Board Member, WCCA President)*
- ▶ Legislative Update  
*Albert Sommers, Wyoming Speaker of the House and Ogden Driskill, Wyoming Senate President*

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM ..... **Break + Booth Visits**

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM ..... **Individual Association Meetings**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ..... **Lunch**

- ▶ Guest Speaker  
*Governor Dave Freudenthal, Wyoming's 31<sup>st</sup> Governor, discusses his new book Wyoming: The Paradox of Plenty*

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM ..... **Break + Booth Visits**

1:15 PM - 5:00 PM ..... **Individual Association Meetings**

Evening ..... **Individual Association Dinners**



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

*Don't forget to wear your brown and gold to celebrate Wyoming! All events are held at the Ramkota Ballroom unless otherwise noted. All times and events are tentative and subject to change.*

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM ..... **WACO General Session**

- ▶ Call to Order
- ▶ Choral Performance  
*Kelly Walsh High School A Cappella Choir*
- ▶ Remarks by Statewide Elected Officials  
*Governor Mark Gordon, Secretary of State Chuck Gray, State Auditor Kristi Racines, State Treasurer Curt Meier, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder*

9:00 AM - 9:10 AM ..... **Break + Booth Visits**

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM ..... **WACO General Session**

- ▶ Guest Speaker  
*Seth Jahn: Veteran, Athlete, Motivational Speaker*
- ▶ Adoption of Resolutions and Bylaw Changes
- ▶ Memorial Ceremony
- ▶ Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers
- ▶ Presentations and New President Remarks

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM ..... **Break + Booth Visits**

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM ----- **Individual Association Meetings**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ----- **Lunch**

- ▶ Video Messages from Congressional Delegation  
*Senator John Barrasso, Senator Cynthia Lummis,  
and Representative Harriet Hageman*
- ▶ Presentation  
*Casper FFA, 2023 Wyoming State Champion  
Parliamentary Procedure Team*

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM ----- **Break + Booth Visits**

1:15 PM - 5:00 PM ----- **Individual Association Meetings**

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM ----- **Social Hour, Ramkota Terrace**

6:30 PM ----- **WACO Banquet, Ramkota Ballroom**

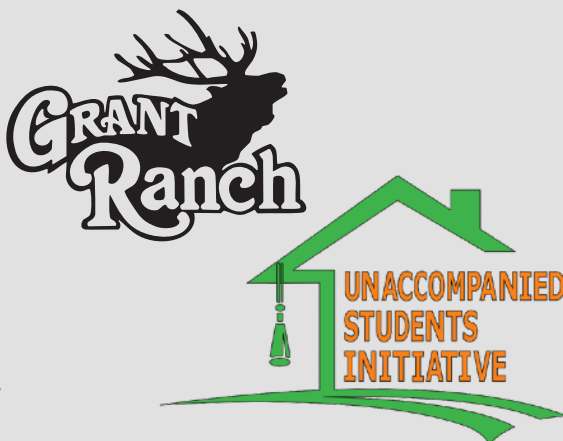


*This year's WACO Banquet  
entertainment is provided by Chad  
Lore, Wyoming's One Man Band!  
Visit Chad online at [chadlore.com](http://chadlore.com) to  
learn more about his eclectic music.*

- ▶ Guest Speaker  
*Bob Budd, Author and Executive Director of the  
Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust  
discusses his new book Otters Dance: A Rancher's  
Journey to Enlightenment and Stewardship*
- ▶ Door Prize Giveaways
- ▶ Raffle: meat package donated by the Grant Ranch

*Proceeds for the 2023 WACO Conference  
Raffle will benefit Unaccompanied  
Students Initiative, whose mission is to  
provide safe and stable housing to  
develop sustainable independence for  
youth ages 16-20 experiencing  
homelessness. Learn more about the  
organization at [usinitiative.org](http://usinitiative.org).*

*Tickets may be purchased from any  
WACO board member; \$1 each or 6 for \$5.*



# WACO Board of Directors

## **President**

Barb Poley

*Park County Treasurer*

## **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Diane Sanchez

*Laramie County Clerk of District Court*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Loretta Howieson Kallas

*Uinta County Attorney*

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President**

Karen Rimmer

*Converse County Clerk*

## **4<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

Brittany Nyman

*Carbon County Coroner*

## **5<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

Melissa Shinkle

*Teton County Assessor*

## **6<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

John Harlin

*Natrona County Sheriff*

## **7<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

Morgan Martinez

*Washakie County Commissioner*

## **Past President**

Bryan Colvard

*Weston County Sheriff*

## **WACO Secretary/Treasurer**

Britney Butler

*WCCA Director of Operations*

# Association Presidents

## **Assessors**

David Divis, *Sublette County*

## **Attorneys**

Tucker Ruby, *Johnson County*

## **Clerks**

Malcolm Ervin, *Platte County*

## **Clerks of District Court**

Paige Rhoads, *Johnson County*

## **Commissioners**

Bill Novotny, *Johnson County*

## **Coroners**

Brittany Nyman, *Carbon County*

## **Sheriffs**

Jeff Hodge, *Crook County*

## **Treasurers**

Emily Paravicini, *Sublette County*



**Thank you to our generous sponsors!**

## **GOLD Sponsors**

Enbridge Energy

Advance Casper

## **SILVER Sponsors**

Visionary Broadband

Center for Tech and Civic Life

## **BRONZE Sponsors**

Rocky Mountain Power/PacifiCorp

Cowboy Skill, LLC

PureWest

## **EVENT Sponsors**

Black Hills Energy

ArcaSearch LLC

Motorola

KE Andrews


## **SOCIAL HOUR Sponsor**

Thomas Y Pickett & Co.

## **BOOTH Sponsors**

Be sure to visit with this year's information booths! Pick up your bingo card at the registration table.

<b>BOOTH Sponsors</b>	National Association of Counties	WPC Group
Capital Business Systems, Inc.	CSG Forte Payments, Inc.	Cowboy Skill, LLC
Inberg-Miller Engineers	Moreton Asset Management	Wyoming Agriculture & Natural Resource Mediation Program
Stahly Engineering Associates	Delta Dental of Wyoming	Certified Payments by Deluxe
Agile Benefits Consulting	Wyoming Government Investment Fund	Wyoming Behavioral Institute
The Master's Touch, LLC	CEPI	Local Government Liability Pool (LGLP)
WY Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors	Wells Fargo	Peregrine Global Services
Election Systems & Software	Kofile	WY Brand Industries
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming	Wyoming CLASS	<b>Be sure to visit all the info booths with your bingo card to be entered in a drawing for great prizes!</b>



**WACO**

**SEPTEMBER 23-26, 2024**

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**96<sup>th</sup> Conference**

**Bomber Mountain Civic Center**

**Buffalo, WY**

**SAVE THE DATE!**