

Bobcat Speech and Debate finish as runner up at tourney

The Hot Springs Speech and Debate Team earned second place in 1A/2A at the large Worlando Beach Speech and Debate Tournament held at Worland High School on January 10-11, 2025. Coaches Lyle Wiley, Riley Jeffs, and Markie Whitney traveled with 14 Bobcats to compete with 20 teams and over 270 entries.

Bobcat debaters had a strong tournament, led by senior Rosalie Willson and sophomore Annalyn Sharp who earned second place in Policy Debate with an impressive 4-1 debate record. Junior Dean Bihr broke into Super Congress in a big field and finished in fourth place overall. Bihr and fellow Lincoln-Douglas Debaters, including freshman Clayton Keller, freshman Rylee Simpson, and sophomore Jackson Coates, complet-

ed sixteen rounds of competition with some strong growth and results.

Senior Kiesha Kraushaar broke into semifinals and finished in the top ten of both Dramatic Interpretation and Informative Speaking. Coates broke into Semifinals in Humorous Interpretation and finished 12th overall. Bihr also earned a semifinal appearance in Impromptu Speaking, taking 10th place in another large competitive group.

Several competitors also showed improvement in their events including freshman Allyssa Hough and sophomore Kassidee Chavez who tied for 14th in Dramatic Interpretation. Junior Luci Andreen finished 15th in Program Oral Interpretation. Sophomore Teancum Gevas finished 20th overall in Informative Speak-

ing and 15th in Humorous Interpretation. Sophomore Riley Crowder finished in the top 30 of Informative Speaking.

Head Coach Lyle Wiley was impressed with the team effort at a large tournament after a long break in scheduled competition. "These Cats are resilient and talented, and they support each other in some wonderful ways. They keep working hard and growing," said Wiley. "We've been so lucky to have support from many teachers, alumni, and community members who have been coming in to give students feedback and ideas for their performances," he added.

Next for the Bobcats is the Riverside Speech and Debate Tournament at Riverside High School in Basin on January 18.



Speech and Debate

Bobcat Speech and Debate members Aubriana Layman, Rylee Simpson, Riley Crowder, Jackson Coates, Kass Chavez, Teancum Gevas, Clayton Keller, Keisha Kraushaar, Lucy Wiley, Allyssa Hough, Rosalie Willson, Luci Andreen, Annalyn Sharp and Dean Bihr celebrate after the Worlando Beach Tournament.

Public notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

Virtual/Online Public Comment Hearing - Tuesday, January 28, 2025, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, live from the Commission's hearing room located at 2515 Warren Avenue, Cheyenne, Wyoming

1. Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, Wyo. Stat. § 37-1-101, et seq., and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, notice is hereby given the Commission will hold a **virtual/online only** Public Comment Hearing in Docket No. 20000-671-ER-24, Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP) 2024 General Rate Application.

2. This Public Comment Hearing will be held **virtually/online only via Zoom on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, live from the Commission's hearing room located at 2515 Warren Avenue, Cheyenne, Wyoming.** It will be conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Commission's Rules.

3. All interested persons may appear and be heard by video or telephone conference, or through counsel appearing by video or telephone conference.

Attend by Zoom Meeting and actively participate at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9933449233>

Attend by telephone and actively participate by dialing:
 1-669-900-9128 or 1-253-215-8782
 (Meeting ID: 993 344 9233)

4. If you wish to attend the hearing and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427 (Voice or TTY) in Cheyenne during regular business hours or write them at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay (TTY) by dialing 711. Please mention Docket No. 20000-671-ER-24 in your correspondence.

Dated: January 2, 2025.

Pub. Jan. 9 & 16, 2025 No.1774

STATE OF) OFFICE OF THE
 WYOMING) BOARD OF
 OF) COUNTY
 COUNTY OF) COMMISSIONERS
 HOT SPRINGS) December 17, 2024

The Hot Springs Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Government Annex. Present were Commissioners Tom Ryan, Phillip Scheel, and Paul Galovich. Also present were County Clerk Becky Kersten, and Administrative Assistant to the Commissioners Connie Guntly. Chairman Ryan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda – The Commissioners adopted the Agenda as printed.

Approval of Minutes – The Commissioners approved the minutes from December 3, 2024 meeting.

Approval of Revenue Expenditure Reports – The Commissioners approved all three signatures on the November 2024 Financial Report.

Approval of Special Accounts Payable (AP) Warrant – The Commissioners approved all three signature on the Special AP Warrant Register and to sign the Voucher for the Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) conducted by Western Water Consultants (WWC) for the Community Development Block Grant applications (Arapahoe Street buildings and Common Ground building). It was explained the County owned 518 Arapahoe Street building is in the Brownfields program and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) paid for the ESA re-

port. (see end of listing)

Approach Agreement for Mud Creek Road – An Approach Agreement on Mud Creek Road for Mike Cumston was presented, all expenses were paid and the area was inspected. The property owner will provide the culvert and the County will install the culvert. The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the Approach Agreement for 1061 Mud Creek Road.

Discussion and Possible Action of Roof Inspection Quote – A quote was presented from CRCI, LLC to provide roofing consultation services for County owned buildings. The Commissioners discussed the need for the inspections on all roofs and feel it may be best for CRCI to provide a baseline inspection of the roofs. The project was not budgeted for, however there may be funds from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) to cover this quote. The Commissioners approved for the County to engage with Dave Kauffman, CRCI LLC, to provide Phase 1 roofing consultation inspection on Senior Center, Library, Law Enforcement Center, Annex, Courthouse, Museum, Extension Office, and Common Grounds buildings. Discussion: Mr. Culliton requested CRCI, LLC work with Maintenance on this project. The Commissioners also clarified the funds for this project will be taken from LATCF funding as a one-time project.

Wyoming County Commissioners Association (WCCA) Meeting Update

– Chairman Ryan stated the Commissioners went to the Winter Meeting in Buffalo. Chairman Ryan attended the WCCA Board meeting which consists of all the Commissioners' Chairmen. At the board meeting discussion consisted of supplemental budget, fire funding and the establishment of Semiquincentennial planning task force for the 250-year celebration in 2026. It was requested Counties adopt a Resolution for a task force to plan local activities. The Commissioners approved for all three signatures on a Resolution Establishing the Hot Springs County Semiquincentennial Planning Committee. Discussion: Commissioner Scheel added to the motion stating the County should contribute \$1,000 from Commissioner Budget to assist with planning the activities. Commissioner Galovich agreed to the addition to the motion. Chairman Ryan stated the signature stamps can be applied to the Resolution. The Commissioners also stated hot topics at the WCCA meeting included: Emergency Management Services, these services are not considered essential at the State level, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and industrial siding.

Exception to Bid for Auditing Services – The Commissioners approved all three signatures on the Exception to Bidding request for auditing services. Discussion: Commissioner Scheel stated Clerk Kersten laid out the request for an exception to bid due to the difficulties of finding statutory mandated auditing services in rural areas. Clerk Kersten received information from 6 Wyoming counties regarding the cost of auditing services and the contract length. County Clerk Kersten and Treasurer Mortimore are pleased with the services received from Carver, Florek, and James and the cost is competitive. Clerk Kersten stated County Treasurer Julie Mortimore also agrees with this request and was present for any discussion.

Other Business 1) **Request for Approval of Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, Hot Springs County Predator Management Board Meetings 2025** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the Facility Use Agreement, Annex meeting room, for the Predator Management Board Meetings in 2025, on March 26, May 5, July 7, October 6, and December 1, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 2) **Request for Approval of Unified Certification Program (UCP) Agreement and Acceptance with Wyoming Department of Transportation** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the UCP agreement with WYDOT for the Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBE) program. 3) **Request for Approval of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Policies** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the DBE policy statement. 4) **Request for Approval of LONG Agreement**

in the Amount of \$13,968, Effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, for HVAC Equipment Maintenance – Mr. Dorman stated this agreement is the same as in the previous agreements for maintenance, however this agreement includes the Common Ground Building, Emergency Operation Control Center building and Senior Center, the amount went up from last year due to the additional buildings. The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the LONG Maintenance Agreement. 5) **Request for Approval of Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, Owl Creek Irrigation District Annual Meeting** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the Facility Use Agreement, Annex meeting room, for Owl Creek Irrigation District meeting, on December 10th and February 11, 2025, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 6) **Request for Approval of Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, Lucerne Pumping Plant Canal Co., Annual Meeting** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the Facility Use Agreement, Annex meeting room, for Lucerne Pumping Plant and Canal Co. annual meeting, February 10, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. 7) **Request for Approval of Wyoming Airport Improvement Program, Certificate of State Grant-in-Aid, in the Amount of \$5,943 (County Minimum Match \$1,188.60), for 2025 NAVAID Maintenance** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on the WYDOT Aeronautics Grant-in-Aid agreement in the amount of \$5,943. 8) **Ratification of Letter for Protest of Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement for Greater Sage-Grouse Rangewide Planning** – The Commissioners ratified the letter for Protest of Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement for Greater Sage-Grouse Rangewide Planning. 9) **Appointment of Fairboard Member** – The Commissioners appointed Sadie Eckley to the Fairboard.

Correspondence – 1) **Local Government Liability Pool Letter** – LGLP Board Member Election Results; 2) **Department of Audit Letter** – Special Districts Compliant with Reports for Fiscal Year 2024; 3) **Wyoming Aeronautics Commission Meeting Agenda** – December 9 thru 11th; 4) **Christmas Card from Range** – December 2024 (Basket)

The Commissioners reviewed the forgoing correspondence. No further action was required.

Executive Session (W.S. 16-4-405) – The Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 3:51 p.m. based on W.S. 16-4-405. Present for the Executive Session were Commissioners Tom Ryan, Phillip Scheel, Paul Galovich. Also present were County Clerk Kersten, Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) Stephanie Conrad, Sheriff Jerimie Kraushaar, and Administrative Assistant Connie Guntly. The Commissioners exited Executive Session at 4:01 p.m. with no action taken.

After exiting Executive Session, Chairman Ryan stated the EMC position will be moved under the Sheriff's Department. The Commissioners approved for the EMC to report to the Sheriff, the EMC will still write her own budget and the budget will be independent of the Sheriff's, but the day to day reporting will be to the Sheriff. The Commissioners adopted **Resolution 2024-20, Amended Approval of the Official Holidays for Hot Springs County Employees for the Calendar Year 2024**, stating County Employees will have December 24th from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. off.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Hot Springs County Board of Commissioners will be held on January 21, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., at the Hot Springs County Annex building, 117 N. 4th St. Thermopolis. The public is invited to attend in person or stream online. To be placed on the Agenda please email Connie Guntly, Administrative Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners at connie.guntly@hscounty.com. Per Wyoming Statute section 18-3-516 (f), County information can be obtained at the County website <https://hscounty.com/> or by requesting a Public Records form from the County Clerk's office.

	Attest
Thomas J. Ryan, Chairman	Becky Kersten, County Clerk
Special Accounts Payable Warrant Vendor Western Water Consultants, Inc.	
Description Phase I ESAs Arapahoe St/ Com Ground	
Amount \$15,600.00	
Pub. Jan. 16, 2025	No. 1775

NOTICE AND ORDER SETTING PUBLIC HEARING

1. Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled regarding Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP or the Company) request for approval of a five-year commercial and industrial Demand Response Pilot Program and Recovery Mechanism. **The public hearing is set to commence on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., in the Commission's hearing room located at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, in Cheyenne, Wyoming.**

2. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming. RMP is a public utility, subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112.

3. On July 8, 2024, RMP filed its Application requesting Commission approval of a five-year commercial and industrial Demand Response Pilot Program and Recovery Mechanism.

4. Wyoming Industrial Energy Consumers (WIEC) petitioned to intervene in this matter, which the Commission granted by Order issued on August 26, 2024. Office of Consumer Advocate is also a party under the provisions of Wyoming Statute §37-2-402(a).

5. A complete description of RMP's Application and its supporting testimony and exhibits may be viewed at the Commission's office during business hours or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17625).

6. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing which will be conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, Wyoming Public Service Commission Rules. All interested persons may appear and be heard, in person, by video or telephone conference, or through counsel appearing in person or by video or telephone conference.

Attend Zoom Meeting and actively participate at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9933449233>

Or by Dialing: 1-669-900-9128 or 1-253-215-8782 **Meeting ID:** 993 344 9233

7. If you wish to attend the hearing and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427 (Voice or TTY) in Cheyenne during regular business hours or write them at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay (TTY) by dialing 711. Please, mention Docket No. 20000-670-ET-24 in all correspondence with the Commission.

Dated: January 9, 2025.
 Pub. Jan. 16 & 23, 2025 No. 1776