

News briefs from around the state

From Wyoming News Exchange newspapers

Food Bank of Wyoming launches To-Go Volunteer Projects

CHEYENNE (WNE) — With food insecurity rates at a more than 10-year high, Food Bank of Wyoming is introducing new ways to get involved, making it easier than ever for supporters to help ignite the power of community and nourish neighbors facing hunger — no matter where they live.

“We received a lot of requests from people and businesses throughout the state who want to volunteer, but don’t live near our distribution center in the Casper area,” Food Bank of Wyoming Development Manager Jenna Noelle said in a news release. “We wanted to create opportunities for people to help make an impact, rather than having to point them somewhere else.”

To help fill that gap, Food Bank of Wyoming has launched To-Go Volunteer Projects, allowing individuals, groups and companies across the state to get involved from their own communities. The following projects allow volunteers to give back for a few hours at a time, in a place that works for them.

Produce bag production: Support the Food Bank’s operations by cutting and tying some of the more than 5,000 mesh bags used every month to pack and distribute fresh produce.

Hygiene kits: Create hygiene kits to help neighbors access essential personal care items with dignity and confidence. Most supplies are purchased by the volunteer group, making this an easy, team-friendly service project. Razors are among the most requested items.

Birthday in a Box: Create birthday cake kits to help neighbors celebrate special occasions. Most supplies are purchased by the volunteer group, making this an inexpensive, low-lift volunteer project with meaningful impact.

Food box cards: Create hand-drawn cards to send messages of support to recipients of the Food Bank’s mobile pantries. This project is flexible, easy and a fun, creative outlet for employees and community members.

To-Go Volunteer Project kits are delivered by Food Bank of Wyoming trucks with

all instructions and supplies. Once completed, the projects are picked up during a future delivery route, allowing businesses, organizations and individuals across the state to volunteer on their own schedule.

Volunteers can explore To-Go Volunteer Projects at wyoming-foodbank.org/get-involved/ volunteer.

Lummis introduces Farmers and Ranchers Relief Act to clarify Clean Water Act exemptions

CHEYENNE (WNE) — U.S. Sen. Cynthia Lummis, R-Wyo., on Tuesday introduced the Farmers and Ranchers Relief Act of 2026, a bill to strengthen and clarify Clean Water Act Section 404(f) exemptions for farmers, ranchers and landowners conducting routine land and water management activities.

“Farmers and ranchers shouldn’t need a team of lawyers just to maintain a ditch or manage their land the way they always have,” Lummis said in a news release. “This bill fixes a loophole that never should have exist-

ed in the first place. If you’re doing the right thing on your own land, the federal government should be the last thing you’re worried about.”

Todd Fornstrom, president of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, lent his support to the bill as well.

“Congress recognized that farmers and ranchers must be able to carry out routine agricultural activities without unnecessary federal permitting requirements, which is why Congress included the Section 404(f) exemption in the Clean Water Act,” Fornstrom said in the release. “However, exemptions are only effective when they are clear and consistently applied. Greater certainty is needed to ensure farmers and ranchers can confidently conduct normal farming operations as Congress intended, without the risk of unintended regulatory burdens.

“We appreciate Senator Lummis’s leadership in introducing legislation that provides much-needed clarity and certainty, helping farmers and ranchers continue their work while maintaining their strong commitment to conservation and stewardship.”

PUBLIC NOTICE

As required by Wyoming State Statute 18-3-516 (f), information on meeting dates, meeting agendas, official minutes, annual budget, and other information required by law to be published in a newspaper of general circulation can also be accessed on the Hot Springs County website: www.hscounty.com

Contestants Wanted!

No entry fee • Register before July 30

13TH ANNUAL

Chili COOK OFF

CASH PRIZES!

Red & Green Divisions

Thurs., July 30 5-6 p.m.

HSC Fairgrounds

Come on down, sample all the chili, drink included.

\$10 a bowl unlimited refills (includes drink & dessert)

Stay & watch the Beef Show at 6 p.m.

Call Cassie 921-9257 or Donna at 867-2412

Sponsored by the Thermopolis FFA Alumni, proceeds benefit local FFA chapters

FFA Alumni Sponsored

FAIR EVENTS

Something for everyone! OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Come & enjoy the fun!

Sat., July 25 • 5:30 p.m.

RANCH ROPEO

Come watch the fun! Teams of 5 cowboys and cowgirls from different ranches compete against each other in events loosely based on the type of work they do every day!

Thurs., July 30 • 5 p.m.

CHILI COOK OFF

Come enjoy some great chili, red and green! Vote for the best chili for the People's Choice Award! Test your cooking skills by participating in the cook off! Lots of yummy food for \$10, includes drink & dessert!

Fri., July 31 • 1 p.m.

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS

All fair participants are invited to ride through town. Everyone is a winner at HSC Fair!

Fri., July 31 • 6 p.m.

LIVESTOCK STALL DECORATING CONTEST

All livestock fair kids are invited to decorate their stalls. Show the buyers how creative and how proud of your project you are. Judging will be at the start of the buyers dinner.

All events at HSC Fairgrounds. For more info call 864-9213

Proceeds benefit local FFA chapters

Public notices

STATE OF) IN THE
WYOMING)DISTRICT COURT
) ss.

COUNTY OF) FIFTH JUDICIAL
HOT SPRINGS) DISTRICT

No. 1986-CV-0007978

IN THE MATTER OF THE KIRBY)
)
DITCH IRRIGATION DISTRICT)

ORDER FOR HEARING

The Commissioners of the Kirby Ditch Irrigation District having filed with the Clerk of District Court of Hot Springs County, Wyoming, their Report and Proposed Budget for the Year 2026 for said District, and therein itemizing money to be raised by assessment against lands compromising said District, and in the total amount of \$43,264.81 and by assessment of \$75.00 for the first acre of each landowner and \$12.00 per acre against the remaining 3267.90 acres of land and for the purpose of paying indebtedness, to operate and maintain the facilities of the District, to meet and pay expenses heretofore and to be incurred, pay miscellaneous expenses, and to meet possible delinquencies.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the **3rd day of August, 2026 at 8:30 A.M.**, in the Courtroom of the above-entitled Court at Thermopolis, Wyoming, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, is hereby fixed as the time and place for an examination of said Report and Proposed Budget, and for the hearing of any objections thereto, and for fixing and determining the actual amount to be raised by assessment against lands within said District for the Year 2026, and

IT IS FURTHERMORE ORDERED that a copy of this Order be published at least twice in the Thermopolis Independent Record prior to said hearing.

SO ORDERED AND SIGNED as set forth above.

Pub. July 16 & 23, 2026 No. 2140

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Thermopolis, Wyoming will receive and accept bids only through QuestCDN.com via their electronic VirtuBid online bid service until 10:00 A.M., local time, August 3, 2026 at the Thermopolis Town Hall, at 420 Broadway, Thermopolis, Wyoming, for MATERIALS, LABOR, SERVICES, TRANSPORTATION & COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION of the THERMOPOLIS, 2026 CHIP SEAL PROJECT. The Engineer's opinion of probable construction costs ranges from \$110,000 to \$140,000. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud - date and time stated above. Complete digital copies of the bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com. Submitting Contractors will be required to

register with the website to download the bidding documents for \$22 by inputting Quest project #10281099 on the website's Project search page, if a contractor elects to bid on the project, a \$42 electronic bid package fee will be assessed by Quest. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital project information. The Town of Thermopolis reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any informalities if deemed in the best interest of the Owner. No bid may be considered unless accompanied by the required bid guarantee of 5% of the total bid amount which amount shall be forfeited if the bidder is awarded the Contract and fails to enter into a Contract with the Owners. Successful bidder will be required to provide payment and performance bonds in an amount of at least 100% of awarded contract price. A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M. local time, on July 27, 2024 at the Town Hall, 420 Broadway, Thermopolis, Wyoming.

Dated this 9th day of July, 2026.

/s/ Town of Thermopolis

Pub. July 16 & 23, 2026 No. 2144

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, the Commission hereby gives notice of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP or the Company) for authority to update tariff Schedule 37, the Standard Rates for Avoided Cost Purchases of Power from Qualifying Facilities (Schedule 37), as more fully described below.

1. 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.

2. On June 30, 2026, RMP filed its Application, requesting authority to update tariff Schedule 37, to conform to the partial displacement differential revenue requirement (PDDRR) approved by the Commission in Docket No. 20000-687-ET-25, use the most recently available March 31, 2026 Official Forward Price Curve (OFPC), and incorporate results from the preferred portfolio from the Company's 2025 IRP Update filed on March 31, 2026 in Docket No. 20000-676-EA-24.

3. The proposed avoided cost rate is \$52.86 per MWh, an increase of \$11.21 per MWh for base load QFs. Proposed

avoided cost rates for wind, fixed solar, and tracking solar QFs are \$44.41 per MWh, \$23.42 per MWh, and \$26.27 per MWh, respectively. The Application states the higher avoided costs are primarily due to all QF types being assumed to defer market purchases, a deferred cost-effective battery storage resource included in the 2025 IRP Update, and changes in tax laws removing wind and solar as qualifying resources for production tax credits. A reduction of renewable resources to the 2025 IRP Update results in an increase in the use of more expensive resources, and therefore, higher avoided costs.

4. This is not a complete description of the Application. The complete Application is available at the Commission's offices or online at <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (Enter Record No. 18174), or RMP's website at www.pacificorp.com.

5. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest, or request for a hearing must do so in writing, on or before August 10, 2026. Public comments should be submitted to wpssc_comments@wyo.gov. Any intervention request filed with the Commission shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please be sure to mention Docket No. 20000-714-ET-26 in all correspondence with the Commission.

6. If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Communications impaired persons may contact the Commission through Wyoming Relay by dialing 711.

Dated: July 10, 2026.

Pub. July 16 & 23, 2026 No. 2147

Hot Springs County School District
No. 1
Notice of Special Meetings

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of Hot Springs County School District No. 1 will hold special meetings in the Board Room, located at 415 Springview, Thermopolis, WY, at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2026 and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5, 2026. The purpose of the special meetings will be to hold the Annual Board Workshop, receive year end reports from District Administrators, and to create the district annual goals. The agendas may include an executive session pursuant to W.S. 16-4-405(a)(iii).

/s/ Jennifer Axtell
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Pub. July 23, 2026 No. 2148

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following is a list of individuals (current and no-longer employed) and their positions that were paid a salary or wage (full-time positions) during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 2026, by the Town of Thermopolis. This is published in compliance with Section 1. W.S. 15-1-110(b)(i). The first number is the paid annual base wage, the second number is overtime. These wages do not include fringe benefits such as health insurance benefits and pension plans. Adam R. Estenson, Mayor, \$7,000.00; John Dorman, Sr. Councilman, \$1,300.00; Rachel Hughes, Councilwoman, \$1,300.00; Tony Larson, Councilman \$1,300.00; and Dusty Lewis, Councilman, \$1,150.00; Nicole Andersen, Police Officer \$26,083.18 & \$12,327.78; Brett Andreen, Equipment Operator \$56,266.92 & \$5,140.06; Jere Apland, Water Operator, \$51,245.40 & \$4,655.84; Hannah Brooks, Dispatcher, \$46,455.64 & \$25,339.43; Richard Clouse, Landfill Leadman, \$54,640.85 & \$1,586.84; Mark Collins, Wastewater Operator/Equipment Operator, \$52,670.22 & \$3,194.76; Brenda Cornwell, Deputy Clerk, \$43,248.20; Pat Cornwell, Police Chief, \$73,806.68 & \$41,919.50; Will Crandell, Equipment Operator, \$45,500.36 & \$1,251.90; Katie Crosby, Dispatcher, \$45,813.43 & \$20,412.53; Frank Davis, Equipment Operator \$43,984.22 & \$2,335.85; Max Dickinson, Water Operator, \$16,823.28 & \$330.30; Jesi Ehlers, Dispatcher, \$30,747.20 & \$12,075.16; Casey Fisher, Police Officer, \$16,610.88 & \$7,879.52; James Folsom, Mechanic, \$53,792.60 & \$1,147.70; Peyton Green, Dispatcher, \$2,426.72; Constance Guntly, Clerk Treasurer, \$27,381.56; Joseph Hill, Equipment Operator, \$51,078.20 & \$1,772.38; Crystal Jackman, Court/Utility Clerk, \$43,248.20; Kenneth (Jim) Jeunehomme, Asst. to the Mayor/Codes Asst., \$63,908.00; Rebecca Johnson, Dispatcher, \$1,639.73 & \$189.20; Casey Keith, Equip Operator, \$16,803.30 & \$685.98; Laura Leseberg, Office Assistant, Dispatcher, \$42,634.04 & \$12,904.54; Travis Morgan, Equipment Operator, \$48,935.34 & \$3,686.24; Meleesa Polee Jensen, Disptcher, \$26,130.88 & \$10,833.70; Melody Robinson, Chief Wastewater Operator, \$20,695.04 & \$7,843.20; Christopher Seilaff, Chief Water Operator, \$61,512.79 & \$4,197.32; Reagan Severance, Dispatcher \$3,904.32 & \$2,908.32; Basil Sorensen, Public Works Director, \$62,811.75 & \$3,678.26; Lain Thorpe, Equipment Operator, \$20,512.76 and \$1,492.65; James Van Heule, Water Operator, \$57,883.87 & \$2,991.90; Tracey Van Heule, Town Clerk/Treasurer, \$61,476.28 & \$1,008.12; Grace Wagstaff, Dispatcher, \$1,942.98 & \$165.36; John Webber, Equipment Operator, \$46,428.52 & \$8,206.65; Chase Workman, Police Officer \$58,472.64 & \$20,012.50.

Pub. July 23, 2026 No. 2149