

JANUARY 2024

WYOMING VOTER



Letter from Your State League President



The State Board Legislative committee; Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures committee; and the Voter Education committee held meetings throughout December taking only a momentary break for the holidays before picking back up after the beginning of the New Year. With the Legislative session beginning February 12 and new rules and legislation to be implemented for the 2024 election, we have much to do.

I am proud of our board and members for the work they are doing in advocating for and supporting the league's positions on issues. Their work is evident in the increased use of Action Alerts – be on the look-out for more of these when the legislative session begins, the investment in a new Bill Tracker system, Bill Tracker 50, for the legislative session, and in the Voter Education campaign that will be rolled out following the conclusion of the Legislative session. The League is also working with other organizations (e.g. Equal-

ity State Policy Center and Wyoming Civic Engagement Network) who share many of our goals as a united effort reaches a greater audience and garners more attention.

To improve the league's advocacy and "messaging," the Tech Team, in consultation with other committees and local leagues, continues to research technology - websites, communication platforms, payment systems, virtual meeting rooms, etc.. They are comparing services, looking at what the service provides, ease of use, interfacing with other services/tools, and of course, cost. The board desires to increase our ability to reach a larger audience more quickly and effectively, to increase our visibility in the community, and to increase our membership.

There is much to be done and there is much being done as we work to **Empower Voters** and **Defend Democracy**.

Thanks for saying "yes" when asked to serve the league!

Nancy Lockwood
LWVWY President

Know What's Happening

Events 2024

Jan. 26	Public hearing on proposed voter residency rules
Feb. 12	Legislative Budget Session convenes
Feb. 20	Presidents' Day (Legislature doesn't meet)
March 8	Legislature adjourns by midnight
May 4-5	LWVWY State convention, Cheyenne
May 15	Last day for registered voters to change affiliation
May 16	Crossover voting blackout period begins Filing to state office begins
May 31	Filing for state office closes
June	LWVUS National Convention, Washington, D.C
July 23-Aug. 19	Absentee voting period*
Aug. 20	Primary Election Day-residents may register and vote today

Oct. 8- Nov. 5 Absentee voting period*

Nov. 5 General Election day-You can register and vote today

*Absentee voting means you can receive an absentee ballot or register and vote early in person.

Monthly Events

1st Monday	State Board Meet by Zoom, 7-8:30 p.m. (Contact Dee Buckstaff to attend)
2nd Thursday	LWVFC board, 6:30-7:30
3rd Monday	Campbell County League meets in person and by Zoom, noon
4th Tuesday	Laramie League board, by Zoom and at the Wyoming Women's History House, 6:30-8:00
Last Friday	Casper League, noon, Crawford Room, Natrona County PL
Cheyenne continues with irregular meetings on Zoom and in person.	

THE 67th WYOMING LEGISLATIVE BUDGET SESSION BEGINS FEBRUARY 12 and ENDS MARCH 8, 2024

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Comprehensive information about the Wyoming Legislature and the 2024 session can be found on the [Legislative Service Office homepage](#). [Session schedule](#). [Committee meeting schedule](#).
- In a Budget Session, appropriation bills are the priority, requiring a simple majority vote by the house of origin. All other bills require a two-thirds majority vote by the house of origin for introduction.

WHAT THE WYOMING LEAGUE WILL PROVIDE

- Tracking of all bills specific to the following areas:
 - Elections and voter services
 - Constitutional issues
 - Government accountability issues
- A weekly update submitted by Marguerite Herman, most likely delivered on Saturday
- Action Alerts: These emailed alerts will address an important and timely legislative issue and will include a specific action and corresponding timeline
- Access to the [Wyoming League Bill Tracker 50 Spreadsheet](#), currently a work-in-progress

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OPINION HEARD

- In the subject line include the bill number AND your request
- Include your name, address, and email
- Add a personal experience that relates to your comment or request
- Be respectful and concise in your comments
- Thank the elected official for considering your request. Acknowledge respectful responses.

RESOURCES

- [Wyoming Legislators Contact List](#)
- [Wyoming Legislature's bill tracking system](#) for **all** introduced bills for the 2024 session

[WYOMING LEAGUE BILL TRACKER 50 SPREADSHEET](#)

Cheyenne to Host 2024 State Convention

After an extended COVID delay, the Cheyenne league will host the state convention Saturday, May 4, beginning at noon and ending at noon on Sunday, May 5. The meetings will be at Laramie County Community College; the hotel will be the Red Lion on West Fox Farm Road. Cheyenne hopes a state legislator will consent to lead a tour of the recently renovated Wyoming State Capitol on Saturday morning.

More information will be forthcoming closer to the event. Mark your calendars now.



Vote 411.org plans for the coming election In Wyoming

Vote411.org is a website the LWVUS operates that provides general information about elections across the country. State and local leagues can enrich the coverage for a relatively small fee. They can post information about their elections, races, and candidates. Leagues can provide 3-4 questions for candidates in any race; Vote411 sends these questions to the candidates who can post their responses directly to the Vote411 website. In addition, leagues can post pro/con summaries related to ballot initiatives, constitutional amendments, and other ballot issues. All material can be downloaded for printed voter guides.



All the local leagues and the state league plan on participating this year. You can help by collecting information:

- About races in your county. Your County Clerk will publish a list.
- About the offices (single office holder, board or council; partisan or nonpartisan; term of office; powers, and remuneration—mileage, constituent services, health insurance, retirement)
- About bond issues or sales tax proposals and create nonpartisan pros and cons.

Contact your state or local league and volunteer. People with a variety of skills are needed to assist with Vote411 and your local forums.



SHAPE 2024 Returns on February 19th!

EQUALITY STATE POLICY CENTER
SHAPE
WYOMING
GRASSROOTS LOBBYIST TRAINING

REGISTER NOW!
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19 | 9AM-4PM

VIRTUAL TRAINING WITH WATCH PARTIES IN:
CASPER, CHEYENNE, LARAMIE & ROCK SPRINGS

WITH A SESSION RECEPTION ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
AT PARIS WEST IN CHEYENNE! RSVP TODAY!

What is SHAPE?

SHAPE WY is a free virtual citizen lobbyist training designed to give you the tools you need to be an effective advocate for the 2024 Legislative Session and beyond. The training will cover the fundamentals of the Wyoming Legislature, how a bill becomes law, the mechanics of effective lobbying, and practical tips and strategies for engaging with legislators.

What are Watch Parties?

You are invited to attend a Watch Party in conjunction with this free training! A facilitator will guide you through the training, providing materials, lunch, and captivating conversation. Watch parties will be located in Casper, Cheyenne, Laramie, and Rock Springs. Host your own or register by completing the main form at <https://equalitystate.org/shape2024/>.

Keynote Speaker Kelli-Ann Thomas



We are equally thrilled to be joined by the Honorable Kelli-Ann Thomas as our keynote speaker!

Kelli-Ann is a dedicated advocate for social justice and community empowerment and is the former Vice Chair, Community Council 14/Sub Area 144 in Miami, Florida. Kelli-Ann will be connecting with attendees on why advocacy matters and what citizens can do to ensure their voices are heard.

"Grassroots advocates are the experts of their communities," said Kelli-Ann. "My experience has shown me that the best advocates gather locally and build on community strength. I look forward to sharing my organizing experiences at SHAPE Wyoming to activate citizens across the state to continue building political power."



Paid for by the Equality State Policy Center

Equality State Policy Center
419 South 5th Street
Suite #1
Laramie, WY 82070
United States

League of Women Voters of Wyoming State Board January 18, 2024

OFFICE/TERM	NAME	EMAIL
President, 2023-25	Nancy Lockwood **	Board@wyominglww.org reaches all
VP, 2022-2024	Dee Buckstaff**	
Secretary. 2023–25		Rotates among board members
Treasurer. 2018-2024	Katie Morgan**	
Dir. Elected 2023-25	Margaret Brown	
Dir. Elected 2022-24	Michelle Escudero**	
Dir. Elected 2023-25	Kate Swistowicz	
Dir. Elected 2022-24	Amy Williamson	
Dir. Appt. 2023-24	Jamie Egolf	
Dir. Appt. 2023-24	To be appointed	
Dir. Appt. 2023-24	To be appointed	
Dir. Appt. 2023-24	To be appointed	
Campbell President	KaKatie Remme Liz	campbellcty@wyominglww.org
Casper President	Kylie McCormick	casper@wyominglww.org
Cheyenne Chair	Kari Eakins	cheyenne@wyominglww.org
Fremont County Chair	Linda Barton	info@leagueofwomenvotersf.c.org
Laramie President	Lynne Ipiña	laramie@wyominglww.org

* Fiscal year is April 1-March 31 **Executive Committee 2023-24

Responsibilities/Off-Board Observers

Kate Swistowicz – Information Technology, techteam@wyominglww.org

Judy Knight –LOOK, je.judy@gmail.com

Matthew Link—Voting Methods, votingmethods@wyominglww.org , Home Rule Study

Marguerite Herman—Contract Lobbyist,legliaison@wyominglww.org

Susan Simpson—Archives and Newsletter, ssimpson307@gmail.com

Notes:

The 2021 bylaws as amended state “In the case of local leagues with co-presidents, the local league may designate one to be the voting member.”

Quorum is figured by voting directors and Local League representatives expected. If a position is vacant at the start of the meeting, that slot does not figure in the total.