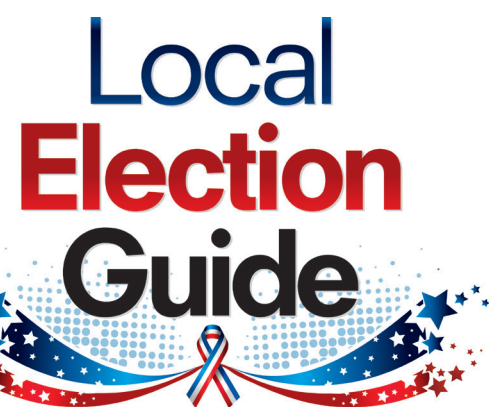


# DECISION 2024

THE CANDIDATES ANSWER OUR QUESTIONS



**Casting your vote:** Primary Election 2024: Tuesday, Aug. 20  
Polls are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m

NOTE: Identification is REQUIRED to register and to vote. Call the Weston County Clerk's office at (307) 746-4744 to learn what forms of identification are acceptable.

## Weston County Commissioners

5 Candidates: all Republican  
(2) Four-year Terms

1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.

**DON TAYLOR**

Lived in Newcastle, Weston County 13 years. Wife Ruth Taylor has lived here her whole life. Serving Weston County as commissioner the past four years serving as chairman the past year.



Don Taylor



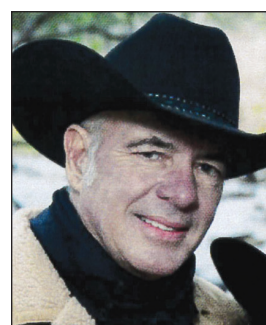
Ed Wagoner



Henry Nessul



Marty Ertman



Mike Harris

**ED WAGONER**

I have been married to my wonderful wife Marjorie for 44 years. We have four grown children who all graduated from Newcastle High School. They have blessed us with 12 grandchildren. I have been a resident of Newcastle and Weston County since 1992.

county funding they receive. To provide department heads with the funding required to maintain and grow our county where required. To be involved in the state legislature to keep our county recognized on the state level through direct contact with legislators and through the Wyoming County Commissioners Association.

low. Make wise business decisions with your tax dollars. Be more transparent to the public about county decisions. 100% accessibility for the public's concerns. Fight to keep woke agendas out of our schools. School safety. Fight to keep males out of female restrooms and out of female sports. Cut pork spending to spend more on taking care of county roads.

as president of the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce, I was asked by a city councilman to reach out to Springfield Arms and work with them to move some or all of their operation to Newcastle. Wyoming gun laws are more conducive to the product than the Illinois laws. As I thought about it, I realized that only in a partnership with the county and city governments and chamber could such a move be accomplished. I presented this and asked city and county to look into what they were willing to do for such a presentation. After the presentations I heard nothing from either government. Without cooperation or decisions on this form of revenue there can not be any forward movement.

years of which I was chairman. Actively involved with legislators in Cheyenne, also actively involved with the Wyoming County Commissioners Association as a member and on their executive board. Worked with legislators in getting a bill passed which allows consolidation of sold waste districts by resolution which saves taxpayer dollars.

employ 31 people, worked for defense department, TRADOC, Tig fig, head instructor teaching MRAP program, 3 1/2 years in Iraq, Army Iraq Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom. Director of Safety for MBI in North Dakota, supervised 127 safety personnel. Experienced in safety audits and budgeting while in these roles. Received Civilian Service Award while a contractor in the military helping teach foreign soldiers. WY DOT experience with heavy equipment and road maintenance.

**ED WAGONER**

My experience includes four years as city council member and six years as mayor of Newcastle. Past member of Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department where I held the position of captain, treasurer, assistant chief and chief. Was voted on by the department as firefighter of the year for 1998. I have been chairman of Weston County Solid Waste District since its inception. And as a note of interest, the new landfill should be in operation by early fall 2024! Also operated a successful family owned business for 23 years. Currently represent Weston County at WCCA as an executive board member.

**HENRY NESSUL**

With a full career in fire/rescue and emergency medical services, I learned to communicate with people in great stress to help and comfort them, getting them the support they needed to recover from a tragedy in their lives. From there, I moved into a new career in the federal government. I took classes and became certified in monitoring complex procurements. I became a "branch chief" and supported the team working with me. Budgets became a large part of my day-to-day activities making sure your tax money was used to your benefit. I have completed the Wyoming Department of Audit training and the Wyoming Extension Building Better Boards Training. Lastly, I understand I'm interviewing with you for a temporary position. A position to ensure your money, given in taxes, is spent properly for you.

**MARTY ERTMAN**

I held this office for 12 years and in my opinion, it takes about that much time to fully understand the dynamics of the office.

**MIKE HARRIS**

I have always been very successful in business by making wise decisions, and that is what I intend to do with your tax dollars. Not only in the ranching business, but I have also owned and operated Harris Trucking and Contracting businesses.

**HENRY NESSUL**

My wife Linda and I moved to Weston County in June of 2020 after buying our home in May. We are from the Washington, D.C., area, when asked why? I reply, "freedom."

To diversify our business/industry base would bring in employment and thus revenue for Weston County. We need to speed up government processes. With the speed of today's electronic and industrial developments, government is staying way behind in planning and our ability to benefit from new technology and industries. Weston needs to become partners in economic planning with the cities, towns and regions. Tourism planning: Weston needs a draw and implant a desire in tourists to stop, stay and play. Educational: cities with colleges, tech schools and other institutions, where students are in residence, bring money to the community where they learn. These are just a few of many things that can help Weston County with revenue. Public safety is always foremost on my mind, too.

**3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?**

**DON TAYLOR**

First and foremost, serving the citizens of Weston County, thinking outside the box to look for ways to do more with less, and help find ways to increase revenue with business growth and tourism. Being an advocate for the people you serve. Stop finding ways we can't, and work on ways we can. Leading by example and not by personal agendas. When mistakes are made, own them and improve relationships and communications with other entities in the county. Budget management.

**HENRY NESSUL**

Primary goal is budget and income for the county. We need revenue. This can be accomplished by making Weston County a more business/industry inclusive area, without raising taxes. Revenue has a cost, economic development. Those words need not be scary. Partnerships with all the local governments, the chambers of commerce with short-term concessions to entice business/industry to see Weston as a benefit to them is so they will spend the money to bring some or all operations here. Last year,

**HENRY NESSUL**

Weston County is my home. I think differently with the benefit of Weston and its people in mind. I come from a different regional culture and have been melding into the ways of Weston County and Wyoming. I'm not here to change things to my way, but to help improve Weston to the benefit of all in the county. New thoughts are not a detriment, but can help in a complete look at government and its processes. I came here for freedom, freedom to speak my opinion, freedom to own firearms and safely enjoy the shooting sports. Freedom to live without being told what to do, what to drive, how to cook my food, heat my home, even what to eat.

**MARTY ERTMAN**

Married to Ted Ertman, four children, and eight grandchildren. Moved to Weston County when I was 3 years old. Graduated from Newcastle High School and the University of Wyoming.

**MARTY ERTMAN**

Ensure that the public's money is spent wisely and prudently. According to the CREG reports, the state is looking at reduced revenue, which means the counties are too. It is the number one job of the board of county commissioners to understand how those revenues fluctuate and to adjust spending accordingly. And it is my opinion, more emphasis should be placed upon that duty. Two more goals include resuming a very active role in paying close attention to the federal intrusion of our public lands and build a plan for our infrastructure.

**ED WAGONER**

Our primary role is to allocate the funds that Weston County receives to the other elected officers and our road and bridge department to maintain county operations. Also, to aid the other elected officers in their operations.

**MARTY ERTMAN**

Primary role, as stated above, is the budget. The board of county commissioners are the fiduciary managers of the public's money. It is the duty of the board of county commissioners to make sure the county is solvent and responsible.

**MARTY ERTMAN**

Experience.

**MIKE HARRIS**

A Christian conservative Republican with strong Wyoming values. 40+ years as a successful business man and rancher in Weston County.

**MIKE HARRIS**

As your commissioner, I will work hard to: Keep your taxes

**HENRY NESSUL**

Primary goal is budget and income for the county. We need revenue. This can be accomplished by making Weston County a more business/industry inclusive area, without raising taxes. Revenue has a cost, economic development. Those words need not be scary. Partnerships with all the local governments, the chambers of commerce with short-term concessions to entice business/industry to see Weston as a benefit to them is so they will spend the money to bring some or all operations here. Last year,

**MIKE HARRIS**

No response.

**4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?**

**DON TAYLOR**

Transparency, honest, no agendas. Work for the people who elected me, NOT think I am above them. Follow through NOT just saying I will do something, but doing it does not double tongue or double standards. My first term I did what I said I would do, but was also willing to listen to the people that had concerns, not make them feel small for asking questions because I felt uncomfortable being held accountable. Owning my choices. Thinking outside the box is never against change just because we have always done it a certain way.

**MIKE HARRIS**

What is different about me from the other candidates is that I'm a rancher, a cowboy and I dig dinosaur bones on my ranch and on my wife, Diane's, ranch. My wife calls me the "Donald Trump" of Weston County. I am not a politician, but I do know how to make good business decisions. I am very responsible and hard working. I will work hard for the people of Weston County.

**5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.**

**DON TAYLOR**

Own two successful businesses in Weston County,

**RE-ELECT**  
DON TAYLOR  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
Serving Weston County  
Paid for by Candidate

Thank you for choosing me to serve you the last two years. I am asking you to stand with me to keep our state government in check.

Please vote for me, Allen E. Slagle, at the polls on August 20.

**ALLEN E. SLAGLE**  
Wyoming House District 2

Paid for by Allen Slagle for HD2

**STANDING FOR LIBERTY**



# U.S. Senate Wyoming

4 Candidates: 3 Republican, 1 Democrat  
(1) Six-year Term

**1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.**

**JOHN BARRASSO—R**  
N/A

**JOHN HOLTZ—R**

I am an Eagle Scout and a member of the Christian Legal Society since law school. I obtained the first double-digit firm fixed-price contract in the history of the Hughes Aircraft Company, and I was the head of the team to redesign the fire control system; consisting of the laser range finder, ballistic computer and thermal imaging system of the Army's main battle tank, the M60A3. I was in the Electro Optical and Space Division of the Hughes Aircraft Company.

My grandmother met my grandfather in Gillette in 1919 and her brothers had the livery stable. My grandfather wouldn't let my dad become a navy pilot because cousin Earl Holtz was killed in a crash with Doyen Wardwell, the head of the Wyoming Aeronautical Commission at the Casper airport in 1929. My dad had to enlist in the Marines in World War II. I was one of the youngest judges in Wyoming history and helped establish the Circuit Court system of today. I was president of my college fraternity and the president of the Alumni Association of the Delta Gamma chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity at the University of Wyoming from 1988 to 1992.

I was instrumental in placing the carrying of a concealed weapon without a permit for Wyoming residents on the Wyoming Republican platform in 2010. I am a life member of the National Rifle Association. I was class president at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, where the Japanese first developed kamikaze tactics as a mass weapon of war. I was on the Bataan Death March 20th anniversary march with three of the original survivors and received the historic trail award.

My grandmother and grandfather moved to Omaha after living in Gillette. I was born in Omaha and my father was in the Air Force.

We lived all over the world. I began kindergarten on a base in Anchorage when Alaska was still a territory. My father was an OSI agent and we spent many years in Del Rio, Texas, where our family friend, Major Rudolph Anderson, was the first casualty of the Cold War. He was shot down over Cuba in a U2 when we were at Clark in the Philippines. I graduated high school in Omaha and began college at the University of Maryland, in Munich when my father received orders to be Deputy Inspector General of Security for the United States Air Force in Wiesbaden. I graduated from the University of Wyoming and went to law school at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. I was a judge for many years in Douglas. I was a Space Systems Operations Officer in the United States Air Force. I am passionate about strengthening America's defense and reducing the deficit before we experience hyperinflation.

**REID RASNER—R**

My family has traveled throughout Wyoming for the last 80 years. We have visited Weston County a lot and love it and the great people!

**SCOTT MORROW—D**

No connection. My parents and my oldest son are deceased. The oldest is a CPA, two of my daughters passed the bar, my youngest is a drug and alcohol counselor.

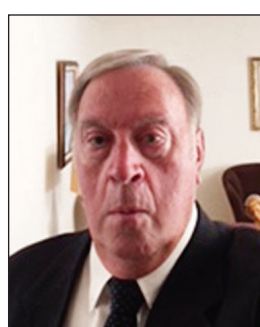
**2. What do you see as the goals for this position?**

**JOHN BARRASSO—R**

My priority is the people of Wyoming and helping them create a better future. A big part of that involves keeping Washington out of Wyoming's way. Whether it is coal, oil, or natural gas, Wyoming's energy powers the nation. The Biden-Harris administration has declared war on American energy. They've put in place barriers and restrictions to stop energy production and development. It is hurting our economy and jobs in Wyoming. In the Senate, I'm working on bipartisan federal legislation to



John Barrasso—R



John Holtz—R



Reid Rasner—R



Scott Morrow—D

strike Washington's stifling energy regulations and to expedite the federal permitting process.

In Wyoming, our livelihoods depend on preserving the health of our federal lands. Wyoming landowners and leaseholders have proven to be the best stewards of the land. Despite our incredible track record, the Biden administration continues to roll out rules and plans aimed at turning Wyoming's federal lands from "multiple-use" to "non-use." We depend on access to these lands for energy and mineral production, grazing, and recreation. I'm leading the fight to stop this attack on our Wyoming way of life.

I'll continue to do everything in my power to roll back the harmful rules and regulations that are blocking access to our federal lands and energy production across Wyoming.

**JOHN HOLTZ—R**

Government is best that governs least. I will strengthen America's defense and reduce the deficit. I would make Social Security non-taxable once again. I would export our resources to Europe and Israel through the Straits of Gibraltar to broaden our opportunities. Wyoming is an energy treasure trove in an energy short world. Our natural resources should help our friends, not our enemies.

**REID RASNER—R**

End the drug and border crisis, decrease inflation, end FISA, and create a sustainable economic environment for all of Wyoming. I have visited countless companies who are struggling and about to leave

Wyoming as a result of out of control spending and high costs of living. This needs to end, I will end it.

**SCOTT MORROW—D**

Establish equality in the Equality State through federal legislation, starting with using Article One, Section 38 of the Wyoming Constitution as a template. Make sure kids no longer go to bed hungry in Wyoming or anywhere. Get a vote on HR 82/S 597 along with numerous other good bills languishing in congressional committees. Support and submit all legislation that will mitigate climate change and the trillions in damages from the catastrophes we are experiencing. Balancing any budget when FEMA costs continue to escalate each year is challenging. Vote on Presidential Judicial nominees based on their character, experience and American Bar Association rating, in lieu of the incumbent who votes no on every judicial nominee in the 117th and 118th Congresses.

**3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?**

**JOHN BARRASSO—R**

In Wyoming, we face many difficult challenges, and I am committed to finding solutions. I am focused on eliminating barriers, diversifying our economy, and increasing opportunities for folks in Wyoming. I will always stand up for Wyoming values, protect our freedom, and uphold the foundation of our country.

Despite the challenges ahead, I'm more excited about Wyoming's future than I have ever been. Our state has a strong and dedicated workforce, an

incredible energy industry that powers America, and an education system that provides the next generation with a solid foundation. We have a rich history and a bright future.

**JOHN HOLTZ—R**

I will follow the Constitution. I will strengthen America's defense and reduce the deficit and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America. I am not afraid to risk my career to do the right thing.

**REID RASNER—R**

Ensuring America remains free, safe and prosperous. We will defend our border first and make sure our country is put first. When America is first, America will do well.

**SCOTT MORROW—D**

Constitutionally, the Senate provides advice and consent for all constitutionally required nominations from the President of the United States. All treaties are voted upon to determine if the Senate shall ratify them. In cases of impeachment, the Senate provides a trial for the accused. Multiple investigations of important matters occur, for example, the Trump Campaign ties in 2016 to Russia. A bipartisan report, like the Mueller Report, that only a few of us have actually read. Reading and learning the 99-page rule book for procedure in the Senate is mandatory for anyone wishing to comply. Hopefully, not necessary, but the Senate is one of two bodies who can declare war. Transparency, honesty and character are the utmost role of any senator.

— See Senate, Page 16

## A SACRED DUTY

Publishing public notices is a sacred duty ensuring Wyoming citizens can know what their government is doing.

AND

# 78%

Of Wyoming adults read public notices in

**local print or digital newspapers**

(Tax increases, zoning changes, minutes of local government meetings, etc.)



\*2022 Coda Ventures market research Wyoming study.

## WYOMING, IT'S TIME TO GET AMERICA BACK ON TRACK.

That work starts with unleashing Wyoming energy. This is my plan:

- More Permits and Exploration on Federal Land
- Rebuild Wyoming's Mining Industry
- Fight Woke Anti-Energy Regulations

The Biden agenda has driven up the price of everything and made America less safe and secure.

Together, we can make America energy independent, lower costs for families, and create good Wyoming jobs.

Let's put Wyoming First.

John Barrasso

John Barrasso

U.S. SENATE

ENDORSED BY PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF JOHN BARRASSO

P.O. Box 52008, Casper, WY 82605

Look for election results online at [newslj.com](http://newslj.com)!

# City of Newcastle

City Council

2 Candidates  
(3) Four-year Terms

**1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.**

**THOMAS VOSS**  
My wife Susanne and I are graduates of Newcastle High School and University of Wyoming in Laramie. We have lived in Weston County for most of our lives and owned and operated businesses in journalism, hospitality, and oil and gas operations.

**2. What do you see as the goals for this position?**

**THOMAS VOSS**  
My main goal for this term is to lay the foundation for community capacity building to develop buy-in, along with some enthusiasm from the Gen-X and millennial generations regarding projects to enhance our city. We need to bring out new talent and more resources to prepare the City of Newcastle to have a future. Other important goals for me

are to: keep the budget in check, search out new sources of income for the city, create and operate long term strategies for water and sewer, city streets, the police department and begin planning the long term economic growth for the city.

**3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?**

**THOMAS VOSS**  
The primary role of our city council and every city council is to: A) maintain an informed, modern police force that provides the basis for law and order for city residents, and B) to maintain a well trained and equipped public works department to deliver efficient repair and maintenance of the water and sewer lines, garbage collection, and the city streets, all within parameters of the current city budget.

**4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?**



Daren Downs

*Editors' Note: Daren Downs declined to participate in the News Letter Journal Candidate Q&A.*



Thomas Voss

**THOMAS VOSS**

My age does. I have a whole lot of experience in being a city councilman, plus I have lessons taught to me by various business operations in the major areas of Weston County's economy.

**5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.**

**THOMAS VOSS**  
Forty years of experience in the hospitality business,

including owning and operating restaurants, hotels and motels, provided experiences for me in promoting Newcastle and Weston County. That experience fits well into economic development and working with other organizations to attract new business to the city. Along the way I've owned or operated businesses in construction, mining, and oil and gas. Years of hiring and training people into teams and working with strategic planning and budgets is an excellent background for being a Newcastle city councilman.



# Town of Upton

Town Council

2 Candidates  
(2) Four-year Terms



Justin Norman

*Editors' Note: Rick Rothleutner is also running for this position, however, we did not get a response before publication deadline.*

Rick Rothleutner

**1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.**

**JUSTIN NORMAN**  
Wife, Katie, three daughters, Avril, Ella, and Jaxynn, and a son, Landon. I have lived in Weston County for over 30 years. I studied at the University of Wyoming earning a Bachelor of Science double major in finance and political science. I'm currently running K&D Perforators, Inc. and raising my family in the Town of Upton.

**2. What do you see as the goals for this position?**

**JUSTIN NORMAN**  
My main goal will always be to make decisions that make Upton a great place to live. I believe it's important to listen to the people that live here, and try to deliver based on the voice of the town. I believe the next four years, the Town of Upton will see continued growth. So my goal will be to help make decisions that strengthen our infrastructure and pursue more growth in all sectors.

**3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?**

**JUSTIN NORMAN**  
I believe the primary role of a councilman is to listen and study the problem, then make the best responsible decision for the Town of Upton. Finishing up my second term, I believe having the experience and seeing different scenarios help me make better and informed decisions.

**4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?**

**JUSTIN NORMAN**  
I believe in the Town of Upton and love raising my family here. Personally, the position of councilman is my way of giving back to this town. I want to use my abilities to help this town continue to be great.

**5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.**

**JUSTIN NORMAN**  
I'm running for my third term as councilman. I've been a steady voice for the town. I believe seeing all the different scenarios that come at a council allows me to see the big picture and make smart decisions. I'll continue to use my council experience and my business background to help the Town of Upton.

# Every Vote Counts!

One look at the history books can uncover a number of races won by just a few votes. Don't miss your chance to make your vote count. Register to vote if you haven't already. Then come to the polls on Election Day and cast your choice!



## PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Weston County Events Center • Osage Fire Hall  
Upton Community Center

By statute, elections can occur in Weston County in the months of May, August, and November. During even numbered years, both an August Primary Election and a November General Election are held. These are considered "Federal Elections" because candidates for United States Representative appear on these ballots.

By resolution, the Weston County Board of Commissioners can request an election to be held in odd numbered years.

**Absentee Voting**

For the convenience of Weston County voters, absentee ballots can be obtained at the Weston County Courthouse, in the Clerk's Office, 1 West Main, Newcastle, Wyoming. The Weston County Clerk's Office is open from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Registered voters wishing to cast an absentee ballot may:**

Request an absentee ballot in person at the Weston County Clerk's Office.  
Call (307) 746-4744 to request a ballot which will be mailed to the address provided.  
All mailed absentee ballots must be received in the Clerk's Office by 7:00 p.m. on the day of the Election to be counted. Absentee ballots brought to the Clerk's Office must be received by Aug. 19 by 7 p.m.

**Voter Registration**

Voters may register at the office of the County Clerk. To register to vote in Weston County you:  
Must be 18 years of age on Election Day  
Must be a resident of Weston County  
Must withdraw voter registration from any other jurisdiction, if applicable  
Must not be a convicted felon or adjudicated mentally incompetent  
Must have valid photo identification  
Persons who meet the above qualifications may also register to vote at the Polling Place on Primary or General Election Days.

More information is available at [westongov.com/county-clerk/elections](http://westongov.com/county-clerk/elections)

**ELECTION FUN FACTS**

- The first election to use a voting machine was in 1892.
- Jimmy Carter was the first president born in a hospital.
- George Washington was the only president who did not represent a political party.
- Herbert Hoover approved "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the national anthem.
- George Washington blew his entire campaign budget on 160 gallons of liquor to serve to potential voters.
- It wasn't until 1856 that Congress removed property ownership as a requirement to vote in elections.
- In 1845, Congress decided that voting day would be the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, which was after the fall harvest and before winter conditions made travel too difficult.

## PLEASE VOTE FOR JD WILLIAMS HD2

J.D. Williams and family have been in our community for 20-some years. He is a known entity. During this time he and Lisa have raised a family prepared to meet the challenges of the future and prosper. They work hard, and as is customary with the three generations of Williams that I have known, pray hard. When the family corporation purchased our substantial donation was made to help reopen the local hospital. When hardship has occurred in the neighborhood, JD and crew have often been there to lend a helping hand. Community and neighbors matter. My thoughts when a much younger JD moved here to help facilitate the transfer of ranch ownership, "This guy is custom made for this place." My thinking remains unchanged.

With JD you get:

- 1) Energy 2) Thoughtful Conservatism 3) Integrity
- 4) A Forceful Voice in HD 2 for the good of Our Communities

Ad paif for by Ron and Dory Pfister, Lusk, WY

**PLEASE VOTE:**

Honesty  
Integrity Transparency

**TYREL OWENS** ✓  
for Mayor

*Dedicated Public Servant*  
Paid for by candidate

**Newspaper Readers are Voters!** ✓

**402,000**  
Wyoming adults read local print or digital newspapers.

Source: The Wyoming Market Study, 2022; Conducted by Coda Ventures

To learn more, contact your local newspaper or the WPA at:  
307.635.3905 • [wyopress@wyopress.org](mailto:wyopress@wyopress.org)

**Wyoming Primary Election is Aug. 20. Look for election results following the election online at [newsj.com](http://newsj.com)!**

# Wyoming House of Representatives District 1



1 Candidate: Republican  
(1) Two-year Term



Chip Neiman

*Editors's Note: Chip Neiman is running unopposed.*

### CHIP NEIMAN

#### 1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.

Born and spent the first four years of my life on the ranch on Skull Creek, Upton, before moving to the ranch on Belle Fourche River in Hulett. Beautiful wife Joni, two children, five grandchildren, all work with us on the ranch.

#### 2. What do you see as the goals for this position?

Goals I see are to work to reduce the size of government, more efficient spending, build and promote our legacy industries, school choice legislation, see an end to abortion. Protect and defend the right of parents. Promote Wyoming and its people.

#### 3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?

The role of this position is to create good policy to guide the state to a prosperous and secure future, whereby blessing

its people and providing energy security for our nation.

#### 4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?

I am running unopposed but would hope I have proven to represent the views and values of my district.

#### 5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.

In my short tenure, the Lord has seen

fit to allow me to rise to the position of House Floor Majority Leader and that experience has helped me to better understand how the system works and how I can be more effective in seeing good legislation moving forward and poor legislation stopped. To say this journey has been eye opening would be an understatement. We have much to do ahead of us all and I am willing to serve the tremendous people of District 1 to accomplish those tasks. House District No. 1, No. 1 in the state, No. 1 in our Hearts.

# Wyoming House of Representatives District 2



2 Candidates: both Republican  
(1) Two-year Term

#### 1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.

### ALLEN SLAGLE

I have lived and ranched in Niobrara and Weston counties for all of my life. I have been married to my wife, Ann, for 29 years and we have nine children and two grandchildren. I started buying my first ranch in 1982 with my sisters, then in 1993 started buying the majority part of the family ranch, where we are today.

### JD WILLIAMS

My wife Lisa and I are lifelong Wyoming residents who ranch and have raised three grown children here in House District 2.

#### 2. What do you see as the goals for this position?

### ALLEN SLAGLE

My goals for this position are: 1. Return to a smaller more fiscally responsible government. 2. Work to return to a Representative Republic so that event the smallest community has a voice. 3. Right-size the government instead of redistributing money through taxation. 4. Reduce regulations so

that it is easier to start a new business or operate an existing one. 5. Protect our coal, oil and gas industries. They are the only reliable, economical source of energy to continue to grow our economy both in Wyoming and the rest of the United States of America.

### JD WILLIAMS

My goal as House District 2 Representative is to keep the government out of our way so upcoming generations can continue to prosper. Federal government overreach and inefficiency affect us every day. Inflation, high energy costs, high food costs, attacks on our core industries, and illegal immigration are all characteristics of our current administration. Wyoming citizens, Wyoming communities, and the State of Wyoming must stand together with our neighbors and push back against these issues. The division we see in our nation and in our state does not lend to our longevity. It is unwise to express our frustration with the federal government by attacking each other.

#### 3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?

### ALLEN SLAGLE

I feel the primary role of the legislature is to budget the state's money to build Wyoming's infrastructure, to maintain our law enforcement and to keep regulations at a minimum. I think we, as private citizens, can manage our own resources more efficiently and more productively than the government. The legislature needs to be careful that we aren't creating state agencies that are competing directly with private individuals. In the past, the legislature has created several of these agencies in competition with private businesses. We need to address this.

### JD WILLIAMS

House District 2 deserves effective representation. Effective leadership is hallmarked by proactively serving with the end in mind. This hinges upon clear priorities and finding solutions that minimize unintended consequences. Oftentimes, a legislators' greatest work is to stand against unneeded and illogical legislation. I will operate in the best interest of House District 2 and Wyoming. This calling requires me to operate independent of the partisan bickering we have become all too



Allen Slagle

familiar with.

#### 4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?

### ALLEN SLAGLE

I feel that probably the biggest thing is our views on the role of government. This is best shown in our views on how money should be spent. This is reflected in our voting records. The more the state spends, the bigger our government grows. I feel that the legislature spends a lot of money on things that are not the role of government. We need to take less of our people's money in taxes and use the mineral severance taxes wisely. We have to protect our coal, oil and gas industries from federal overreach and be wary of the climate change narrative promoting the wind and solar projects that are highly subsidized



JD Williams

by the federal government (you and I).

### JD WILLIAMS

It has been said, "If you want to help others, you tell them the truth. If you want to help yourself, you tell them what they want to hear." Wyoming neighbors agree much more than we disagree. We have the potential to be united and effective. The Freedom Caucus and other outside groups are working tirelessly to divide us. This is not for the good of the state, but rather for their own political advantage. When your representative votes as the Freedom Caucus orders them to vote, who are they really representing? I am committed to representing House District 2 and Wyoming 100% of the time. Principle over politics!

#### 5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.

### ALLEN SLAGLE

After much sacrifice, I have now been debt free for 20 years. Here on the ranch, we work every day to determine how we need to be allocating our resources to get the best outcome. Likewise, I have worked in the legislature to keep more of your money in your pocket, to protect your private property rights, reduce regulations, and to try to make working with our state agencies more friendly. I ask you to vote for me so that I can keep working for you in the Wyoming State Legislature.

### JD WILLIAMS

I am a lifelong Wyoming rancher. Wyoming natives are long on courtesy and common sense. I understand that intelligent, dignified discussion and debate with everyone involved facilitates practical, common sense legislation. For these reasons, I enjoy the support of the Wyoming Mining Association, Wyoming Stockgrowers Association, and Wyoming Contractors Association.

## Senate:

from Page 14

#### 4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?

### JOHN BARRASSO-R

During my 24 years as an orthopedic surgeon in Casper, I served as president of the Wyoming Medical Society and was named Wyoming Physician of the Year. I've had decades of experience caring for patients and families across Wyoming.

Before serving in the U.S. Senate, I represented Natrona County in the Wyoming State Senate. The Wyoming Legislature trained me to effectively represent the interests and advocate for the issues that matter most to our state.

In the U.S. Senate, I'm proud of my strong, conservative record that

puts Wyoming first. I serve on committees that directly impact our state's energy industry, public lands, national parks, and trade. With my leadership positions, I've successfully promoted Wyoming's economy and natural resources, strengthened our national security, cut wasteful Washington spending, and fought against overreaching regulations. There is more work to be done. If re-elected, I will continue to fight for Wyoming every day.

### JOHN HOLTZ-R

No answer.

### REID RASNER-R

I will actually represent Wyoming. My opponent has taken near-millions

from large pharma corporations and will continuously do so. I will never do that, and I will make sure that accountability is top of mind and my office will follow in that plan, unlike our current senator.

### SCOTT MORROW-D

Integrity, honesty, transparency and I am an extremely hard worker. Most of Congress were millionaires before even getting in. I came out of 20 years of retirement to run, and live on a strict budget due to limited income. Once elected to the U.S. Senate, I shall be the poorest individual ever going to Washington. That provides a unique and excellent perspective when your priority is to actually represent regular folks, in lieu of the rich and pow-

erful. I have been an advocate and a lobbyist for the least among us for decades. I actually care about hungry, sick, homeless folks and the innocents currently incarcerated. I proudly represent the workers who drive the economy in Wyoming and every state.

#### 5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.

### JOHN BARRASSO-R (included in answer to No. 4)

### JOHN HOLTZ-R

I have international experience and qualifications unmatched by others. I would cut social programs. I support Wyoming agriculture, absolutely.

### REID RASNER-R

As a financial advisor, I know what it takes to balance a checkbook, something our legislators don't know how to do. We need to put American first and cut our spending. I know how.

### SCOTT MORROW-D

Since 1978, I have spent every moment working for dignity, respect and equality for all workers. I was the elected president of the Denver American Postal Workers Union (APWU).

Next was director of Industrial Relations. I currently serve as the president of the retiree chapter chartered by APWU in this area. This work is very similar to being a senator.

# CALLING ALL CANDIDATES!

## Make sure the voters know what YOU stand for.

There is still time to place your advertisement in the News Letter Journal for a *special reduced rate*, before the election!

Deadline for the Aug. 15 newspaper is Friday, Aug. 9.

Call **307-746-2777** or email **circulation@newslj.com** TODAY to get your ad in!

# Every VOTE Counts!

The News Letter Journal urges everyone to exercise your right to vote!

News Letter Journal  
14 W. Main St., Newcastle WY 82701  
307-746-2777

# City of Newcastle

Mayor

3 Candidates  
(1) Four-year Term

**1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.**

**PAM GUALTIERI**

My children, Caitlyn, Jacob, Caden, and I planted our roots in Newcastle in 2008. I married longtime Newcastle resident Chris Gualtieri. We are long-time proud business owners in Weston County.

**ED KIESLING**

My wife, Beverly; son, David; twin daughters, Deanna and Debbie; two grandchildren. I have been a resident in Newcastle. Started five businesses, besides working for my father in the oil field. All three children graduated here in Newcastle.

**TYREL OWENS**

My family moved to Newcastle in 1998 when I was between basic training and airborne school in the Army. All of my siblings graduated from high school here. My father hired onto the Newcastle Police Department in 2001 and retired as the chief in 2019. I married my wife, who was born and raised here, in 2011, and we are raising our three children in our community. I have a strong connection to this place, Newcastle is home.

**2. What do you see as the goals for this position?**

**PAM GUALTIERI**

My goals for the mayor's position is to continue to listen to the residents, better our community, and to support affordability, sustainability and

quality of life in Newcastle and Weston County. I will prioritize livability, capital projects, resiliency and organizational efficiency and well being.

**ED KIESLING**

I need your vote on Aug. 20th. Make Newcastle greater again. Improve streets, fix street lights. Have more involvement from citizens at council meetings. Look into water and sewer rates. Eliminate dust around town. Have working relations with county commissioners. Work together with all boards and city council. Make electrical vehicle charging station for public use.

**TYREL OWENS**

My goals as the mayor of the City of Newcastle would be to provide better leadership and more transparency for both the citizens and the council, by providing reports at every council meeting about who I talked to, what we talked about, and treating the council as a team. I would include them in the decision-making process always. Continue to improve on our water, wastewater and roads, which have been neglected for decades, by continuing to seek funding at both the federal and state level and facilitating more training for city staff. Form a better relationship with the Weston County Commissioners, by having quarterly meetings and forming a better working relationship where we could possibly share resources and assist each other.

**3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?**

**PAM GUALTIERI**

In the mayor position, I believe the role is to assume diverse roles and responsibilities integral to the proper functioning and development of our community, such as public reputation, policies and legislation, budget oversight, and the list goes on.

**ED KIESLING**

Look at all entities' expenses. Have prayer and Pledge of Allegiance at start of meetings. Listen to citizens for likes and dislikes. Try to shop locally. Have the best police force and best Newcastle fire department ever. I can't guarantee anything, but I'll give everything my best!

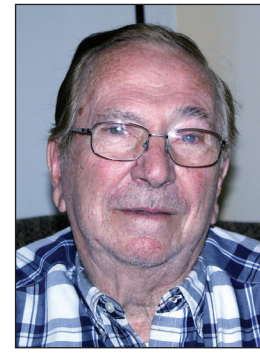
**TYREL OWENS**

I believe the primary role of the mayor is to provide excellent communication. The mayor needs to be a liaison between the citizens and the council. This can be accomplished by having an open-door policy to meet citizen needs and by being available at the city office at least a day or two per week to speak with citizens and assist them with their needs. Another aspect of excellent communication is honesty and transparency. I would accomplish this by limiting executive sessions to only when they are absolutely necessary and handling the majority of city business during the public meeting and in the public view. Since I've been on the council, I've felt like we've engaged in far too many executive sessions.

**4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?**



Pam Gualtieri



Ed Kiesling



Tyrel Owens

**PAM GUALTIERI**

What I feel distinguishes me from the other candidates is that I am open minded, willing to listen to all sides before voicing an opinion, do my homework, and utilize networking with other colleagues. I follow through and follow up.

**ED KIESLING**

I was elected four years councilman, two years councilman, four years mayor, 10 years experience. Hired people that stayed until they retired. Had an award for best landfill in the state. I wouldn't let hazardous waste in. I know heavy equipment and prices. Safety is a big concern of mine. Need to have meetings with all city employees. I drove truck for DRM and Rissler and McMurry contractors. President of Save Wyoming Water, Newcastle Chapter. This was during the ETSI slurry pipeline.

**TYREL OWENS**

The thing that distinguishes me from the other candidates would be the amount of municipal experience that I have. I worked for the City of Newcastle at the city shop for nine years and that

entailed working on our water and wastewater infrastructure, patching the streets, cleaning up after our citizens, working with the public. I know how bad our infrastructure is, because I have been out in the middle of the night in the freezing cold on water main breaks. I've washed sewers that are backed up and damaged homes. I've seen the effects of giving up the chip and seal programs on our roads and trying to patch them back together. I believe this uniquely qualifies me to be the mayor of our city because a lot of my labor is invested in our community.

**5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.**

**PAM GUALTIERI**

I am currently Newcastle's proud mayor. I have met the challenges that the last four years have given, and learned along the way. There is positive momentum in action that I would like to keep moving forward.

**ED KIESLING**

I'll demand excellence in

the City of Newcastle and will try to achieve it. I think we can improve lots of issues. I will work minimum of three hours or more at city office. City council and myself should work on goals together. I tied steel at the high school and then worked on plumbing at the high school. Had Gov. Mike Sullivan and his people here for Newcastle's Centennial and cleaned up the town. Everyone was impressed, with people from Cheyenne government here. I had the first dollar store in the Black Hills.

**TYREL OWENS**

In my life I've had many different jobs and worked with many different people, which makes me a very well-rounded person. My favorite job was working for the citizens of Newcastle and being a public servant. I enjoyed helping the people of Newcastle with finding solutions to their problems. I currently work for an organization that assists communities with many of the issues that I've dealt with as a councilman on the city council. I would love the opportunity to continue helping the citizens of Newcastle as your mayor.

**VOTE!**  
IT'S YOUR  
RIGHT

**MIKE HARRIS**  
CANDIDATE FOR WESTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Christian, conservative, Republican with strong Wyoming values. 40+ years as a successful business man and rancher in Weston County. You may know me from ranching or church. You may have watched the Dino Hunters on Discovery.

Can I please have your vote on Aug. 20.

As your commissioner, I will work hard to:

- Keep your property taxes low.
- Make business wise decisions with your tax dollars.
- Make commissioner decisions more transparent to the public.
- 100% accessibility to the public for your opinions.
- Keep woke agendas out of your schools.
- School safety, including keeping males out of female restrooms and out of female sports.

Paid for by candidate

**JD WILLIAMS**

Republican for House District 2

*The Next Generation is more important than the next election.*

Paid for by candidate

**Election 2024**

The News Letter Journal is proud to present this special Election Guide, to help voters better become acquainted with the Primary Election candidates. We urge all voters to research and learn about candidates — on the local, state, and federal level — and we will continue to bring you fair and honest election coverage. Look for the results from the Aug. 20 election in the pages of NLJ on Aug. 22, and online at newsjl.com.

In October, prior to the General Election, we will once again offer candidates an opportunity to tell you about themselves, their goals, and their policies.

NEWS LETTER JOURNAL  
307-746-2777

# U.S. House of Representatives Wyoming

3 Candidates: 2 Republican, 1 Democrat  
(1) Two-year Term

**1. Briefly, tell us about your family and your connection to Weston County.**

**KYLE CAMERON—D**  
I have strong ties to Weston County, visiting frequently for work and family, and was raised in Wyoming with a civic-minded and politically active family.

**HARRIET HAGEMAN—R**  
I grew up on my family ranch in Fort Laramie and attended Lingle-Fort Laramie High School. I have spent considerable time in and around Newcastle, Upton and Moorcroft and, as an attorney, represented clients from the area.

**STEVEN HELLING—R**  
I am a Christian. I have been married for 46 years, with four children. I live in Casper. My wife, Kathy, was a former administrator for Head Start for four counties, including Weston County.

**2. What do you see as the goals for this position?**

**KYLE CAMERON—D**  
My goals as a U.S. House Representative are to uphold individual freedoms, recognize and support the hard work of Wyomingites, and advocate for policies that benefit our state. I aim to support oil, gas, and coal workers through retraining and new job opportunities, improve health care access and affordability, protect reproductive rights, and enhance infrastructure and economic diversification in rural communities.

I will work to develop passenger rail across Wyoming, address climate change, and improve water infrastructure and housing. My focus is on ensuring democratic representation, equality, and a government that aligns with Wyoming's core values of

honesty, hard work, freedom, conservation, and community.

**HARRIET HAGEMAN—R**  
I will continue to focus on those issues I have championed during my first term in office — limiting the size and scope of the federal government, taking power from unelected bureaucrats and restoring Congress's authority as the legislative branch, holding the Biden/Harris administration accountable, and protecting our energy and ranching industries. I will continue to work to promote and protect Wyoming. In the Republican-led House, we have passed the most conservative legislation ever seen to protect the border, protect parent's rights, and unleash domestic energy production.

**STEVEN HELLING—R**  
My goal is to proudly serve the people of Wyoming and the United States and get this country headed in the right direction. My goal is to return civility to Washington, D.C. I am very pro-life and would do whatever I could do to restrict abortions. I would strive for complete transparency in my administration, where constituents know and understand what is really happening in Washington, D.C.

**3. What do you see as the primary role of this position?**

**KYLE CAMERON—D**  
The primary role of the U.S. House Representative is to serve as the voice of Wyomingites, ensuring their needs and concerns are heard and addressed in Congress. This involves crafting and supporting legislation that promotes the well-being and prosperity of the district, advocating for policies that reflect the values and priorities of the community, and providing oversight to ensure government account-

ability and transparency. Additionally, as the Wyoming representative I will work to collaborate with colleagues to find common ground, build consensus on key issues, and work tirelessly to protect individual freedoms, enhance economic opportunities, and improve infrastructure and services. Ultimately, it is about representing the people of Wyoming with integrity, dedication, and a commitment to making a positive impact.

**HARRIET HAGEMAN—R**  
Our responsibility is to represent our constituents and to focus on the issues that are important to them. Congress has largely abdicated its legislative responsibilities over the last 30 years by allowing the administrative deep state to adopt rules and regulations well outside of their authority and to legislate in our stead. Congress must become much more aggressive at using the power of the purse to rein in and control the administrative state, while also protecting American citizens.

**STEVEN HELLING—R**  
A representative to the U.S. House has the role of being the representative for his or her constituents. I would introduce bills, serve on committees, offer amendments and legislate on behalf of the people of Wyoming.

**4. What distinguishes you from other candidates?**

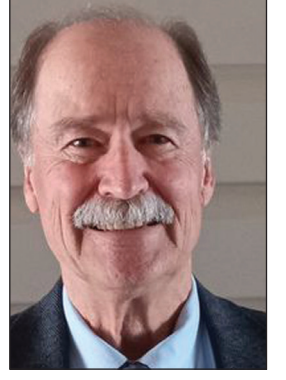
**KYLE CAMERON—D**  
What distinguishes me from other candidates is my deep-rooted connection to Wyoming, my extensive experience in program management, and my commitment to upholding individual freedoms and supporting the hardworking people of our state. I bring a unique blend of skills in communication, conflict resolution,



Kyle Cameron—D



Harriet Hageman—R



Steven Helling—R

and budget management, backed by advanced degrees in Social Science, Organizational Leadership, and Philosophy. My history of political engagement, including serving as the Wyoming Democratic Party Labor Caucus Chair, and my dedication to addressing key issues such as health care, workers' rights, and climate change, demonstrate my readiness to effectively represent and advocate for Wyomingites in Congress.

**HARRIET HAGEMAN—R**  
My experience. I spent 34 years as a litigator protecting water and property rights, exposing federal land and wildlife mismanagement, and fighting back against the unconstitutional and unlawful acts of unelected bureaucrats. I have relied upon this experience as Wyoming's lone congressional representative, focusing on those issues that are critically important to our legacy industries and protecting our constitutional liberties.

**STEVEN HELLING—R**  
I am distinguished from my opponent in several ways. My demeanor is very different. I hope I would never invoke the race card by calling someone the bottom of the barrel intellectually and a "DEI hire." I am not a racist. I think racism is a form of hatred. I remember when Ms.

Hageman called Mr. Trump a racist, and then blamed Liz Cheney for doing so. If someone is a racist, I do not want their vote.

**5. Please describe your experience and how that will help you in this position.**

**KYLE CAMERON—D**  
My experience in program management, budget oversight, and political engagement, combined with advanced degrees in Social Science, Organizational Leadership, and Philosophy, equips me to effectively represent Wyoming. Serving as the Wyoming Democratic Party Labor Caucus chair and my commitment to health care, workers' rights, and climate change ensure I advocate for constituents' needs in Congress. Visit the campaign website at cameronforwyoming.net.

**HARRIET HAGEMAN—R**  
Answered under Question No. 4.

**STEVEN HELLING—R**  
I have resolved hundreds of disputes. I have served on boards and commissions. I am a team builder. All of these should contribute to getting positive things done for Wyoming and the United States. Jesus Christ is Lord. God bless.

# JD WILLIAMS

## CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN

JD believes the role of government includes the support of law enforcement, fire departments and personnel, EMTs and search & rescue. However, Allen Slagle boasts of voting with the Wyoming Freedom Caucus 100% of the time. His record shows a lack of research and common sense.

**HERE IS ALLEN SLAGLE'S VOTING RECORD ON THESE ISSUES:**

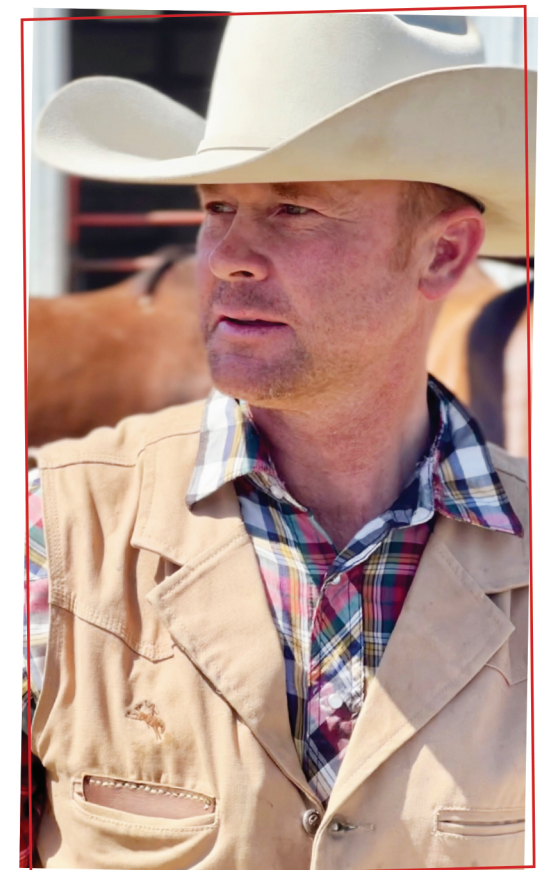
**SF0004** - This act allows retired firefighters to be rehired while continuing to receive retirement benefits.  
**Passed - Senate 31-0, House 46-16. Allen Slagle voted NO**

**SF008** - This bill allows volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons to participate in the state employees and officials group insurance plan at their own expense, which is no cost to the state.  
**Passed - Senate 25-6, House 54-7 Allen Slagle voted NO**

**SF0047** - Sheridan Police Sergeant Nevada Krinke was shot and killed while attempting to serve a trespass warning on a man, leaving behind a wife and infant daughter. SF0047 supported raising the death benefit for spouses of fallen officers from 62.5% of their yearly salary to 90%, as well as a minimum increase in the contribution rates. The Law Enforcement Pension Plan is adequately funded with almost one billion dollars to help surviving spouses and their dependents in their time of need.  
**Passed - Senate 29-1, House 43-13 Allen Slagle voted NO**

**HB0029** - This bill requires the Division of Criminal Investigation to develop and maintain a cold case database. It has a fiscal cost of \$150,000, this was common sense legislation.  
**Passed - Senate 26-4, House 53-9 Allen Slagle voted NO**

**HB0027** - DFS and law enforcement-cross reporting requires law enforcement to notify the Department of Family Services upon receiving a report that a vulnerable adult is suspected of being or has been abused, neglected, exploited, intimidated, or abandoned or is committing self-neglect.  
**Passed - Senate 21-10, House 44-17 Allen Slagle voted NO**



## WHAT DIFFERENTIATES JD FROM ALLEN?

JD is an independent thinker who listens to his constituents and uses rational analysis instead of conforming and rote voting the Wyoming Freedom Caucus agenda.

**VOTING RECORDS MATTER!**

# VOTE JD WILLIAMS' COMMON SENSE VALUES FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 2!

Paid for by Friends of JD