

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-01**

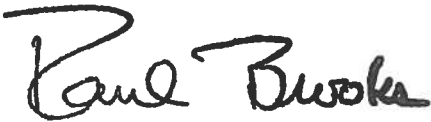
**A RESOLUTION OF THE WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES RELATING TO THE 62nd ANNUAL CONVENTION IN GILLETTE, WYOMING, JUNE 2017**

**WHEREAS**, the 2017 Annual Convention of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities on May 31 – June 2, in Gillette, Wyoming has proven to be an outstanding session focusing on the education of elected officials and municipal staff members and enhancing the tools available to them in order to provide the best service to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of this Convention is due in large measure to the generous contribution of time, effort and resources on the part of the staff and elected officials from the City of Gillette and sponsors who hosted, planned, and arranged logistics and activities of the 2017 WAM Convention.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Wyoming Association of Municipalities on this 2nd day of June 2017 in Gillette, Wyoming gratefully extends its appreciation to every person and organization with the City of Gillette who devoted time, effort and resources in the planning, arranging, providing and presenting of the programs and activities of the 62nd Annual WAM Convention.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.



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President

## **WAM RESOLUTION 2017-02**

### **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES' LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND THE ASSOCIATION'S EFFORTS IN SEEKING APPROPRIATION OF STATE FUNDING FOR WYOMING CITIES AND TOWNS DURING THE 2018 BUDGET SESSION OF THE WYOMING LEGISLATURE**

**WHEREAS**, the 2018 Budget Session of the Wyoming Legislature is scheduled to commence in February of 2018 and the Wyoming Association of Municipalities has developed a Legislative Agenda relating to municipal funding issues that will be considered by the Wyoming Legislature during the upcoming session; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming cities and towns, which comprise the membership of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities, rely on state sales and use tax revenues, ad valorem tax revenues and "over-the-cap" funding as the primary revenue support for funding local government operations and services of direct benefit to residents and businesses of their respective community; and

**WHEREAS**, municipal officials of Wyoming cities and towns are aware of decreasing energy related revenues and the current general Wyoming economy and realize that due to such decreasing revenues, funding challenges at both the state and local level will affect the ability to provide essential government operations and services for citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming cities and towns have historically received and have relied upon "over-the-cap" revenue funding and the legislative agenda for the Wyoming Association of Municipalities strongly encourages continuation of this funding for the 2019-2020 biennium; and

**WHEREAS**, direct distribution discretionary funding provided by the "over-the-cap" state allocation is essential for both large and small Wyoming cities and towns to maintain vital services for its communities which involve the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

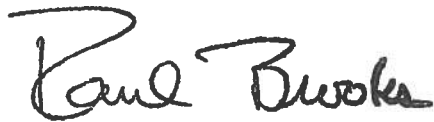
**WHEREAS**, in 2000 de-earmarking was passed in the House of Representatives and was successfully based on the argument that cities and towns and many other state and local services affected by de-earmarking would be funded by direct distributions determined by the Wyoming Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, the cap placed on distributions of severance and federal mineral royalty distributions in 2000 has not been adjusted for inflation and cities and towns have become heavily dependent on the direct distribution appropriated by the Wyoming Legislature to offset the cost of providing services to the citizens of Wyoming; and

**WHEREAS**, State Legislators have supported funding in the past for programs that assist with local municipalities' economic development and economic diversification efforts, such as those offered through the Wyoming Business Council and those involving state-wide communications and technology development such as the WYOLINK and Unified Technology Network programs, and "over the cap" funding has assisted municipalities in promoting and utilizing these programs.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2018 Wyoming Association of Municipalities' legislative agenda and the Association's efforts in seeking appropriation of state funding for cities and towns during the 2018 Budget Session of the Wyoming Legislature is hereby supported for the benefit of all Wyoming community residents and businesses.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Brooks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

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President

**WAM RESOLUTION No. 2017-03**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ANY EFFORTS TO RAISE THE  
TAX ON ALL MALT BEVERAGES**

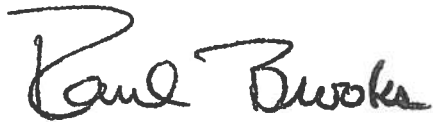
**WHEREAS**, increasing taxes on malt beverages will enhance state revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, the current tax on malt beverages (beer) in Wyoming is two (2) cents per gallon and tax on malt beverages has not been raised since 1935; and

**WHEREAS**, the national average tax on malt beverages is twenty-eight (28) cents per gallon.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities wholeheartedly supports any efforts to raise the tax on all malt beverages in Wyoming to supplement Wyoming revenue.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Brooks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

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President

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-04**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ADVOCATING THAT THE STATE OF WYOMING LEGISLATURE REINSTATE TAXATION ON FOOD PRODUCTS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO WYOMING CITIES AND TOWNS**

**WHEREAS**, in the 2006 Legislative Session food products were exempted from the sale tax collected by both state and local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of this sales tax exemption is multiplied by any local sales tax which local governments have in place resulting in reductions in both state shared revenues and locally collected revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, sales taxation on food sales is a stable source of revenue to local governments that was removed by the Legislature in 2006 and then partially funded with backfill payments for two bienniums; and

**WHEREAS**, backfill payments were terminated beginning on July 1, 2010, resulting in a significant loss in local government operating revenues.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports and advocates the State of Wyoming Legislature to reinstate taxation on food products for financial support dedicated wholly to Wyoming Cities and Towns.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.



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President

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-05**

**A RESOLUTION TO ADVOCATING LEGISLATION TO REMOVE  
THE NON-TRANSIENT LODGING TAX EXEMPTION**

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming Statue §39-15-101 (xiv) identifies “transient guest” as a guest who is not a resident of that county and remains for less than thirty (30) continuous days; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming Statue §39-15-103 (a) (i) (G) states lodging tax is paid on “the sales price paid for living quarters in hotels, motels, tourist courts and similar establishments providing lodging for transient guests”; and

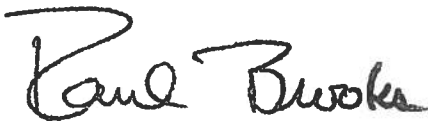
**WHEREAS**, municipalities across the state face another economic downturn and a reduction in sales, use and lodging tax are impacting revenues to municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the unpredictability of the temporary workforce places demands on communities for housing and reduces the availability for lodging for tourists. This reduction in tourism impacts collection of visitor dollars to the local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, local municipalities are not granted taxing authority for their communities, and presently there are no other alternatives to collect revenues to provide essential services for communities who rely on lodging, sales and use taxes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports and advocates that the State of Wyoming Legislature remove the transient lodging tax exemption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.



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President

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-06**

**A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY THE LIEN AND ASSESSMENT PROCESS BY WHICH MUNICIPAL EXPENSES FOR ABATING NUISANCES AND DANGEROUS BUILDINGS MAY BE RECOVERED**

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming Statute §15-1-103 permits cities to abate dangerous buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming Statute §15-1-119 permits Municipalities to adopt any national building code which includes but is not limited to codes dealing with the abatement of dangerous buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, under applicable codes dealing with the abatement of dangerous buildings, provisions are made which enable the legislative body to order said abatement costs be personal obligation of the property owner or assess said abatement costs against the property involved;

**WHEREAS**, under applicable codes dealing with the abatement of dangerous buildings, provisions are made which enable the legislative body that [charges] shall be assessed against the property, it shall confirm the assessment roll, and thereafter said assessment shall constitute a special assessment against and a lien upon the property; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities across the state are facing another economic downturn and reduction in direct and indirect funding streams, and the need to recoup these abatement costs is more vital than ever before; and

**WHEREAS**, the property value is enriched by the removal and abatement of dangerous buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, this abatement should not be wholly funded by public funds without a clear process in place for municipalities to recoup these abatement costs; and

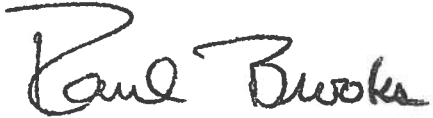
**WHEREAS**, municipalities are created statutorily and all rights are enabled through legislation and Wyoming Statutes are silent regarding this special lien assessment relief; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming Statutes do not succinctly provide either a lien procedure or an assessment process on the real property involved thus hindering municipalities' ability to recoup expenses incurred by them as a result of abating nuisances and dangerous buildings.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities support and advocate for Wyoming legislation to clarify the lien and

assessment process by which municipal expenses for abating nuisances and dangerous buildings may be recovered.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Brooks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P".

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President



**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-07**


**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ADVOCATING LEGISLATION TO AMEND WYOMING STATUTE §15-1-113(a) CONTRACTS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND §15-1-113(f) FORMS OF GUARANTEE**

**WHEREAS**, current law does not allow municipalities to obtain automobiles or trucks through the Wyoming State Bid process; and

**WHEREAS**, current law does require bid guarantees for the purchase or lease of automobiles or trucks; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports and advocates legislation to amend Wyoming Statute §15-1-113(a) by adding language “shall be obtained through the Wyoming State Bid process or” and Wyoming Statute §15-1-113(f) by adding language “Except that a contract for the purchase or lease of an automobile or truck shall not require a bid guarantee.”

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.



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President

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-08**

**A RESOLUTION TO CREATE UTILITY AND OTHER MUNICIPAL SERVICES LIEN AUTHORITY FOR MUNICIPALITIES AND JOINT POWERS BOARDS**

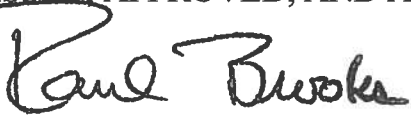
**WHEREAS**, municipalities in Wyoming have become aware of problems relating to the ability of the municipalities and joint powers boards to collect past due utility and other municipal service bills; and

**WHEREAS**, the current law of the State of Wyoming allows irrigation districts, water and other improvement districts to create liens under the right circumstances or have statutorily been granted automatic and perpetual liens under certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, there is nothing similar to the creation of a lien found in zoning regulations or any other powers granted to a municipality or joint powers board in current state laws of the State of Wyoming;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports legislation as may be necessary to provide authority to a municipality or joint powers board to create a lien arising from past due bills for public utilities and other municipal services necessary to correct hazardous conditions.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.



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President

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-09**

**A RESOLUTION TO CREATE AN OPTIONAL GENERAL REVENUE TAX FOR A SPECIFIED PURPOSE**

**WHEREAS**, many local governments in Wyoming are struggling to address the operating needs of their communities through existing taxing methods; and

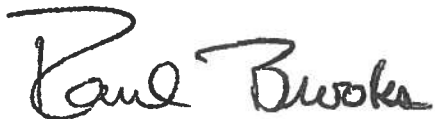
**WHEREAS**, citizens of these local governments have a higher comfort level if they can be assured that any additional general revenue tax will be used to fund priorities identified by the community that may include such broad initiatives as transportation, housing, street repair and maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, the current taxing ability allows for either an unrestricted general revenue tax or a specific purpose tax that can only be used for capital construction and not for operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the current taxing ability limits the combined total of both the general revenue tax under §39-15-204(a)(i), the specific purpose tax under §39-15-204(a)(iii) and the economic development tax under §39-15-204(a)(vi) to 3% with specific limits within each tax type;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports an optional general revenue tax for a specified purpose that can be used for capital and operational expenses, that is in addition to all current taxes that may be levied in §39-15-204(a)(iv), that allows such a tax to be implemented in increments of one-tenth of one percent (.1%) not to exceed a rate of 2%, and that would follow the same imposition and removal procedures as a general revenue tax as identified in §39-15-204(a)(i).

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2017.



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President

**WAM RESOLUTION NO. 2017-10**

**A RESOLUTION TO CREATE AN AGREEMENT OF TAXATION  
BETWEEN ONLINE MARKETPLACE AND HOSPITALITY  
SERVICE PROVIDERS AND THE STATE OF WYOMING**

**WHEREAS** there are online marketplace and hospitality service providers enabling people to lease or rent short term including vacation rentals, apartment rentals, home stays, hostel beds, or hotel rooms; and

**WHEREAS** some service providers have signed agreements in dozens of jurisdictions in the United States and France to collect and remit taxes, and over \$200 million in hotel and occupancy taxes have been collected and remitted to the jurisdictions where the providers have agreements;

**WHEREAS** providers have several hundred actively registered rooms in Wyoming;

**WHEREAS** the providers do not have an occupancy tax agreement with the State of Wyoming that permits them to collect sales and lodging taxes from hosts,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities requests the State of Wyoming pursue and negotiate a tax collection agreement with such providers such that applicable taxes be collected by service providers from hosts and that said taxes be appropriately distributed to governing authorities at point of sale.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2017



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President