

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-01

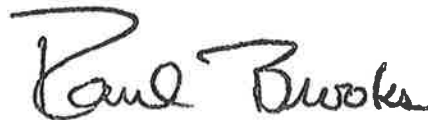
A RESOLUTION OF THE WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES RELATING TO THE 63rd ANNUAL CONVENTION IN PINEDALE, WYOMING, JUNE 2018

WHEREAS, the 2018 Annual Convention of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities on June 13-15, in Pinedale, 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 Town of Pinedale and sponsors who hosted, planned, and arranged logistics and activities of the 2018 WAM Convention.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Wyoming Association of Municipalities on this 14th day of June 2018 in Pinedale, Wyoming that the Association gratefully extends its appreciation to every person and organization in Pinedale and with the Town of Pinedale who devoted time, effort and resources in the planning, arranging, providing and presenting of the programs and activities of the 63rd Annual WAM Convention.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-02

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

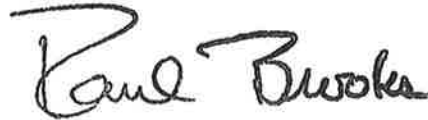
WHEREAS, municipalities in Wyoming have become aware of problems relating to the ability of the municipalities and joint powers boards to collect past due utility and other municipal service bills; and

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,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports such 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 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-04

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES THE AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAXES WITHIN DEFINED LOCAL BOUNDARIES

WHEREAS, municipalities have little to no control over most revenue sources, including sales tax; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming cities and towns are the most reliant of any state in the nation upon the State government for revenue; and

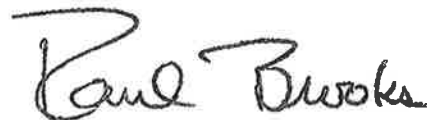
WHEREAS, for those cities and towns with significant sales tax base, independent revenue authority will help fund critical infrastructure projects, economic development initiatives, or supplement tourism projects without additional state aid and upon which the municipalities are currently dependent on the State; and

WHEREAS, lodging tax dollars may not be spent on capital projects according to Wyoming Statute; and

WHEREAS, the local option sales tax for economic development is poorly defined and underutilized in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports such legislation as may be necessary to provide local taxing authority, to expand alternatives for the local option economic development tax to include any combination of one quarter percent (0.25%) for transportation OR tourism impacts OR economic development OR municipal infrastructure projects up to one percent (1%) AND the ability for a local government agency or a consortium of agencies to impose this option with a city or town-wide vote.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-06

**A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING FOR STATE LEGISLATION
TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE NON-TRANSIENT LODGING
TAX DEFINITION OF TRANSIENT GUEST**

WHEREAS, Wyoming State Statute §39-15-101(xiv) defines “transient guest” as a guest who remains for less than thirty [30] continuous days; and

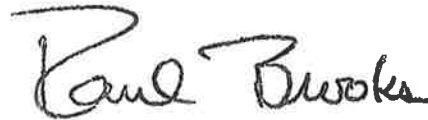
WHEREAS, Wyoming State Statute §39-15-103(G) states “the sale price paid for living quarters in hotels, motels, tourist courts and similar establishments providing lodging for transient guests”; and

WHEREAS, municipalities across the state are in the midst of another economic downturn and reductions in both use and lodging taxes are impacting operating budgets; and

WHEREAS, the unpredictability of the temporary workforce places great demands on a community’s lodging inventory and thereby reduces the availability of lodging for tourists traveling through a community. This reduction in tourism impacts collection of visitor dollars across our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities support and advocate to the Wyoming Legislature a repeal and replace the non-transient definition striking the following: “remains for less than thirty [30] days’ and replace with “who is not a resident of that county”.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-07

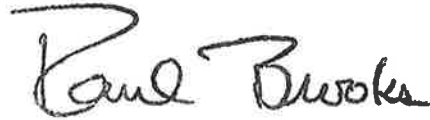
**A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING FOR STATE LEGISLATION
TO REPEAL WYOMING STATE STATUTE §39-15-105(a)(vi)(E)
SALES TAX EXEMPTION OF FOOD FOR DOMESTIC HOME
CONSUMPTION FROM SALES TAX IMPOSITION**

WHEREAS, in 2006 the Wyoming Legislature enacted legislation that effectively removed tax on food sales for domestic consumption from taxation by both the state and local governments and partially funded the local governments with “backfill” payments which were terminated on July 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS, taxation on food is a stable and vital source of revenue and funding to local governments and the loss of this funding stream has resulted in significant and profound financial losses to local government operating revenues; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports and advocates the Wyoming Legislature to repeal the sales tax exemption of food for domestic home consumption and return this stable and vital source of revenue for both state and local governments.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-09

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A REVISION TO THE WYOMING STATE STATUTES PROVIDING THE OPTION FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE OF WYOMING INSURANCE PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, in order for municipal governments in the State of Wyoming to be competitive, municipal employees strive to offer employees the best health insurance options; and

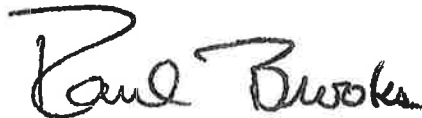
WHEREAS, cities and towns commonly pay a percentage of health insurance premiums as a benefit to the employee; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming State Statutes 9-3-201 through 9-3-218 currently allow employees of the State of Wyoming, its political subdivision, and school districts to obtain group health insurance; and

WHEREAS, cities and towns recognize the potential value of the health insurance programs offered by the State of Wyoming as provided to other political subdivisions and school districts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities support changes to Title 9, Article 2 of Wyoming State Statutes to include the option for municipalities to elect insurances as otherwise provided to other entities included in Article 2 of Title 9 for health, dental, vision, life, accident, and/or hospitalization through the State's health insurance program.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.n



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-08

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

WHEREAS, Wyoming State 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 the 1997 Uniform Code for Abatement of Dangerous Buildings; and

WHEREAS, the 1997 Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings, Section 905.1, provides authority for the governing body of a city or town to thereupon order that said [costs] shall be made a personal obligation of the property owner or assess said [cost]s against the property involved; and

WHEREAS, the 1997 Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings, Section 905.3, provides that the legislative body of this jurisdiction orders that [costs] 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, the need to recoup these abatement costs is more vital than ever before; and

WHEREAS, the property is enriched by the removal and abatement of the dangerous conditions and/or dangerous buildings; and

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

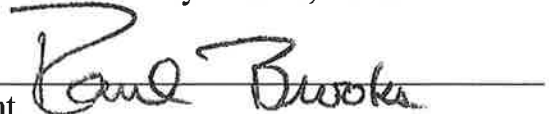
WHEREAS, municipalities are created statutorily, and all rights are enabled through legislation and Wyoming Statutes are silent regarding this special lien assessment relief; and

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 municipalities 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 14th day of June, 2018.

President



WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-10

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATEWIDE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, diversity is necessary for any thriving city or town; and

WHEREAS, discrimination still occurs on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, gender identify, age, sexual orientation family status, veteran status, disability and marital status; and

WHEREAS, there are no state statutes protecting against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to diversity and the creation of a community welcoming to all which will enhance our local economies, encourage a positive forward-thinking environment that will help attract and retain businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities should encourage and support state wide anti-discrimination legislation, prohibiting discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation or gender identity in housing, employment and public accommodations.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-11

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PILT (PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES) FOR STATE-OWNED PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, cities and towns receive most of their revenue to provide basic governmental services such as police and fire protection from sales tax and property tax; and


WHEREAS, all state-owned properties are tax exempt and therefore not required to pay property tax or sales tax; and

WHEREAS, in multiple communities across Wyoming, state agencies own and operate considerable property that require basic city services; and

WHEREAS, Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) to local municipalities is a federal and nationwide practice which replaces lost revenue and allows municipalities to serve all their residents and property owners with basic services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities should present legislation during the 2019 Wyoming legislative session establishing a PILT program for state owned properties.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-12

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL AIR SERVICE AS
ESSENTIAL TO WYOMING'S PROSPERITY**

WHEREAS, local air service that provides connections to major cities is a critical component of a thriving economy; and

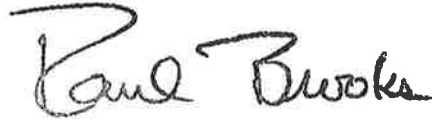
WHEREAS, Wyoming's rural nature makes traditional private air service very difficult to sustain; and

WHEREAS, during the 2018 Legislative Session, a bill was passed which provides money to airports across Wyoming in sustaining their air service, but essentially excludes Essential Air Service airports; and

WHEREAS, the continued funding of air enhancement programs, including providing funding for EAS airports is critical to the future of Wyoming cities and towns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association Municipalities work during the 2019 Legislative Session to continue funding for Wyoming airports and develop air enhancement opportunities for EAS eligible airports.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-13

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GREATER FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE AND AUTHORITY FOR WYOMING CITIES AND TOWNS

WHEREAS, Wyoming's ninety-nine (99) cities and towns are responsible to provide basic and essential services like safe streets, police protection and fire suppression for sixty-nine percent (69%) of all Wyoming residents who reside in those communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wyoming does not grant local taxation authority to municipal governing bodies sufficient to empower these elected officials to provide consistent services required by city and town residents; and

WHEREAS, numerous reports at the national state and local level substantiate that Wyoming municipalities have the least local fiscal authority and the absolute lowest local revenue generating capacity of any of the 50 States; and

WHEREAS, the taxation system established by States directly affects the overall economic vitality of the State and can either drive, or suppress, economic prosperity; and

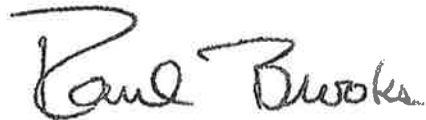
WHEREAS, because municipalities are not allowed local taxation authority, State government has directly appropriated funding to cities and towns, but this historical practice is not sustainable for Wyoming's long-term future.

WHEREAS, to ensure a sustainable financial future with economic prosperity generated locally and throughout Wyoming for both current and future generations of Wyomingites, Wyoming must consider implementing the Principles of High-Quality State Revenue Systems as they pertain to State-to-Local government relationships and recommended by the National Conference of State Legislatures, among other national and state agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports legislation to request that the State of Wyoming empower municipalities to raise sufficient revenues to meet the needs of residents by granting to their governing bodies all of the three key elements of local taxation authority including:

- a) authority to directly levy taxes,
- b) control of the local rate of taxation, and
- c) authority to allocate local tax revenue to municipal purposes and services.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-14

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MUNICIPAL STORM WATER
ENTERPRISE FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the majority of Wyoming residents live in cities and towns and rely upon their municipal governments for essential surface water drainage and utility infrastructure that keeps the public safe and protects both public and private properties from damage from storm water run-off; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming statutes do not authorize cities to create storm water enterprise funds for operation of storm water drainage systems and, consequently, there are millions of dollars of unmet financing needs for surface water drainage within the City of Laramie.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities requests that the State of Wyoming authorize cities and towns to establish and operate surface water drainage systems as public utility services and make available by statute similar financing options as are provided for potable water and sanitary sewer utilities; and that the State of Wyoming allow municipal governing bodies to establish user fees to support financial operations of surface water drainage systems.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-15

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EQUAL AND ACCESSIBLE
STATE-TO-MUNICIPAL FUNDING SUFFICIENT TO SUSTAIN
SERVICES FOR MUNICIPAL RESIDENTS**

WHEREAS, sixty-nine percent (69%) of all Wyoming residents reside within the corporate limits of a city or town; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of Wyomingites rely upon their municipal government for basic and essential services like safe streets, police protection and fire suppression; and,

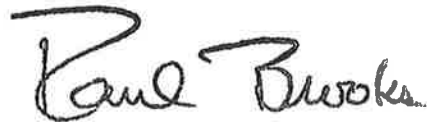
WHEREAS, Wyoming cities have no authority to generate revenue locally and must, therefore, utilize revenue appropriated directly from the State to provide essential municipal services; and,

WHEREAS, significant fluctuations in the amount of shared, state-to-municipal funding occur each year, preventing municipal officials from planning responsibly for either the current or future needs of Wyoming's municipal residents; and,

WHEREAS, State-to-municipal funding is shared disproportionately among Wyoming's cities, with the FY2018 direct distribution ranging widely from \$30 per resident to \$2500 per resident.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities requests that the State of Wyoming implement proportionate per capita funding equitably among Wyoming's municipalities and municipal residents; and requests that the State of Wyoming establish a consistent amount of recurring annual funding sufficient to sustain the critical health and human safety services municipal governments provide to Wyoming residents.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-16

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING APPROPRIATION OF STATE FUNDING FOR ALL 99 WYOMING CITIES AND TOWNS DURING THE 2019 REGULAR SESSION OF THE WYOMING LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, the 2019 Regular Session of the Wyoming Legislature is scheduled to commence in January 2019 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

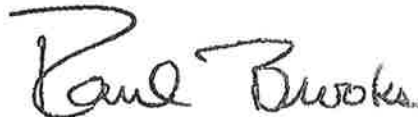
WHEREAS, all 99 Wyoming cities and towns, which comprise of the membership of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities, rely on legislatively determined funding models for over 70% of the operations and services of direct benefit to residents and businesses of their respective community and maintain vital services for its communities which involve the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the cap placed on the Severance and Mineral Royalty Taxes in 2000 has never been adjusted for inflation, and cities and towns have had to become heavily reliant upon the direct distribution provided by the Wyoming State Legislature to offset the cost of providing for the Citizens within their respective boundaries; and

WHEREAS, All the other sources of legislatively provided funding streams rise and fall with inflation and the state of the Wyoming's economy, and the cap on Federal Mineral Royalties and Severance Tax should also be adjusted to reflect the rising cost of inflation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2019 Wyoming Association of Municipalities' legislative agenda and the Association's efforts in seeking to raise the cap on mineral royalties and severance tax appropriation of state funding for all 99 Wyoming Cities and Towns during the 2019 Session of the Wyoming Legislature is hereby supported for the benefit of all Wyoming community residents and businesses.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-17

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AMENDMENT OF THE
WYOMING CONSTITUTION FOR THE REMOVAL OF LIMITS ON
INDEBTEDNESS FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS**

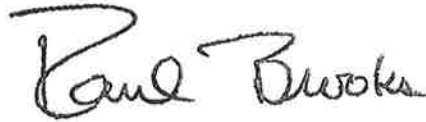
WHEREAS, Article 16 Section 5 of the Wyoming Constitution states no city or town shall in any manner create any indebtedness exceeding four percent (4%) of the assessed value of the taxable property therein, except that an additional indebtedness of four percent (4%) of the assessed value of the taxable property therein may be created for sewage disposal systems; and

WHEREAS, municipal sewage disposal systems must be self-sustaining per Wyoming Statute 15-7-407; and

WHEREAS, municipalities increasingly rely on the state grant and funding programs especially since county-wide consensus funds have been eliminated this will make securing this type of funding very competitive in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Wyoming Association of Municipalities supports a constitutional amendment to Article 16, Section 5 such that sewer debt is excepted from the limitations of Article 16, Section 5 of the Constitution.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-19

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO ALLOW MUNICIPALITIES TO REQUIRE UNIFORM INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARDS IN EXTRATERRITORIAL AREAS WITHIN ONE MILE OF A MUNICIPALITY'S CORPORATE LIMITS.

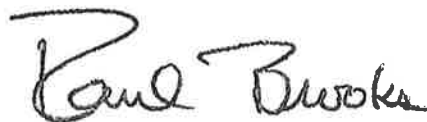
WHEREAS, statutory language in Wyo. Stat. §34-12-103(b), as recently amended by HB0014, and signed by the Governor on March 3, 2018, requires counties solicit input from a city or town for developments located within one (1) mile the corporate limits of the city or town, but limits the implementation of a city or town's request "to the extent practical"; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have an interest in ensuring compatible and efficient streets, utilities, and other infrastructure for future annexation and subsequent connections; and,

WHEREAS, the burden to improve streets and related infrastructure prior to annexation to the standards required by cities or towns creates hardship for both landowners and the municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities support and advocate for changes to legislation as may be necessary to ensure compatible infrastructure for new development which occurs within one (1) mile of the corporate limits of municipalities.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-20

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO ALLOW MUNICIPALITIES THE ABILITY TO TRACK AND COLLECT THE MUNICIPAL SHARE OF LOCAL SALES, USE AND LODGING TAXES.

WHEREAS, municipalities in Wyoming currently receive their portion of sales, use, and lodging tax revenue from the State of Wyoming after the Wyoming Department of Revenue has collected the taxes from local retailers and lodging entities; and

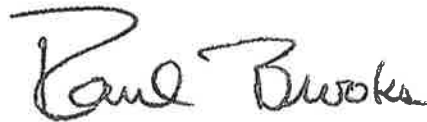
WHEREAS, the collections are received by municipalities at an irregular interval; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have both the capability and interest in ensuring sales, use, and lodging taxes are collected in a timely manner from local tax generators; and,

WHEREAS, municipalities have a unique understanding of the businesses and their owners and the ability to form local partnerships and relationships as it relates to tax collection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities support and advocate for legislation as may be necessary to allow for municipalities to track and collect the municipal share of sales, use, and lodging taxes locally by municipal officials.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2018.



President

WAM RESOLUTION NO. 18-21

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF
MUNICIPALITIES THANKING AND RECOGNIZING GOVERNOR
MATTHEW H. MEAD**

WHEREAS, Governor Matthew H. Mead has served the State of Wyoming with distinction and honor as the 32nd Governor of the Equality State; and

WHEREAS, Governor Mead has served Wyoming from January 2011 to January 2019; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's 99 incorporated cities and towns, and most importantly the citizens, have benefitted from his steadfast and non-wavering support; and

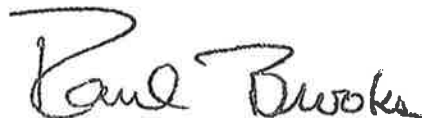
WHEREAS, through Governor Mead's leadership and commitment, the legacy and viability of Wyoming cities and towns has been enhanced, protected and preserved for generations; and

WHEREAS, Governor Mead is to be highly commended for his years of selfless public service and caring for Wyoming's municipalities and citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities gratefully extends its full appreciation and thanks to the Honorable Governor Matthew H. Mead for his service and support; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Governor Matthew H. Mead be, and hereby is bestowed with the position of Honorary Member of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14TH day of June 2018.



President