

June 1, 2025

Dear Member and Supporter of the Wyoming Historical Society:

The Wyoming Historical Society Executive Board is sharing with you the voting results of the recently proposed Bylaw changes to the Society.

A total of 589 members, out of our 1,364 members, participated in the Bylaws vote. This unprecedented 43% of voting member participation demonstrates the commitment of our members have to the democratic process and the Wyoming Historical Society. We appreciate everyone's involvement and continued support of the Society.

We are greatly looking forward to continuing to move in a direction that will preserve the longevity of the Society for generations to come, making our mission and vision more accessible and increasing public awareness in the coming months and years.

One of the main reasons for the change in the Bylaws last September was to give all members a chance to vote on the Bylaws and the future of the Society, rather than limiting it to the approximately 30 members who were able to attend the Annual Meeting each year. The Executive Board of the Wyoming Historical Society, in accordance with Article V, Section I, No. 2 of the September 2024 WHS Bylaws, which states that "Ballots may be returned by email, online voting platform, or postage service," which certifies to all members that this vote was valid, accurate, and legitimate. This ensures a fair and democratic process accessible to all current members of the Society.

Google Forms is a highly accessible and user-friendly voting platform, making it an attractive and cost-effective option for polling that reaches a wider range of members. It offers features like progress bars and clear formatting to enhance accessibility for a broad audience, including those using assistive technology. Google also employs robust security measures, including encryption in transit and at rest, and provides features like "limit to 1 response" and "restrict to users in your organization" to help manage submission integrity.

After they have been ratified at the next Executive Board meeting, and in accordance with the Bylaws, the final results of the vote will be published in the July/August issue of the *Wyoming History News* and a PDF of the votes will be posted to the website.

The next Executive Board meeting will take place on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm via Zoom. If you would like a link to the meeting, please visit wyshs.org/documents. At the bottom of the webpage, there will be a link. The agenda and minutes of previous meetings are also posted on the same page.

Overall, the changes to the Bylaws passed. Below are the details on each Article's vote to easily show the voting results.

- Article I: Name and Purpose
  - o PASSED 478 of 589 votes, 81.15%
- Article II: Membership
  - o PASSED 482 of 589 votes, 81.83
- Article III: Officers and Governance
  - o PASSED 437 of 589 votes, 74.19%
- Article IV: Officers and Duties
  - o PASSED 434 of 589 votes, 73.68%
- Article V: Annual Meeting
  - o PASSED 483 of 589 votes, 82.00%

- Article VI: Amendments to the Bylaws
  - o PASSED 483 of 589 votes, 82.00%
- Article VII: Committees and Subcommittees
  - PASSED 477 of 589 votes, 80.98%
- Article VIII: Quorum
  - o PASSED 482 of 589 votes, 81.83%
- Article IX Publications of the Society
  - o PASSED 480 of 589 votes, 81.49%
- Article X Parliamentary Procedure
  - o PASSED 492 of 589 votes, 83.53%

We are enthusiastic about embarking on a path that will ensure the longevity of the Society for future generations. We recognize that change can be challenging and, at times, difficult to embrace. However, it is a crucial step to secure a sustainable future for Wyoming Historical Society.

We again thank you for your continued support of the Society and ask that you stick with us during these transitions for a better future, ensuring we can continue to share Wyoming's history with this and many generations to come.

We, the Executive Board, are committed to listening to and engaging with all stakeholders of Wyoming History and our members. Your voices are invaluable in shaping the future of our Society, and we encourage you to continue sharing your thoughts and ideas with us. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant community that honors and preserves our rich history for generations to come.

Respectfully,

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