



WYOMING  
ASSOCIATION  
OF MUNICIPALITIES

Att:  
Kent  
Drummond

To: Wyoming Towns and Cities (Please Copy and Distribute as Needed)  
Date: December 14, 2000  
From: George Parks, Executive Director  
Re: Heads Up

WAM INFO

- Now is the time to meet with legislators to make sure they understand what your community needs, so they can be effective advocates. Pinedale, Lander, Sheridan, Greybull, Thermopolis and Cheyenne are planning legislative meetings in December and January. If anyone needs information regarding legislative issues affecting cities and towns, please contact your local legislators or the WAM office.
- EOW (Elected Officials Workshop) is scheduled in Cheyenne for January 24-26<sup>th</sup>. We sent out registration information this week to all council members and mayors. If you have any questions, please give our office a call.
- WAMCAT Winter Conference is scheduled for January 10-12, Rawlins.

WYOMING INFO

- **GOOD NEWS FOR MUNICIPALITIES!** The Corporations Committee has declined to consider an industry proposed bill on right of way and franchises. They discussed taking the issue up as an interim topic after the legislature adjourns.
- The Select Water Committee has approved both the planning and construction bills—more good news to communities with projects on the list. It was also agreed the state would look into reviewing drinking water priority. After the municipal reserve account discussion, it was agreed the concern was not with the reserve accounts themselves, but with the question of whether all sizes of municipalities can benefit equally from Water Development Projects.
- Governor Geringer presented the supplemental budget proposal including an increase of \$4.9 million in mineral royalty grant program, administered by SLIB. *Please encourage your legislator to support this increase.*
- De-earmarking is being discussed by legislators and others regarding delaying the effective date till July 1, 2002. This would be a good alternative and give legislators opportunity for a comprehensive review of funding for local governments.
- The Department of Family Services and the Department of Corrections are jointly releasing two Requests for Proposals (RFP's) aimed to improve the availability and quality of child care. The RFP's can be obtained by contacting A&I-Purchasing at (307) 777-7253. The RFP's are:
  - #0152-II Community Child Care Systems Development  
This RFP seeks to award funds to local governmental entities to address community child care needs.
  - #0151-II Program Development and Enhancement  
The purpose of this RFP is to increase the availability of quality child care for infants/toddlers, school age children, minorities and underserved populations.  
The closing date for the RFP is January 31, 2001. If you have questions, you may contact Sue Bacon at 777-6848.
- Legislative/State Meetings:
  - Dec. 14-15, Lander, Joint Transportation and Highways Interim Committee. At 1:30 Proposed draft legislation of the Aeronautics Commission is scheduled. LSO-00599.C1, Merger of aeronautics and transportation commissions, and LSO-0060.C2, Aeronautics commission-separate operating agency will be discussed.
  - Dec. 18, Casper, Joint Judiciary Interim Committee
  - Dec. 18, Cheyenne, Mineral Tax Incentives Subcommittee
  - Dec. 19, Cheyenne, Mineral Valuation and Taxation Committee
  - Dec. 20, Cheyenne, Joint Revenue Interim Committee
  - Dec. 27, Ft. Washakie, Select Committee Tribal Relations
- February 15, 2001, Cheyenne, initial meeting of the Wyoming Public Safety Region 46 planning committee for 700 MHz will be held at 10am at WYDOT. The FCC adopted a regional approach to spectrum management for public safety channels in the 700MHz 2-way radio band in "WT Docket No. 96-86 First Report and Order and Third Notice

of Proposed Rule Making." Adopted: Aug. 6, 1998, Released: Sept. 29, 1998. For more information, contact Bill Smith 307-777-4764 or email: bsmith1@state.wy.us.

- **WAM Office is accepting applications for the WAM-WCCA Energy Lease Program.** This program is designed to assist cities/towns and counties with energy saving projects, such as, replacement boiler, insulated windows, better insulation. These are 0% "leases" with a maximum request of \$50,000. Approximately \$150,000 to \$200,000 is awarded each year. For more information, call Stephanie Reeves at the WAM Office, 307-632-0398. Deadline is December 31, 2000.
- **The Wyoming Business Council is accepting proposals for energy efficiency projects, utilizing Exxon funds and Stripper Well funds.** For information and a copy of the RFP, call John Nunley, Wyoming Business Council, 307-777-2804, or email John at [jnunle@state.wy.us](mailto:jnunle@state.wy.us).
- **Applications seeking AML funding** are due on or before February 12, 2001. All requests, including re-submissions, must follow application procedures for AML Public Facility Funding. The application procedures and forms can be viewed and printed on the DEQ website, <http://deq.state.wy.us/aml.htm>.

#### NATIONAL INFO

- The USDA is accepting applications from educational organizations and rural health care providers for \$325 million in loans and grants in 2001. Of that amount, \$15 million is available in grants, \$200 million in loans and \$110 million in grant/loan combinations. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and go to the most rural and most economically disadvantaged areas. For more information, check out the web site, <http://www.civic.com/civic/articles/2000/1106/web-usda-11-09-00.asp>
- The National League of Cities adopted the Natural Resource Policy in Boston last week. This proposal was initiated by WAM and supports concepts of multi-use and sustained yield.