



👚 2020 Wyoming General Election Guide 🛖



The League of Women Voters of Wyoming is pleased to provide this Guide for the 2020 General Election. It lists candidates and issues that will be on all Wyoming ballots. It can be used as a resource for news stories, but we ask that candidates' statements to a particular question not be edited or quoted only in part.

The Ouestions

The LWV selected the questions. They were mailed to addresses given when candidates filed (duplicates sent by email if provided). Those whose responses did not arrive by the deadline received follow-up messages.

Presidential Candidates

The LWV has prepared brief contact and biographical sketches for the four candidates for President of the United States, who are surveyed only by the League of Women Voters national Education Fund. Responses to the presidential questions can be viewed at VOTE411.org. However, two presidential candidates in Wyoming are not on the ballot in enough states to achieve victory in the Electoral College so they were not surveyed.

The Responses

The candidates' statements included here are exactly as submitted, candidates were limited to responses of 600 characters. Longer responses were shortened at the end of the statement to the closest complete thought. Three dots at the end indicate such a cut. Spelling or grammar were not corrected.

The Offices

Candidates' responses are in alphabetical order. An (R) next to a candidates' name indicates Republican, (D) indicates Democrat. Independent and minor party candidate affiliations are written out; hometowns (campaign headquarters) are given.

Other Information Sources

This Voters' Guide also is available online at VOTE411.org, a nationwide source for information on all candidates for U.S. President, U.S. Congress and state legislatures, as well as local offices in Albany County, where the local LWV chapter has paid to have their voter guide posted on VOTE411. It will also appear on the website of the Wyoming LWV (https://wyominglwv.org/Elections/elections.html). Local Leagues in Wyoming will post links to their candidate forums there also. Non-partisan sources can be found online, for example https://www.voutube.com/user/WYLWV has videos of public forums. The Wyoming State Bar Association will provide a survey of lawyers practicing in a particular court for evaluations of that court's judge. Contact information was supplied by the candidate or taken from the Wyoming Secretary of State's website or from VOTE411 for presidential candidates.

Voter Registration

People who voted in the 2018 General Election are currently registered to vote. Those who have moved, have a name change or wish to change party affiliation can make those changes at the County Clerk's Office either in person, by mail, or at the polls on Election Day. Check your Clerk's website for eligibility to register and documentation needed. Voter registration closes at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2020. Changes and additions to voter registration lists can still be made in person, but the voter must cast a ballot at that time.

Voting in Person

General Election is Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Polling places may have been consolidated; voters should check with their County Clerk if unsure. Voters must be at their assigned polling location to vote.

Accommodating All Voters

The county clerks throughout Wyoming accommodate voters with disabilities of any type. There are special voting stations with equipment for the visually impaired, and special parking places at polling places (sticker required).

Absentee Voting

All registered voters are eligible to vote absentee, and absentee voting has begun. Absentee ballots must reach the county clerk's office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. The U.S. Postal Service recommends ballots be mailed 15 days ahead of the election. People may vote early at their elections office until Nov. 2.





Joseph R. Biden (D) Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian) Brock Pierce (Independent) Donald J. Trump (R)

U.S. President

Term: Four years with a two-term limit. The limit is one elected term if a person held the office of president for longer than two years (e.g. in the event of the resignation or death of a sitting president) and the limit applies even if the terms are not consecutive.

Duties: Head of the Executive Branch of U.S. Government with all powers outlined in the United States Constitution. The Vice-President presides over the U.S. Senate.

Salary: \$400,000 annually plus housing, transportation and office expenses.

Who can vote: All registered voters in the U.S. (but not U.S. citizens of U.S. Territories like Puerto Rico).

How many to vote for: One, along with the designated Vice President. **More information:** VOTE411.org, and the campaign websites given here.

Notes: Wyoming does not have a presidential primary. Political parties select their candidates through caucuses and conventions. In Wyoming a major party is defined as one receiving 10% or more of the total votes for the U.S. House, Governor, or Secretary of State in the last election. A minor party also will go on the ballot, but the party must have received at least 2% of the vote in the last election. Independent or minority party candidates below the 2% threshold must have a petition signed by 2% of all votes cast in the last Wyoming U.S. House election (4,025 signatures in 2020). Two such successful candidates in Wyoming will be on the 2020 General Election ballot in addition to the major party candidates. The filing fee for each presidential candidate is \$200 in Wyoming. Names are listed in alphabetical order.

Joseph R. Biden (D, Delaware)

Contact website: https://joebiden.com

Biographical information: Born 1942 in Pennsylvania, moved to Delaware at 13. Educated Archmere Academy, University of Delaware and law degree from Syracuse University in 1968. Served in US Senate from Delaware 1973 - 2009, Vice President under Barack Obama 2009 - 2016. Running mate for Vice President is Kamala Harris, former Attorney General for California and U.S. Senator 2016 to present.

Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian, South Carolina)

Contact website: https://jo20.com

Biographical Information: Born in Illinois in 1957, has degrees from Baylor University, Southern Methodist, and a PhD from Clemson in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. Lecturer since 2006 and also founder of her own business consulting firm. Libertarian candidate for Vice President in 1996. Her running mate for Vice President is Jeremy "Spike" Cohen, a political talk show host.

Brock Pierce (Independent, Puerto Rico)

Contact website: www.brock.vote

Biographical Information: Born in Minnesota in 1980, worked as a child actor until age 18. Began a career as an entrepreneur in digital technology with an emphasis on digital currency, gaming and entertainment. Moved to San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2018, and became a philanthropist after Hurricane Maria. His running mate for Vice President is Karla Ballard, also an entrepreneur in the technology field.

Donald J. Trump (R, New York)

Contact website: https://donaldjtrump.com

Biographical information: Born in 1946 in New York (Queens), educated military academy, Fordham University 2 years, B.Sc. in economics from Wharton School of Business. Real estate businessman and television personality prior to running for President in 2016. 45th President of the U.S. Running mate is current Vice President Mike Pence, who served 12 years in the US House of Representatives from Indiana, then governor of Indiana until joining Trump campaign in 2016





Merav Ben David (D)

Cynthia Lummis (R)

U.S. Senate

Term: Six years, no term limits, chosen by a political party primary or may qualify as an independent. There are two senators from each state; expiration dates are staggered. There are 100 senators total.

Duties: Those established by the U.S. Constitution, including confirmation of most

Presidential appointments.

Salary: \$174,000 annually plus benefits including office expenses and staff.

Who can vote: All Wyoming registered voters.

How many to vote for: One; the person elected joins John A. Barrasso whose term

continues.

Merav Ben David (D-Laramie)

Contact Phone: 307-214-0510
Email: contact@bendavid2020.com
Facebook: facebook.com/bendavid2020

Instagram: @BenDavid2020 Twitter: @MBenDavid2020 Website: bendavid2020.com

Biographical information: I've been a wildlife ecologist and a professor at the University of Wyoming for over 20 years. I don't have patience for political games - I entered this race to represent the needs and values of Wyomingites. I am an educator, an outdoorswoman, a war veteran, and a scientist. As such, I believe in using evidence and working with people from across the political spectrum to develop REAL solutions.

What legislation is high on your priorities list for the first 100 days of the session?

Tens of thousands of Wyomingites lost their jobs and their healthcare - my first priority will be to pass bills that will help them get through the current crisis. As Senator, I'll also work to pass a federal jobs guarantee bill: we can hire Wyomingites for high-paying union jobs plugging abandoned oil wells, reclaiming mines, installing rural broadband, repairing roads, building wildlife overpasses, and installing rooftop solar, while also providing training for the jobs of the future. We'll reduce unemployment, reclaim our landscapes, and modernize our infrastructure, all at the same time.

How well are the checks and balances among the three branches of government functioning? Please explain.

The Executive Branch is engaging in extreme overreach. The current administration seeks to undermine the power of Congress and the courts without facing consequences. This clearly illustrates the need to codify previously acceptable norms into actual laws. We also need to adopt term limits for Congress in order to reduce the influence of a small number of politicians, and hold elected officials accountable to their constituents. Finally, we must eliminate the influence of dark money on our elections and ensure the voting rights of all Americans.

What will you do to restart the economy and deal with the lack of living-wage jobs?

First, we must pass the HEROES Act to provide relief for individuals and businesses, and pass laws that ensure a living wage to all workers regardless of gender, race, and religion. Then, we must pass healthcare reforms that address the unique needs of rural states like Wyoming. This will allow Americans to pursue their ambitions without worrying about affording health insurance. Finally, we need to invest in technology and innovation that will lead to renewed economic growth and prosperity, especially right here in Wyoming, where we've talked about diversification for decades.

Cynthia M. Lummis (R-Cheyenne)

Contact Phone: 307-369-2442

Email: <u>Cynthia@lummisforwyoming.com</u> **Website:** <u>www.lummisforwyoming.com</u> **Twitter:** twitter.com/cynthiamlummis

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LummisforWyoming

Biographical information: I'm a fourth generation Wyoming native and lifelong rancher. From 2008 to 2016, I served as Wyoming's Congressman in Washington, D.C. where I fought for Wyoming families, communities and businesses; championed Wyoming's energy resources; and worked to reduce the federal deficit. Prior to serving in Congress, I spent eight years as Wyoming State Treasurer and 14 years as a member of the Wyoming Legislature. I'm proud to have the endorsements of President Donald Trump, Senators Mike Enzi and John Barrasso, National Right to Life, U.S. Chamber of Commerce and over 100 Wyoming community leaders.

What legislation is high on your priorities list for the first 100 days of the session?

In the wake of COVID-19, it is more important than ever that we work to quickly enact policies that put Wyoming families and workers first. This means working on legislation to bring the development and manufacturing of essential products back to the United States, and to Wyoming; promote domestic energy production and ensure a fair and transparent regulatory framework; address the volatility in livestock markets by, first, enabling state-inspected beef to be put into interstate commerce; and reduce our staggering national debt which has direct and severe consequences for our nation.

How well are the checks and balances among the three branches of government functioning? Please explain.

As a staunch defender of the Constitution, I believe the separation of powers and checks and balances it provides for are absolutely essential to a government system that is fair and accountable. While our branches of government are generally working within their

intended realms of authority, I have some concerns over recent Supreme Court decisions that encourage laws to be made by the executive branch – and not the legislative branch as intended. It is imperative we confirm judges who will uphold the Constitution and the critical checks and balances for which it provides.

What will you do to restart the economy and deal with the lack of living-wage jobs? Getting Wyoming, and all American citizens, safely back to work is the absolute best thing we can do to get our economy back on track and ensure Wyoming people have good-paying jobs. This means ensuring we have proper health protocols in place that will enable businesses to fully reopen. We must also take a hard look at our supply chains, in industries ranging from healthcare and energy to food production and technology, and how we can bring these to the U.S. for good. This is critical for creating jobs, bolstering our economy, and national security.





U.S. House of Representatives

Term: Two years, no term limits, chosen by a political party primary or may qualify as an independent or minor party candidate. There is one House District for Wyoming. There are 435 voting Representatives total.

Duties: Those established by the U.S. Constitution

Salary: \$174,000 annual plus benefits including office expenses and staff.

Who can vote: All Wyoming registered voters.

How many to vote for: One

Richard Brubaker (Libertarian-Riverton)

Contact: Did not respond to this voter guide survey

Liz Cheney (R-Casper)
Contact Phone: 307-247-1414
Email: Liz@teamcheney.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CheneyLiz

Website: https://cheneyforwyoming.com

Biographical information:

I am honored to be Wyoming's lone representative in the U.S. House of Representatives. I serve as the 3rd ranking member of the House Republican Conference and sit on both the House Armed Services Committee and Natural Resources Committee. I have a track record of championing free markets, restoring our liberties, securing our country, and defending our constitutional rights. I have been a tireless advocate for Wyoming families and our key industries, including ag, energy and tourism, working to protect us from one-size fits all policy handed down from Washington, DC. . .

What legislation is high on your priorities list for the first 100 days of the session?

My top priority is ensuring that Wyoming can successfully address the lingering effects of COVID-19. This includes allowing additional resources for our small business community, providing the state flexibility on the use of CARES Act relief funds, ensuring the safety of our schools, and enacting strong liability protections to protect our local businesses. This virus has had a detrimental effect on our local economy which is why I will work to limit our dependence on China and prioritize our domestic supply chain.

How well are the checks and balances among the three branches of government functioning? Please explain.

It is our duty to objectively enforce the Constitution and principles of our founding fathers. Democrats have abused their power this Congress, wasting countless hours and taxpayer dollars to conduct a sham impeachment trial against the President. Congress has an important duty to conduct oversight over the Executive Branch, but when one party expresses their unwavering desire to impeach before they even take office, their credibility to conduct bipartisan and objective oversight is questioned. My hope is that we can conform to the principles laid out by our founding fathers

What will you do to restart the economy and deal with the lack of living-wage jobs?

Defeating the virus and focusing on pro-growth policies and making the middle-class tax cuts permanent will help rebuild our economy to the level we saw before the COVID-19 pandemic. We need to ensure the PPP loans they received are not subject to tax so we can spur good-paying jobs and rejuvenate our local communities. By making the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent, we can give our employers the economic security and stability they need to grow, while ensuring that working parents can continue to take home more of their hard-earned money.

Lynnette Grey Bull (D-Fort Washakie)

Contact website: greybullforwy.com Facebook: Grey Bull for Congress

Twitter: GreyBull4WY

Biographical information: I have spent my life as a community advocate and organizer, and have lent my voice to congressional testimony, the United Nations, lobbying in the Wyoming legislature to end the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women crisis, and as a tribal and government liaison. I am a mother of three, and a member of the Hunkpapa Lakota Standing Rock Sioux and Northern Arapaho tribes.

What legislation is high on your priorities list for the first 100 days of the session? In 2021 we will still be reaping the repercussions of this pandemic, so COVID-19 relief will be a top priority. We must address the growing unemployment rate and economic decline,

with a focus on human welfare and support to those who genuinely need it – single moms, working families, those who were already paycheck-to-paycheck – and help for our small business owners, who are the lifeblood of our economy. Our nation has successfully recovered from a recession in years past, and I fully believe that we can do so again. We must also prioritize data broadband accessibility

How well are the checks and balances among the three branches of government functioning? Please explain.

At this time the legislative branch is as divided as any time in our history. There seems to be a battle between right and left, and not what is best for the American people. This is an historic and pressing time for our country. The president must work within his constitutional abilities to address the ongoing pandemic, high unemployment rates, and work with Congress on real solutions. Due to the division within the structural branches of government, and the ongoing political discourse, our leadership is not functioning to the full extent of their abilities.

What will you do to restart the economy and deal with the lack of living-wage jobs?

The issue of adequate living-wage jobs has always been an issue -- I suffered from it myself. I understand what it's like to take on other jobs to subsidize living expenses. The first priority on tackling this issue is to collaboratively pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act will amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex or other protected classes. Pay disparities are especially severe for women and girls of color.

Jeff Haggit (Constitution Party-Mountain View)

Contact Phone: 307-800-7811 Facebook: haggitforhouse Website: haggitforhouse.com

Biographical information: I have lived in Wyoming since 1976, having moved here from Michigan after graduating high school. I am an Instrument tech in the powerhouse at a mine site where I have worked for 43 years. I am the current Chairman of the Constitution Party of Wyoming and 2016 Alumni of Uinta County Leadership Institute. I am a United Way volunteer with the United Way of Southwest Wyoming and serve on the Uinta Advisory Council.

What legislation is high on your priorities list for the first 100 days of the session? I would like to see an end to civil asset forfeiture without a conviction and the federal Equitable Sharing Program that allows police to circumvent states reform laws. These are an assault on the Fourth Amendment. I would vote against any mandatory vaccine or mask order. Renewable power mandates drive up energy costs and should be repealed.

How well are the checks and balances among the three branches of government functioning? Please explain.

The checks and balances among the three branches of government have not been maintained as they were intended. Congress has allowed the president to send troops to war without a declaration of such. They have allowed our money to become almost

worthless. The Senate should be the states voice in congress and the house the peoples voice but with the passage of the Seventeenth Amendment, the states lost that voice.

What will you do to restart the economy and deal with the lack of living-wage jobs?

Just removing the covid restrictions that allow businesses to re-open will not return us to where things were in January unfortunately. Wyoming has not had the rioting and looting that has caused many small businesses to board up and close permanently, however we are experiencing the pains of the restaurants not open, airlines, travel in general, not needing our oil. This will come back but very slowly. We need to not use essential v. non-essential designations for businesses. If it is ok for one to be open, then the same should apply to all.



Judicial Retentions

Term: 8 years

Duties: Serve as members of the Supreme Court of Wyoming, hearing cases and acting as final arbiter on matters brought before this court, except when federal law is involved, where the Supreme Court of the United States is the final arbiter.

Salary: \$165,000

Who can vote: All Wyoming registered voters

How many to vote for: Two are standing for retention, each in a separate ballot race. Therefore, voters will be deciding on two separate justices by voting "Yes" or "No" on the question "Shall Justice Karri Jo Gray be retained in office?" and "Shall Justice Lynne Boomgaarten be retained in office?"

Notes: In Wyoming, all judges stand for retention after they have been appointed; if the vote is favorable, they continue for another term. There are District Court and Circuit Court Judges whose names will be voted upon for retention only in the counties within the judicial district where the judge serves. Election campaigning on the part of a judge is prohibited. On October 13, 2020, the website of the Wyoming State Bar Association (https://wyomingbar.org) will post information about these judges, based on surveys on technical competence and courtroom manner from lawyers who have practiced in that judge's court.



Constitutional Amendment A

Ballot language:

This amendment will remove the constitutionally specified limit on the amount of debt a municipality can create for sewer projects and would allow the legislature to prescribe by law the debt limit for municipal sewer projects.

Other ballot issues? This is the only Constitutional Amendment proposed by the Legislature for this election.

Who may vote: Every Wyoming registered voter.

Effect of not voting: A failure to vote on this issue counts as a "no" vote.

"Pro" arguments in favor of it:

- 1. The amendment will remove this limit from the Wyoming Constitution and allows the future debt limit to be set by the Legislature.
- 2. The Constitutional limit of 4% of assessed valuation was established when the Wyoming
- 3. Constitution was written in 1899. The cap severely hinders cities' and towns' ability to fund improvements to municipal sewer systems which serve a majority of Wyoming residents and visitors.
- 4. This amendment is revenue neutral. It will not generate any new state spending or debt. It is intended to do away with an antiquated restriction.

"Con" arguments for opposing:

- 1. If the Constitutional limit is removed, who knows what level the Legislature might choose? Lower? Higher?
- 2. Residents don't want to pay more for stormwater or sewer projects. If this restriction was sufficient when the Constitution was written, it is still good enough now.
- 3. This has the possibility of raising the indebtedness of cities and towns, probably raising fees or taxes locally; it may affect municipal bond ratings.