

High Plains Power, Inc. (High Plains Power or Cooperative), hereby gives notice of Application to revise its rules and regulations to update charges for equipment, materials, line extension and employees; add language defining "Demand;" reflect address, contact, and name changes; as more fully described below.

1. HPP is a cooperative utility subject to the Commission's Jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. ss 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112. The Cooperative provides electric service to members in Natrona, Fremont, Hot Springs, Washakie, Big Horn, Johnson, Park, Teton, and Carbon counties. HPP is also subject to Wyo. Stat. ss 37-17-103 and 37-17-104 given the ability to set rates and notify members, allowing for comment on the process.

2. On April 1, 2025, the Cooperative will put into effect a rate restructure and rate increase. The increase is due in part to an increase of 6.4% from the Cooperative's wholesale power supplier that began August 1, 2024. This restructuring and rate increase will also absorb equipment updates, materials, general inflation; and will better reflect actual costs. Other clerical changes and language updates will be incorporated as well. The increase will vary by rate class, averaging to 1.23% across the membership.

3. This is not a complete description of High Plain's rate restructure and increase. Interested persons may inspect the updated Rate Tariffs at the Cooperative's website <https://highplainspower.org>.

4. Anyone desiring to file a public comment, statement, complaint or concern, can call 307-856-9426 or email High Plains Power, Inc, with a subject line of 'Rate Tariff' at comment@highplainspower.org. All commentary will be reviewed.

Dated: February 28, 2025

Pub. March 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2025 No. 1795

NOTICE OF PARTITION SALE

Notice is hereby given that an alias writ for partition of property was entered on February 28, 2025 in the District Court of the Fifth Judicial District, Hot Springs County, Wyoming, Civil Action No. 2022-01 whereby Shawn M. Milek was Petitioner and Lindsey R. Pahl was Respondent, and such writ was rendered for partition of property, and the undersigned Sheriff, pursuant to the writ issued by such Court, will sell the following described property at a partition sale:

The West 968 feet of the South 480 feet of Lot 2 and the West 968 feet of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW ¼ SE ¼), Section 10, Township 8 North, Range 4 East of the Wind River Meridian, Hot Springs County, Wyoming.

TOGETHER WITH that certain right-of-way easement, for ingress and egress and underground utilities purposes, set forth by instrument titled "Easement and Right of Way" record in Micro Book 57 at pages 1140 and 1141 on the 2nd day of March, 1994, at the office of the Hot Springs County Clerk and Ex-Officio Register of Deeds; and the extension thereof, upon and across grantor's lands, to the North line of the above aforementioned Section 10; being 30 feet in width, 15 feet on each side of the following recited and described center line, to wit: Beginning at the Northwest corner of that certain 30.00 acre portion of said Lot 3 shown on the record of survey titled "Arnold Lands" filed in Plat Cabinet B at page 38 and Micro Book 31 at page 542 at aforementioned office, said corner bearing S. 00°06'15" W., 48.30 feet distant from P.I. No. 3 of County Road Number 28, also known as Jones Road; thence S. 00°06'15" W., a distance of 15.00 feet to the true point of beginning of said center line, last said point designated Station (Sta.) 0+00.00; thence N. 89°58'32" E., parallel with and 15 feet distant from the North line of last mentioned parcel, a distance of 749.60 feet to Sta. 7+49.60; thence S. 67°16'56" E., a distance of 355.94 feet to Sta. 11+05.54, the point of terminus of the previously recorded easement, lying on the East line of said Arnold lands and from which the Northeast corner thereof bears N. 00°11'58" E., 152.60 feet distant; thence continuing S. 67°16'56" E., now upon and across grantor's lands in said Lot 2, a distance of 16.24 feet to Sta. 11+21.78; thence S. 00°11'58" W., parallel with and 15 feet distant from the line common to said Lots 3 and 2, a distance of 574.03 feet to Sta. 16+95.81, the point of terminus of the extension of said R/W easement, lying on the North line of the parcel herein conveyed and from which the Northwest corner thereof bears S. 89°58'32" W., 15.00 feet distant, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging and subject to easements, reservations, rights of way, and restrictions of record and legally existing.

Said property is more commonly known as 1276 Jeffs Road in Hot Springs County, Wyoming. The undersigned Sheriff will sell the described property at public sale, to the highest qualified bidder on the front steps of the Hot Springs County Courthouse 415 Arapahoe Street, Thermopolis, Wyoming on the 1st day of April, 2025 at the hour of 11:00 AM.

The Sheriff may not sell the property without an agent for each seller present at the sale or without a signed waiver from the absent party. The property is subject to a minimum bid of \$287,000.00 as set by statute. The property is being sold as

is with no warranties and may be subject to other liens and encumbrances that may not be extinguished at the sale and any prospective purchaser should research the status of title before submitting a bid. The Sheriff conducting the sale will require satisfactory proof of funds from a prospective bidder before accepting any bids from that bidder. The successful bidder must pay the bid amount in full in cash or certified funds to the Clerk of District Court, Hot Springs County, by 5:00 p.m. on the same day as the sale to complete the purchase.

For more information or to arrange to view the property prior to the sale contact Keith R. Nachbar, Attorney for Petitioner at 307-473-8977.

Jerimie Kraushaar, Sheriff
Hot Springs County, Wyoming

Pub. March 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2025 No. 1797

CHAPTER 6, SECTION 2 CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION PERMIT - Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality PUBLIC NOTICE: In accordance with Chapter 6, Section 2(m) of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations, notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, proposes to approve a request by Gravity Power & Rentals, LLC to install and operate one hundred and fifty (150) temporary portable rich burn natural gas-fired engines consisting of twenty (20) 199 hp LTR NG150 engines, forty (40) 168 hp LTR NG100 engines, forty (40) 362 hp LTR NG250 engines, twenty (20) 550 hp LTR NG400 engines, twenty (20) 272 hp LTR NG200 engines, and ten (10) 70 hp LTR NG45 engines to be operated at various oil and gas well sites in Albany, Big Horn, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Crook, Fremont, Goshen, Hot Springs, Johnson, Laramie, Lincoln, Natrona, Niobrara, Park, Platte, Sheridan, Sweetwater, Teton, Uinta, Washakie and Weston Counties, Wyoming.

For the duration of the public comment period, the permit application, the agency's analysis, and the public notice are available for public inspection online at <https://openair.wyo.gov>, utilizing facility ID F027449 and permit number P0039765 under permits. This material may also be viewed online, at the above URL, utilizing a public computer at the Albany County Library, Laramie, Wyoming; Big Horn County Library, Basin, Wyoming; Campbell County Library, Gillette, Wyoming; Carbon County Library, Rawlins, Wyoming; Converse County Library, Douglas, Wyoming; Crook County Library, Sundance, Wyoming; Fremont County Library, Lander, Wyoming; Goshen County Library, Torrington, Wyoming; Hot Springs County Library, Thermopolis, Wyoming; Johnson County Library, Buffalo, Wyoming; Laramie County Library, Cheyenne, Wyoming; Lincoln County Library, Kemmerer, Wyoming; Natrona County Library, Casper, Wyoming; Niobrara County Library, Lusk, Wyoming; Park County Library, Cody, Wyoming; Platte County Library, Wheatland, Wyoming; Sheridan County Library, Sheridan Wyoming; Sweetwater County Library, Green River, Wyoming; Teton County Library, Jackson, Wyoming; Uinta County Library, Evanston, Wyoming; Washakie County Library, Worland, Wyoming; Weston County Library, Newcastle, Wyoming. Additionally, for the duration of the public comment period a copy of this public notice is available for public inspection at the Albany County Clerk's Office, Laramie, Wyoming; Big Horn County Clerk's Office, Basin, Wyoming; Campbell County Clerk's Office, Gillette, Wyoming; Carbon County Clerk's Office, Rawlins, Wyoming; Converse County Clerk's Office, Douglas, Wyoming; Crook County Clerk's Office, Sundance, Wyoming; Fremont County Clerk's Office, Lander, Wyoming; Goshen County Clerk's Office, Torrington, Wyoming; Hot Springs County Clerk's Office, Thermopolis, Wyoming; Johnson County Clerk's Office, Buffalo, Wyoming; Laramie County Clerk's Office, Cheyenne, Wyoming; Lincoln County Clerk's Office, Kemmerer, Wyoming; Natrona County Clerk's Office, Casper, Wyoming; Niobrara County Clerk's Office, Lusk, Wyoming; Park County Clerk's Office, Cody, Wyoming; Platte County Clerk's Office, Wheatland, Wyoming; Sheridan County Clerk's Office, Sheridan Wyoming; Sweetwater County Clerk's Office, Green River, Wyoming; Teton County Clerk's Office, Jackson, Wyoming; Uinta County Clerk's Office, Evanston, Wyoming; Washakie County Clerk's Office, Worland, Wyoming; Weston County Clerk's Office, Newcastle, Wyoming. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special assistance or alternate formats will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

Written comments may be directed to Nancy Vehr, Administrator, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, 200 West 17th St., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 or by fax (307) 635-1784. Please reference A0017636 in your comment. Comments may also be submitted electronically through the Division's website (<http://aq.wyomingdeq.commentinput.com>). Comments submitted by email will not be included in the administrative record. All comments received by 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 14, 2025 will be considered in the final determination on this application. A public hearing will be conducted only if in the opinion of the administrator sufficient interest is generated or if an ag-

grieved party so requests. Para español, visite deq.wyoming.gov.

Pub. March 13, 2025 No. 1799

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules and Regulations, notice is hereby given of the Application of Wyoming Gas Company (WGC or the Company), a division of Natural Gas Processing, for authority to revise its established distribution areas and Wobbe Indices, as more fully described below.

1. WGC is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(D) and 37-2-112.

2. On February 26, 2025, WGC submitted its Application requesting authority to revise its established distribution areas and Wobbe Indices. Specifically, the Company proposes updating the Wobbe Indices for all delivery points within its service territory, effective January 1, 2025. The Company states the Wobbe Indices in effect were established in the 2012 and 2018, and they no longer represent the current gas supply. WGC states it usually remains within the 4% index deviation threshold on an annual basis, however, several months throughout the year WGC exceeded the allowed deviation and updating the Wobbe Indices should help correct the issue. There is no change in service with the revision of the Wobbe Indices.

3. This is not a complete description of the Application. The complete Application is available at the Commission's offices or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (Enter Record No. 17764).

4. Anyone desiring to file a statement, intervention petition, protest, or request for a hearing must do so in writing, on or before April 4, 2025. Petitions shall set forth the grounds of the proposed intervention or request for hearing as well as the position and the interest of the petitioner in this proceeding. Please mention Docket No. 30009-79-GA-25 in your communications.

5. If you wish to participate in this matter and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Communications-impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 711.

Dated: March 4, 2025.

Pub. March 13 & 20, 2025 No. 1800

STATE OF) OFFICE OF THE
WYOMING) BOARD OF
OF) COUNTY
COUNTY OF) COMMISSIONERS
HOT SPRINGS) February 18, 2025

The Hot Springs Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Government Annex. Present were Commissioners Tom Ryan, Bob Aguiar, and Paul Galovich. Also present were County Attorney Jill Logan, County Clerk Becky Kersten, and Administrative Assistant to the Commissioners Connie Guntly. Chairman Ryan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda – The Commissioners approved the Agenda.

Revenue and Expenditure Report – The Commissioners approved the January Financial Report.

Approval of Minutes – The Commissioners approved the minutes from February 4, 2025 meeting.

Audit Report – The Auditor Report was presented, this included a Financial Statement Audit for Fiscal Year 2023-24, which is conducted to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and to form an opinion. The Auditors had no findings related to noncompliance or internal control deficiencies. The Auditors tested the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) grant in regards to compliance for federal programs and did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance. The Commissioners accepted the Audit Report. A copy of the Audit Report is available for review in the Clerk's Office and online on the County Website, Clerk's page.

Planner Projects Update – An application came in for the Natural Resource Planning Committee (NRPC) member, Heather Jones Item 8 of Other Business, Mr. Culliton recommends Heather for the position. The Commissioners appointed Heather Jones to the NRPC. A representative from Department of Environmental Quality reached out to Mr. Culliton requesting to excavate around the old runway while it was being reclaimed. Mr. Culliton requested more information, but had not received any at this time. Chairman Ryan thinks it would be best to excavate after the runway is reclaimed, but would like more information. Per the letter from the Land Use Planning Commission dated January 15, 2025, requesting a response from the Commissioners regarding intentions moving forward; Mr. Culliton asked the Commissioners to set a work session. Also Mr. Culliton presented a let-

ter from the Planning Office and hopes to have a work session regarding it as well. March 4th was suggested for both matters. Chairman Ryan gave an update regarding the Community Development Block Grant applications (award letters are listed in Correspondence). The Grant agreements have not been released yet. The Common Ground Building grant was approved, but the County needs a waiver from Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding the Low to Moderate Income level. The Arapahoe Street Building application was approved for only demolition not for the acquisition of the adjoining buildings. Some discussion will need to follow for these grants.

Discussion of Agreement form Hathaway & Kunz – A settlement agreement was presented to the Commissioners as a result from the Public Hearing on February 4th, which Chairman Ryan recused himself, from the law firm of Hathaway and Kunz representing the Tipi Retreat LLC. Chairman Ryan stated the letter advises the County to present the agreement to legal representation in regards to the execution of the agreement. Chairman Ryan will abstain from voting on this agreement. Commissioner Galovich stated he read the agreement and saw nothing in his logical mind that makes it a complicated document. Commissioner Galovich does not think it is necessary to spend more County funds to have an attorney review the document. Commissioner Aguiar agreed and saw no issue with it. The Commissioners approved Vice Chairman Aguiar signature on Settlement Agreement, Release and Waiver from Hathaway & Kunz. Motion carried with Commissioners Aguiar and Galovich voting aye and Chairman Ryan abstaining.

Hot Springs County 250 Committee – Sandy Newsome emailed notifying the County about the 250 Committee indicating a Proclamation for the 250 Committee was needed, however the County adopted Resolution No. 2024-21 and it was indicated by the State the Resolution was appropriate. Chairman Ryan stated as of now we have four people interested in serving on the Committee. Admin Assistant Guntly will also reach out to local boards such as Travel and Tourism Board, Museum, and Pioneer Association, for additional members. Currently the interested committee members are Phillip Scheel, Meri Ann Dorman, Reg Filkey and William Dawkins. The State also appropriated \$10,000 for this project.

Other Business – 1) **Consideration of Request for Reimbursement (RFR) #1 for Black Mountain Road in the Amount of \$7,937.01 (County Paid \$1,190.55; WYDOT Reimburse \$6,746.46)** – The Commissioners approved Chairman's signature on RFR #1 for Black Mountain Road project in the amount of \$7,937.01. Discussion: County Clerk Kersten stated since the Amended Agreement changed the application process for payment, WYDOT needs proof the warrants cleared before reimbursement. The requests may be staggered and an expedited process may need to be worked on to get reimbursements received in a timely fashion. Chairman Ryan inquired about ACHing the payments to receive confirmation quicker. Clerk Kersten will look into it. 2) **Request for Approval of Resolution No. 2025-03, A Resolution Authorizing Hot Springs County to Adopt A Statement of Investment Policy for Calendar Year 2025** – This policy remains the same from last year and needs to be approved via Resolution every year. The Commissioners support Resolution No. 2025-03, A Resolution Authorizing Hot Springs County to Adopt a Statement of Investment Policy for Calendar Year 2025. 3) **Request for Approval of Sehnert Construction Inc. Quote for Sally Port Roll Away Door in the Amount of \$2,024 and Discussion of Common Ground Panic Pars on Entrance Door in the Amount of \$1,856** – Chairman Ryan stated this item was discussed at the February 4th meeting. Chairman Ryan stated he is not sure about the Common Ground building timeline and this lock would allow the County to have access control. Clerk Kersten stated the Maintenance Supervisor informed her the Sally port door funds can come out of the maintenance account and Clerk Kersten stated the Common Ground door funds can come from the account for the building, however it was mostly budgeted for utilities. The Commissioners agreed on the accounts. The Commissioners approved the proposal for Sehnert Construction for the Sally port door \$2,024 and the Common Ground panic bar \$1,856. 4) **Request for Approval of Quote for Gutters on the Emergency Operations Control Center in the Amount of \$17,550** – The Commissioners approved the Bald Ridge Enterprises Proposal for gutters in the amount of \$17,500 for the Search & Rescue Building. 5) **Request for Approval of Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, March 31, 2025 for the Local Government 101 Class** – The Commissioners approved the Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, for Local Govt. 101 Class on March 31, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 6) **Request for Approval of Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, March 2, 2025 for the Kirby Creek Irrigation Ditch Meeting** – The Commissioners approved the Facility Use Form, Annex Meeting Room, for Kirby Creek Irrigation meeting on March 2nd at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. 7) **Request for Approval of Support Letter for River of Life Fellowship Grant Application to AARP** – The Commissioners approved the support

Chamber board meeting held

At the March Thermopolis-Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce board meeting, they were unable to form a quorum, therefore no formal actions were taken, but they did report on various subjects.

Chamber CEO Meri Ann Dorman said regarding the State/Local Civic Bee that they received above the required 20 qualifying essays and that the Thermopolis region beat out Cheyenne and Casper. Dorman added that Thermopolis Middle School is incorporating the bee and essay writing as part of their curriculum.

Dorman and the board also discussed the coming Chamber Concert featuring Bryan Elijah Smith on March 14 at 7 p.m. There are still tickets for sale from the chamber's website and tickets can be purchased at the doors of the auditorium.

In new business, Dorman said there will be AI Training on April 24 at 6-7:30 p.m. at the Big Horn Federal conference room. The training will introduce AI tools to business owners and others

who might be interested.

Dorman also said that the Chamber's Annual Meeting will be on April 10. They are working on a nomination committee for the slate of the next election.

In the Director's report, Dorman discussed the matter of personal security at the chamber office and what measures might be taken to increase protection and also create better communication with law enforcement in the event of a serious issue.

Additionally, Dorman reported that on February 20 she attended the Wyoming State Chamber of Commerce Business Day at the Legislature. And she will be attending the Wyoming State Chamber of Commerce Conference in Buffalo on April 28-30.

The chamber's office hours will change on May 1 and they will open seven days a week. The next Chamber meeting will be on April 10 at 6 p.m. at Big Horn Federal.



photo by Jurri Schenck

Story of the Sheep Queen

Terri Lynn Geissinger, great-granddaughter of Lucy Morrison Moore, gave a presentation about the early years of a Lady of a Legend, her elder relative, at the Hot Springs County Historical Society meeting last Saturday at the HSC Museum. The event was so well attended, they had to make more room. Geissinger shared new information about the Sheep Queen of Wyoming.

Public notices

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letter for the River of Life Fellowship. 8) Appointment of Natural Resource Planning Committee (NRPC) Member – Discussed during Regular Business Item 2, Planner Projects Update.

Correspondence – 1) **Wyoming Aeronautics Commission Meeting Agenda** – February 2025; 2) **Mid-Winter Blues Bash** – February 23, 2025; 3) **Big Horn Bain Nature and Discovery Center Board Minutes** – October Thru December 2024; 4) **Community Development Block Grant Award Letters** – Common Ground (Learning Center) and Arapahoe Building Applications; 5) **Community Center Stake Holders Meeting** – February 25, 2025; 6) **Prevention Coalition Meeting Minutes** – February 12, 2025; 7) **Safari Club Flier** – Lunch (Basket)

The Commissioners reviewed the foregoing correspondence. No further action was required.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Hot Springs County Board of Commissioners will be held on March 18, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., at the Hot Springs County Annex building, 117 N. 4th St. Thermopolis. The public is invited to attend in person or stream online. To be placed on the Agenda please email Connie Guntly, Administrative Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners at connie.guntly@hscounty.com. Per Wyoming Statute section 18-3-516 (f), County information can be obtained at the County website <https://hscounty.com/> or by requesting a Public Records form from the County Clerk's office.

ATTEST:

Thomas J. Ryan, Chairman	Becky Kersten, County Clerk
Pub. March 13, 2025	No. 1801

Notice is hereby given that on March 3, 2025, Debra K. Lackey, dba Double D LLC, filed application for renewal of the Retail Liquor License for the following described place and premises, dba Shorty's Liquor Store, to wit: Lots 34, 35, and 36, Block 3, East Thermopolis, Hot Springs County, Wyoming, a 24' x 22' room on the north end of the building located at 103 East Broadway. Protests, if any there be, against the issuance of such license shall be heard at 7:00 p.m. on April 1, 2025 at the East Thermopolis Town Hall.

/s/ Angela Chism, Town Clerk

Pub. March 13 & 20, 2025 No. 1802

Legal Notice

Sealed Bid Request

Hot Springs County School District No. 1 is seeking sealed bids for furnishing unleaded gasoline and dyed diesel fuels for the Joint Fuel Facility in Thermopolis per listed items and specifications. The specifications and other pertinent information may be obtained from the Business Office, 415 Springview, Thermopolis, Wyoming 82443, by contacting Levi Benboe, Transportation Director, 307-864-6600, or on the Business Office page of the district website: www.hot springs1.org

Please return one copy of the completed quote by 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2025, to:

Hot Springs County School District No. 1
Attn: Business Office
415 Springview
Thermopolis, WY 82443

Returned bids must be sealed and marked **"Fuel Bid"** on the outside of the envelope.

Hot Springs County School District No. 1 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and the right to waive any irregularities in the bids or bidding procedures. Awarding of the bid will take place at the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting on April 17, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the Board

Room, 415 Springview, Thermopolis, Wyoming 82443. A letter awarding the bid will be mailed to the successful bidder.

/s/ Justin Budd
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Pub. March 13 & 20, 2025 No. 1803

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in special session on February 25, 2025, at 9am at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Adam Estenson, Council members Tony Larson, John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes, and Dusty Lewis. Also, present were Mayor/Codes Administrative Assistant Jim Jeunehomme, Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Public Works Director Basil Sorensen, Town Engineer Anthony Barnett, and Town Attorney Marshall Keller. George Moser from WWDC, was also present via phone.

AGENDA: Larson made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to approve the agenda as written.

ADMINISTRATION: LEVEL II STUDY – DRILLING AT YANKEE DOME: Moser reviewed the history of the identifying a water supply for the southern end of the Big Horn Basin. At a joint powers meeting on February 13, 2025, the consultant, Dowl presented a draft of the final recommendations. They recommended building a new water treatment plant on the existing site with a new intake. Moser noted there are significant unknowns with drilling at Yankee Dome (the second recommendation, if access is available). Those unknowns include drilling costs, building a pipeline, water quality, water quantity and timing. Per Moser, the consultant felt strongly that it was more important to build out the source of water that they knew could be built (ie a new water treatment plant) vs chasing a ground water source for a couple of years. However, the report takes a 2 pronged approach, that if access can be secured for drilling the north Yankee Dome location and if the water turns out promising that could be an option.

Estenson asked Moser to break down the decision into what it looks like for the remainder of the Level 2 study, what if water is found at Yankee Dome and what if it isn't, time spans, and the process. Moser noted a plan sponsor (the regional board) would submit a phase 2 application to WWDC, which is due March 1, 2025. He noted the commission could refuse due to funding constraints etc. He noted if the application was approved and then funded by the legislature, drilling could be in a year and a half, with water testing another 2-3 months. Pipeline feasibility would be studied and potentially presented to the 2028 legislature for funding. If things went smoothly, the process could take 6 to 7 years.

Moser noted Level 2 is 100% funded by WWDC. If the well is successful, the Joint Powers board would have to acquire the well for 50% of the cost.

Moser noted the WWDC has not historically funded water treatment plants, however some components could be funded. Those components include the point of diversion and pumps from the diversion to the plant.

Additional discussion ensued on time frames and minimum base rates, with the majority of the users from the Town of Thermopolis.

Estenson noted Yankee Dome was rejected in a May 2011 Level 2 study for poor water quality, although the water was not tested. Moser responded he was not familiar with the study, however the area is far from the recharge area, which means it is likely to have more dissolved solids and may not have the quantity desired. Discussion ensued on drilling up to 3 wells. Moser responded the commission would likely only fund one well in the level 2 study.

Larson asked who would be financially responsible for the well, if it is not good. Moser replied if the well is not feasible, ie 150 to 200 gallons a minute, the well could be turned over to the landowner or plugged and abandoned. If productive, the sponsoring entity acquires the well. Moser referenced the Buffalo Creek well that is still on the commission books and has been directed not to have any more idle wells.

Moser noted the study planned a pipeline for Yankee Dome North and South that would tie into the north side of Thermopolis. The assumption for the study was that

the well supply would not go to the water treatment plant. The Owl Creek line is not large enough to handle the amount of water needed. Based on the study, if ground water is used from Yankee Dome, 2 or 3 wells will be required to provide enough water. He noted the study concluded the water plant is at the end of its life and either a ground water source needs to be found or build a new water treatment plant.

Discussion ensued on the Central Wyoming Regional Joint Powers Board, which runs a well field and has an intake on the North Platte River and treated at a plant. The board sells water to Casper, Bar Nunn and others. Redundancy and DEQ requirements were discussed. Moser noted to maintain the water treatment plant for an emergency is not feasible. The storage tank system was mentioned as being able to meet the systems demands if the highest producing well was out of service. Larson noted if the Joint Powers Board were to take over the water plant, then each system is responsible for adding to the base rate in order to provide for repairs and maintenance.

Lewis asked if the town could receive water from Big Horn Regional. Moser noted there are concerns with elevations and pressure heads and the system only has 200 gal/minute available within the existing capacity.

Keller noted the 6-7 year timeline was with no issues and inquired about who would pay for access issues with property owners. Moser noted the easement and access issues with the Lysite well removed the site from consideration. Moser also noted the commission would only secure access easement for drilling. All other legal costs would be the responsibility of the project sponsor.

Lewis asked about wells decreasing the hot springs flow. Moser noted potential impact was expressed previously and due to scientific uncertainty, the concern would not go away.

Jeunehomme asked about treating the well water and Moser noted no scenarios beyond chlorination were studied.

Estenson asked if the application from the Joint Powers board needed a unanimous vote. Moser replied he believed a simple majority, but did not know. Estenson noted the council needs to direct Jeunehomme on how to vote. Larson noted he can't see drilling the well and is not in favor of turning the water treatment plant over to another entity. Discussion ensued on the age of the WTP (built in 1962) and upgrades. Lewis noted he would prefer water from a well and the Big Horn Regional system. Keller noted the town of Shoshoni has had some big expenses with their wells. Dorman noted he would like to upgrade the WTP and believes that is the direction the town should go. Hughes noted if the Level 2 is 100% funded by the state, she would like to know the results from drilling. Larson noted he would like the Town to continue working on transmission lines, as those who have been serviced from new lines have commented on the improved water quality. Estenson noted he would like to know the results of drilling. Additional discussion ensued on investing in the water treatment plant rather than a well, districts will still have to service whatever debt they currently have, estimated base rates, potential congressional funding, a requirement to purchase the well, and appointments to the select water committee.

Hughes made a motion and Lewis seconded to direct Jeunehomme to vote for the Hot Springs County Regional Joint Powers Board to apply for a level 2 study. In discussion Larson noted he would like to go forward with the water plant and not wait 7-10 years. Voting aye were Hughes, Lewis and Estenson. Larson and Dorman voted no. Motion carried.

At 10:55am Hughes made a motion, seconded by Larson and carried to adjourn. The next Council meeting is March 4, 2025, at 7pm.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Clerk/Treasurer	Adam R. Estenson, Mayor
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Pub. March 13, 2025 No. 1805

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Thermopolis Town Council met in regular session on February 18, 2025, at 7 pm at Town Hall. Present were Mayor

Adam Estenson, Council members Tony Larson, John Dorman Sr., Rachel Hughes, and Dusty Lewis. Also, present were Mayor/Codes Administrative Assistant Jim Jeunehomme, Clerk/Treasurer Tracey Van Heule, Police Sargent Mike Mascorro, Town Engineer Anthony Barnett, and Town Attorney Marshall Keller.

AGENDA: Following the pledge of allegiance, Dorman made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve the agenda as written.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the financial statement for January 2025.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: OEB SALOON – CATERING PERMIT: Lewis made a motion, seconded by Hughes and carried to approve a catering permit for OEB Saloon for Hot Springs Health Casino Night on March 1, 2025, at the Fairgrounds, from 4pm to 12am. Fair Board approval was received.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: LETTER OF SUPPORT: RIVER OF LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Larson made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to allow the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the River of Life's AARP grant application for food pantry equipment.

PUBLIC HEARING: LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL: At 7:03 pm a public hearing was opened for comments on the liquor license renewal applications for the period of April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. Hearing no public comment, Estenson closed the hearing. Dorman made a motion, seconded by Lewis and carried to approve the liquor license renewals. The retail licenses include: OEB LLC, 7 Lazy S Café & Bar LLC, Mack's Market Inc, OEB Saloon LLC, Grand Cru Enterprises, Maverik Inc (Maverik #577), Big Spring Spa Inc (Safari Club), and Compass Realty Group (Thermopolis Liquor); bar and grill licenses for OEB LLC (One Eyed Buffalo Brewing), Lopez Inc (Los Cabos) and the VFW; and Microbrewery License for OEB LLC (One Eyed Buffalo Brewing).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Estenson noted body cam footage from the September 2024 police department shooting would be released this evening. Sorensen noted the high pressure water line has been temporarily fixed. Barnett noted the line was not installed as engineered as thrust anchors are missing. (The anchors are needed to support the line under the county road.) Due to the depth of the line and type of repair, a construction company will be hired to complete the repair. Barnett also noted S & S Builders was the low bidder on the Broadway Bridge repair. The bridge will be closed through the summer, with traffic diverted to Park Street.

TOWN ATTORNEY: AMENDING 24HR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE APPLICATIONS & SALES: Keller read the proposed ordinance, which would improve the efficiency of the permitting process and allow for administration to approve permits. Larson made a motion and Hughes seconded to approve the third reading of the ordinance. Keller noted one grammatical error was changed. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 878

An ordinance amending sec.3-110 and 3-111(b), permit applications for twenty-four-hour alcoholic beverage applications and sales permits.

PASSED ON FIRST READING January 21, 2025.

PASSED ON SECOND READING February 4, 2025.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIRD AND FINAL READING February 18, 2025.

CODES ADMINISTRATION: Jeunehomme noted the flag pole would be re-ordered.

ADMINISTRATION: ROCKY MTN POWER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT: Jeunehomme noted the agreement would be re-submitted to Rocky Mountain Power. Once approved, the ordinance process would begin. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Larson and carried to re-submit the agreement.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: At 7:18pm Larson made a motion, seconded by Dorman and carried to adjourn. The next Council meeting is March 4, 2025, at 7pm.

ATTEST:

Tracey Van Heule, Clerk/Treasurer	Adam R. Estenson, Mayor
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