

# Natrona County Republican Party

## Platforms for 2010

The Natrona County Republican Party:

### A. Jobs and Economy

- A.1. Believes we should continue to develop, maintain and improve a favorable climate for business.
- A.2. Believes that the multiple use of public lands promotes jobs and the economy.
- A.3. Supports a comprehensive policy to encourage the responsible development of all Wyoming's natural resources by promoting new exploration, new production, enhanced recovery, processing and the expansion of markets. Encourages new technologies to make products from natural resources such as coal liquification.
- A.4. Supports the year-round responsible recreational use of Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway.
- A.5. Promotes tourism and travel throughout Wyoming.
- A.6. Believes that value added industries are necessary to expand and diversify Wyoming's economy.
- A.7. Supports the enhancement of telecommunications, internet and cell phone use with no use of federal stimulus funding
- A.8. Supports improved and competitive air transportation systems for people and products that are essential to stimulate economic growth if economically viable.
- A.9. Supports the use of incentives that encourage our young people to remain in or return to Wyoming.
- A.10. Urges the state to dedicate funds for infrastructure improvements to save on future costs.
- A.11. Supports retaining current tax breaks enacted by Congress and encourage additional tax incentives.
- A.12. Supports stimulation of greater economic investment in Wyoming communities by distributing a greater proportion of state revenues to local communities, provided the communities agree to participate in the planning for economic development in their areas.
- A.13. Rejects tax increases.

- A.14. Supports efforts to provide work force training opportunities and affordable housing for Wyoming citizens. Such opportunities are critical to the healthy development and quality of life in Wyoming. So long as the housing is not built by government.
- A.15. Urges public agencies to require drug testing of employees.
- A.16. Opposes any legislation enacting a cap and trade system.
- A.17. Believes that state and local government should not directly compete with private enterprise.
- A.18. Supports appropriate funding of the federal highway system by the federal government with appropriate participation by the state government.
- A.19. Opposes highway tolling.
- A.20. Opposes acceptance of federal funds from the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.”

#### B. Crime and Law

- B.1. Believes that state and local governments are to protect the rights, persons and property of their citizens.
- B.2. Supports the efforts of communities to prevent crime and create a safe living environment.
- B.3. Supports sentencing to impose appropriate strict and severe penalties on crimes including restitution and reparations to victims and their families.
- B.4. Supports the adoption of a comprehensive plan for the incarceration and management of felons in Wyoming. The plan is to include incarceration and deportation details with regard to illegal aliens.
- B.5. Believes the laws of Wyoming must be sufficient to punish criminal behavior, regardless of motive and criminals shall not profit from their crimes.
- B.6. Believes that the State should clarify its Identity Theft Statute so that the State of Wyoming is the venue.
- B.7. Supports the meth free communities initiative.
- B.8. Supports the State of Wyoming in pursuing judicial accountability in the sentencing of sexual predators according to statute and reflective of the individual severity of the crime.

### C. Land, Agriculture and Environment

- C.1. Recognizes agriculture, oil and gas, minerals, and natural resources as a vital component of our local custom, culture, economic viability, social stability and environment; that preserves open spaces, provides critical wildlife habitat and enhances recreation and other activities.
- C.2. Supports the state development and management of upstream water storage and other water projects to benefit Wyoming's economy and opposes any attempt by the Federal Government, other states and downstream users to encroach upon water rights belonging to and administered by the State of Wyoming.
- C.3. Supports any action that assures Wyoming's primacy over its water or the doctrine of prior appropriation.
- C.4. Supports the multiple use of public lands.
- C.5. Supports predator control as a management tool to protect wildlife, agriculture and public safety.
- C.6. Believes there should be no net change in acreage of state land. Land sales should involve like acres. The state should predetermine what land is available for sale. (See Government D.6.)
- C.7. Believes that any future sale or exchange of state trust lands and the process for selling or exchanging of state trust lands need to be promptly and carefully evaluated for the best long term interest of the people and the trust of the State of Wyoming.
- C.8. Supports the Lessee's preferential right to renew state land leases.
- C.9. Supports the concept and practice of no net loss of private lands through acquisition by Federal and State agencies through the designation of special interest areas, including wetlands, designated roadless areas, the purchase of development rights and other easements.
- C.10. Supports programs to prevent and/or eradicate transmittable diseases such as brucellosis and chronic wasting disease, to maintain the health of Wyoming's livestock and wildlife.
- C.11. Supports planning for growth and land utilization while advocating and ensuring the protection of private property rights.
- C.12. Supports that state and local governments are equal cooperating agents in the planning and implementation process of Federal public lands.
- C.13. Opposes any additional roadless, wilderness, or special interest area designations within State and Federal lands.
- C.14. Supports a policy of no introduction, reintroduction or protection of any wildlife or wild plant species without valid scientific data, local and State participation and consideration of the associated socio-economic impacts.

- C.15. Supports the control of Wyoming wildlife by State law and/or agencies, without Federal interference.
- C.16. Urges the State of Wyoming to fund the Wyoming State Fair and continue support of 4-H, FFA, Ag in the Classroom, Cooperative Extension Services and other educational opportunities for youth.
- C.17. Supports the protection of private property rights with respect to the effects of eminent domain.
- C.18. Believes legitimate agricultural entities should not be taxed at arbitrary and capricious commercial rates now used for diversified enterprises such as guests or cooked products.

#### D. Government

- D.1. Embraces the concept “government which governs least, governs best.” We believe good government is based on individual rights and responsibilities without excessive government regulations.
- D.2. Supports our rights as stated in the U.S. and Wyoming Constitution as the fundamental guarantees of free speech, to keep and bear arms, private property rights and protection from an oppressive government while ensuring allowance for difference of opinion and personal preference.
- D.3. Supports continued pursuit of responsible reduction in spending, elimination of unnecessary or ineffective programs and maximum utilization of existing financial resources regardless of economic surplus.
- D.4. Opposes a State Income Tax.
- D.5. Supports the Right to Work law.
- D.6. Supports considering the transfer of Federal lands and minerals under the surface within Wyoming to the State of Wyoming.
- D.7. Believes taxation should be equitable and predictable and state and local government must work together to ensure a fair and accurate tax system.
- D.8. Supports a reduction in the number of state employees to levels no greater than existed in 2002.
- D.9. Advocates that carrying a concealed personal weapon is a right.
- D.10. Believes the DEQ should be restricted to water quality not water quantity.
- D.11. Supports the investing of surplus State funds in trust with the goal of proportionately reducing State sales tax and property tax.

D.12. Support “Wyoming Firearms Freedom Act.”

#### E. Education

- E.1. Supports education that stresses goals, accountability, parental and local control and enhanced reading and math skills, while also encouraging more flexibility for rural schools and special-needs children. Opposes “Race to the Top” federal funding and inherent federal control.
- E.2. Believes that the State’s commitment to education, including technical, vocational, community colleges and the University of Wyoming, should remain among the highest priorities.
- E.3. Believes that parents have the primary responsibility for their children’s education and should have the right to choose the type and method of schooling for them. Including parental right to home school.
- E.4. Supports school boards and parents in the local control of education.
- E.5. Supports voluntary prayer and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in its present form.
- E.6. Supports effective substance abuse education for and encourages treatment for expelled abusers prior to returning to school.
- E.7. Opposes any teaching or encouragement of homosexuality as an acceptable alternative lifestyle in all public schools.
- E.8. Recognizes English as the official language of the Wyoming educational system.
- E.9. Supports the teaching of factual (and patriotic) history and heritage of the United States.
- E.10. Urges school districts to institute mandatory drug testing for all public school employees.
- E.11. Supports legislation to implement quality charter schools.
- E.12. Urges elimination of PAWS testing and resume utilization of national standardized aptitude testing currently in use.
- E.13. Supports state sovereignty with regard to K-12 education.

#### F. Health and Society

- F.1. Supports that citizens of Wyoming have access to private, affordable health care that provides for their physical and mental well being with fair, reliable and portable insurance coverage by allowing the purchase of health insurance across state lines

- F.2. Supports a range of reforms, including tort and insurance reform and a medical review panel, on the medical liability issue to retain health care professionals and improve the affordability and accessibility of health care.
- F.3. Supports the family as the basic building block of Wyoming society and the best source of information regarding the critical issues of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and teenage pregnancy. Local school districts and the State should coordinate with the family regarding these issues and should emphasize abstinence as the best method of preventing STDs and unwanted pregnancy.
- F.4. Supports an individual’s right to die with dignity and continues to support their right to refuse medical treatment.
- F.5. Supports outlawing partial birth abortion.
- F.6. Supports adoption as a preferred alternative to abortion and supports “Reagan’s Basket” legislation where the parents would be immune from prosecution.
- F.7. Supports a state constitutional amendment to define marriage as a contract between one man and one woman.
- F.8. Affirms the unborn child has a fundamental right to life that cannot be infringed.
- F.9. Opposes federally controlled national health care system.
- F.10. Supports drug testing of Title 19 recipients with positive results to be denied benefits.
- F.11. Supports protection of the unalienable right to life from conception to natural death.

#### G. Courtesy

- G.1. The Natrona County Republican Party extends our sincere thanks and appreciation to our statewide elected officials: Secretary of State Max Maxfield, State Treasurer Joe Meyer, State Auditor Rita Meyer and Superintendent of Public Instruction Jim McBride. We would also like to thank the President of the Senate John Hines and Speaker of the House Colin Simpson for their service to the State.
- G.2. The Natrona County Republican Party thanks our Republican legislators from the 60th Wyoming Senate-Bill Landen, Kit Jennings, Drew Perkins and Charles Scott and the House of Representatives-Bob Brechtel, Tom Lockhart, Tim Stubson, Roy Cohee and Steve Harshman, Lisa Shepperson for the vision of the Hathaway Scholarship as well as a balanced budget and other educational, health care, infrastructure and multiple needs of our Natrona County citizens and community. NCRP would like to thank all of the elected Natrona County Republican officials for their service and dedication.

<p>Paid for by the Natrona County Republican Party          PO Box 3576 Casper, WY 82602          Not paid for by a candidate or a candidate committee</p>
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