



### Wyoming Chapter

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p 307.577.6460  
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# Blueprints

## **2010 ABC of WY Convention Promises to be the best Convention will be In Sheridan, April 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**

The ABC of Wyoming Annual Convention will be held at the Best Western, Sheridan Center in Sheridan, WY Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup> this year.

This year's convention promises to be even better than last year's with more education, networking and just plain fun activities for everyone.

Owners, managers, all employees, and spouses will find something for them in Sheridan:

- An ABC of Wyoming Strategic Planning session, an opportunity to plan the next year and beyond for your association.
- A Building Information Modeling (BIM) overview.
- Breakout sessions detailing safety programs offered in Wyoming as well as wellness programs you can institute in the workplace.

- A Wyoming lien law overview, and what changes may be in store for the future.
- A variety of local, state and national speakers covering the topics you care about.
- And of course a number of networking opportunities and exciting excursions for all attendees, including a closing night Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament.

These are just a few of the highlights of this year's convention, there's much more, so mark your calendars now, registrations will be going out soon!

Convention sponsorship opportunities are still available, if you are interested in sponsoring the 2010 ABC of WY Annual Convention, Call Josh Carnahan, at (307) 577-6460.

## **JAC CUTS GOV'S SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS** *ABC Works on Major Issues during Budget Session*

In an unanticipated move, the Wyoming State Legislature's Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC) cut Governor Freudenthal's 2011-12 capital school construction budget request.

The JAC cut \$52 million out of the Governor's \$165 million budget request for capital construction, (which had already been reduced by 40% over the previous biennium) leaving \$113 million for school construction over the next two years.

Because of "lower than expected" bids, the SFC may have as much as \$172 million total to spend on school construction during the upcoming biennium.

The rest of Governor Freudenthal's request remains largely intact, \$82 million for major maintenance and \$18 for "component" level projects.

ABC of Wyoming advocated for Governor Freudenthal's school facilities budget requests, believing the Governor did an excellent job of balancing cuts with the current and future needs in the state.

The JAC budget will now go before the Legislature as a whole where it will likely be approved "as is" although it can be amended to either include more or lesser amounts..

## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

*Gordy Allison, 2010 ABC of Wyoming Chairman*

I would like to start off by thanking Steve Berdahl for all his hard work and numerous hours and travels spent last year as chairman, he did an excellent Job for our membership, Thanks Steve.

Well 2010 is shaping up to be an interesting year, we all knew the nation's economic woes would catch up to Wyoming eventually and it looks like they have.

From what we have been hearing from the legislators and State appropriation committee members the state's funding for new construction will be reduced considerably. Add the distressed natural gas, oil and coal prices to the equation and you have only a few privately funded projects moving forward as well.

Hopefully we can start to gain support from the entities involved, concerning the issues affecting our Contractors and Members. Such as getting the preference statutes cleaned up and reinstated with some means to enforce them.

Or educating Boards, Municipalities and Counties on the economics of using local

business's and taxpayers for their projects. With the few projects that will be funded this year it would be nice to see Wyoming tax

Dollars trickle down through the local communities.

As members of ABC we will need to come together on these issues and help educate the people serving on these boards in our communities.

We as members will need to make our concern for these issues known to our local representatives and board members and try and gain their support.

Our legislative committee is in the process of cleaning up the verbiage for the preference statues and we hope to submit them to the legislation to start the process of approval. It has also been suggested ABC form a committee to offer help or services to the various entities in the state that may be starting the process for a new project and could use our resources and help,

These are just a few of the issues at the State level we will be working on in the coming months, and welcome any input on these matters.



Wyoming Chapter

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

### **UNITED RENTALS**

5875 West Zero Road  
Casper, WY 82604

www.ur.com  
307.266.5113

Sean DeVore, Sales Representative

### **O'CONNOR COMPANY**

1221 Concourse Drive  
Rapid City, SD 57703

www.oconnorco.com  
605.348.2033

Joel Porch: Owner / Sales

### **CONCRETE PRODUCTS OF WYOMING**

725 Bryan Stock Trail  
Casper, WY 82609

307.265.3100

Shane Conley, General Manager



Wyoming Chamber of Commerce Executives Presents

# The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Day at the Legislature

#### Breakfast

Governor Dave Freudenthal  
Senator John Hines  
House Speaker Colin Simpson  
*Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Power*

#### Business Panel

Surviving & Thriving in a Challenging Economy  
*Sponsored by ABC of Wyoming  
Cody Country Chamber of Commerce  
Department of Workforce Services*

#### Legislative Update

Communicating With Your Legislators

#### Lunch

At the Capitol With Your Legislators  
*Sponsored by EnCana Oil & Gas*

#### Capitol Tour

Legislative Process

**February 24, 2010 7am to 3pm**

**Little America Conference Center**  
2800 Lincoln Way, Cheyenne, WY

\$70 for the first registration, \$65 for each additional

#### **TO REGISTER:**

307.322.3977 or email  
wcce@wyomingwireless.com

## Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010

*Little America Hotel and Conference Center*

# “Get into Politics or Get Out of Business!”

By ABC of Wyoming Staff, With excerpts from the Wyoming State Legislature Website

Educating yourself and getting involved in the legislative process has never been this easy. Not only is it easy to get involved, it's also very rewarding, and as many find, it gets to be kind of addictive after you get started.

**GET INFORMED** - The first step to getting involved is being informed. You probably already know at least some of your state legislators, and more than likely you have spent time discussing issues important to you with them. Our Legislators are a great source of information about bills and the legislative process as a whole. The State Legislature's website at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us> is an excellent place for our members to spend some time to get more familiar with the state legislature. On this site you will find listings of the House and Senate members, a search to find your legislators, committees and committee members, calendars, and detailed information about the bills before the legislature this year.

Complete copies of bills & bill status, committee meeting minutes, as well as general session minutes can be found on the website.

All of our members should spend some time looking over the bills to ensure that we here at ABC of Wyoming are tracking the bills that are important to you and your business.

**STAY INFORMED** - With only 20 days to cover a lot of bills, the pace at legislature is often fast and furious. Once you get informed, you have to stay informed about changes to calendars, and when bills might be discussed in committee and on the floor. Changes to bills can take place in committee or on the floor, so check in at least daily to see if your bill has been altered in any way.

To get up to the minute status of legislation, you can call the Bill Status Hotline at: 1-800-342-9570.

You can also listen to the legislative session via streaming audio from the website, and detailed information about bills and bill status is updated at least daily.

**BE PREPARED** - Now that you know the issues, take some time and write down not only how you feel about certain bills, but how it will impact you, your business, your employees and even your industry.

Facts and figures are important to Legislators, so get all your ducks in a row, and be able to back up what you think with hard facts.

**GET INVOLVED** - There are a number of different ways you can get involved in the session. And they vary from a simple email, to a trip to Cheyenne.

If you simply want to encourage legislators to vote up or down on a particular piece of legislation, you can call the Voter Hotline at 1-866-996-8683. With this number you can only recommend that legislators vote a particular way, you cannot leave detailed personal messages for legislators.

If you want to relay more detailed information to your elected representatives you can find all the contact information for your state legislators, both House and Senate members on the Legislature's website. You can write them an e-mail, draft a letter, or even give them a call.

appropriate legislator and faxing to 307.777.5466.

E-mails for your legislators can also be found on the Legislature's website, but remember that spam filters often weed out e-mails to more than one person, so write each of your legislators independently, so you can better ensure they will actually receive your e-mail.

**REMEMBER:** be clear about what bill you are interested in (use title and number), clearly state your position, and why you feel that way, and include some good facts and figures that will catch their interest.

The single best way for you to get your point of view across to legislators is for you to spend some time with them while they are in session in Cheyenne.

Most legislators will take time out of their very busy schedules to visit with constituents. Whether you talk to them in the hallway, ask them to step out of session, or visit with them during the many events held in conjunction with Legislature, they will be just as appreciative of you spending your time there as we are of them doing the same. The only time the legislature takes official comments from the public about any particular piece of legislation is when that bill is being discussed in committee. This testimony that people give in committee weighs very heavily with legislators, and more often or not, will determine the success or failure of the bill.

If you are going to give committee testimony, remember to clearly state your position, and why you feel that way, and include some good facts and figures that will catch their interest. Handouts are not required, but are a useful tool to support your stance on an issue.

By following these simple steps, you are well on your way to becoming an effective advocate for your issues. Even though Wyoming only holds one legislative session a year, don't forget that legislature is a year round ordeal, with committee meetings and bills being drafted throughout the year. You can continue to track the goings on of the state legislature through their website and calendar all year long. Committee meetings are open to the public and public participation is encouraged at all times.

For more information, or if you need any assistance wading through Wyoming's legislative process, or the issues we are dealing with, feel free to give Josh Carnahan, ABC of Wyoming President, a call at 307.577.6460.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

**Wyoming State Legislature Website:**

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us>

**Legislative Calendar:**

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2009/Billifa.HTM>

**Bill Information:**

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2009/Bills.htm>

**Bill Status:**

1-800-342-9570

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2009/Status/STATUS.pdf>

**Voter Hotline:** 1-866-996-8683

**Legislator Contact Information**

**House:** 307.777.7852

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2008/members/rep.htm>

**Senate:** 307.777-7711

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2008/members/sen.htm>

**FAX for both Houses:** 307.777.5466.

**Committee Information:**

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2008/interim/intcomm.htm>

**Live Audio Broadcasts of the Legislative**

**Session:**

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2009/audio/AudioMenu1.htm>

During the legislative session, your legislators are in Cheyenne, and away from their home and offices. You can call and leave a phone message for them at the desk of the appropriate House (Wyoming House Receptionist: 307.777.7852 – Wyoming Senate Receptionist: 307.777-7711

You can send written correspondence to your legislator by addressing the letter to him or her care of the Wyoming House or Senate, State Capitol, Cheyenne, WY 82002.

Letters can even be faxed to your legislators by, again, addressing the letter to the



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«AddressBlock»



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**ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
**Fri. April 9<sup>th</sup> – Sat. April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
**Best Western Sheridan Center, Sheridan, WY**

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY 2009**

- 8<sup>th</sup> – 2010 Wyoming State Legislature Budget Session Begins
- 12<sup>th</sup> – MSHA 8 Hour Refresher  
McMurry Training Center  
[www.mcmurrytrainingcenter.com](http://www.mcmurrytrainingcenter.com)
- 16<sup>th</sup> – NCCER Your Role in the Green Environment  
McMurry Training Center  
[www.mcmurrytrainingcenter.com](http://www.mcmurrytrainingcenter.com)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Nat. Defensive Driving Counsel Defensive Driving Course  
McMurry Training Center  
[www.mcmurrytrainingcenter.com](http://www.mcmurrytrainingcenter.com)
- 24<sup>th</sup> - **Business Day at the Legislature, Little America, Cheyenne**
- 25<sup>th</sup> - **WABIT Trustee Meeting, TBA**
- 25<sup>th</sup> - **ABC of WY Board Meeting, 1:00**

**MARCH 2009**

- 9<sup>th</sup> – WY School Facilities Commission, TBA
- 18<sup>th</sup> - ABC of WY Board Meeting, TBA

**APRIL 2009**

- 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> ABC of WY Annual Convention, Sheridan Center Best Western, Sheridan, WY
- 10<sup>th</sup> – EPA LEAD BASED PAINT ABATEMENT CLASS/CERTIFICATION, SHERIDAN  
Sponsored by ABC Wyoming