

COMMISSION APPOINTS LACEY AND CURLEY AS WESTON COUNTY LEGISLATORS

By Assistant Publisher/Editor
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With the Weston County Commissioners and Weston County Republican Party leaning into the effort to appoint its own County State Legislators, a special meeting was held on Tuesday morning, October 22nd, to officially appoint a Weston County Representative and a Weston County Senator.

The legislative districts based on Wyoming county lines were changed in 1992, when Wyoming counties were asked by the State Legislature to pass resolutions in support of redistricting outside of county lines to be in accordance with federal requirements of “one man, one vote”, adding a footnote to the Wyoming Constitution explaining that the countywide legislative districts were essentially null and void once redistricting had taken place. Redistricting broke Weston County into pieces in the Legislature, potentially robbing Weston County citizens of a unified legislative voice and vision. The County is broken into House District 1 and Senate District 1, comprising northern half of Weston County including Upton, and House District 2 and Senate District 3, comprising the southern half of Weston County, including Newcastle.

In the April 2nd meeting of the Weston County Commissioners,

the Commissioners passed Resolution 2024-10, which states Weston County currently has no State Senator or State Representative. The Resolution was adopted in that meeting, with Chairman Don Taylor, Vice Chairman Borton, and Commissioner Huber voting for the Resolution, and Commissioners Ed Wagoner and Nate Todd voting against it.

In September, the Commissioners officially notified the State GOP about the vacancies, beginning the countdown for the process by which the Weston County Republican Central Committee must choose candidates for Weston County Representative and Weston County Senator, from which the County Commissioners would appoint their own legislators instead of those voted into office in this summer’s Primary Election. The issue will then head to the desk of Wyoming Secretary of State Chuck Gray and assuredly a courtroom.

On Thursday, October 17th, the Weston County Republican Party held a meeting to nominate three candidates for Weston County Representative and three for Weston County Senator. For State Representative, nominees were Don Taylor, Stanley Jasinski, and Karl Lacey. For State Senator, nominees were Patricia Bauman, William Curley,

and Sue Mireles.

These were the names presented to the Weston County Commissioners during their special meeting on Tuesday. Present for the meeting were Chairman Taylor, Vice Chairman Borton, and Commissioner Huber. Commissioners Todd and Wagoner, who have been outspoken in their disagreement to this process, were absent for the special meeting.

Chairman Taylor, admitting to the issue being controversial, but informed those present that correct procedure has been followed in this delicate matter. “This fight needs to happen and should happen, even if it’s not successful,” he remarked.

“I’m disappointed in our colleagues not being here, even if they don’t agree with it,” Commissioner Huber commented, referring to the two absent Commissioners. “It’s a very important decision. All of these individuals [nominated by the Weston County Republican Party] are totally capable.”

When the Chairman asked for nominations for Weston County Representative, Commissioner Huber nominated Don Taylor, stating that she thinks he has the experience to handle being a State Legislator.

Chairman Taylor responded, “I don’t want this to be about

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