

# SUMMARY *of* PROCEEDINGS



## MANAGEMENT AUDIT COMMITTEE

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### COMMITTEE MEETING INFORMATION

October 21, 2025 | 8:30 AM  
Thyra Thomson State Office Building, Round House Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 3024  
444 W Collins Drive  
Casper, Wyoming

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Christopher Knapp, Chairman  
Senator Dan Laursen, Vice Chairman  
Senator Dan Dockstader  
Senator Bob Ide  
Senator Jared Olsen  
Representative Jayme Lien  
Representative Tony Locke  
Representative Rachel Rodriguez-Williams  
Representative Trey Sherwood

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Senator Troy McKeown  
Senator Chris Rothfuss

### LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE STAFF

Matthew Petry, Research/Evaluation Administrator  
Josh Anderson, Senior Legislative Attorney  
Sue Menghini, Interim Legislative Editor, Research  
Heather Hunter, Legislative Editor, Legal

### OTHERS PRESENT AT MEETING

Please refer to **Appendix 1-02** to review the Committee Sign-in Sheet for a list of other individuals who attended the meeting.

*The Committee Meeting Summary of Proceedings (meeting minutes) is prepared by the Legislative Service Office (LSO) and is the official record of the proceedings of a legislative committee meeting. This document does not represent a transcript of the meeting; it is a digest of the meeting and provides a record of official actions taken by the Committee. All meeting materials and handouts provided to the Committee by the Legislative Service Office, public officials, lobbyists, and the public are on file at the Legislative Service Office and are part of the official record of the meeting. An index of these materials is provided at the end of this document and these materials are on file at the Legislative Service Office. For more information or to review meeting materials, please contact the Legislative Service Office at (307) 777-7881 or by e-mail at [lso@wyoleg.gov](mailto:lso@wyoleg.gov). The Summary of Proceedings for each legislative committee meeting can be found on the Wyoming Legislature's website at [www.wyoleg.gov](http://www.wyoleg.gov).*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Management Audit Committee (Committee) met in Casper for one day to continue its interim work. In the morning, the Committee considered bill drafts regarding administrative rules-legislative review and legislature-reorganization of department of audit. The Committee received updates from the Wyoming Business Council on its approach to support economic growth. In the afternoon, the Committee heard testimony from subpoenaed officials of Riverton Recreation District #25, the Town of Bear River, and the Town of Manderson regarding local government audit issues. The Committee also reviewed a report summarizing the findings of the Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee and considered four bill drafts regarding legislative subpoena-penalty, falsifying election documents, post-election audit procedures, and removal of county officers-election code violations.

The Committee voted to sponsor the following bill drafts:

- 26LSO-0106 – Administrative rules-legislative review.
- 26LSO-0165 – Legislature-reorganization of department of audit.
- 26LSO-0248 – Legislative subpoena-penalty.
- 26LSO-0249 – Falsifying election documents.
- 26LSO-0250 – Post election audit procedures.
- 26LSO-0251 – Removal of county officers-election code violations.

## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Knapp called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following sections summarize the Committee proceedings by topic. Please refer to [Appendix 1-01](#) to review the Committee Meeting Agenda. The meeting can be viewed on YouTube Management Audit Committee, October 21, 2025 ([AM](#)), ([PM](#)).

## MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

### ***SF127 - Report and Research Considerations***

Matt Petry, Administrator, Research and Evaluation Division, Legislative Service Office (LSO), provided background information on *Senate File 127 – Administrative rules legislative review*, which the Legislature passed in the 2025 General Session and increases the Legislature’s oversight of administrative rulemaking by requiring LSO to complete a regulatory impact analysis for rules meeting certain criteria. Mr. Petry recommended a language change for the Committee to consider before the bill’s effective date of July 1, 2026, to exempt rules required for compliance with federal law from regulatory impact analyses.

Mr. Petry informed the Committee that the report required under Senate File 127 will be submitted to the Management Council for consideration during its November meeting. Mr. Petry noted the report will include a draft form for agencies to use in submitting information needed for regulatory impact analyses. Mr. Petry also outlined plans to meet with agency directors to discuss the implementation of reporting requirements and the regulatory impact analysis process.

Mr. Petry also discussed the rulemaking process and provided brief information on how other states conduct regulatory impact analyses.

### ***Bill Draft Consideration - 26LSO-0106 - Administrative rules-legislative review.***

Josh Anderson, Senior Staff Attorney, LSO, provided an overview of 26LSO-0106, Administrative rules-legislative review, which amends the statutory language introduced under Senate File 127 ([Appendix 2-](#)

**01).** Mr. Anderson summarized changes made to the bill draft since the last Management Audit Committee meeting and discussed staff comments included within the bill draft. Changes included requiring agencies to identify major rules; directing the Secretary of State to adopt rules ensuring agency compliance; removing emergency rules from the definition of major rules; and clarifying the annual monetary impact threshold. Discussion of staff comments covered the recommendation to exempt rules required to comply with federal law, concerns about the lack of measurable benchmarks for identifying significant adverse impacts of major rules, and the Legislature’s lack of authority to approve major rules prior to becoming effective.

Mr. Anderson also discussed LSO’s rule review process for ensuring that newly promulgated rules align with legislative intent and statutory authority, as well as the process for nullifying rules.

### ***Public Comment***

Public comment was provided by Joey Correnti, Rural Wyoming Matters.

### ***Committee Action***

Representative Lien moved that the Committee sponsor 26LSO-0106. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Representative Sherwood voting no and Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused.

## **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE PERFORMANCE AUDIT**

Mr. Anderson presented 26LSO-0165, Legislature–reorganization of department of audit, which would move the Public Funds Division under the Legislature as a separate office within LSO (**Appendix 3-01**). Mr. Anderson also explained the process by which the division would be transferred from the Department of Audit to the Legislature and the effects on the classification of employees.

### ***Department of Audit***

Justin Chavez, Director, and Richard Cummings, Administrator, Public Funds Division, Wyoming Department of Audit, summarized the structure as well as the administrative and audit functions of the Public Funds Division and discussed the Division’s role in training public officers and investigating fraud. Director Chavez emphasized the importance of maintaining independence in conducting audits and expressed potential concerns about the proposed move of the Public Funds Division under the Legislature. Mr. Cummings explained the process for training public officers.

### ***Public Comment***

Public comment was provided by:

- Ross Schriftman, Casper
- Joey Correnti, Rural Wyoming Matters
- Ashley Harpstreith, Wyoming Association of Municipalities
- Kevin Lewis, Cheyenne
- Rebecca Bextel, Jackson
- Mark Pepper, Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems

**Committee Action**

Vice Chairman Laursen moved that the Committee sponsor 26LSO-0165. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Representative Sherwood voting no and Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused.

**WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL**

Josh Dorrell, Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Fitz-Gerald, Chief Strategy Officer, and Ron Gullberg, Strategic Partnerships Director, Wyoming Business Council (WBC), presented on the WBC's approach to support economic growth in the State and reverse economic decline (**Appendix 4-02**). Mr. Dorrell explained that the investments report provides information and data on the WBC's activities and programs (**Appendix 4-01**).

**Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by:

- Ross Schriftman, Casper
- Rebecca Bextel, Jackson

**Committee Action**

The Committee did not take action on this topic.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDIT ISSUES**

At the previous Management Audit Committee meeting, the Committee directed the issuance of subpoenas to officials from the towns of Bear River and Manderson and from Riverton Recreation District #25 to discuss progress on compliance with auditing requirements. These subpoenaed local officials appeared at this meeting.

**Riverton Recreation District**

Terri Kucera, Board Chair and Cody Beers, Treasurer, Riverton Recreation District #25, provided background information on the District's audit history and outlined actions taken to meet the Department of Audit's requirements (**Appendix 6-02**). Mr. Beers reported that the District is now compliant with the auditing requirements. Mr. Beers and Ms. Kucera noted the challenges faced by volunteers with limited accounting experience in meeting complex audit standards. Mr. Beers also reviewed the District's investment policy and the compensation of individuals contracted to perform administrative tasks.

**Town of Bear River**

Clyde Kofoed, Mayor, Town of Bear River, explained the delays in implementing the improvement plans and outlined the town's efforts to apply new policies and procedures addressing the deficiencies identified in its audit report. Mayor Kofoed noted the complexity of the process for inexperienced public servants. (**Appendix 6-01**). Barb Couture, Clerk Treasurer, Town of Bear River, noted having received support from the Department of Audit.

**Town of Manderson**

Rod Patrick, Mayor, Town of Manderson, reported finding the town in a difficult financial situation upon entering office, but the town is now making positive progress. Tim Patrick, Mayor Pro Tempore, Town of

Manderson, offered further context regarding the town's financial condition and explained that the situation was worse than anticipated upon taking office. Mayor Patrick, through a letter read by Mayor Pro Tempore Patrick, expressed frustration at being subpoenaed, noting that the challenges faced resulted from actions by the previous town administration and that the current administration has taken corrective steps with the support of the Department of Audit.

Richard Cummings, Public Funds Division, Department of Audit, responded to a question regarding collaboration with the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) concerning missing information in audits. After finding no evidence, DCI closed the investigation.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was provided on the topic.

**Committee Action**

The Committee did not take action on this topic.

**WESTON COUNTY CLERK 2024 GENERAL ELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

During the September 29, 2025 Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee meeting, the Subcommittee directed LSO to provide a comprehensive report on the administrative process used to investigate election complaints, as well as substantive findings stemming from meeting testimony (**Appendix 7-01**). LSO was also directed to recommend any potential statutory changes appropriate to address similar circumstances.

Representative Rodriguez-Williams, Subcommittee Chairwoman, presented the subcommittee report. Representative Rodriguez-Williams also discussed the potential to request a court order for Becky Hadlock, Weston County Clerk, after failing to appear at the Subcommittee's September 29, 2025, meeting despite being subpoenaed.

**Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by:

- Chuck Gray, Secretary of State
- Joey Correnti, Carbon County Canvassing Board
- Betsy Anderson, Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel, Governor Gordon's Office

**Committee Action**

Representative Lien moved that the Subcommittee take additional time for edits and testimony before accepting the Weston County Clerk 2024 Post Election Audit Report. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused.

**Bill Draft Consideration - 26LSO-0248 - Legislative subpoena-penalty.**

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of 26LSO-0248 – Legislative subpoena-penalty which revises the penalty from \$100 to \$750 for failure to comply with a legislative subpoena (**Appendix 7-02**).

**Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by:

- Joey Correnti, Carbon County Canvassing Board
- Chuck Gray, Secretary of State

**Committee Action**

Representative Lien moved that the Committee sponsor 26LSO-0248. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused.

**Bill Draft Consideration - 26LSO-0249 - Falsifying election documents.**

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of 26LSO-0249 – Falsifying election documents, which specifies that falsifying election document includes submitting a false post-election ballot audit (**Appendix 7-03**).

**Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by:

- Chuck Gray, Secretary of State
- Joey Correnti, Carbon County Canvassing Board

**Committee Action**

Vice Chairman Laursen moved that the Committee sponsor 26LSO-0249. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused.

**Bill Draft Consideration - 26LSO-0250 - Post election audit procedures.**

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of 26LSO-0250 – Post election audit procedures, which requires observation of the post-election ballot audit procedures and results and specifies requirements for observation by representatives of political parties and independent candidates (**Appendix 7-04**).

**Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by:

- Chuck Gray, Secretary of State
- Joey Correnti, Carbon County Canvassing Board
- Mary Lankford, County Clerks Association of Wyoming

**Committee Action**

Senator Dockstader moved that the Committee sponsor 26LSO-0250. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused. The Committee adopted the following amendments.

Page 2-line 1	Add subsection (b) of that section to the draft, and at the end of the first sentence add "and cause minutes to be made" and then require the minutes to be submitted with the audit results.
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Page 2-line 10            Add a new sentence to require representatives observing the audit to take the oath for election officials under W.S. 22-8-115.

***Bill Draft Consideration - 26LSO-0251 - Removal of county officers-election code violations.***

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of 26LSO-0251 – Removal of county officers-election code violations, which specifies that the secretary of state may submit a complaint to the governor against a county clerk for violations of the elections code ([Appendix 7-05](#)).

***Public Comment***

Public comment was provided by:

- Chuck Gray, Secretary of State
- Representative J.R. Riggins

***Committee Action***

Representative Locke moved that the Committee sponsor 26LSO-0251. The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Senators McKeown and Rothfuss excused.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Knapp adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Christopher Knapp, Chairman

# Committee Meeting Materials Index

Index Number	Agenda Item	Document Description	Document Provider
1-01		Agenda	Legislative Service Office
1-02		Sign-In Sheet	Legislative Service Office
2-01	Major Administrative Rules	26LSO-0106 - Administrative rules-legislative review.	Legislative Service Office
3-01	Legislative Service Office Performance Audit	26LSO-0165 - Legislature-reorganization of department of audit.	Legislative Service Office
4-01	Wyoming Business Council	Wyoming Business Council - Investments Report	Wyoming Business Council
4-02	Wyoming Business Council	Wyoming Business Council - Presentation	Wyoming Business Council
6-01	Local Government Audit Issues	Town of Bear River Materials	Bear River
6-02	Local Government Audit Issues	Riverton Recreation District #25 Materials	Riverton Recreation District #25
7-01	Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee	Weston County Subcommittee Report	Legislative Service Office
7-02	Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee	26LSO-0248 - Legislative subpoena-penalty.	Legislative Service Office
7-03	Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee	26LSO-0249 - Falsifying election documents.	Legislative Service Office
7-04	Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee	26LSO-0250 - Post election audit procedures.	Legislative Service Office
7-05	Weston County Clerk 2024 General Election Subcommittee	26LSO-0251 - Removal of county officers-election code violations.	Legislative Service Office