SUMMARY *of* PROCEEDINGS

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

COMMITTEE MEETING INFORMATION

November 18-19, 2025
Historic Supreme Court Chamber, State Capitol Room E202
200 West 24th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Chip Neiman, Chairman
Senator Bo Biteman, Vice Chairman
Senator Barry Crago
Senator Mike Gierau
Senator Tara Nethercott
Senator Tim Salazar
Representative John Bear
Representative Jeremy Haroldson
Representative Scott Heiner
Representative Mike Yin

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE STAFF

Matt Obrecht, Director
Tamara Rivale, Legislative Counsel
Anthony Sara, Deputy Administrator of Operations
Heather Kammerman, Fiscal Officer
Ashley Phillips, Legislative Editor

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. The Summary of Proceedings for each legislative committee meeting can be found on the Wyoming Legislature's website at www.wyoleg.gov.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Management Council (Council) met to approve the calendar for the 2026 Budget Session; update Council policies and handbooks; receive updates from the Legislative Service Office (LSO), task forces, and subcommittees; sponsor the legislative budget bill for the 2027-2028 biennium; consider the revisor's bill; establish a tentative schedule for the 2026 Budget Session and discuss issues pursuant to Management Council's statutory authority. Council took the following actions:

- Sponsored 26LSO-0169, Gambling amendments;
- Sponsored 26LSO-0146, Anti-money laundering;
- Sponsored 26LSO-0145, Local approval for simulcasting;
- Sponsored 26LSO-0279, Skill-based amusement games-licensed liquor establishments;
- Denied the Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment's request to assign legislative reapportionment for additional study during the 2026 interim;
- Sponsored 26LSO-0256, Legislative budget, as amended;
- Adopted a 21-day calendar for the 2026 Budget Session;
- Sponsored 26LSO-0018, Revisor's bill;
- Authorized travel reimbursement for members who would like to attend the MIT Symposium on nuclear energy; and
- Adopted proposed amendments to Management Council Policy 06-02.

A portion of the meeting was held in executive session. The meeting can be viewed on the Legislature's YouTube channel within **Council's playlist**.

CALL TO ORDER (TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025)

Chairman Neiman called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM. The following sections summarize the Committee proceedings by topic. Please refer to **Appendix 1-01** to review the Committee Meeting Agenda.

REPORTS FROM SELECT AND SUBCOMMITTEES

Select Committee on Gaming

Senator John Kolb and Representative Jayme Lien, Co-chairs of the Select Committee on Gaming, provided an overview of the bill drafts developed by the Committee, summarizing the development process, statutory considerations, and policy objectives of each proposal. See **Appendix 2-01**. Senator Kolb explained the following bill drafts:

- 26LSO-0169, Gambling amendments, **(Appendix 2-02)** refines statutory definitions**,** particularly related to limiting the "bona fide social relationship**,**" exception to criminal gambling;
- 26LSO-0146, Anti-money laundering, **(Appendix 2-03)** strengthens oversight of gaming and other criminal activity by creating the crimes of anti-money-laundering and illegal investment;
- 26LSO-0145, Local approval for simulcasting, **(Appendix 2-04)** advances the Committee's primary objective to revise local authority over historic horse racing establishments (or simulcasting) within a locality;
- 26LSO-0168, Limitation on historic horse racing terminals, **(Appendix 2-05)** would establish limits on the number of historic horse racing terminals authorized for a permit holder under state regulations; and
- 26LSO-0279, Skill-based amusement games-licensed liquor establishments, **(Appendix 2-06)** amends the statutory authority that currently allows skill-based gaming machines to be placed in

any establishment with a liquor license, including grocery stores, by limiting eligibility to only those establishments with licenses that allow for consumption on the premises.

Public Comment

The following individuals provided public comment:

- Affie Ellis, representing Cowboy Racing, testified on 26LSO-0146, Anti-money laundering; 26LSO-0145, Local approval for simulcasting; and 26LSO-0168, Limitation on historic horse racing terminal. See **Appendix 2-16** and **Appendix 2-17**.
- Jerimiah Rieman, Executive Director, Wyoming County Commissioners Association; Mark Rinney, President of the Cheyenne City Council and member of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities Board; and Jeff Daugherty, Cheyenne resident, testified on 26LSO-0145, Local approval for simulcasting.
- Matt Micheli, representing Wyoming Horse Racing and Peter Liguori, part owner of Wyoming Horse Racing, testified regarding 26LSO-0168, Limitation on historic horse racing terminal.
- Matt Pascal, Cowboy Skill Games; Leslie George, co-owner, Wyoming Amusement; and Mike Barley, Chief Public Affairs Officer, Pace-O-Matic, commented on 26LSO-0279, Skill-based amusement games-licensed liquor establishments.

In addition, Nicholas Larramendy, Executive Director, WGC, clarified that under current law, the Commission must issue permits for skill-based amusement game to any qualifying liquor-licensed premises, but is preparing rules concerning games in non-age-restricted locations and confinement to 21-and-over areas.

Committee Directives

Senator Crago moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0169, Gambling amendments. The motion passed by a roll call vote with all members present voting yes and Representative Yin excused.

Representative Haroldson moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0146, Anti-money laundering. The motion passed by a roll call vote with all members present voting yes, except Representative Yin, who voted no.

Senator Crago moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0145, Local approval for simulcasting. The motion passed by a roll call vote with all members present voting yes, except Representative Yin, who voted no.

Representative Heine moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0168, Limitation on historic horse racing terminals. The motion failed by a roll call vote with Senators Crago, Gierau, Nethercott, and Salazar and Vice Chairman Biteman voting no, and Representative Yin excused.

Senator Salazar moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0279, Skill-based amusement games-licensed liquor establishments. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Management Audit Committee Report on 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 128

Senator Laursen, on behalf of the Management Audit Committee, reported on interim work related to 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 128 (Senate File 127, Administrative rules-legislative review and objection), which requires the LSO to complete regulatory impact analyses (RIAs) for "major rules." He explained the Management Audit Committee met three times and developed draft bill 26LSO-0106, Administrative rules-legislative review, to clarify the Legislature's role and agency responsibilities, require agencies to identify when proposed rules meet the "major rule" definition, reduce the annual economic impact threshold from $1 million to $200,000, and remove emergency rules from the definition of "major

rule." Matt Petry, Research and Program Evaluation Administrator, LSO, explained two additional amendments to 26LSO-0106 that the Management Audit Committee had been asked to consider. One amendment would exclude rules that are required to comply with federal law from the definition of "major rule." The other amendment would remove W.S. 28-9-109 (h)(ii) establishing "significant adverse effects" as a second criteria for satisfaction of the definition of a "major rule," with the first criteria being the aforementioned monetary threshold.

Mr. Petry then briefly reviewed the report Senator Laursen referenced, describing how the new RIA process would run parallel to LSO's existing review of regular rules without changing the Governor's approval authority **Appendix 2-07**. He explained when an agency identifies a major rule, LSO will notify all legislators and complete an RIA within 50 days to provide information on economic impacts for later legislative review. Mr. Petry noted the $400,000 appropriation in 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 128, has been doubled to $800,000 to fund two regulatory impact analyst positions for two years of the next biennium in the Legislative Feed Bill.

Capitol Interpretive Exhibits and Wayfinding Subcommittee

Senator Bill Landen, Co-chairman Capitol Square Exhibit and Wayfinding Subcommittee, reported on the nearly complete wayfinding and historical exhibit project. See **Appendix 2-12**, **Appendix 2-13**, and **Appendix 2-15**. Senator Landen and Riana Davidson, Visitor Services Manager, LSO, highlighted new interactive kiosks for navigation and legislative composites, the Constitution kiosk, the staged vault exhibit, and other interpretive installations throughout the Capitol and Capitol Extension. Ms. Davidson reported there was a strong public response to weekend and extended summer hours and to special public events. She further offered to provide visitation data to the Council.

Wendy Madsen, Special Projects Manager, LSO described the collaborative nature of the project among LSO, the State Building Commission (SBC), State Parks and Cultural Resources, the State Museum, and the Office of Tourism, and noted they envisioned a transition into a shared-governance body for Capitol Square, supported by a Memorandum of Understanding between Management Council and the SBC. She reported design work for acoustic improvements and related facility upgrades is complete, with construction planned after the 2026 Budget Session to address noise and mechanical issues.

National Academy of Construction 2025 Recognition of Special Achievement Award

Former Senate President Tony Ross presented to Council a national award from the National Academy of Construction (the Academy) recognizing the Capitol Square renovation project. See **Appendix 2-14**. He summarized the Academy's statement, emphasized the many partners who contributed to its success, and presented the award for display in the LSO main office.

Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment

Senator Cale Case, Co-chairman, Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment, and Director Obrecht provided a report from the Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment. See **Appendix 2-08**. The Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment reviewed alternatives to current legislative apportionment, such as weighted voting, significantly expanding the size of the Legislature, and altering county boundaries, but concluded there is currently no viable way to satisfy both the state constitutional requirement for county-based representation and federal equal population standards, and recommended Council assign the topic for additional study during the 2026 interim.

Committee Directives

Senator Nethercott moved that Council deny the Subcommittee on Legislative Reapportionment's request to assign the topic for additional study during the 2026 interim. The motion passed by a voice vote.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES AND COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS UTILIZATION

Council received an overview of the Legislature's membership benefits from National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and Council of State Governments-West (CSG West). Director Obrecht noted Management Council's prior request for information on the use and value of both organizations to the Wyoming Legislature and its staff.

CSG West

Edgar Ruiz, Executive Director, CSG West, reviewed CSG West's mission, regional policy focus, and professional-development programs, noting strong participation from Wyoming legislators and staff. He highlighted Wyoming's recent role in hosting the 2025 CSG West Annual Meeting and ongoing collaboration on regional water, wildfire, and energy issues. **Appendix 5-03**.

NCSL

Montana Senator Barry Usher, President-Elect, NCSL, accompanied by Arturo Perez, Vice President, State Services Division, NCSL, described NCSL's bipartisan structure, national research services, staff training, and federal-affairs advocacy. Senator Usher emphasized NCSL's extensive policy research completed for Wyoming and encouraged continued participation to ensure Wyoming remains represented in national policy discussions. See **Appendix 5-04**.

LSO Utilization

LSO's division administrators reported broad and regular use of NCSL and CSG West services, including national research, fiscal data exchanges, rules and ethics analysis, human resources training, job-recruitment assistance, and support during major federal funding initiatives and facility projects. See **Appendix 5-01** and **Appendix 5-02**.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET (FEED BILL)

Director Obrecht presented 26LSO-0256, Legislative budget. See **Appendix 6-01**. Heather Kammerman, Fiscal Officer, LSO, provided Council with a summary of specific expenses and a comparison with the 2025-2026 Legislative Branch biennium budget. See **Appendix 6-02** and **Appendix 6-03**. Director Obrecht emphasized the increase to LSO staff was due to increased duties from the Legislature, LSO assuming more session-related duties, and the need to keep salaries viable in a competitive labor market. Mr. Petry answered questions regarding specific budget items.

Committee Directives

Representative Heiner moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0256, Legislative budget. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote with the following amendment:

Page 7, lines 17 through page 8, line 1 Delete entirely.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council moved into executive session at 6:13 PM to discuss matters confidential by law.

RECESS

Council recessed at 8:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER (WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025)

Vice Chairman Biteman called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

2026 BUDGET SESSION CALENDAR

Director Obrecht; Anthony Sara, Deputy Administrator of Operations; and Don Richards, Budget and Fiscal Administrator, LSO, presented two draft calendars for the 2026 Budget Session for Council's consideration. See **Appendix 9-03** and **Appendix 9-04**. Mr. Sara outlined the proposed calendars, noting they both begin February 9, 2026, with the 21-day calendar ending March 11, 2026, and the 22-day calendar ending March 13, 2026.

Committee Directives

Chairman Neiman moved that Council adopt the 21-day calendar for the 2026 Budget Session. This calendar includes the Legislature returning on day 21 to receive and consider any gubernatorial vetoes. The motion passed by a roll call vote with all members present voting yes and Representative Yin excused.

26LSO-0018, REVISOR'S BILL.

TaLise Hansen, Legislative Attorney, LSO, presented 26LSO-0018, Revisor's bill. See **Appendix 10-01**. Ms. Hansen explained the bill consists of non-substantive, "clean-up" changes to the statutes.

Committee Directives

Representative Haroldson moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0018, Revisor's bill. The motion passed by a roll call vote all members present voting yes and Representative Yin excused.

ANNUAL AGENCY RULE REPORT

Brian Fuller, Deputy Legal Administrator, LSO, provided Council with the 2025 Annual Agency Rule Report. See **Appendix 11-01**. Mr. Fuller noted two rules Council objected to for substantive deficiencies and that one rule was removed from the consent list.

MIT SYMPOSIUM ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

Senator Ogden Driskill requested Management Council to authorize travel reimbursement to the Nuclear Energy Dominance symposium at MIT in Boston on March 26-27, 2026.

Committee Directives

Senator Crago moved that Council approve Senator Driskill's request and authorize travel reimbursement for any other members who would like to attend the symposium. The motion passed by a voice vote.

LANDER LEGISLATIVE ROOM UPDATE

Director Obrecht provided background on efforts to establish a dedicated legislative meeting room at the Life Resource Center in Lander, modeled on the Thyra Thompson meeting space in Casper. Ms. Madsen reviewed a draft layout for the room and answered Council's questions regarding project specifics. See **Appendix 12-01**.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATOR E-MAIL POLICY

Director Obrecht provided background on the Subcommittee on Legislator E-mail Policy. Director Obrecht stated that every email not identified as a security threat by the Legislature's Microsoft systems filters was delivered to the legislators' inbox, junk folders, or quarantine folders. Mr. Sara and Jamie Schaub, LSO Senior IT Strategist, described the work LSO completed during the 2025 interim to adjust Microsoft's spam

filter settings and educate members and staff on checking all of their email folders, while maintaining security. See **Appendix 2-09**. Mr. Schaub answered questions regarding whether junk-folder names could be changed, the feasibility of automatic delivery confirmations, and options for routing all junk mail into the inbox with clear labeling. He also addressed member-specific settings, vendor issues, and the extent to which individual legislators control their own email filtering and inbox management.

Representative Bear presented 26LSO-0291, Disclosure of quarantined emails, noting the proposed Management Council Policy 25-01, mirrored the bill draft and would be able to take effect immediately, while the bill draft worked through the legislative process. See **Appendix 2-10** and **Appendix 2-11.** Representative Bear explained the bill draft would require the LSO to create, maintain, and publish a list of quarantined emails, and release individual emails and email domains from being quarantined upon request. Representative Bear answered questions regarding specific language included in the bill draft and the impetus for it.

Public Comment

Drake Hill, attorney representing Honor Wyoming, provided additional background for the bill draft request and responded to questions from members of Council concerning Honor Wyoming, and the type and nature of emails sent by Honor Wyoming to legislators.

Committee Directives

Representative Bear moved that Council sponsor 26LSO-0291, Disclosure of quarantined emails. The motion failed with Vice Chairman Biteman, Senators Crago, Gierau, and Nethercott, and Representative Yin voting no. Council took no action on Management Council Policy 25-01.

UPDATES FROM LSO

Public Records Policy

Director Obrecht outlined proposed amendments to Management Council Policy 06-02, governing Public Records Act responses. See **Appendix 3-01**. He explained LSO seldom charges requesters and the revision raises the minimum threshold charge from $1 to $50 while updating references from "man hours" to "staff time."

Committee Directives

Council moved to adopt the proposed amendments to Management Council Policy 06-02 and the motion passed by a voice vote.

Travel Policy Research

Clayton Caldwell, Research Analyst, LSO outlined out-of-state travel reimbursement practices in six states. See **Appendix 3-02.** He reviewed Wyoming's current system, which allows limited travel without prior approval and permits Management Council to authorize additional trips. Mr. Caldwell described how other states vary in their use of leadership approval, reimbursement caps, or fixed stipends. Mr. Caldwell answered questions about legislative compensation models and administrative costs, and Ms. Kammerman reported recent Wyoming travel expenditures, noting a flat stipend model would exceed current spending levels.

House and Senate Courtesy Fund and Spouses Fund Annual Reports

Tamara Rivale, Legislative Counsel, LSO reported on the House Courtesy Fund, Senate Courtesy Fund, and Legislative Spouses Fund, noting the funds are operating smoothly under existing bylaws, expenditures remain limited to traditional legislative courtesies, required state filings have been submitted, and IRS Form

1024 will be filed to streamline future federal reporting. A formal audit is scheduled for the end of the next even-numbered fiscal year. Ms. Rivale reminded members that financial records are available upon request. Ms. Kammerman reported annual expenditures of approximately $23,500 from the House Courtesy Fund, $12,550 from the Senate Courtesy Fund, and $1,100 from the Legislative Spouses Fund, including a donation to the Hunger Initiative.

Management Council, sitting jointly and severally as the board of directors of the various funds, acknowledged receipt of the annual reports.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Biteman adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Chip Neiman, Chairman

Committee Meeting Materials Index

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1-02		Sign-In Sheet	Legislative Service Office
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2-02	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	26LSO-0169 v0.5 Gambling amendments.	Legislative Service Office
2-03	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	26LSO-0146 v0.6 Anti-money laundering.	Legislative Service Office
2-04	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	26LSO-0145 v0.8 Local approval for simulcasting.	Legislative Service Office
2-05	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	26LSO-0168 v0.8 Limitations on historic horse racing terminals.	Legislative Service Office
2-06	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	26LSO-0279 v0.4 Skill-based amusement games-licensed liquor establishments.	Legislative Service Office
2-07	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Management Audit Committee Report	Legislative Service Office
2-08	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Reapportionment Subcommittee Report of Findings	Legislative Service Office
2-09	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Subcommittee on Legislator Email Policy Follow Up Memo	Legislative Service Office
2-10	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	26LSO-0291 v0.3 Disclosure of quarantined legislator emails.	Legislative Service Office
2-11	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Draft Management Council Policy 25-01	Legislative Service Office
2-12	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Capitol Square Exhibit and Wayfinding Update	Legislative Service Office

2-13	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Visitor Guide to Exhibit Locations	Legislative Service Office
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2-16	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Off-Track Betting Locations	Public Comment
2-17	Reports from Select and Subcommittees	Historic Horse Racing Locations and Terminal Counts	Public Comment
3-01	Updates from LSO	Draft Management Council Policy 06-02	Legislative Service Office
3-02	Updates from LSO	Out-of-State Travel Research Memo	Legislative Service Office
5-01	National Conference of State Legislatures and Council of State Governments Utilization	LSO NCSL-CSG Usage	Legislative Service Office
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5-03	National Conference of State Legislatures and Council of State Governments Utilization	CSG West for Wyoming	Council of State Governments West
5-04	National Conference of State Legislatures and Council of State Governments Utilization	NCSL Services	National Conference of State Legislatures
6-01	Legislative Budget (Feed Bill)	26LSO-0256 v0.4 Legislative budget.	Legislative Service Office
6-02	Legislative Budget (Feed Bill)	2027-2028 Budget Sheet	Legislative Service Office
6-03	Legislative Budget (Feed Bill)	Budget Comparison Sheet	Legislative Service Office
9-01	2026 Budget Session Calendar	20-Day Schedule	Legislative Service Office

9-02	2026 Budget Session Calendar	23-Day Schedule	Legislative Service Office
9-03	2026 Budget Session Calendar	21-Day Schedule	Legislative Service Office
9-04	2026 Budget Session Calendar	22-Day Schedule	Legislative Service Office
10-01	26LSO-0018, Revisor's bill.	26LSO-0018 v0.2 Revisor's bill.	Legislative Service Office
11-01	Annual Agency Rule Report	2025 Administrative Rule Review Annual Report	Legislative Service Office
12-01	Lander Legislative Room Update	Emerson Building Layout	Legislative Service Office