



## Wyoming Group Attends AHA Annual Meeting

The American Hospital Association (AHA) Annual Membership Meeting was held in Washington, D.C. April 7th through the 10th.

Wyoming hospitals were well represented at the meeting by Wyoming Hospital Association (WHA) staff, five hospital CEO's and a member of a hospital Board of Trustees.

Sessions during the conference covered a wide range of topics of interest to Wyoming hospitals including "Ensuring the Future of Health Care in Rural America" and "Achieving Price Transparency".

Attendees were additionally provided an opportunity to hear directly from Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell, and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi about their priorities for healthcare over the next year.

While there is much disagreement between the two parties, one area of solidarity is around prescription drug pricing. The two sides appear willing to work together on this particular issue. There were other speakers throughout the conference to include leaders from HRSA and CMS, and healthcare policy experts from across the country.

The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for the WHA and its members to meet with the Wyoming Congressional Delegation and discuss Wyoming healthcare.

Attendees were able to speak with Senators Barrasso and Enzi and Congresswoman Cheney about repealing the CAH 96-hour rule and direct supervision requirements, protecting the 340B program, and once again delaying the implementation of DSH cuts now scheduled to go into effect October 1, 2019. Discussion also centered around balance and surprise billing. The WHA members offered to work on state solutions. Air ambulance bills were also a main part of the conversation.

The WHA expressed their gratitude to Senator Barrasso for cosponsoring legislation to repeal the 96 hour rule and direct supervision. They also thanked Rep. Cheney for cosponsoring

bipartisan legislation to help fix the CNA Certification Training lockout for the facilities.

The AHA has released their Rural Advocacy Agenda for 2019. Below are a few of the issues and policies for which they are advocating to congress:

- 1) **Ensure Fair and Adequate Reimbursement**
- 2) **Support New Models of Care**
- 3) **Remove Red Tape**
- 4) **Support Health Information Technology**
- 5) **Bolster the Workforce**
- 6) **Rein in Prescription Drug Prices**



**Left to right: Ryan Smith, Doug McMillan, Andy Fitzgerald, Representative Cheney, Ava Faus, Doug Faus, Eric Boley, Josh Hannes. (Not pictured Mike McCafferty and Terry Roark)**

### WHA Calendar

<b>CEO/Trustee Educational Program Casper</b>	<b>5/16</b>
<b>HFMA Spring Meeting Casper</b>	<b>5/22-5/23</b>

### 2019 PAC Contributions

**Barry Burkart  
Bren Lowe  
Margie Molitor  
Doug Faus  
Andy Fitzgerald  
Maureen Cadwell**



John Ferrelli

## John Ferrelli Named CEO of SageWest Health Care

SageWest Health Care has announced that John Ferrelli has been named chief executive officer (CEO) of the two-hospital system. Ferrelli, a 30-year healthcare veteran, will replace retiring CEO Alan Daugherty, effective April 22, 2019.

“We are grateful for the leadership Alan has provided at SageWest since he joined its team in 2017,” said Robert Wampler, president of LifePoint’s Moun-

tain Division, of which SageWest is a part.

“He has led important efforts to strengthen the quality of care and grow the services provided at SageWest’s campuses, and we are confident that John will further advance these initiatives.

John’s experience leading many types of hospitals in communities throughout the nation uniquely positions him to help SageWest succeed and expand the ways it serves the people of Fremont Cty.”

“John’s extensive knowledge and leadership experience in managing many types of hospitals will be a tremendous asset to our organization,” said Mike Bailey, chair of the SageWest Board of Trustees. “We are honored to name him CEO, and we look forward to working alongside him in our dedicated effort to making communities healthier.”

*Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight*

## 2019 Power of Rural Conference

This year's Power of Rural Conference will be held in Laramie, at the spectacular University of Wyoming Conference Center on Wednesday, June 5 - Friday June 7, 2019.

New to this year's conference are half-day pre-conference workshops to be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, from 1:00 - 4:30 pm.

We have the pleasure of Mary Otto, the Author of the book "Teeth, the Story of Beauty, Inequality and the Struggle for

Oral Health in America", as our opening Keynote Speaker.

Also joining us will be Cheyenne Mayor Marion Orr and Laramie Mayor Joe Shumway, to discuss the Importance of Non Discrimination and Healthcare Economic Development in Wyoming.

Other presentations include topics presented by representatives from the Studer Group, Wyoming Department on Aging (WyCOA) and Capital Link, HRSA and CMS to name a few.

There id s secured a block of rooms at a rate of \$119 per

night at the Hilton Garden Inn, Laramie, which is connected to the University of Wyoming Conference Center.

To secure a room, please call the Hilton Garden Inn at (307) 745-5500 and ask for the Wyoming Primary Care Association General Block . Rooms are limited, so make your reservation soon. You will need a credit card to secure your reservation.

For more information on the conference contact Kathy Johnson, at (307) 632-5743 ext. 10.

## Unpaid Internship or Capstone Project Opportunity

The Wyoming State Board of Nursing, Practice and Education Department will be offering an opportunity for an unpaid internship or supervised capstone project. The project would begin the summer of 2019.

This would be a great opportunity for a Master of Nursing Leadership or Education program student, no patient contact. Flexible hours. Please contact Jennifer Burns, P&E Consultant at 307-777-6127 for more information.

