



Wyoming Hospital Association

# News briefs

## Legislative Special Session to Begin October 26

Senate President, Dan Dockstader, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, Eric Barlow, have received a sufficient number of affirmative votes from a recent written poll of the members of the Sixty-Sixth Wyoming Legislature to convene a special session. The intended purpose of the special session is to address COVID-19 vaccine mandates.

The Legislative Service Office e-mailed ballots to all members of the Legislature on Oct. 11 at the direction of the President and Speaker to determine whether the Legislature should call itself into special session. The ballots were required to be post marked by Oct. 14. Proposed legislation, special rules, meeting schedules, legislator contact information and a video livestream will be made available on the Legislature's Website at [www.wyoleg.gov](http://www.wyoleg.gov) as they become available.

The Legislature plans to convene a three-day legislative session beginning on Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. If additional days are needed the legislature could meet on Nov. 1 and 2, giving the Governor the chance to veto any bills and the legislature a chance to consider a veto override.

The Legislature plans to hold committee meetings on Oct. 26, conduct a mirror bill process with all three readings occurring on Oct. 27 and hold joint conference committee meetings

to resolve any differences between the House and Senate versions of the bills on Oct. 28. This schedule requires a two-thirds vote to adopt the special session rules, which will be debated and voted on as the first order of business on Oct. 26.

Wyoming voters amended the Wyoming Constitution in November of 2002 to allow the Wyoming Legislature to convene a special session.

Prior to the passage of the constitutional amendment, only the Governor could call the Legislature into special session. This will be the second time the Legislature has invoked the authority to call itself into a special session, with the last time being in the Spring of 2020..

The rules committee met the afternoon of October 22 to discuss rules which will be voted on when the legislature gavels in on the 26th. At the time of the meeting there were 19 bills meeting the deadline to be introduced and considered during the special session with mirror bills in the opposite chambers.

The WHA has sent out invites to all Wyoming Hospital Association and LeadingAge Wyoming members to attend a virtual meeting on October 25th at 3:00 to discuss the proposed bills to be considered by the Legislature.

With the final rules still yet to be published by CMS and OSHA, and no clear direction of what the federal government will do with the vaccine mandate, there are many potential pitfalls and problems which could arise if the legislature passes bills contrary to the federal rules and laws yet to be enacted.



**2021  
Contributions**

**Goal: \$8,500**

**Contributions To Date:  
\$5,400**

**Barry Burkart  
Tim Thornell  
Robin Roling  
Carol Solie  
Irene Richardson  
Doug Faus  
Eric Boley  
Colleen Heeter  
Maureen Cadwell  
Mike Phillips  
Will Wagnon  
Doug McMillan  
Margie Molitor  
Terry Moss**



One of the items up for bid at our Auction is from Memorial Hospital of Converse County. They have donated a round of golf for 4 and dinner or lunch at the Douglas Community Club and Golf Course.

## WHA PAC Auction

[32auctions.com/WHA](http://32auctions.com/WHA)

**We have so many wonderful donations  
this year for the auction.  
You cannot bid until  
November 1,  
but you can go online and see what we have!**

**(There is still time to make a donation. Call Rose at 307-632-9344)**

## Cheyenne Regional Cardiac Cath Team Performs PFO Closure A 'First' in Wyoming



CRMC Cardiac Cath team after the procedure (and includes Cheyenne Regional President and CEO Tim Thornell at the far right and Cheyenne Regional Administrator of Cardiac and Imaging Services Casey Robinson at the far left)

Cheyenne Regional's Cardiac Catheterization team performed a "first-ever-in-Wyoming" procedure on October 14 to close a small hole between the upper chambers of a patient's heart.

The hole is present in everyone before they are born. It is supposed to close shortly after birth but stays open in about 25 percent of people.

In some individuals the hole (known as a patent foramen ovale, or PFO) can allow a blood clot to travel between the chambers of the heart and then to the brain, where it can cause what's known as a cryptogenic stroke.

This kind of stroke tends to happen in younger individuals. Being able to close a PFO can be a lifesaver for people who have already had one cryptogenic stroke or are at high risk. The procedure took less than an hour, and the patient was scheduled to be released from the hospital the next day.

"I'd like to thank and recognize Dr. Atman Shah, Dr. Abdur Khan, Dr. Arunptreet Kahlon and our entire cardiac catheterization team for bringing this groundbreaking procedure to our health system and region," said Cheyenne Regional President and CEO Tim Thornell. "It was a privilege to see how seamlessly the team worked together and the great result that was achieved for the patient."



Cheyenne Regional  
Medical Center



CRM Cthree interventional cardiologists who took part (from left): Dr. Arunptreet Kahlon, Dr. Atman Shah and Dr. Abdur Khan.