



2026 Wyoming Association of County Officers Conference Agenda September 22-24, 2026 UW Conference Center – Laramie, Wyoming

All events are held at the UW Conference Center unless otherwise noted.

All times and events are tentative and subject to change.

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Education Session- Artificial Intelligence for Elected Official: Governance, Ethics, and Practical Applications

As artificial intelligence continues to transform government operations, elected officials must understand its opportunities, risks, and governance implications. This panel will provide a practical overview of AI in public service, covering data governance, security, ethics, policy development, legal considerations, and responsible implementation. Participants will also explore AI's role in continuity of operations and disaster recovery while maintaining transparency and public trust. Designed for elected officials, this session will provide the knowledge needed to make informed decisions in an evolving technological landscape.

10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Education Session- Building Housing Solutions through Public-Private Partnerships: Strategies for Wyoming Communities

Wyoming communities are facing growing affordable and workforce housing challenges while balancing reduced revenues, infrastructure needs, and economic growth. This panel will bring together public officials, housing experts, economic development professionals, and funding specialists to discuss successful public-private partnerships that expand housing and support sustainable community growth.

Designed for elected officials, the session will explore the link between housing and economic development, including workforce recruitment, business growth, and community vitality.

Panelists will share practical strategies for leveraging public and private resources, overcoming development barriers, and accessing state, federal, and private funding opportunities. Attendees will leave with partnership ideas, funding resources, and actionable strategies to help increase housing availability and strengthen their local economies.

(Lunch is on your own)

1:00 pm. – 3:30 p.m.

Education Session- Doing What Has to Be Done: Principle-Based Leadership

Principle-based leadership is often described as doing the right thing, even when it is difficult. Yet, despite valuing integrity, most people struggle to consistently act in accordance with their principles. This talk explores why. Drawing on behavioral science, it demonstrates that ethical failures rarely stem from bad intentions alone, but from predictable psychological processes that cause people to overlook ethical issues, rationalize questionable decisions, and behave inconsistently with their stated values. The session then introduces a practical framework for cultivating principle-based leadership rooted in conscious preparation so that doing the right thing becomes more intuitive when it matters most.

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Sponsor Booth Set-Up (<i>booths may be set-up at any time between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.</i>)
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Albany County Welcome Reception <i>Location at Laramie Airport (transportation provided)</i>

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **WACO General Session**

- Presentation of the Colors
 - Laramie Fire Department
- Pledge of Allegiance & National Anthem
 - Baylea Vallier
- Invocation
 - Tim Snowbarger
- Local Welcome
 - Sharon Cumbie, Mayor of Laramie
 - Teri Jones, Albany County Commissioner
- President's Welcome
 - Karen Rimmer, Converse County Clerk
- Financial Report
 - Tracy Fletcher, Treasurer, Albany County
- Introduction of Sponsors
- Remarks by State Elected Officials:
 - Governor Mark Gordon
 - Secretary of State Chuck Gray
 - State Auditor: Kristine Racines
 - State Treasurer: Curt Meir
 - Superintendent of Public Instruction: Megan Degenfelder

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **Break and Sponsor Visitation**

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **Guest Speaker-** Jay Sawvel, Head Coach of Cowboy Football – University of Wyoming Athletics

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Individual Association Meetings**

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Break and Sponsor Visitation**

1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Individual Association Meetings**

Evening **Individual Association Dinners**

Thursday, September 24, 2026 – Red, White & Blue Day

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Individual Association Meetings
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Break and Sponsor Visitation
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch • Video Messages from Congressional Delegation ○ Senator John Barrasso ○ Senator Cynthia Lummis ○ U.S. Representative Harriet Hageman
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	WACO General Session • Call to Order • NACo Board of Directors Report ○ NACo Board Member Terry Wolf, Washakie County Commissioner ○ NACo Board Member Bill Novotny, Johnson County Commissioner • Adoption of Resolutions and Bylaw Changes • Memorial Ceremony • Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers • Presentations and New President Remarks
2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Break and Sponsor Visitation
2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	WACO General Session • Guest Speaker- Kent Noble
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	WACO General Session • Closing Remarks
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Social Hour <i>UW Conference Center (transportation provided)</i>
6:30 p.m.	WACO Banquet Theme: Red, White & Blue <u>Costume Contest:</u> Dress up as your favorite iconic American figure! <i>Location at UW Conference Center</i> • Door Prize Giveaways • Entertainment: American Soundwave, DJ Randall • 50/50 Raffle- all proceeds will go to: TeleHope