

**NOV. 19, 2020**

# VIRTUAL WYOMING BUSINESS FORUM

**SOLD OUT**

Don't miss this opportunity to participate in the conversation about Wyoming's future virtually. Topics include examining Wyoming school finance, elected officials discussing next steps and Wyoming Captains of Industry talk business.

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. EMAIL [KELLI@WYOBA.COM](mailto:kelli@wyoba.com)**

**WBA MEMBERS - \$50 • WBA NON-MEMBERS - \$100 • SPONSORSHIPS - \$1,500**

**[WYOMINGBUSINESSALLIANCE.ORG](http://WYOMINGBUSINESSALLIANCE.ORG)**

## GOVERNOR MARK GORDON

**10:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

Governor Gordon will give the opening address.



## WYOMING SCHOOL FINANCE

**10:45 AM - 12:00 PM**

More of the same or time for a change?  
Twelve years post *Campbell* are we where we thought we would be?

## U.S. SENATOR - ELECT LUMMIS

**1:00 PM - 1:30 PM**

U.S. Senator-Elect Cynthia Lummis will discuss next steps.



## BEYOND THE BOARD ROOM

**2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

Wyoming Captains of Industry discuss items of interest for business as we move toward 2021.

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center • Pirate Ship Power Company of Wyoming/ TransWest Express  
Sinclair Oil • Gryphon Investors • TATA Chemicals

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# WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

## 10:00 AM BRIEF WELCOME

### 10:00 AM **OPENING ADDRESS: GOVERNOR MARK GORDON**

Mark Gordon was elected Wyoming's 33<sup>rd</sup> Governor, on November 6, 2018. He was sworn into office on January 7, 2019. Before being elected to the state's highest office, Governor Gordon spent his life in the private sector working for a Fortune 500 oil and gas company, starting a tourism business on Main Street in Sheridan, and owning a movie theater in downtown Buffalo. Governor Gordon has ranched his whole life in Wyoming, and before his role in state government, he served on the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.



**Governor Mark Gordon**

## 10:30 AM BREAK ON YOUR OWN

### 10:45 AM **PANEL DISCUSSION: WYOMING SCHOOL FINANCE**

More of the same or time for a change? Twelve years post *Campbell* are we where we thought we would be? Our panel of experts will discuss the *Campbell* cases and the mechanics of K-12 school finance and the impacts to the State's budget.



**MODERATOR:**  
**Dicky Shanor,**  
**Chief of Staff**  
**Wyoming Department**  
**of Education**



Sen. R.J. Kost, Select  
Committee on School  
Finance Recalibration



Matt Micheli  
Partner, Holland & Hart



Michael O'Donnell, Former  
Special Assistant Attorney  
General for School Finance



Gail Symons, General  
Partner, Symons Ranch  
Limited Partnership



Sen. Jeff Wasserburger,  
Wyoming Legislature



## 12:00 PM LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 PM

### **AFTERNOON ADDRESS: U.S. SENATOR-ELECT CYNTHIA LUMMIS**

Born on a cattle ranch in Laramie County, Cynthia knows how to protect Wyoming values because she lives those values in her work and home life. From the halls of the Wyoming House to the halls of the U.S. House, Cynthia's time in public service has always been focused on fighting for Wyoming's future. First elected to the U.S. House in 2008, Cynthia quickly earned her reputation as a no-nonsense conservative and principled policymaker. Prior to serving in Congress, she spent eight years as Wyoming State Treasurer and 14 years as a member of the Wyoming State House and Senate.



**U.S. Senator-Elect  
Cynthia Lummis**

## 1:30 PM BREAK ON YOUR OWN

2:00 PM

### **PANEL DISCUSSION: BEYOND THE BOARD ROOM**

Wyoming Captains of Industry discuss items of interest for business as we move toward 2021. Discussion topics include: post-election reactions, public land policy/access, regulatory environment, revenue enhancements/tax climate, workforce needs, and changes for the workplace in 2020.



**Bjorn Borstelmann**  
CEO, Pirate Ship



**Scott Ellis**  
Managing Director, Tata  
Chemicals North America



**Bob Grady**  
Partner at Gryphon  
Investors



**Ross B. Matthews**  
Chairman and CEO,  
Sinclair Oil Corporation



**Roxane Perruso, COO**  
Power Company of  
Wyoming/ TransWest  
Express



**Tim Thornell, CEO**  
Cheyenne Regional  
Medical Center



**MODERATOR:**  
**Dr. Joe Schaffer,**  
President,  
Laramie County  
Community College

## 4:00 PM ADJOURN

# BUSINESS FORUM SPEAKERS



## GOVERNOR MARK GORDON

Mark Gordon was elected Wyoming's 33<sup>rd</sup> Governor on Nov. 6, 2018. He was sworn into office on January 7, 2019. Growing up on the family ranch in Johnson County, Governor Gordon learned the values of hard work and integrity and the importance of working together. As Governor, he brings those values to the table in pursuing his commitment that Wyoming continues to be a place where its citizens can pursue their dreams while retaining its unique character. He is a strong believer in Wyoming's ability to chart its own course and a staunch defender of its interests to do so. Governor Gordon is working on efforts to set Wyoming on a sustainable fiscal path and making government more accessible, productive and efficient. As part of those efforts, Gordon seeks to refocus government to better assist local communities with the tools and resources needed to thrive and set their own direction. He is also dedicated to ensuring that citizens have access to quality education, including safer schools, advanced degrees, and career and technical education opportunities. Governor Gordon served as Wyoming State Treasurer from October 2012 until January 2019 when he was sworn in as Governor. As State Treasurer, he led a transformation of the office resulting in improved returns on state investments, better protection of state savings, and increased transparency and access to state financial data for the public. His efforts to improve transparency surrounding the state's financial portfolio resulted in Wyoming being ranked number one in the United States for transparency and third in the world among all sovereign funds.



## U.S. SENATOR-ELECT CYNTHIA LUMMIS

Cynthia Lummis is Wyoming -- through and through. She's tough, tested and true to the place her family has called home for four generations. Born on a cattle ranch in Laramie County, Cynthia knows how to protect Wyoming values because she lives those values in her work and home life. From the halls of the Wyoming House to the halls of the U.S. House, Cynthia's time in public service has always been focused on fighting for Wyoming's future. First elected to the U.S. House in 2008, Cynthia quickly earned her reputation as a no-nonsense conservative and principled policymaker. Cynthia's deep knowledge of public lands, energy and natural resource issues led her to interview with President Trump for a position in his cabinet as Secretary of the Interior in 2017 and 2019. She also proudly served as a member of the Trump/Pence Transition Team. Cynthia was a founding member of the House Freedom Caucus, a group consisting of the most unflinching conservative Members of the House of Representatives. Prior to serving in Congress, she spent eight years as Wyoming State Treasurer and 14 years as a member of the Wyoming State House and Senate. Cynthia also worked as general counsel to Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer and Director of the Office of State Lands and Investments, as well as a law clerk at the Wyoming Supreme Court. Today, Cynthia operates her family's cattle ranches, and the Sweetgrass development in Laramie County, with her brother and sister. She is a three-time graduate of the University of Wyoming in animal science, biology and law.



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## **BJORN BORSTELMANN**

Cap'n Bjorn Borstelmann is the Chief Executive Officer of Pirate Ship. Born and raised in the Tetons, Bjorn's experience in ecommerce led him to realize how frustrating shipping can be for small businesses, and inspired him to start what's now one of the largest tech companies in Wyoming.



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## **CINDY DELANCEY**

Cindy DeLancey currently serves as the President of the Wyoming Business Alliance and the Wyoming Heritage Foundation. Prior to joining her current role, she served as the Director of Government and Public Affairs - Wyoming for BP's US Lower 48 onshore exploration and production business. Before joining BP, she served as the Carbon County and Prosecuting Attorney, a Special Assistant United States Attorney and the Executive Director of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association. Cindy has been a two time nominee for the Wyoming Business Report's Women of Influence award and is a Past Chairman of the Petroleum Association of Wyoming's Government and Public Relations Committee and served as the Chairman of the Wyoming Board of Law Examiners. Cindy graduated from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 2000.



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## **SCOTT ELLIS**

H Scott Ellis is managing director of Tata Chemicals North America (TCNA) and is a member of the Board of Directors. Mr Ellis has been with Tata Chemicals since 2011 as its Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary. A Certified Public Accountant, Mr. Ellis has been closely involved with the legal aspect of operations of the chemical industry since the late 90's. Prior to Tata Chemicals, he was Associate General Counsel & Assistant Secretary of General Chemical Corporation since 1997. In 2004, he was promoted to the role of Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary with General Chemical Industrial Products Inc. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Industrial Minerals Association/North America and, also, serves as Chairman of its Soda Ash section.



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## **BOB GRADY**

Bob Grady is an experienced and successful private equity investor and former senior level government official. Today, Bob is a Partner at Gryphon Investors, a middle-market focused private equity firm with \$5 billion under management. Mr. Grady serves as a Director of Gryphon portfolio companies Potter Electronic Signal (which makes fire safety equipment), Transportation Insight (which provides outsourced logistics services), and Pacur Holdings (which makes high performance packaging for medical devices) -- and he also serves on the boards of two larger public companies: Maxim Integrated Products, one of the largest makers of analog and mixed signal semiconductors in the world; and of Stifel Financial Corporation, a leading investment banking, brokerage, and wealth management firm. In Wyoming, Bob sits on the board of the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort.





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## SENATOR R.J. KOST

Senator Reynolds J. (R. J.) Kost has been a mathematics instructor, a coach, and the curriculum coordinator in Wyoming public schools from 1975 – 2018, when he retired. R. J. serves on the board for one of our local credit unions and Powell Valley Health Care. He is a member of the Park County Health Coalition, and Powell Economic Partnership. In his first term as Senator for District #19 in the state of Wyoming it is R. J.'s desire to give back to the community, the county, and the State. He serves on the Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration Select Committee on School Facilities, Agriculture, State and Public Lands & Water Resources Committee, Judiciary Committee, and the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision.



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## ROSS B. MATTHEWS

Ross B. Matthews is the Chairman and CEO of Sinclair Oil Corporation. He joined Sinclair in June 2000, serving as Vice President of Exploration and Production where he led the company's participation in pioneering the development of horizontal drilling and fracture stimulation in the Barnett Shale, America's first unconventional resource play. In 2009, he assumed his current position, managing the family owned, fully integrated oil company. For more than 100 years, Sinclair has produced transportation fuels for the traveling public and currently has the greatest refining capacity in the Rocky Mountain region. Prior to joining Sinclair, Ross was the General Manager, Russia for Benton Oil and Gas. He was responsible for opening the company's office in Moscow and for all company activity in the West Siberian Basin. Under his leadership, Benton initiated oil production in the Russian arctic and exported barrels to the international market. Prior to joining Benton, Ross held many positions over a seventeen year career with Union Pacific Resources.



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## MATT MICHELI

Matt Micheli is a member of Holland and Hart's Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources group. He has extensive experience with issues regarding mineral development on public lands. Matt has been listed in Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business and recognized by Super Lawyers as a "Rising Star." Matt helps clients work with the Bureau of Land Management, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Interior on a variety of environmental matters. He also works with state regulatory agencies to help clients receive and defend permits and navigate the regulatory process. Matt's experience includes federal and state litigation focused on environmental and natural resource issues. Matt also represents companies in oil and gas litigation in Wyoming and elsewhere around the country.



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## MICHAEL O'DONNELL

Michael O'Donnell is the Cheyenne City Attorney. Prior to that, he served as Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Wyoming and has practiced law for over 30 years. O'Donnell's previous work as Special Assistant Attorney General for School Finance focused on maintaining the constitutionality of Wyoming's school finance and school facilities systems. O'Donnell began his legal career as an Assistant Wyoming Attorney General and was an original member of the Wyoming natural resource litigation team. After leaving the Attorney General's office, O'Donnell opened a private practice which focused on personal injury and criminal defense litigation. Following that, O'Donnell became Assistant Federal Defender and provided indigent federal criminal defense in the Districts of Wyoming and Colorado. From 1996-2003, O'Donnell returned to private practice before returning to state government.



## **ROXANE PERRUSSO**

Roxane J. Perruso is Chief Operating Officer of two companies that are developing projects representing an estimated \$8 billion investment in the West's energy infrastructure: Power Company of Wyoming LLC and TransWest Express LLC. Both entities are part of The Anschutz Corporation, a diversified natural resources company operating in the West for over 60 years. Perruso also is Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel of The Anschutz Corporation. TransWest is developing the 732-mile TransWest Express Transmission Project between southern Wyoming and southern Nevada that will strengthen the regional electric grid and expand access to renewable energy. PCW is developing the 3,000+ MW Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project on a working cattle ranch in Carbon County, Wyoming. Perruso joined The Anschutz Corporation in 2008 with 25 years of experience across a broad array of legal, land use, real estate and environmental issues.



## **DR. JOE SCHAFFER**

Dr. Joe Schaffer currently serves as the President of Laramie County Community College (LCCC), Wyoming's largest community college. Since Dr. Schaffer's arrival at LCCC, the college has increased the number of degrees and credentials it has awarded to students by more than 25 percent. Prior to joining LCCC, Dr. Schaffer spent nearly a decade at Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology, serving in a variety of academic and administrative roles. At the age of 34, he was appointed the campus Dean and Chief Executive Officer, making him one of the youngest college CEOs in the nation at the time. He has also worked in non-profit, municipal, and private industry, including owning and operating a successful website design and Internet consulting company.



## **DICKY SHANOR**

Dicky is the Chief of Staff at the Wyoming Department of Education. He has served in that capacity for five and a half years. Prior to being Chief of Staff, Dicky was in private law practice in Cheyenne and a contract Assistant District Attorney for Laramie County. Dicky also currently serves on the Cheyenne City Council, the Wyoming State Bar legislative affairs committee, the Wyoming High School Activities Association Board of Directors, the Wyoming Department of Transportation TAP Committee, and is a member of the Cheyenne Kiwanis Club. He has been an adjunct professor at the University of Wyoming College of Law teaching an Education Law and Policy Seminar and served as the first Chairman of the Wyoming State Board of Mixed Martial Arts. Dicky has his J.D. from the University of Wyoming College of Law and his B.A. in Political Science from Yale University.



## **GAIL SYMONS**

Gail Symons is proud to be in the 4th generation of an Ag family established in Sheridan County before Wyoming became a state. After graduating from the University of Wyoming, her first career was serving as a U.S. Navy officer with responsibilities ranging from retail operations, program management and budgeting. A second career at General Electric included the Six Sigma Program, marketing and logistics. Gail returned full-time to her hometown of Sheridan in 2016 where her passion for community, service and civics has been the foundation of a third career. Her expertise in business processes resulted in appointment by Governor Mead to the Commission on Efficiency in State Government and she serves on the Transparency Working Group established by Governor Gordon and Auditor Racines. She publishes Civics 307, a non-partisan blog providing readers greater visibility to Wyoming Legislative processes and is General Partner for Symons Ranch Limited Partnership.



## TIM THORNELL

Tim Thornell is the President and CEO of Cheyenne Regional Health System in Wyoming. The system is comprised of Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC), 206 licensed acute care beds across two campuses, the free-standing Davis Hospice Center, Cheyenne Regional Cancer Center, Wyoming Institute of Population Health, and Cheyenne Regional Medical Group, the state's largest medical group. CRMC is a Joint Commission (TJC) accredited hospital with special TJC accreditations as a Chest Pain Center with PCI and a Primary Stroke Center. CRMC is one of America's 250 Best Hospitals™ designated by Healthgrades. CRMC is a CMS 5-Star rated hospital and an ANCC Magnet hospital, the only one in Wyoming to hold either designation. Prior to his role at Cheyenne Regional, he served as CEO of Lea Regional Medical Center in Hobbs, New Mexico for nearly eight years. He has held COO positions at MountainView Regional Medical Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico and Yakima Regional Medical Center in Yakima, Washington.



## SEN. JEFF WASSERBURGER

Senator Jeff Wasserburger has represented Senate District since 2015. Wasserburger previously served in the House of Representatives between 1995 and 2007. He taught at the secondary level for 16 years, worked as an associate building principal and athletic director for 14 years, and as a central office administrator for 4 years. He now works as the Executive Director of the Board of Cooperative Higher Education Services for Campbell County Board of Trustees. Currently, he served on the Energy Capital Economic Development board for seven years. He serves as the chairman of the Select Committee on Community College Funding Task Force and the chairman of Wyoming's Tomorrow Task Force. He also serves on the Minerals, Business and Economic Development Committee; Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee, the Select Committee on School Facilities; the Education Commission of the States, the Educational Attainment Executive Council and the Western Intercontinental Cooperative Higher Education task force. He is married to his wife Tracy for 36 years and has three children and seven grand children.

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