

RESOLUTION # _____

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER TO THE CHEYENNE-LARAMIE COUNTY
LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of Laramie County, Wyoming,
_____ shall be and is hereby appointed as a member of the Cheyenne-Laramie
County Library Board to perform the duties of said Board according to law for a three-year term
which will expire on June 30th, 2028.

PRESENTED, READ AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

BOARD OF LARAMIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

ATTEST:

Debra Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Reviewed and approved as to form:



Laramie County Attorney's Office

OATH OF APPOINTMENT

THE UNDERSIGNED does solemnly swear (or affirm) to honor and sustain the
constitution of the United States, the constitution of the State of Wyoming, and to faithfully,
honestly and impartially discharge all duties as a member of the Cheyenne-Laramie County
Library Board.

LARAMIE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER

Signature

Date

Witness

Date

APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Board/committee/commission: Laramie County Library System (LCLS) Board of Directors

Name: N. Denise Burke Preferred Name: Denise

Mailing Address: 2365 Pattison Ave. Home Address: same
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Phone: 307-630-7606 Spouse: --

Occupation: retired former elementary educator Self-Employed? consulting/lobbying contract

Employer/Name of business: former State of Wyoming, University of Wyoming, Platte County School Dist. #1

Address / Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Year Employed: 1979-2022 Years of Laramie County Residency: >30

Fax: _____ Email: DeniseGardnerBurke@gmail.com Cell: 307-630-7606

Education/Degrees: Juris Doctor (JD), graduate studies, Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Other community memberships: Womens Golf League, Bluestockings, League of Women Voters,
Wild Women of the West Book Club, Mariners, First Presbyterian Church

Please explain your interest in serving on this Board/Committee/Commission (attach additional pages if needed):
See attached sheet.

Signature: *N. Denise Burke* Date: May 8, 2025

Please return to: Laramie County Commissioner's Office
 310 W 19th St, Room 300
 Cheyenne, WY 82001
 Fax: 307-633-4267
 Email: commissioners@laramiecounty.com
 Phone: 307-633-4260

=====For Office use Only=====

New Appointment: _____ or Reappointment: _____ Term Length: _____ Year(s)

Full Term: _____ or Unexpired Term: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Comments: _____

I consider myself to have lived a very blessed life. My parents instilled a love of learning at an early age and libraries were our regular and constant friend. How I looked forward to wandering the stacks and picking out books that I wanted to read. As the saying goes, if you love books, chances are, you love libraries too.

As the years passed, my interest in libraries only grew. I could see they were more than mere repositories of book collections. They were our community's life blood where its citizens could gather for a lecture, a discussion group, or even a gathering place for friends to enjoy a cup of coffee and discuss their latest reading adventure. I believe libraries are places where anything is possible; you can travel the world, uncover hidden mysteries, research how to fix that nagging problem. Of course, my respect for libraries grew as I advanced from the local public library, through school libraries and into university and law school libraries. Each offered an additional layer of expertise and intrigue for this curious mind.

Even in our hyper-tech world, I believe libraries are an indispensable resource. As a high school English teacher, I feared that libraries might become obsolete as I witnessed students reading fewer and fewer hard copy books. But I soon learned that good libraries were meeting the needs of an ever-changing youth. I'm proud of how our Laramie County Library is meeting the challenge of growing technologies and I want to be a part of that evolving growth.

You asked, "Why do I want to serve on the Laramie County Library System Board of Directors?" Simply stated, I believe in libraries, and I am interested in balancing the needs of our county residents through our library system. Our libraries need leaders like me who understand their vital importance and the critical need for sound guiding principles to address the best interests of our constituents. I have the legal knowledge, leadership skills, and desire to protect our incredible resource—our public library. In a world where you can find the answer to any question you can think of with a simple Google search or AI query, our libraries must continue to evolve as the resource of knowledge, but also provide opportunities for community engagement, and public discourse. I understand the law and the need for First Amendment rights and protections and want to engage in protecting those interests.

In a small way, my participation on the LCLS Board would be a way to repay the valuable role that libraries played in my life, the lives of my book-loving children and grandchildren. Perhaps T.S. Eliot said it best, *"The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man."*

N. Denise Burke

N. Denise Burke

2365 Pattison Ave.

Cheyenne, WY 82009

DeniseGardnerBurke@gmail.com – 307-630-7606

Curriculum Vitae

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

Knowledgeable and experienced attorney, educator, & administrator with proven skills in law, higher education, leadership, and management. Special knowledge, skills, and training in legal practice, teaching, health, and student services. Excellent writing, public speaking, interpersonal communication, and legal skills. Successful background as government attorney, university associate dean, program director, policy analyst, and educator.

EDUCATION:

Juris Doctorate (J.D.) - Law

University of Wyoming, College of Law, Laramie, WY; Juris Doctor (JD)

- Concentration on health law and education law.
- Legal Research and Writing teaching assistant, Potter Law Club officer.
- Legal Services Clinic, Women's Law Forum.

Graduate Studies – English, Literature

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio

State University of New York, Geneseo, New York

Theatre/English/Secondary Education

University of Wyoming, College of Arts & Sciences

Laramie, WY; Bachelor of Arts (BA) with Highest Academic Honors

- Academic scholarship student, awards & recognitions
- Numerous theatre productions: acting, technical, design, directing
- Student government, club sports, and leadership roles.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

CONSULTANT/LOBBYIST – (2023- CURRENT)

- **CVS/CAREMARK/AETNA** - Subject matter expert on pharmacy, health, insurance, elder law, legislative process.

SENIOR HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING ANALYST – (2014 to 2023)

- **Wyoming Department of Insurance** - senior manager with oversight of state health law and policy, health insurance oversight, Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation and changes, departmental public information officer (PIO), outreach coordinator and presenter, legislative liaison, grant/contract management, administrative rules, legal research and writing. Co-facilitator for Governor's Task Force on Health.

LEGAL CONSULTANT - (2012 -2014)

Executive Director of Wyoming State Bar

- Manager/administrator of professional organization for Wyoming licensed attorneys.

Coordinated programs and projects with elected Board of Officers & Commissioners.
Supervised support staff, state bar programs and projects; responsible for annual budget, strategic planning, daily operations.

Executive Director of Wyoming State Bar Admissions

- Contract attorney with goal of developing and implementing the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE). Chaired committee and developed transition plans, rules, and educational program.
- Developed outreach and presented statewide programs regarding bar exam process, new admissions policies and procedures.
- Implemented revised bar exam testing methodology and processes.

Educational Consultant

- Contract consultant for educational programs, school districts, WY Education Association.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, COLLEGE OF LAW

Associate Dean – (2003-2012)

- Planned and coordinated all student-related services, including student recruiting, admissions, scholarships, financial and academic advising, honor code, disciplinary matters, bar preparation. Prepared course schedules, exams, publications, annual surveys and reviews.
- Instructed Education Law and Health Law & Policy courses. Guest lecturer in other academic programs including Education, Nursing, Pharmacy, Criminal Justice, English.
- Planned and coordinated College of Law academic, social events and special events/symposia.
- Assisted in developing College's goals and objectives, strategic plans, processes, and curriculum development. Facilitated/taught faculty workshops including Assessment & Evaluation, Student Learning Styles & Theories, Generational Studies, and Race & Ethnicity.
- Managed and supervised all clerical and support staff. Coordinated adjunct faculty hiring and evaluation.
- Promoted through University's Tenure & Promotion process.
- Participated in numerous university committees including Admissions and Scholarships, Academic Planning, Curriculum & Assessment, thesis and dissertation advisory committees.
- Faculty advisor for law student government, Potter Law Club. Judged numerous student events such as Client Counseling Competition, Moot Court, and Law Review.
- Represented UW Law on external groups including Wyoming Partnership for Civic Education (WyoPCE), Wyoming Board of Law Examiners, "We the People," and Access to Justice Commission. Facilitated State Bar's Lawyer Mentoring program, Women's Law Forum, Bar Exam Task Force. State Bar Annual Meeting.

STATE OF WYOMING, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Senior Assistant Attorney General – (1999 – 2003)

- **Director, Wyoming Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU)**
- **Special Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA), District of Wyoming**
- Served as Wyoming program director and prosecuting attorney for investigation and prosecution of Medicaid provider fraud/abuse and patient maltreatment cases. Investigation and prosecution of cases of vulnerable adult abuse, neglect, exploitation, and abandonment as well as national pharmaceutical pricing cases, for example.

- Supervised team of investigators, law enforcement, auditors, and clerical staff. Managed federal & state budget, statutory oversight of State Medicaid budget.
- Supervised and managed document-intensive cases of financial fraud and patient maltreatment in civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings in state and federal courts.
- Coordinated legal cases with Dept. of Health, U.S. Attorney's Office & U.S. Office of Inspector General.
- Represented the State of Wyoming and/or the United States in federal, state, and administrative court, and grand jury proceedings. Represented Wyoming in national health care and pharmaceutical pricing cases.
- Researched and drafted legal documents and memoranda; presented cases for jury or bench trials and conducted negotiated settlements; prepared federal reports; and presented lectures at numerous conferences on health care, Medicaid fraud and vulnerable adult maltreatment.
- Served on National Health Care Task Force and Executive Committee of the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (NAMFCU).

Assistant Attorney General – (1995-1999)

- Attorney/legal counsel for state agencies including Wyoming Department of Health, Wyoming Medicaid, Wyoming Department of Family Services, and Wyoming Office on Aging.
- Prepared policies, legal memoranda and opinions; represented agencies in court proceedings, administrative hearings and legislative committees; drafted and reviewed legislation and tracked proposed bills; promulgated administrative rules; and conducted numerous presentations and workshops. Provided day-to-day legal advice and counsel.

WYOMING SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Law Clerk – (1993-1995)

- Law clerk for State District Judges. Drafted decision letters, bench briefs, and legal memoranda; conducted legal research; managed case files and assisted judges.

PLATTE COUNTY SCHOOL DIST. NO. 1, WHEATLAND HIGH SCHOOL

English, Theatre, and Speech Teacher – (1979 -1990)

- Classroom teacher for high school language arts, grades 9-12. Classroom instruction, supervision, and course planning. English department chairperson. Taught English, writing, grammar, humanities, speech & debate; American, British, and World literature; theatre arts.
- Received excellence in teaching awards, including nomination for State Teacher of the Year.
- Facilitated district and state curriculum development; chaired committees/task forces including North Central Accreditation, School Improvement Model, Drug Free Schools, At-Risk Students Intervention, and Suicide Prevention.
- Directed numerous high school plays and musicals; state, regional and national drama/speech.
- Wyoming Educators of State Theatre (WEST) President.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, and INTERESTS (more available on request):

- A League of Her Own Acting Troupe, performances of "Wonderful Wyoming Women

Voters", the true story of women's suffrage in Wyoming, and "An Afternoon with Esther: the Story of Esther Hobart Morris."

- Author, monthly public service announcements (PSAs) for Wyoming Department of Insurance; press releases, web postings, feature stories, TV & radio interviews.
- Presenter for numerous entities on insurance topics including ACA, Open Enrollment, Health Insurance, Pharmacy, Elder Abuse/Neglect, Medicare/Medicaid, Employer Insurance.
- Presenter for state, regional, and national conferences including: National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), PIO interviewing and press writing; Western Conference of Civics Educators, *"An Interactive Approach to Teaching Civics in the Classroom"*; Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council (WICSEC), *"You Be the Judge; Ethics & Professional Responsibility"*; *"Rebuilding Trust & Confidence in the Court System"*; National Conference on Educational Assessment, *Legal Education at the Crossroads*, Wyoming Law Review Symposium, *"Health Care Reform and Patient Safety: Medical and Legal Challenges."*
- Author, multiple press articles. Wyoming Press Association; Wyoming Lawyer, *"Professionalism Beyond Compare," "Student Engagement: Preparing 21st Century Lawyers," "Be Good to the Mountain & the Mountain Will be Good to You," "Elder Maltreatment."*
- Student-selected Commencement speaker, UW College of Law, May 2013.
- Judge, "We the People" WY state finals, 2004-2025; National Finals, Washington, D.C.

ADDITIONAL INTERESTS

- Reading, life-long learning, civic engagement, hiking, sports, travel, theatre, music.

MEMBERSHIPS AND COMMITTEES:

- Governor's Task Force on Health. 2008-present.
- Bluestockings, a Women's Literary Society, 2019-present.
- Wild Women of the West book club, (2012-present).
- League of Women Voters (LWV). Cheyenne chapter, 2019-present.
- Wyoming State Bar. member in good standing, (1994-present, currently in retired status).
- National Health Care Advisory Committee, nationally appointed position.
- NAMFCU Executive Committee; NAMFCU Central States Rep., national speaker.
- Reforming States Group (RSG) – Millbank Foundation; 2015-2022.
- Access to Justice Commission, appointed by WY Supreme Court, 2009-2012.
- Hospice of Laramie Board of Directors, 2007-2012.
- Academic Management Institute (AMI)
- WY State Bar Editorial Board, *Wyoming Lawyer*.

REFERENCES: available upon request.

RESOLUTION # _____

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER TO THE CHEYENNE-LARAMIE COUNTY
LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of Laramie County, Wyoming,
_____ shall be and is hereby appointed as a member of the Cheyenne-Laramie
County Library Board to perform the duties of said Board according to law for a three-year term
which will expire on June 30th, 2028.

PRESENTED, READ AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.


BOARD OF LARAMIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

ATTEST:

Debra Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Reviewed and approved as to form:



Laramie County Attorney's Office

OATH OF APPOINTMENT

THE UNDERSIGNED does solemnly swear (or affirm) to honor and sustain the
constitution of the United States, the constitution of the State of Wyoming, and to faithfully,
honestly and impartially discharge all duties as a member of the Cheyenne-Laramie County
Library Board.

LARAMIE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER

Signature

Date

Witness

Date

APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Board/committee/commission: Laramie County Library Systems Board

Name: Kristine Rude Preferred Name: KRS

Mailing Address: 303 W. 8th Ave Home Address: Same

Cheyenne WY 82001

Phone: 307-706-5391 Spouse: Jeff

Occupation: Attorney Self-Employed? No

Employer/Name of business: State of Wyoming

Address / Zip: 109 State Capitol 82002 Phone: 307-777-7894

Year Employed: 2022 Years of Laramie County Residency: 15

Fax: N/A Email: Kristine.Rude@aphis.com Cell: N/A

Education/Degrees: B.A Journalism JD - University of Nebraska

Other community memberships: CFD Indians Committee ; PEO chapter #5

Please explain your interest in serving on this Board/Committee/Commission (attach additional pages if needed):

As discussed in my letter, I believe a library is essential to
a thriving community. I am interested in making sure our
top-notch library continue to function at a high level

Signature: KRS Date: 9 May 2025

Please return to: Laramie County Commissioner's Office
 310 W 19th St. Room 300
 Cheyenne, WY 82001
 Fax: 307-633-4267
 Email: commissioners@laramiecounty.com
 Phone: 307-633-4260

***** For Office use Only *****

New Appointment: _____ or Reappointment: _____ Term Length: _____ Year(s)

Full Term: _____ or Unexpired Term: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Comments: _____

May 9, 2025

Kristine D. Rude
303 W. 8th Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82009
rudefam@yahoo.com
(307)701-5391

Laramie County Commissioners
310 W. 18th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Members of the Board,

I request your consideration of my application for appointment to the Laramie County Library System Board. I have reviewed the duties of the position and believe that I would be an asset to the Board.

As I am sure is the case with all applicants, I am a life-long library patron and supporter. I grew up in a small town that had the good fortune of having a beautiful Carnegie library. Although that library did not have even a fraction of the materials available in Laramie County, similarly, it promoted knowledge and served as a hub for the community.

As an adult, I have moved all over the world and have seen and patronized many libraries of all sizes. Each provided a different level of service. But the Laramie County Library is, without a doubt, the best of them all at both supporting literacy and building community. If selected to serve on the System Board, I would do my best to enable the library to continue leading and growing in both of these important areas.

With the decline of traditional ways of socializing – churches, bowling leagues, civic organizations – I see the library as holding an increasingly important role as a community hub. As a result, the System Board will need to ensure that the library is able to focus on maintaining relevancy and meeting the needs of the community, while working within the budgetary constraints of uncertain times. I am qualified to participate in these processes because I have experience setting goals for the future and creating budgets to reach those goals in a variety of organizations. I have been a member of several women's groups that raise funds for charitable purposes, have served on my church council, and sat on the Library Foundation Board. I am analytical and take fiscal responsibility seriously.

I also believe that the System Board can only ensure the future success of the library if it ensures the success of the library's professional staff. In my opinion, the library has met the needs of the times while maintaining a focus on its fantastic materials only because of the top-level staff the Board has hired and been able to retain. Therefore, as a System Board member, I would focus on collaborating with and supporting the library's professional staff members to the maximum extent possible. Even where the Board must make the ultimate decision, there is value in working to bring the team to consensus around the path forward. In my professional life, I have worked in collaborative environments where success depended on the expertise of a variety of people. I would bring my skills in such settings to my work on the Board.

Finally, it is important to acknowledge that because of the tenor of our times, there is a real possibility that the Board might deal with difficult issues in the future. Although I have personal opinions, I am

cognizant that my role would be to forward the strategic goals of the library and not my own agenda. I am aware that the library has already established policies to deal with issues such as access for a growing homeless population and placement of materials deemed controversial. The Board and staff have dealt with these issues in a pragmatic and professional manner. As a System Board member, I would follow that same path in the future.

Thank you for considering my application. I would truly be honored to serve as a member of the Laramie County Library System Board.

Regards,

Kris Rude

Kristine D. Rude

303 W. 8th Ave.
Cheyenne WY 82001
307-701-5391
rudefam@yahoo.com

Profile

I am an attorney (Inactive Nebraska State Bar, Wyoming State Bar), retired Air Force reservist, military veteran spouse, and active volunteer.

As an Air Force judge advocate both on active duty and in the reserves, I prosecuted and defended criminal cases and administrative personnel actions, and drafted legal opinions in a wide variety of areas. Subsequently, in a variety of community organizations, I honed abilities to plan and schedule meetings, organize and compose complex written products, work cooperatively in groups and take responsibility for completing sensitive assignments. As an Assistant Attorney General, I brief and argue criminal appeals and represent the State of Wyoming in a variety of post-conviction matters.

Employment

Assistant Staff Judge Advocate
USAF

1990-1995

Held various legal positions to include trial counsel, defense counsel, Chief of Claims, Chief of Military Justice, legal advisor on FOIA, and legal advisor for flying evaluation boards. Counseled legal assistance clients, researched and wrote legal opinions on the full spectrum of military legal issues.

Assistant Staff Judge Advocate
USAF Reserves

1995-Oct 2009

Counseled legal assistance clients, acted as a hearing officer for a variety of administrative and criminal hearings, researched and wrote legal opinions on a wide range of civil and military justice issues, supervised and mentored junior judge advocates.

Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator
LifeNet, Cheyenne

2012-2014

Responsible for scheduling, facilitating and reporting on team meetings for juvenile and family court cases as requested by the Department of Family Services and the District Court. Facilitated civil and productive meetings regarding recommendations for case progression. Composed and delivered sensitive reports to the District Court.

Assistant Attorney General
State of Wyoming, Cheyenne

2022-Present

Represents the State of Wyoming in criminal matters in the Wyoming Supreme Court, the Federal District Court of Wyoming, and district courts throughout the state. Conducts research on related criminal and civil matters as requested to assist district attorneys.

Represents the Wyoming Department of Transportation in administrative DWUI hearings.

Volunteer Experience

Laramie County Library Foundation <i>Board Member</i>	2013-16
CASA of Laramie County <i>Advocate</i>	2011-2021
CFD Indian Committee <i>Member</i> <i>Vendor Subcommittee Chair</i> <i>Performers Subcommittee Chair</i> <i>Volunteer of the Year 2019</i> <i>Royalty Coordinator</i>	Present
PEO Chapter AJ <i>Recording Secretary</i> <i>Vice President</i> <i>President</i>	Present
United Way of Laramie County <i>Education Community Investment Review Panel</i>	2021-22

Education

B.A. - Journalism (News-Editorial) <i>University of Nebraska-Lincoln</i>	1983-1987 <i>Lincoln, NE</i>
Juris Doctorate <i>University of Nebraska-Lincoln</i> <i>With Distinction, Order of the Coif, Law Review</i>	1987-1990 <i>Lincoln, NE</i>

Skills

- *Computer literate with experience across a broad range of programs*
- *Experienced in writing and editing legal and professional documents*
- *Able when called upon to lead, plan, delegate and review activities of others*
- *Proactive, many past roles have required initiative and a willingness to implement a sometimes dramatic course of action*
- *Energetic and flexible, duties as military reservist, volunteer board member varied dramatically and often required long hours, demanding a flexible approach and a high energy level*

References

Available upon request