The attached document contains the Grant Narrative of a previously funded grant application. It is not intended to serve as a model, but to give you a sense of how a successful application may be crafted. Be aware that minor changes may have been made to the plan of work and other portions of the proposed project in response to comments made during the review process. Every successful application is different, and each applicant is urged to prepare a proposal that reflects its unique project and aspirations.

Prospective applicants should consult the NHPRC’s application guidelines at https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply for instructions. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with the NHPRC staff member listed in the grant announcement well before a grant deadline. Prospective applicants are also strongly encouraged to submit a draft application by the deadline listed in the grant announcement.

The Commission welcomes collaborations that target institutional advancement for small and underserved local archives and repositories, especially those with collections that focus on the voices and perspectives of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

Project Title: Creating a Network and Assessing the Needs of Smaller Archival Repositories in Wyoming

Institution: Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources

Project Director: Sara Davis

Grant Program: State Board Programming Grants
Creating a Network and Assessing the Needs of Smaller Archival Repositories in Wyoming

Project Narrative

The Wyoming State Archives, on behalf of the Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board (Wyoming SHRAB), submits this application for a State Board Programming Grant (Funding Opportunity Number: STATE-202106) with funding to begin no earlier than January 1, 2022. If awarded, the Wyoming SHRAB would ask that the grant start on July 1, 2022.

Overview

The Wyoming SHRAB is applying for a one-year, $39,762 State Board Programming grant. The SHRAB will use the majority of the funds to hire a part-time Project Archivist to identify and conduct a survey of Wyoming’s smaller repositories that house archival materials and represent a range of records stewards from Wyoming’s libraries, museums, and archives. The remainder of the grant would support our traditional activities: $5000 for up to two $2500 re-grant projects, and funds to sponsor two workshops to be held at different locations around the state.

In addition to an online directory created from these survey contacts, our intention is to provide for an information network between repositories to facilitate initial discussions on understanding, caring for, and providing responsible access to their collections. We plan to use the information collected and the network created as the foundation for a follow-up proposal to establish a traveling archivist program (TAP) in the state. As there is currently no existing list of Wyoming archival repositories, this is a necessary first step towards building a TAP.
The SHRAB will subcontract with the University of Wyoming’s American Heritage Center (AHC) to hire a Project Archivist position to implement this study and information gathering project. This arrangement is principally due to hiring restrictions for Wyoming state agencies. The AHC is a public research institution and one of the nation’s largest non-governmental repositories with more than 90,000 cubic feet of historically important documents, photographs, maps, and artifacts—as well as film, magnetic tape, and born-digital materials. The Project Archivist will be supervised by the Wyoming State Archivist jointly with AHC faculty archivist Brigida Blasi. Expertise from both institutions will inform and enhance the study phase for future implementation of a Wyoming TAP.

The objectives of this grant support central goals of the NHPRC to “expand access to the nation’s historic records” and to “enhance the capacity of small and diverse organizations with historical records collections.” They are also in sync with these Wyoming SHRAB goals: (1) “Facilitate access to and increase the use of Wyoming records.” and (2) "Develop a statewide cooperative approach for the preservation of Wyoming records of enduring value," something which will be greatly facilitated by the creation of a statewide directory and networking options.

The overall goal of this effort is to create the structure for a program that would provide much needed archival support to Wyoming’s smaller historical societies and museums (which are often combined), as well as to public libraries with local history manuscript collections. A general overview of their needs, as well as a desire for a state TAP, has already been established from a focus group meeting with directors and staff of small historical institutions conducted by Wyoming State Archivist Kathy Marquis and AHC Archivist Leslie Waggener in
November 2020. Focus group members were asked if they would use a traveling archivist program, what services they would find useful, and how best to approach smaller historical societies and museums in Wyoming. We discussed the value of in-person site visits and processing assistance. Finally, we asked if they would be interested in being ongoing advisors for the traveling archivist program (they were!)

Attending the meeting were directors of the Jim Gatchell Museum, the Campbell County Rockpile Museum, and the Cody Heritage Museum (two of these were SHRAB members), volunteers from the Park County Historical Society and the Albany County Historical Society, three staff members from the American Heritage Center (one was a SHRAB member and another was the former director of the Sweetwater County Historical Museum), the Digital Projects Librarian from the State Library (a SHRAB member) and the State Archivist. Marquis and Waggener found that these staff are very favorably disposed to some type of assistance but are not sure what to request. They are quite proud of their collections, but they are not trained in best practices for preserving and providing access to the archival portions of them. It was clear that archival materials are not a focus of their meetings with colleagues; most are absorbed in efforts to keep their doors open, especially after the Pandemic’s impact.

Marquis and Waggener also discovered through the focus group meeting that there is support for a set of regional archival “hub” institutions—repositories that are either larger and more established, or simply have better facilities to host in-person meetings and training workshops of the type that the Wyoming SHRAB has sponsored over the years. We plan to explore this type of hub system in the second half of this project, though it may be beyond the
scope of this grant to fully establish such a network. If the Wyoming SHRAB proceeds to a traveling archivist grant proposal, a hub network would be a goal for that program.

The recently released LYRASIS/NHPRC “Small & Diverse Archival Organization Needs Assessment Project” Survey Report will serve as an excellent baseline for our survey instrument. We will also be sure to compare some of its notable conclusions about space and budget needs, as well as its recommendations for regional collaboration, to our findings for Wyoming.

Anecdotal information has been gathered over the past several decades as the Wyoming SHRAB has successfully conducted a program of awarding small re-grants for archival preservation, digitization, and access and sponsoring training workshops across the state. This work has revealed several aspects of the archival enterprise in Wyoming:

- Many institutions with archival holdings do not have a listing, or much of any intellectual control of those holdings.
- They are more likely to identify as a museum, historical society/museum, or library (such as a public library with a local history collection) rather than as an archive. [Note, for brevity’s sake, we will still refer to any institution with archival holdings as an archival institution or repository in this document.]
- Many operate with librarians, curators, or archivists who do not have professional archival training, yet are often tasked with organizing and providing access to significant records holdings and backlogs.
- They are more likely to publicize and make accessible their artifacts and exhibits rather than their archival collections.
These repositories have small but rich archival and manuscript collections which are all but hidden to historians, genealogists, and other researchers; very few mention these collections on their websites and fewer have any type of catalog, onsite or online. The recent digitization projects from the Jackson Hole Historical Society and the Hoofprints of the Past Museum in Kaycee (see the list of recent regrant awards below for further details) are just the types of collections we expect to discover in our survey.

They are not in communication with each other to share experiences and resources in preserving those archival collections.

There is a tendency for the same few institutions to apply for Wyoming SHRAB re-grant funds. A corollary goal of this grant is to encourage applications from a broader spectrum of repositories for NHPRC’s re-grant support of smaller institutions.

These initial findings are enough to convince the Wyoming SHRAB that a state TAP would go a long way towards providing better organization and access to the historical records held in the state’s smaller repositories. What we need now is more specific information from the repositories regarding their holdings so that we can know how best to build a program to assist them. The SHRAB Board is aware of the traveling/roving archivist programs in existence elsewhere in the country and would look to those programs as well for guidance in this outreach phase and beyond.

If awarded, most of the funds requested will be used to hire a half-time professional archivist to connect with Wyoming’s smaller repositories. He or she would contact the organizations on a preliminary list of repositories in the state. We have been working from a list of 159 Wyoming museums, developed by the Wyoming State Museum. There are certainly
others yet to be discovered (we learned of two more just this month). We will add to this the list of Wyoming State Historical Society chapters, and a roster of county public libraries available from the Wyoming State Library.

The survey will ask respondents for their institution’s purpose, collecting areas/strengths, and contact information and name(s) of responsible staff. It will list the types of materials which are considered to be “archival” and ask if these materials are in their holdings. The initial approach will be a Google Form survey. We expect that a small percentage of repositories will respond to this online survey. We will plan to follow up with most respondents by phone, walking them through the survey in order to clarify any questions they have about what we are looking for. We predict that a number of the repositories on our list will not have archival collections - but that others will have significant archival holdings, yet not consider themselves an archives. The survey will have a conditional structure, so if they answer yes to the questions about archival holdings, there will be follow up questions about their interest in receiving assistance (of the type which could be provided by a traveling archivist) including caring for their collections or making them more accessible. The survey will help us identify archival collections in Wyoming, but also allow us to inform respondents of the existence of SHRAB funding, to gauge their interest in receiving future assistance from a TAP, but most significantly to learn about their perceived needs for their collections.

From information accumulated in the data gathering stage, the Project Archivist will produce a statewide directory of archival repositories—a first for Wyoming—and promote a statewide communication network for the staff of those repositories. The directory would include any institutions where we were able to confirm that there were archival holdings,
including the three repositories in the state with holdings of any size (over 1000 cubic feet),
which are the State Archives, the American Heritage Center, and the Buffalo Bill Center of the
West.

We also plan to promote networking among Wyoming’s archival repositories by working
with the existing state and regional networks to which these institutions may already belong:
the Wyoming State Historical Society, the Wyoming Library Association, the Colorado-Wyoming
Association of Museums, and the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists. Our goal is to find at
least one of those organizations within which to form a subgroup for archival institutions –
rather than create yet another professional association – and to institute a listserv that
members can use to communicate with each other.

We will also create a section of the Wyoming SHRAB web page to publicize any such
group. One or two pilot online get-togethers will be conducted to gauge the interest in this
type of communication. These will be informal and conversational, based in part on the issues
which surface via our survey.

Since we already know that many repositories with archival holdings in Wyoming are
not aware of best practices for managing those collections, one of the goals of this project is to
begin to build ways for staff at those repositories to receive training in these skills - and to
communicate with each other about the care of the archival portions of their collections. In the
second half of the grant project, the project archivist will reach out to the professional
organizations mentioned above. Each of these organizations has member interest groups
focused on issues like cooperative purchasing, school libraries, academic vs. public,
management, preservation, oral history, and so forth. We would seek to find a home for an
interest group for staff of Wyoming archival repositories, focused on managing the documents in their care. This group would be a “place” for staff of Wyoming’s museums, libraries, and historical societies to network about archival preservation, learn about training opportunities, ask colleagues for guidance or otherwise discuss archival issues, in their own region. Since most of these staff wouldn’t consider themselves archivists, they wouldn’t necessarily join or attend a conference devoted to archives. Wyoming is geographically large, so the emphasis on online meetings during the Pandemic would be a boon for this group, having familiarized some with technology which was new to them.

In addition, members of a few Wyoming museums have already discussed the idea of establishing regional “hubs” for museums around the state. The idea would be to broaden that to include libraries and historical societies. We are envisioning recruiting four to six institutions in diverse geographical areas whose facilities are large enough to host training sessions or regional meetings, tour each other’s collections, and share solutions for archival care and access. The “hub” locations will be physical places for gathering (unlike the networking which will most likely be virtual, conducted via email and online discussions.)

The Wyoming SHRAB Board seeks to also continue the regrant program it has administered since 2008. During that time, the Board has awarded nearly $100,000 to grantees in eighteen of the state’s twenty-three counties. These funds often go to small historical societies and museums. Without this money, the historical records in their care would receive little to no attention. Over the past ten years, the SHRAB has funded projects that focused on processing, preserving, digitizing and mounting online, exhibiting, and/or publicizing historical
records. The regrant program has encouraged small repositories around the state to consider making records accessible in ways they otherwise would not have been able to do.

We would like to continue to conduct a reduced set of our traditional offerings: two re-grant awards of up to $2500 each for projects making historical documents more accessible, and two workshops on caring for those collections.

In encouraging and evaluating re-grant applications, preference is given to projects which will increase access to Wyoming’s historical records, principally through digitization projects culminating in the placement of digitized files onto a website or other means by which the public can search the files on the Internet. Projects which seek to organize records prior to scanning them are also considered, as is funding for archival training opportunities, and support for consultants who can advance the goals of public access or professional training in Wyoming’s small historical organizations. All applicants are reminded of the necessity to show that their work is online, and to acknowledge the NHPRC and the Wyoming SHRAB for their support in all web, publication, and program presentations.

In the past few years, the Wyoming SHRAB has awarded re-grant funds to the following projects. A complete list of re-grant projects for the past decade and be found on the SHRAB website: http://wyomingshrab.pbworks.com/w/page/53272665/Grants%20and%20Reports

- The Eastern Shoshone Tribe Archives received $2500 to sponsor a two day records management workshop from Native American Development Corporation/American Indian Consulting Services. Tribal staff members learned best practices for managing their current records, as well as how to identify records of historical or legal value for permanent retention.
• Hoofprints of the Past Museum in Kaycee used their $1333.25 grant to convert sixty-seven VHS tapes of oral history interviews and local historical tours to digital format. They are planning to mount these files on their website for public access.

• The Hot Springs County Museum and Cultural Center in Thermopolis received $2500 to digitize photographs and other historical records of the coal towns Gebo, Crosby and Kirby, resulting in a searchable collection on their website.

• The University of Wyoming’s Coe Library is using their $2400 award to convert over 700 stereograph photos of Yellowstone (digitized under a SHRAB grant the previous year) to 3-D images. This process will allow online viewers to see the images in the lifelike way in which they were first seen.

• The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum received $2500 to process, rehouse, and digitize approximately 30 cubic feet of photos and negatives from the *Jackson Hole Courier* and the *Jackson Hole News and Guide*. These will also be shared with the public via exhibits, and a database used to assist researchers with their inquiries.

• As mentioned, the University of Wyoming’s Coe Library received $1,271.11 to digitize their collection of 400 stereograph images of Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park. They will make them publicly accessible through the UW digital repository portal and the Digital Public Library of America.

• The Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum spent their $2500 regrant to enhance the metadata description and accessibility of its photography collection. They plan to share this collection, which is already being digitized, via exhibits for the public.
● Sweetwater County Historical Museum, Green River, WY – Migrate their audiovisual material to electronic formats and produce a finding aid for the collection. ($2,080.45)

● Friends of the Wyoming Veterans Museum, Casper, WY – Create a website to provide access to the oral histories in the Museum’s collection. ($2,500.00)

● City of Cheyenne, Cheyenne, WY – Digitize historic building plans and make them available online. ($2,300.00)

● Sheridan County Historical Society and Museum, Sheridan, WY – Processing and scanning photographs from the Vacationland Studios Collection (1960-1990). ($505.64)

● Grand Encampment Museum, Encampment, WY – Scan materials from the Lora Webb Nichols Collection. Nichols was a photographer who documented life in and around Encampment during the early 20th century. ($2,426.00)

We have also sponsored workshops in a wide range of Wyoming locations on the topics of conducting oral history, managing your digital records, and the use of free tools (Exactly, MediaInfo, ExifTool, MDQC, and Fixity) designed to assist with data management and digital preservation. The digital records session was offered online as a webinar and is linked to the SHRAB website.

Our most successful and requested workshop has been on conducting oral history; we will plan to sponsor that topic, in areas of the state where we haven’t offered it before, at least two times during the grant period. We also hope to host the Colorado SHRAB’s “Archives and Digitization 101” workshop. It was postponed in 2020 but we hope that it will have been offered at least once by the time of this proposed grant period. The CHRAB presenters don’t
accept any payment for their work, so this should incur only minimal expenses for workshop supplies. We will use SHRAB funds if we have them remaining, if not, the State Archives will pay for those items. We have made a concerted effort to find workshop hosts in all four quadrants of the state, but also respond to institutions which approach us to host them. One of the goals of the regional hub concept is to develop “go to” institutions which can host workshops in diverse areas of our large state.

And, we have given a small grant ($1000) each year to support the Wyoming chapter of the American Records Managers Association, for their annual Spring Seminar. This comprises the main regional educational offering for records managers, and we are warmly acknowledged in their publications.

This past year, of course, we experienced a downturn in our SHRAB activities, due to the Pandemic. We advertised our usual re-grants to Wyoming archival and historical organizations, but had only one successful application. This was from a previous applicant, the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum to continue working on organizing, scanning, and mounting online a large collection of photographs from local newspapers. We also had to postpone oral history and digitization workshops we had planned for 2020, but are hoping to gear up for those again later in 2021.

**Products**

- Project Archivist position description.
- Review work of other traveling archivist programs, with a focus on outreach efforts.
- Outreach and follow up plan for contacting each institution, including survey.
- Summary report on needs of Wyoming’s archival repositories, based on contacts and surveys.
- Directory of Wyoming institutions with archival holdings.
- Lay the foundation for a network of Wyoming archival institutions, including a listserv, subgroup designation within an established professional group, and a pilot series of informal online meetings.
- Final products of up to two re-grants to Wyoming archival institutions for preservation of and access to historical records, including online presence for any digitization.
- Two workshops conducted on preservation of and access to historical records at different locations in Wyoming.
- Interim and final report to NHPRC.

Publicity

Publicity will involve both public dissemination efforts and relationship-building. Public dissemination will occur on several fronts. The Wyoming State Archives and the AHC will write media releases that will be distributed around the state. Both institutions also use social media and press channels that can create content to attract attention. Articles describing our information gathering efforts will be published in the Wyoming State Historical Society’s newsletter *Wyoming History News* which comes out ten times per year. The Society also has a
Facebook channel through which the program can be advertised. Publicity through listservs and newsletters of the Wyoming Library Association, the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists, the Society of American Archivists, and the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums can also alert repository personnel about this program. A successful tool the AHC has employed in the past is underwriting through Wyoming Public Radio. WPR has a statewide reach and can assist us in outreach. Finally, Wyoming SHRAB Board members will serve as important links to repository staff. Several of the Board members are themselves staff or directors of smaller museum/historical societies; their knowledge of their colleagues and the support they need will be invaluable to the person hired to coordinate this work.

Relationship building will occur in this data gathering phase as it involves direct contact with state repositories. Wyoming is a “small town with long streets” so a personalized approach goes a long way in making a program like this successful. Sustaining relationships can occur with follow-ups onsite (if possible) or by phone or email but also through several virtual “happy hours” to check in and have informal discussions between the Project Archivist, archives and museum professionals, and staff and volunteers in state repositories. The happy hour approach could be in-person when onsite workshops are scheduled. Other types of informal gatherings could be arranged as well, such as virtual or in-person coffee hours.

Plan of Work

First six months

- Select up to two re-grant proposals for funding of up to $2500 each. Applications will have been solicited in the Spring of 2022.
• Hire Project Archivist to start with research on archival needs in Wyoming and outreach to repositories.

• Arrange Zoom meetings between new Project Archivist and experienced Traveling Archivists such as Rachel Onuf in Vermont to discuss this type of position. Several Board members, plus the State Archivist, will help direct these discussions.

• Draft initial list of historical societies, archives, museums, public libraries, and other repositories that have archival holdings with a main contact for each institution.

• Develop survey for contact interviews, with input from State Archivist, AHC faculty member, and SHRAB Board; determine format for responses; send to list.

• Receive/analyze survey results; conduct follow ups for non-respondents, online or in-person, as appropriate, working with SHRAB Board members where appropriate.

• Draft report, with recommendations for identifying the major needs of Wyoming repositories, best approach for seeking applicants for a future TAP program, and for delivering services.

• File interim report to NHPRC.

Second six months

• Complete write-up of survey results, including recommendations for best TAP services to offer and how to structure future TAP work.

• Complete directory of Wyoming archives. Included will be organizational mission, collection strengths and rough size of the archival holdings, and main contact information.
• Confirm hosting of archival institution discussion subgroup in established regional professional association. The purpose of this group will be to foster informal networking between staff with archival holdings, as well as sharing information on training opportunities.

• Build and publicize network of subgroup members.; Promote concept of regional hub institutions and recruit possible sites.

• Conduct a pilot series of online meetings for members, each with a discussion theme.

• Confirm and offer at least two workshops in diverse locations around the state.

• File final report to NHPRC

**Staff Qualifications**

The proposed program will be staffed by a person hired with the grant funds. A teleworking option will be considered as Wyoming has a very small pool of preferred candidates, professionally trained archivists. A position description is included in the supplementary materials in the grant proposal. The job ad will be placed in venues such as Archives Gig, the Society of American Archivists Career Center, and the University of Wyoming website for prospective employees. Hiring will be conducted by the Wyoming State Archivist along with a hiring committee composed of SHRAB Board members and staff from the AHC.

The Project Archivist’s direct supervisor will be the Wyoming State Archivist. This position is currently occupied by Kathy Marquis (kathy.marquis@wyo.gov; 307-777-8691; Wyoming State Archives, 2301 Central Ave., Cheyenne WY 82002) though she will be retiring in September 2021. The responsibility for supervising the Project Archivist (if we are awarded
this funding) has been written into the job description for the new State Archivist who should also be on board by September of 2021. Supervising this project will be an excellent way for the new State Archivist to learn more about colleagues throughout the state, which is part of their larger mandate. Brigida Blasi, AHC faculty archivist (bblasi@uwyo.edu; 307-766-2580; American Heritage Center, 1000 E. University Ave. Laramie, WY 82071) will also provide supervision for the Project Archivist. Ms. Blasi has an MA in Public History from New Mexico State University. She served as the Acting and then Executive Director of the Sweetwater County Historical Museum in Green River, WY from 2016 through 2020, and is now the Public History Educator at the American Heritage Center. Her work at the Museum as well as curatorial and research positions, and board memberships, at several local museums in New Mexico and Wyoming, will be invaluable to our Project Archivist, particularly in working with staff in similar small historical agencies for this project. Resumes for Marquis and Blasi are included in this proposal.

Staff support will continue to be provided by Pat Newbern, Records Analyst with the Wyoming State Archives (pat.newbern@wyo.gov; 307-777-8907; 2301 Central Ave., Cheyenne WY 82002.)

Performance Objectives

- Submit interim and final reports to NHPRC.
- Acknowledge the Commission in all print and electronic products.
- Provide cost share that meets or exceeds the amount approved by the NHPRC.
- Hire the Project Archivist.
- Award up to two re-grants for archival projects.
- Conduct two workshops to be presented at different locations.
- Contact the 250 known Wyoming historical organizations (archives, libraries, museums, historical societies) and conduct survey.
- Write report of findings from this survey on archival institutions in Wyoming and their conditions and needs.
- Create a directory of Wyoming institutions with archival holdings to be hosted on the State Archives’ SHRAB web page.
- Build and publicize network of members as part of a state/regional professional association.
- Conduct several pilot online meetings for members, each with a discussion theme.
- Administer up to two re-grant projects, including requiring acknowledgement of NHPRC in all publicity and online, and making digitized results available online if possible.

**Partners and supporters**

Our partner for this project is the American Heritage Center, a large manuscript repository at the University of Wyoming which also acts as the UW Archives. The attached letter from Director, Paul Flesher, clarifies their willingness to commit staff time to this effort, including subcontracting with the Wyoming SHRAB to hire the project archivist as part of their staff.

Attached are also letters from Jamie Markus, Wyoming State Librarian, Tom Rea, of the Wyoming State Historical Society’s WyoHistory.org online encyclopedia, Leslie
Waggener, President of the Wyoming State Historical Society, and Robert Henning, Director of the Campbell County Rockpile Museum. These letters are included to show the broad support for this project by local stakeholders. They represent several of the regional professional associations whom we plan to approach to consider hosting a subgroup of staff from Wyoming’s archival collections (Markus and Waggener), as well as a local historian who is eager to learn about the archival holdings we uncover (Rea) and the director of a museum who is among those who would participate in the trainings and networking opportunities the project would foster (Henning.)

Evaluation

Communication and networking is a large component of this grant project. The iterative process of determining benefits to Wyoming repositories is baked into the project. The project archivist will remain in contact with participants throughout the grant period (and thereafter) to ascertain if the survey is successful in determining repository needs, with an eye on meeting those needs through establishment of a traveling archivist program as a next step. We will be attentive to replies and comments from repositories and, in fact, they will shape the creation of Wyoming TAP. Those replies and comments will also be reflected in our final grant report.

The SHRAB hopes to update its strategic plan and reflect on its traditional programming during the next year. But, in a sense, this grant proposal is the culmination of several years of reflecting on those programs: the regrants seem to attract the same
few applicants year after year. The Board has felt that many Wyoming institutions with archival holdings are not connecting with archival best practices because they don't consider themselves to be archivists. This grant, by identifying the institutions throughout the state who do have archival holdings will be revealing an unseen community of archival records stewards. First we need to discover who they are. Then we want to determine the best way to connect them and serve them better with archival training and consultation.

**Supplementary Materials**

- Resumes for Brigida Blasi, Kathy Marquis
- Job description for Project Archivist
- Roster of current/proposed WY SHRAB Board members
- Statements of commitment to the project by partners
  - Jamie Markus, Wyoming State Librarian
  - Robert Henning, Director, Campbell County Rockpile Museum
  - Paul Flesher, Director, American Heritage Center
  - Tom Rea, Editor, Wyohistory.org, including the Wyoming Encyclopedia
  - Leslie Waggener, President, Wyoming State Historical Society