



LARAMIE COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Planning • Building

MEMORANDUM

TO: Laramie County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Dan Peters, Chief Building Official

DATE: April 15, 2025

SUBJECT: 2024 International Fire Code Adoption

Executive Summary

Laramie County has been the issuing authority for building permits since the County adopted the International Building Codes in 2003. From 2003 to 2008 the County contracted with the City of Cheyenne to provide permitting and inspection services. In 2008 Laramie County initiated its own Building Division and began issuing and managing all building permits within the unincorporated boundaries of Laramie County. The State of Wyoming, under State Statute § 35-9-121, has delegated authority to Laramie County to “enforce and interpret local or state building, existing building and electrical safety standards which meet the requirements” of § 35-9-121.

The State of Wyoming Department of Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety has adopted the updated 2024 editions of the International Building Codes. Wyoming Statute § 35-9-121(a)(ii) requires that municipalities or counties that have been granted local enforcement authority shall within six (6) months following adoption of new codes by the State of Wyoming Department of Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety, shall adopt or maintain standards by ordinance or resolution that at least meet the adopted statewide standards. Laramie County desires to continue to act as the issuing local authority and as such intends to adopt the 2024 updated editions of the International Building Codes in accordance with State Statutes.

Adoption of any regulation must occur under the rule making requirements of Wyoming State Statute § 16-3-103. A 45-day notice period and opportunity for public input is required prior to any adoption of rules. On February 18, 2025, the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners approved resolution # 181016-17 giving public notice of Laramie County’s intent to adopt the 2024 IFC Code.

At the time that the staff report was prepared, the Laramie County Clerk's Office and the Laramie County Planning and Development Office had received no comment from the Public.

The Laramie County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on this matter at their April 10, 2025 meeting.

Recommendation and Findings

Staff recommends the adoption of the 2024 International Fire Code with amendments.

Proposed Motion

I move to approve the adoption of the 2024 International Fire Code with the proposed amendments to the code.

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INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE WITH AMENDMENTS**

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RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 EDITION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE WITH AMENDMENTS**

WHEREAS, Wyo. Stat. §§ 18-5-201 and 18-5-301 authorize Laramie County, in promoting the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the county, to regulate the subdivision, use, location, design of land and buildings in unincorporated Laramie County; and

WHEREAS, Laramie County has been granted local enforcement authority by the Wyoming State Fire Marshall; and

WHEREAS, Wyo. Stat. § 35-9-121 authorizes Laramie County to adopt electrical, mechanical and building codes applicable in unincorporated Laramie County establishing minimum regulations governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures essential to ensure that property, buildings and structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and

WHEREAS, Wyo. Stat. § 35-9-121 the State Fire Marshal has delegated interpretation and enforcement as well as transfer of jurisdiction for same from the State of Wyoming for fire, building, existing building standards and electrical safety standards as well as sole plan review authority in accordance with Wyo. Stat. § 35-9-107(a)(iv) to Laramie County; and

WHEREAS, Wyo. Stat. § 35-9-121(a)(ii) requires counties where local enforcement has been granted to adopt new standards within six months of the adoption by the State of Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wyoming adopted the 2021 edition of the International Building Codes, including the 2021 edition of the International Fire Code and the State adopted these new standards on July 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners find remaining a local enforcement authority is important to the health, safety and welfare to citizens of the County, and wish to continue to act as the local enforcement authority under State Statute; and

WHEREAS, the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners has complied with the requirements of Wyo. Stat. § 16-3-103(a) by providing an opportunity for public comment and a public hearing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING, as follows:

Section 1. Short Title. The Regulations adopted by this resolution shall be known as the "2024 Amendments to the Fire Code Regulations of Laramie County".

Section 2. 2024 International Fire Code Adopted. The Board of County Commissioners for Laramie County, Wyoming, for the purpose of prescribing regulations that provide a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in buildings, structures and premises and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations and providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore, adopts the International Fire Code, 2024 Edition, as published by the International Code Council, Inc., and including Appendices “B”, “C”, “D”, “E”, “F”, “G” and “H” and the whole thereof, save and except such portions as are herein deleted, added, modified or amended. A copy of the code has been filed in the office of County Planning and Development, and the same is hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein and from the date of adoption. These provisions shall be controlling within the unincorporated areas of the County.

Section 3. Amendments, Additions, and Deletions. The following sections of the International Fire Code, 2024 Edition, as published by the International Code Council, Inc., and including Appendices “B”, “C”, “D”, “E”, “F”, “G” and “H” and the whole thereof, save and except such portions as are herein deleted, added, modified, or amended to as follows:

A. **Section 101.1 Title** shall read as follows:

These provisions shall be known as the Fire Code Regulations of Laramie County and shall be cited as such and will be referred to herein as “this code.”

B. **Section 101.3 Purpose** is amended to read as follows:

The purpose of this code is to establish the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practice for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new buildings, structures and premises and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

C. **Section 103.1. General** shall read as follows:

The department of fire prevention for purposes of these Fire Code Regulations shall be the Laramie County Planning and Development Department. The official in charge thereof shall be known as the building official. For the purposes of this code the fire code official shall be the building official.

D. **Section 103.2 Appointment** is deleted in its entirety.

E. **Section 105.1.2 Types of Permits** is amended to read as follows:

There shall be one type of permit for Laramie County.

Construction Permit: a construction permit is to allow the applicant to install or modify systems and equipment for which a permit is required by Section 105.7.

F. **Section 105.6 Required construction permits** is deleted in its entirety.

G. **Section 107 Fees** shall read as follows:

The schedule of fees are those fees adopted and published by the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners each July 1.

H. **Section 107.6 Refunds** is amended to read as follows:

The building official may authorize refunding of any fee paid hereunder which was erroneously paid or collected. The building official may authorize refunding of not more than 80% of the permit fee paid when no work has been done under a permit issued in accordance with this code. The building official may authorize refunding of not more than 80% of the plan review fee paid when an application for a permit for which a plan review fee has been paid is withdrawn or canceled before any plan reviewing has been done. The building official shall not authorize refunding of any fee paid except on written application filed by the original permittee not later than 180 days after the date of fee payment.

I. **Section 111.1 Board of appeals established** shall read as follows:

The Board of Appeals for purposes of these regulations shall be the board of appeals as established by the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners. The establishing resolution by Laramie County for the Board of Appeals shall govern the membership and procedures of the board. A final decision by the board of appeals shall be final for purposes of the Wyoming Administrative Procedures Act.

J. **Section 112 Violation** shall read as follows:

Any person violating any provision of these regulations shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor. Each and every day or portion thereof during which a violation of any provision of such regulations is committed, continued or permitted shall constitute a separate offense. Upon conviction, such person may be punished by a fine of not more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) for each offense. (Wyo. Stat. §§ 18-5-201 through 18-5-207) and/or pursuant

to the penalty provisions of Wyo. Stat. § 35-9-130 (as amended).

K. Section 113 Stop Work Order shall read as follows:

Upon notice from the code official that work is being performed contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe matter, such work shall immediately cease. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property, the owner's authorized agent, or the person doing the work. The notice shall state the conditions under which work is authorized to resume. Where an emergency exists, the code official shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work. Any person violating a stop work order issued in accordance with these regulations shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor. Each day or portion thereof during which a violation of any provision of such regulations is committed, continued or permitted shall constitute a separate offense. Upon conviction, such person may be punished by a fine of not more than Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$750.00). (Wyo. Stat. §§ 18-5-201 through 18-5-207) and/or pursuant to the penalty provisions of Wyo. Stat. §§ 35-9-130 (as amended).

L. Chapter 46 Exceptions is created to read as follows:

Section 4601. These Regulations shall not apply to any of the following:

1. Agricultural structures as defined by the 2021 International Building Code;
2. Mines and their appurtenant facilities, oil field operations, petroleum refineries and liquefied petroleum gas facilities;
3. Railway shops, railway buildings (except those used for public assembly, cafeterias, dormitories, etc), rolling stock and locomotive equipment;
4. Automotive equipment employed by a railway, gas, electric or communication utility in the exercise of its function as a public utility;

Section 4. Repealer. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this resolution is, for any reason, held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

Section 5. Effective Date. These 2024 Fire Code Regulations and amendments of Laramie County and amendments shall become effective on April 15, 2025.

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

BOARD OF LARAMIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Gunnar Malm, Chairman

ATTEST:

Debra K. Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Reviewed and approved as to form:

Laramie County Attorney's Office

