

## **2019 Board of Directors**

I am very honored to be serving amongst great talent this year. We have a mix of new and seasoned volunteers, as well as a great staff. I look forward to working with everyone in order to move our association forward. Thank you to each of our volunteers as they set aside time from their professional and family lives to contribute their talents to the Wyoming Realtor Association, as well as to our President, Dennis Baker. I hope you have all taken time to read his newsletter published on our Wyoming Realtor page and on our website – great stuff! The leadership team is looking for input, support, and participation from our membership. Please know that we are all available at any time, and we encourage you to be an active member of our association, be it locally or on a State level.

## **Strategic Plan**

The Strategic Planning session we attended in January gave us a chance to target goals that will help strengthen our association and keep us moving forward into the future. Among the goals were targeted were Advocacy, Communication, Board of Director Roles, and Leadership Culture. I have had the chance to communicate with the board members and discuss how we might implement strategies to reach the goals discussed –being proactive, connecting with the local boards throughout the State, engaging our individual membership, working on the Wyoming Realtor Image, and telling our positive story of our efforts of Advocacy. We each want to make certain our positions are relevant, functional, purposeful, and provide value. As our Board of Directors submit their reports, please take time to read them and see the good work planned, the input needed, and the opportunities to help serve on one of our committees.

## **Advocacy**

It is my goal to contribute to our leadership culture by continuing to gain knowledge, increase spheres of influence, and strengthen the association by learning how we can best serve our communities.

I had the opportunity to visit the Jonah Center last week for the State legislative session, attending a few of the standing committee meetings, speaking with legislators, and watching the action in the chambers of the Senate and the House. I want to take a moment to thank Laurie Urbigkit for her work -- the information is overwhelming, her effort is tireless, and the cramped rooms they sit in for hours is not to be envied!

I also spent time at the Wyoming Business Council, learning about the opportunities they seek and their efforts to help our communities, specifically, economic development and developing and implementing comprehensive, efficient plans for self-reliance. Housing is a main factor along with workforce to help our economies grow, and our Realtor efforts are in line in promoting the general well-being of people and business. We serve as protectors of private property rights and the advocate for a healthy economy thru protecting our industry and businesses...and of course, we're all interested in affordable housing efforts.

Finally, I attended a meeting hosted by the Wyoming Chamber of Commerce. Their mission is to also advocate for policies that support a healthy business environment throughout the State. Knowing all the programs and initiatives available to our communities is part of how we give back to our quality of life in our own backyards. My hope is to convey this wealth of information to all of you, so that we can continue to enforce and grow out mission.

## **Convention 2019**

I met with the Laramie Board President, Tom Ver Ploeg, as well as members of the Laramie City Council, to begin planning and initiate local board help for the convention in Laramie in September. The UW schedule was released, and there will be a home football game the weekend of September 14<sup>th</sup>! We will be reaching out to affiliates for sponsorships, so if you have a contact and know of someone who would like to participate in fall convention, please let me know!

**I look forward to spending time with you all at Legislative meetings next week!**