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RENT INCREASE

'A MESS AND A SHOCK:' MOBILE HOME OWNERS LACK PROTECTIONS



HANNAH WARD, STAR-TRIBUNE

Westside Mobile Home Court resident Lynette Grant began rallying her neighbors after a 56% lot rent increase was announced for 2026.

In Wyoming, legal recourse options for mobile home owners who lease land are almost nonexistent

HANNAH WARD
Casper Star-Tribune

When Lynette Grant woke up in late October to a notice detailing a 56% jump in rent taped to the door of her mobile home, it didn't take long to start questioning why the increase was so drastic — and how it was even allowed.

Grant worried what the surge from \$400 to \$625 beginning in

January 2026 would mean for her neighbors in Westside Mobile Home Court in Mills on fixed incomes and brought her concerns to a city of Mills work session in November, where she was informed the city had little power to help the community.

In the aftermath of the lot rent increase notice, Grant's research pointed her to a glaring issue for seeking recompense: Wyoming

has the least protections for mobile home owners who lease land of nearly any state.

In Wyoming, there is no law dictating how far in advance a property owner must provide notice of a rent increase, nor is there a limit on how large a rent increase can be.

Mobile home owners in Wyoming

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UW athletic events to serve pre-made cocktails next year

ALLISON ALLSOP
Casper Star-Tribune

The University of Wyoming will serve pre-made, ready-to-drink cocktails at War Memorial Stadium and the Arena-Auditorium next year.

The university's Board of Trustees voted Monday to allow the sale of the drinks. Both venues already sell various beers and seltzers.

The trustees went back and forth between whether the canned cocktails be capped at a specific alcohol by volume content.

Trustee Mike Greear amended the initial motion to limit the pre-made cocktails to 5% ABV. His amendment failed.

Trustees Kermit Brown and Paul Ulrich voiced concern over setting the cocktails at a lower ABV than some of the IPAs the stadium sells.

"I mean if we're gonna to do it, we do it across the board," Ulrich said. "I don't see a reason to separate these ready-mades versus a higher content IPA."

Greear said the cocktails are easier to consume and individuals are more likely to over-consume them.

Trustee John McKinley presented an amendment that would set the maximum ABV at 7.5% for all drinks.

McKinley's motion caused confusion and issues with the university staff, so they asked the board to move forward with other issues while they rewrote the motion to ensure they were properly covering the trustees' wishes.

The main issue was whether the amendment and motion would affect private suites at the venues, which already serve various liquors.

The original motion was not intended to have any affect on those spaces as they are leased and have separate licenses.

When staff came back, they presented the board with the following amended motion, "I move to authorize the University of Wyoming to sell pre-mixed, ready-to-drink or canned cocktails that have an alcohol by volume content not to exceed 7.5% in the

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Ex-Bar Nunn fire chief gets probation after admitting to stealing from MDA fundraiser

DYLAN FARRELL
Casper Star-Tribune

Robert Hoover, the former Bar Nunn fire chief who admitted to stealing hundreds from a Muscular Dystrophy Association fundraiser and misusing tens of thousands of dollars in fire department funds was sentenced to 3 years' probation on Tuesday.

Hoover agreed to the sentence — which was jointly recommended to Judge Catherine Wilking by prosecutors and the defense — earlier this year as part of a plea deal that saw the state

drop two additional charges.

Hoover was sentenced to 3-5 years in prison suspended for three years' probation for felony theft.

On a count of official misconduct, Hoover paid a \$500 fine. One count each of felony theft and credit card fraud were dropped in the deal.

The ex-fireman was also ordered to pay \$10,812 in restitution to the fire department.

"The biggest thing was to try to make the victims as whole as possible as quickly as possible," District Attorney Dan Itzen said of the relatively light sentence.

Felony theft carries a maximum penalty of 10 years and a \$10,000 fine.

Community response

Hoover's attorney filed several letters in support of the defendant ahead of Tuesday's hearing.

Six people in total — including local business owners and some of his new coworkers — filed letters vouching for the former chief's character.

Many noted his work ethic, role

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ANDREW TOWNE, STAR-TRIBUNE

Robert William Hoover, the former Bar Nunn fire chief accused of misappropriating thousands of department dollars, walks into the Natrona County Townsend Justice Center for his change of plea hearing on Thursday, July 3, 2025.

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The Grouch

Ah, watching games with booze on hand: Obviously, the best way to keep a college crowd calm and rational is to hand everyone the very beverage that specializes in calm and rational.



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