


## Michael Holland

Intrepid Origins LLC  
636/427 Lincoln st



To City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for the vacant seat on the Lander City Council. I adore Lander, and feel grateful for the opportunity to join a group of motivated community members who ensure that the place I love continues to thrive in our ever-changing world.

First, my eligibility: I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Wyoming. I have been a registered voter within ward 2 since June of 2018. I am 39 years old. I hold no office that is incompatible with City Council membership. I work in private practice as a Licensed Therapist (LCSW), and identify as a small business owner who is part of the next generation of young professionals in Lander, bolstering its future through long-term investment and service.

Next are my qualifications: My first effort in public service came immediately after I graduated (summa cum laude honors) from the University of Colorado. I served as a United States Peace Corps volunteer in West Africa. I spent two years in Cameroon focusing on agroforestry, public health and youth development initiatives, then spent a third year training teachers at a small technical college in Burkina Faso. When I returned to the United States, I transitioned these international social service and education skills to community-based youth development via Teton Youth and Family Services in Jackson, Wyoming, dedicating myself to wilderness therapy programming, community-based diversion and engagement programs for at risk youth. I began a Masters of Social Work program at the University of Wyoming in 2016, and was lucky enough to live here in Lander while I studied. I completed internships at Fremont Counseling Service and Fort Washakie School, and ultimately took a behavioral health clinician position with Fremont Counseling Service after I completed my graduate degree in 2018. My graduate education in social work focused on policy creation, strategies to promote social health and sustainability, and the necessary interpersonal and clinical skills that are essential for effective and transformative dialogue about change and challenge.

My 6 years at Fremont Counseling resulted in extensive communication about, and collaboration with, the most important elements of my clients' environment and community. As a member of Fremont Counseling's on-call crisis response team, I served school districts, the city's police and Sheriff's departments, our hospitals, and individual community members of Lander. My role was to provide immediate support and clinical intervention during times of immense hardship and volatility, and I focused on connecting those in need with the network of providers and professionals that were available in our

community. Being on the front lines like this exposed me to the strengths and deficits of our community's resources, and what infrastructure could make our community more stable, safe, and responsive to its citizens.

Finally, my intentions: I seek membership on the Council to sustain its ability to engage in dialogue and decision making on behalf of the community I love. I aim to continue to strengthen the Council's ability to respond to its community's needs with safe, evidenced-based and deliberate policy that sustains Lander's most cherished qualities. I aim to continue efforts to improve Lander's roads and public pathways, housing opportunities, economic development, and preservation of its wild resources.

Thank you all for the opportunity, and your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Holland', written in a cursive style.

Michael Holland (MSW, LCSW)