

# JOSEPHINE COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Official General Election | **November 5, 2024**

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Greetings,

The county voter's pamphlet for the **November 5, 2024, General Election** has been inserted within the state pamphlet in a cost-savings cooperative effort between Josephine County and the Secretary of State. Each page of your county voters' pamphlet is clearly marked with a gray color bar on the outside edge. Please read through your pamphlet as it will provide you with information regarding the candidate races and ballot measures at hand.

## **Are you registered to vote?**

Voters' Pamphlets are mailed to each household rather than each registered voter. Therefore, the receipt of this voters' pamphlet does not guarantee you are a registered voter. You may check your registration status at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov) or by contacting your local elections office at (541) 474-5243. The deadline to register to vote in the November 5, 2024, General Election is October 15, 2024. Additional voter registration information is available in the state portion of your voters' pamphlet.

## **Ballots!**

Ballots are scheduled to be mailed to each registered voter on October 16th. If you are an active registered voter and have not received your ballot in the mail by Thursday, October 24th, please call your County Clerk's office at (541) 474-5243.

## **What's on the Ballot?**

Your ballot will only contain the races and measures in which you are eligible for. You are only eligible to vote on the issues pertaining to the districts in which you reside. Therefore, it is important to remember that not all the races and measures contained within this pamphlet will appear on your ballot.



RHIANNON HENKELS  
Josephine County Clerk & Recorder

**ATTENTION:** This is the beginning of the Josephine County voters' pamphlet. The county portion of this joint voters' pamphlet is inserted in the center of the state's portion. Each page of the county voters' pamphlet is clearly marked with a gray color bar on the outside edge. All information contained in the county portion of this pamphlet has been assembled and printed at the request of County Clerk Rhiannon Henkels.

# Index to Voters' Pamphlet

Translation Information .....	17-2
Voting Instructions .....	17-3
Drop Site Locations .....	17-4

## Measures

	Page
17-121 .....	17-5
17-122 .....	17-6
17-119 .....	17-7
17-123 .....	17-12

## Candidates

All candidates were invited to participate in this pamphlet. The following candidates submitted information.

	Page		Page
Arce, Eva L I .....	17-15	Mechling, Katherine .....	17-23
Barnett, Chris .....	17-13	Meredith, Jay .....	17-18
Bristol, Sara .....	17-16	Miles, Jean Ann .....	17-20
DeLaGrange, Brian .....	17-17	Nicholas, Indra .....	17-17
Denney, Janice I .....	17-24	Ogier, Vanessa .....	17-20
DeYoung, Mark .....	17-15	Peters, Jason .....	17-22
Dugas, Jesse .....	17-21	Robinson, Matthew L .....	17-24
Fahey, Pat .....	17-14	Robinson, Zachary W .....	17-23
Jones, Tina Casey .....	17-21	Scherf, Clint .....	17-16
Krohn, Kathleen .....	17-19	Schloegl, Erich .....	17-19
Martin, Colene .....	17-13	Smith, Ron .....	17-14
Marshall, Victoria .....	17-18	Strauss, Stephen .....	17-22

## Translation Information

Selected portions of this county voters' pamphlet are available in Simplified Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. These translations can be found online at [oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP)

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访 [oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP) 获取译本。

주 유권자 팜플렛의 선택된 부분은 한국어 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 [oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP) 에서 찾아볼 수 있습니다.

Отдельные части брошюр избирателей этого округа доступны на русском языке. С данными переводами можно ознакомиться в Интернете по адресу: [oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP)

Algunas secciones de este folleto para votantes del condado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en [oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP)

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại [oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/JosephineVP)

# HOW TO CAST YOUR VOTE:

## 1. Complete your ballot

To vote, completely fill in the box next to your choice.

To vote for a person not on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the “write-in” line, then neatly write the name of the person on the line provided.

You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.

## 2. Check for errors

If you vote for more options than are allowed, your vote **will not count** for that contest.

If you think you made a mistake, call the Josephine County Elections Office.

If you would like to change your choice on a contest, draw a solid line through your original choice, then make your next selection.

## 3. Optional: Use the “secrecy” sleeve

If you use the optional “secrecy” sleeve, put only your voted ballot (not another person’s ballot) inside. Then, put only your secrecy sleeve inside your return envelope.

*(If we receive an envelope with more than one ballot inside, all enclosed ballots are rejected and not counted.)*

**You are not required to use the “secrecy” sleeve.**

## 4. Sign your return envelope

You must sign your return envelope or **your vote will not count.**

We verify every signature on every envelope against the voter files.

## 5. Return your ballot

- By mail – Stamps are no longer required (ballot return envelopes in Oregon now use prepaid postage)
- At any Official Ballot Drop Site (see list on the back of this pamphlet)
- At the County Clerk’s/Elections Office

# WHAT IS A PREPAID POSTAGE ENVELOPE?

## *You don’t have to find a stamp*

With prepaid postage, you no longer have to search for a stamp to mail back your voted ballot.

All ballots in Oregon will be sent to voters with a prepaid postage return envelope.

## *How does it work?*

If you mail back your voted ballot, the Post Office will charge the State of Oregon for each ballot sent back to an Elections Official.

Only those ballots sent back through the mail will be charged to the State.

## *What about Drop sites?*

Using one of Josephine County’s 8 drop sites is faster, cheaper and will reach us before the deadline.

## *Return your ballot*

- By mail (must be postmarked by Election Day)
- At any Official Ballot Drop Site (see list on the back of this pamphlet)
- At the County Clerk’s/Elections Office

# WHAT ABOUT POSTMARKS?

Beginning January 1, 2022, **postmarks can count.** However, your ballot must be:

- Signed,
- Postmarked on or before Election Day,
- Received by the County Clerk’s Office within seven days after Election Day.

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## Josephine County Elections

web: [www.josephinecounty.gov](http://www.josephinecounty.gov)  
email: [clerk@josephinecounty.gov](mailto:clerk@josephinecounty.gov)

ph: (541) 474-5243  
tty: (800) 735-2900

# **BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

## **Josephine County Official Ballot Dropsite Locations**

Open from October 16, 2024 until 8 p.m., November 5, 2024

### **Josephine County Courthouse:**

**The County Clerk's Office** (7:50 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.)

*Open 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on election day*

**Justice Building side, ground floor next to the elevator** (24 hours / 7 days)

**Next to the "C" Street Entrance** (Tax Office Entrance) (24 hours / 7 days)

### **South Grants Pass:**

**Washington Federal**, 290 Union Avenue, front parking lot (24 hours / 7 days)

### **Library Drive-up - Grants Pass Branch:**

Parking lot behind library. Enter from "C" Street (24 hours / 7 days)

### **Merlin:**

**Ray's Food Place**, 3500 Merlin Rd., parking lot; next to the USPS Blue

Mail Box (24 hours / 7 days)

### **Murphy:**

**Hidden Valley Market**, in front, on the left side of the building (24 hours / 7 days)

### **Cave Junction:**

**Cave Junction City Hall**, near front entrance (24 hours / 7 days)

#### **ORS 254.445 Assistance in Marking Ballot; Allowances and Limitations**

Any voter who, due to a disability or inability to read or write, is unable to mark their ballot may receive assistance. The assistance is provided either by two persons of different political parties provided by the county clerk or by some other person chosen by the voter. Any person assisting a voter must follow the direction of the voter as to how to vote the ballot. Also, the person assisting the voter must not afterwards give out any information about how the voter voted. Additionally, a person may not provide such assistance if they are an employer of the voter or an agent of the employer. Also, a person may not provide such assistance if they are an officer or agent of a union of which the voter is a member.

**Notice:** If a ballot is delivered to your address for someone who has moved or for someone who has passed away, please write "RETURN" on the envelope and place it back in your mailbox or in an official ballot dropsite so our office may make the necessary changes to the voter rolls.

# Measure 17-121 Josephine County

## Referred to the People by the Josephine County Board of Commissioners

# 17-121

### Veterans Service Office Five Year Local Option Tax

**QUESTION:** Shall Josephine County levy \$0.05 per \$1,000.00 assessed value for Veterans Service Office operations for five years beginning in 2025? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**SUMMARY:** The Josephine County Veterans Service Office is available to support around 9,000 military veterans. The office helps local veterans obtain federal, state and county benefits for which they are eligible. The office also provides veterans outreach services, and helps veterans' families learn about and apply for survivor benefits.

The Veterans Service Office is mostly funded by the County General Fund. Other programs, such as the Sheriff's Office, also receive funds from the General Fund. The Veterans Service Office would receive no General Fund dollars while this five-year local option tax is in effect. The funds raised by this measure would be spent only on operations at the Veterans Service Office and on required administrative expenses.

At \$0.05 per \$1,000, for every \$100,000 of assessed value, the tax would cost \$.42 per month, or \$5 per year. The approximate tax increase for a home valued at the County's average residential assessed value of \$226,030 would be approximately \$11.30 per year.

The proposed rate would raise approximately \$510,000 in fiscal year 2025-2026, \$526,600 in 2026-2027, \$543,700 in 2027-2028, \$561,400 in 2028-2029, and \$579,600 in 2029-2030, for a total of \$2,721,200.

The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

## Explanatory Statement

Josephine County is home to about 9,000 military veterans. Based on military service, many veterans are eligible for federal, state, and county benefits. Veteran's benefits include, but are not limited to: compensation and pension claims, educational assistance, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) payments, job training, medical care, memorial services, social outreach, suicide prevention services, and survivor benefits. Many benefits are also available for the immediate family members of veterans.

The Josephine County Veterans Service Office is located at the county courthouse. The office currently includes three certified Veterans Service Officers who handle claims for military veterans and their families. A recently passed federal law – the PACT Act – is one factor that has increased the office's number of claims in recent years. In Fiscal Year 2021-22, the office worked with 1,845 local veterans and handled 4,933 calls. In Fiscal Year 2022-23, the office worked with 2,656 local veterans and handled 5,492 calls.

In Fiscal Year 2021-22, compensation and pension claims awarded to veterans residing in Josephine County increased by about \$7,000,000.00, resulting in a total federal payments of \$65,272,000.00. In Fiscal Year 2022-23, Josephine County veterans receive about \$77,277,000.00 in federal compensation payments, which was about \$12,000,000.00 more than the prior year. The Veterans Service Office helped local veterans obtain the overall increase in compensation payments. None of the compensation payments made to veterans are used to fund the County Veterans Service Office.

Like the Sheriff's Office and several other county programs, the Veterans Service Office depends on the County General Fund in order to continue operating. Funds from this levy would fund the Veterans Service Office, and would remove the need to pay for the program out of the County General Fund. Funds from this levy would be used only for the Veterans Service Office, including the program's required payments to the county's Internal Service Fund in exchange for administrative support. As with all county funds, these funds would undergo annual, independent audits.

This new levy would increase property taxes by \$0.05 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value, and would be in effect for five years.

*(This information furnished by the Josephine County Board of Commissioners.)*

## Measure 17-121 Arguments

### Argument in Opposition

As an honorably discharged Veteran of the U.S. Army, it is my personal belief that this proposal for a tax levy is designed to "strum the heart strings" of those wishing to see Veterans needs taken care of via Veterans Service Office.

Though I deeply and sincerely appreciate the good intentions of providing for the needs of Veterans (and there are many needs). I do not believe the burden of financial provision should fall upon the shoulders of countywide property owners by an increase in their already too high demand for taxes.

Veterans should not be exploited for the benefit of greedy bureaucrats who stand to profit by this proposal.

I'm willing to bet that the annual income of those hired to provide these "Services" to Veterans far exceed any income being gained by the Veterans they claim to serve.

The Federal Government - who hired and trained the Veterans should carry the financial burden of providing for their needs and services - NOT county property owners that are already over taxed on MANY levels! VOTE NO on measure 17-121.

John Harding, O'Brien

*(This information furnished by John Harding.)*

"Measure arguments are printed as submitted. The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Josephine County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument."

# Measure 17-122

City of Cave Junction

## Referred to the People by the City of Cave Junction

# 17-122

### Cave Junction to impose a Transient Lodging Tax of 12%

**QUESTION:** Shall the City of Cave Junction impose a Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) of twelve percent (12%)?

**SUMMARY:** The City Council shall enter into a transient lodging tax collection intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon State Department of Revenue to collect a newly Imposed Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) of twelve percent (12%) on the sale, service or furnishing of transient lodging within the city limits of Cave Junction.

## Explanatory Statement

The City of Cave Junction would like to impose a 12% Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) to be collected by the Oregon Department of Revenue. TLTs are lodging taxes for temporary lodging at hotels, motels, campgrounds, and similar facilities. TLTs provide an important source of revenue for tourism promotion purposes. A TLT Advisory Committee will be established consisting of 5 members (2 City Council members, 2 local current business owners, and the Administrative Director of the IV Chamber of Commerce) and will meet to recommend changes in the allocation methodology or other provisions of TLT policy for the City Council. The goal of this committee will be to focus on activities that promote tourism, economic development, recreational activities, and investments in programs that beautify the city for residents and visitors and that increase the number of overnight stays. Taxes collected will be disbursed in accordance with ORS 320.000 to 320.350, 70% of net revenue will fund tourism promotion/tourism-related facilities and 30% will go to the City's General Fund.

*(This information furnished by the City of Cave Junction.)*

# Measure 17-119 Rogue Community College District

## Referred to the People By Rogue Community College District

# 17-119

**Bonds constructing, updating career education, community learning facilities, audits required**

**QUESTION:** Shall Rogue Community College construct, update, vocational facilities; improve accessibility, safety, security; issue up to \$60,315,000 in bonds; audits required? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution

### SUMMARY:

- **State expected to provide \$15 million in matching funds**

Bonds would finance capital costs to support students and the Southern Oregon community, including:

- Increasing capacity in **workforce training programs**:
  - **apprenticeship, diesel, commercial truck driving, pre-nursing, welding, manufacturing** and adding **automotive** at Table Rock Campus (White City)
  - **automotive, welding, manufacturing** and adding **EMT, diesel** programs at Redwood Campus (Grants Pass)
- Improving **safety and security** at all campuses
  - camera systems
  - lockdown capabilities
- Modernizing student success center and classrooms at Riverside campus (downtown Medford).
- Accessibility improvements at all campuses
- Building improvements to extend lifespan
  - Energy efficiency
  - HVAC
  - Roofs
- Site improvements, furnishings, equipment, bond interest, issuance costs.

**Jackson County: bond levy rates are estimated to continue at the current rate of \$0.13/\$1000 of assessed value**

**Josephine County: bond levy rates are estimated to increase by \$0.09/\$1000 to \$0.13/\$1000 of assessed value**

Rates subject to change based on interest rates, assessed value fluctuations. Bonds would mature within 21 years from the date of issuance, may be issued in series.

## Explanatory Statement

Established in 1970, Rogue Community College (RCC) now serves over 9,300 students at three campuses across Josephine and Jackson counties.

### THE COLLEGE SEEKS VOTER APPROVAL TO ISSUE BONDS ESTIMATED TO MAINTAIN CURRENT BOND TAX RATE FOR JACKSON COUNTY RESIDENTS

The RCC Board of Education seeks voter approval of a \$60,315,000 general obligation bond. **If this measure is approved, the College estimates that property owners in**

**Jackson County would continue to pay the same rate for the College's bonds as they are currently paying.**

### \$15 MILLION IN STATE GRANT FUNDS

The Oregon legislature has made eligible up to \$15,000,000 in grant funds but only if the College provides matching funds. Passage of the bond would secure the College's matching funds.

### WHY IS THE COLLEGE PROPOSING THIS MEASURE?

The College spent a year examining the condition and needs of its facilities; interviewing students and staff to understand what improvements would have the greatest positive impact on the learning environment and bringing in industry experts to assess the physical conditions of College buildings. The College found four areas of focus for facility improvements:

1. **Workforce Demand:** There are local, regional, and national shortages in the fields of nursing, commercial truck driving, emergency medical services, welding, and manufacturing and other vocational programs the College offers. Student enrollment and demand for these training programs exceeds available space.
2. **Safety and Security:** All three campuses need important safety and security improvements in order to keep students and staff safe.
3. **Outdated Learning Environments:** Classrooms, labs & technology need important upgrades in order to support student workforce training.
4. **Aging Buildings:** Buildings across the college need replacement and repair work on aging roofs, siding, and HVAC systems.

### PROPOSED PROJECTS

- Increasing capacity in **workforce training programs** to meet growing enrollment in programs and improve space utilization:
  - **apprenticeship, diesel, commercial truck driving, pre-nursing, welding, manufacturing** and adding **automotive** at Table Rock Campus (White City)
  - **automotive, welding, manufacturing** and adding **EMT, diesel** programs at Redwood Campus (Grants Pass)
- **Enhancing safety** with improved camera systems, and lockdown systems
- **Updating aging building systems to extend lifespan and improve energy efficiency** including roofs and HVAC
- **Renovating downtown Medford campus** with new student success center for more learning opportunities outside the classroom
- **Makes upgrades to improve ADA accessibility** – also known as the Americans with Disabilities Act – to improve student, staff, and community member access to College buildings

### OVERSIGHT FOR BOND EXPENDITURES

Law requires bond funds be used for expenses described in the ballot. The RCC Board of Education would provide oversight to ensure that all bond funds are used for the purposes approved by voters.

### FINANCIALS

**Jackson County: property tax rates are estimated to continue at the current rate of \$0.13 per \$1000 of assessed value**

**Josephine County: rate is estimated to increase by \$0.09/\$1000 to \$0.13 per \$1000 of assessed value**

Rates are subject to change based on interest rates and assessed value fluctuations. Bonds would mature within 21 years from the date of issuance, may be issued in series.

*(This information furnished by Rogue Community College District.)*

# Measure 17-119 Arguments

## Argument in Favor

I've lived in Grants Pass my whole life and since it's founding in 1971, Rogue Community College has been a critical component of our educational system.

Since I started serving on the Board, I've had the opportunity to see the impact RCC has had on our community, not just for the students but also for their families and our local businesses.

The economy of Southern Oregon has changed in the past 50+ years. No longer is the timber industry its primary driver. Health care, light manufacturing and construction now dominate the job market, and we need to have an educational system that up to the task of providing trained skilled employees to our local medical offices, manufacturing plants and construction sites. RCC has been fulfilling that role.

But the future economy has created new challenges. Electric Vehicles (Evs), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other technologies will test the skills we have previously learned. Rogue Community College must meet these challenges to fulfill its mission.

RCC needs to continue in its investment in the future. This proposed bond will provide for major facility upgrades in both buildings and infrastructure in both Josephine and Jackson counties to provide robust course offerings in both counties to help reduce student travel times.

I look at this proposal as an investment in our children's and grandchildren's future. Please join me in voting yes on measure 17-119

*(This information furnished by Patrick D Fahey.)*

## Argument in Favor

The Rogue Community College Education Association (RCCCEA) strongly encourages a **YES** vote for Measure 17-119.

As part-time and full-time educators at Rogue Community College (RCC), we know first-hand the value that our community college provides to the Rogue Valley. RCC educators focus on student education, workforce development, and strategic K-12 school partnerships. The skills we impart as educators create significant improvements to our community. Businesses get the locally trained workers they need. Passing bond investments helps RCC to keep expanding programs in growing job fields.

These expanding job fields include nursing, commercial truck driving, emergency medical services, welding, and manufacturing (to name a few). This bond will provide structural investments and prepare students for high-demand jobs, benefiting the local economy and meeting the needs of regional employers such as Mercy Flights, Grants Pass Toyota, and numerous local medical and dental facilities. It also targets funds to our students and community needs which will help more local students and businesses to thrive in our region.

The infrastructure improvements reflect an ongoing commitment to our community, and the job training and education our students need. Campus safety and greater community ADA accessibility help to extend a safe environment for the whole Rogue Community. This bond will expand and upgrade classrooms and labs across **all** three campuses. These improvements are essential for keeping up with high enrollment demand. It provides students with modern, technology-enhanced cutting-edge learning environments that are necessary to be job ready upon graduation.

Finally, this Bond will result in minimal tax impact in Josephine County: The cost to homeowners in Josephine County is just nine cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; a very small price for more jobs and a stronger local economy. By voting **YES**, you are ensuring that Rogue Community College can continue to meet the needs of our local economy with high-demand job training while providing a safe, inclusive, and innovative educational environment.

**Vote YES on 17-119**

*(This information furnished by Mary Middleton, Rogue Community College Education Association.)*

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# Measure 17-119 Arguments

## Argument in Favor

### COMMUNITY LEADERS URGE THE PASSAGE OF MEASURE 17-119

As residents deeply rooted in Josephine and Jackson County, we strongly encourage a “Yes” vote on Measure 17-119, the Rogue Community College bond. This bond is essential for addressing our community’s pressing needs.

Passage of this measure will result in safer and enhanced facilities for training in high-demand workforce areas, including diesel, automotive, commercial truck driving, pre-nursing, dental hygiene, welding, manufacturing, and EMT. Southern Oregon urgently needs skilled workers to provide essential services, and these programs will serve as a vital pathway to career-wage jobs. RCC is committed to training local residents, enabling them to achieve a better quality of life while remaining in Southern Oregon.

Furthermore, the state is offering \$15 million in matching funds that we can only secure if this measure passes. This is a golden opportunity to leverage state funds for local benefit, ensuring our community college can deliver the quality education and training our residents deserve.

For residents of Josephine County, bond rates are only 0.09 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, equating to approximately \$20.34 a year for the average homeowner. This bond represents a smart financial investment, promising significant returns for our community by improving educational resources and enhancing job prospects. 100% of the funds will be reinvested locally, creating a ripple effect that strengthens our economy and transforms lives.

By voting “Yes” on Measure 17-119, you are choosing to invest in the future of Southern Oregon. Let’s support our community, strengthen our workforce, and create lasting opportunities for our residents.

Andy Linerud, Franchise Owner, Express  
Employment Professionals

Bela Toledo

Bob & Debbie Brownell

Ted & Alicia Gerber, Owners Foris Vineyard & Winery

Jennifer Krauss Phillippi

Josh Welch

Kate Dwyer

Kristen Gaylor, College & Career Director

Kristen Miller, M.D.

Mary Middleton, Oregonians for Safe Farms & Families

Sara Bristol, Grants Pass Mayor

Scott Draper

Willard Ransom, Attorney

*(This information furnished by Gary Plano, Friends of RCC.)*

## Argument in Favor

### HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS URGE THE PASSAGE OF MEASURE 17-119

We ask you to vote “Yes” on RCC Measure 17-119 because it addresses critical shortages of health care workers. These shortages increase your wait times to get the care you need and affect the health of our communities.

Measure 17-119 will provide investments in health care training programs and up-to-date equipment students need to train in fields including pre-nursing, dental hygiene, and EMT. It’s an investment in the well-being of our community, ensuring that when we need care, we have local professionals ready and able to provide it.

Supporting Measure 17-119 is about more than just funding education. It’s about caring for the health and future of our southern Oregon community. RCC is where many of our friends, neighbors, and family members gain skills to become the health care professionals we rely on. When local students are trained at RCC, they don’t just gain an education; they build a career and deep connection to our region, understanding the unique needs of the people they will eventually serve.

Health care outcomes improve when care is provided by professionals who are not only skilled but also committed to their community. RCC graduates are those people—they’re the nurses, medical assistants, and health care workers who stay here, work here, and make a difference in our lives every day.

By voting “Yes” on Measure 17-119, we’re ensuring that RCC can continue to grow and support the training of these essential workers.

AllCare Health

Jackson Care Connect

La Clinica

Prime Care, Inc.

Providence Medford

Mercy Flights

Valley Immediate Care

*(This information furnished by Gary Plano, Friends of RCC.)*

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# Measure 17-119 Arguments

## Argument in Favor

### TRUCKING INDUSTRY CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF MEASURE 17-119

Measure 17-119 addresses the shortage of workers in the trucking industry, which is the backbone of our local economy. More than 76% of communities in Oregon rely on trucks to move their goods. We need a well-trained workforce to keep these critical resources moving. A “Yes” vote on Measure 17-119 enhances training programs for commercial truck driving and diesel technicians, broadening the pipeline for students to enter the modern trucking industry fully prepared.

This measure is also about creating good local jobs that drive our community’s growth and stability. Investing just nine cents per thousand dollars of assessed value—about \$20.34 annually for the typical Josephine County homeowner—means helping families earn jobs and ensuring safe, efficient highway transport that keeps Southern Oregon connected to vital goods and services.

“Yes” on Measure 17-119 supports a strong Southern Oregon economy, where RCC’s trucking program helps local businesses thrive, creates job opportunities, and keeps our community moving forward.

A&M Transport  
Freightliner Northwest  
TEC Equipment  
Timberland Helicopters, Inc

*(This information furnished by Gary Plano, Friends of RCC.)*

## Argument in Favor

### RCC BOARD OF EDUCATION URGES YES ON MEASURE 17-119

We, the Board of Education of Rogue Community College (RCC), urge you to vote YES on Bond Measure 17-119. As stewards of RCC, we have carefully assessed the needs of our college and the community we serve. We believe this bond measure is essential for several reasons:

- **Workforce Development:** This measure invests in high-demand training programs for fields with critical shortages, including nursing, EMT, welding, diesel mechanics, commercial truck driving, dental hygiene, and automotive technology. Expanding RCC’s facilities will allow us to enroll 7,900 additional students annually, directly tackling workforce gaps.
- **Creating Local Opportunities:** RCC’s training programs create pathways to career-wage jobs, helping local residents build their lives and stay in their community. With over 16,000 students—45% being first-generation college attendees and 30% being parents—this bond ensures tuition remains affordable and education stays accessible.
- **Campus Safety:** The measure will fund vital safety and security upgrades across all campuses, including enhanced lockdown capabilities and improved camera systems to better protect our students and staff.
- **Modernizing Infrastructure:** Many of our buildings are over 50 years old. This bond will facilitate repairs and updates to outdated systems, ensuring our facilities continue to effectively serve students.
- **Enhancing Learning Environments:** To ensure Career and Technical Education students are job-ready, we need to upgrade and expand specialized facilities with industry-standard equipment. This bond will provide the modern tools and technology necessary for hands-on experience and career success.
- **Affordability:** This measure offers great value, costing the average Josephine County homeowner just \$20 a year. A “Yes” vote on Measure 17-119 will secure a \$15 million state matching grant, with every dollar creating a positive economic ripple in our community.

Vote YES on Measure 17-119 to support a more vital local workforce, safer facilities, and expanded educational opportunities.

Gary Plano, Chair  
Vanessa Jones, Vice Chair  
Roger Stokes, Member  
Jonathan Bilden, Member  
Maria Ramos Underwood, Member  
Pat Fahey, Member

*(This information furnished by Gary Plano, Friends of RCC.)*

"Measure arguments are printed as submitted. The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Josephine County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument."

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# Measure 17-119 Arguments

## Argument in Opposition

If this passes, Josephine County taxpayers will directly pay \$60 million and more than **\$87 million** of tax money will be spent. We will be left in debt paying off the bond.

In May of this year, by a 36 point margin (68% NO, 32% Yes), voters voted against maintenance bonds for the Three Rivers School district. It was noticed that a cost of \$1-\$2 per square foot for roofing materials that required only simple installation, did not make sense when the school was going to pay \$40-\$50 per square foot for the project. This one is back on the ballot for November too - they figure they can keep asking hoping voters will someday say yes.

Is the \$87 million for Rogue Community College going to be more wisely spent? We doubt it. The public information we can find is very vague. It certainly does not look like \$87 million worth of updates.

The essence of learning a special skill is doing it. While expanding Rogue Community College's programs may be useful, this should not cost huge amounts of money. A program that involves apprenticeship, for example, with a local diesel repair shop should be inexpensive to operate and beneficial for everyone involved. Such programs should be self-sustaining.

Right now, the Oregon capitol in Salem is being renovated at a cost of \$600 million dollars or \$2,500 per square foot. This is the equivalent of spending \$4 million to renovate an ordinary 1600 square foot house. The RCC project will likely have similar problems.

Oregonians are far poorer than they need to be, because of poor government management. Excessive regulations burden our businesses driving up costs and vast amounts of taxpayer money is taken for projects with inflated price tags and wasted.

Families are struggling right now. Increasing their taxes and forcing them to pay off a long-term bond will only add to the burden.

Please vote NO on 17-119

Dr. Matthew Robinson

*(This information furnished by Dr. Matthew Robinson.)*

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# Measure 17-123 Three Rivers School District

## Referred to the People by Three Rivers School District

# 17-123

### Authorizes Bonds to Improve Safety, Security, and Re-roof Aged Buildings

**QUESTION:** Shall Three Rivers School District issue \$39,000,000 in bonds for school capital costs and receive a \$6,000,000 matching grant? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**SUMMARY:** Three Rivers/Josephine County Unit Joint School District in Oregon depends on local support to fund capital improvements. The District has been awarded a \$6,000,000 grant which will be available only if the bonds are approved. If approved, this measure would finance capital costs within the District, including:

- Re-roof buildings throughout the District to maintain structural integrity and protect the community's investment in school district facilities
- Safety and security measures with a focus on access control at all locations
  - Additional fencing
  - Manned Gates
  - Buzz-in entry systems
  - Cameras
  - Key card entry
  - Security lighting
  - Security Doors and hardware

Bonds would mature in 21 years or less from the date of issuance and may be issued in one or more series. If approved, the annual bond tax rate is estimated to be \$0.42 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value. Actual rates may vary based upon interest rates incurred and changes in assessed value.

## Explanatory Statement

This bond measure addresses safety, security, and integrity of our school buildings within Three Rivers / Josephine County Unit Joint School District with a focus on re-roofing aging structures and enhancing security measures. The District currently serves over 4,000 students and employs approximately 600 staff members across 14 schools.

### Addressing Roofing Needs

Many of the District's buildings are over 60 years old and in critical condition, as identified in a recent long-range facility plan. Re-roofing these structures will help maintain their structural integrity and prevent future costs. Approximately \$35 million would be dedicated to re-roofing buildings across the District to enhance the safety, functionality, and integrity of the District's aging facilities.

### Enhancing School Security

In response to evolving safety concerns, the District's Safety Team and local law enforcement have assessed our school buildings and campuses. The proposed strategy aims to strengthen school perimeters by managing entry and exit

points along with deterring and delaying potential threats. Approximately \$10 million would be allocated for security enhancements, including fencing, gates, and advanced entry systems to prioritize the safety of the school community.

### State Grant

The District has been selected to receive a matching state grant of \$6 million for these projects only if this bond measure is approved. If the measure is not approved this matching grant would be awarded to another district in Oregon.

The projected tax rate associated with this bond is estimated to be \$0.42 per \$1,000 of assessed value. For example, a property assessed at \$300,000 would contribute an estimated \$126 per year for the 21-year bond term. The actual levy rate may differ due to actual interest rates and changes in assessed value.

*(This information furnished by Three Rivers School District.)*

## Measure 17-123 Arguments

### Argument in Opposition

**We've seen this one before.** Voters rejected this tax increase by a margin of 36 points (68% NO, 32% Yes). That was only 6 months ago!!

Most of the new tax money allocated by 17-123 is for reroofing 18 school buildings. The roofing cost of \$35 million dollars seems unbelievably high. We are not getting new buildings, it's all just maintenance.

The materials required are not expensive. Some roofs are covered with thin rubber membranes, some use shingles or could be sheet metal. In all cases the costs should be around \$1-\$2 per square foot for the basic materials. Installation is not difficult. And yet, the reason the price is so high is because they are planning to spend \$40-\$50 per square foot for the project.

The schools already have large maintenance budgets. There are many ways to get these repairs done if they are done at a reasonable price.

In Oregon, taxpayers spend about \$500,000 each year for a 30-student class. The cost is high and the academic quality needs major improvement. The teachers' unions are getting too much money and the focus is not on quality.

My 5 brothers and sisters and I were all homeschooled. We each earned doctorates in scientific, medical, and engineering subjects and have provided educational materials to over 100,000 students in public, private, and home schools. Educating children should not be difficult.

We should focus on improving academic quality, not spend more money on government boondoggles.

Also, notice the title. "Authorizes Bonds to Improve Safety, Security, and Reroof Aged Buildings." They emphasize security concerns and list reroofing last. It takes some searching to find out that most of the money is going to roof repair.

Right now, the Oregon capitol in Salem is being renovated at a cost of \$500 million dollars and only 10% of the money is going to renovation work. This project will likely have similar problems.

Please vote NO on 17-123.

Dr. Matthew Robinson

*(This information furnished by Dr. Matthew Robinson)*

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## Josephine County Commissioner, Position 2



**Chris  
Barnett**

**Occupation:** Multiple Small Business Owner. Real Estate Principal Broker; Broadcaster KLDK/KAJO Radio; Command Chief Pacific Region USAF/CAP

**Occupational Background:** U.S. Air Force Chief; Realtor; Entrepreneur; FAA SUAS Pilot

**Educational Background:** Graduated: Hidden Valley High School; Community College of the Air Force; RCC; First Sergeant Academy USAF; Senior NCO Academy USAF; Criminal Justice AA; Human Resource Management AA; University of Maryland; National Broadcasting; and Joint Forces Staff College. FEMA.

**Prior Governmental Experience:** U.S. Air Force; Oregon Air Guard; USAF Reserve; Command Chief Oregon; Command Chief Pacific Region Civil Air Patrol; FAA and FCC operator.

### EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS:

Chris Barnett is a 43-year Josephine County resident. He is a conservative family man who has been successful in his life, businesses, and career. Chris gives back, volunteering often. Chris will bring his management skills in business, human resources, military service, and law enforcement to work for the citizens of this great county, solving issues important to YOU!

### Strengths Chris Barnett brings to SERVE THE PEOPLE:

- Service Before Self - putting YOU, the people, first and always.
- Integrity - doing what's best for the county.
- Teamwork - working with departments to better help the taxpayers.
- Out of the Box revenue generating ideas.
- Running the County like a Business - striving for success.
- Positive & Transparent leadership.
- American Values: God, Family, Country, Freedom

### CHRIS BARNETT will strive to:

- Put TRUST back in GOVERNMENT.
  - REDUCE THE HOUSING SHORTAGE by allowing expansion in the county.
  - Utilize COMMON SENSE BUDGETING.
  - Work towards Unity in Our Community.
  - Ensure government protects the CONSTITUTION, people's best interest, PERSONAL FREEDOMS & LIBERTIES.
  - Work to SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES.
- \*Support and Honor VETERANS

"As County Commissioner, I will work tirelessly to represent ALL citizens of Josephine County." --Chris Barnett

### Endorsements:

**Oregon Right To Life PAC**  
**Oregon Firearms Federation PAC**  
**Josephine County Republican Party**  
*The Only candidate for Position 2 endorsed by the Republican Party*

Paid for by Chris Barnett for Commissioner (23138)  
[www.VoteChrisBarnett.com](http://www.VoteChrisBarnett.com)

*(This information furnished by Chris Barnett.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Josephine County Commissioner, Position 2



**Colene  
Martin**

**Occupation:** Real Estate

**Occupational Background:** COO at Oregon State Chamber; CEO at Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber; Owner of Photo Den a Photo Electronics Business.

**Educational Background:** AAS Business Management/Technology Rogue Community College; U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Institute for Organization Management.

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Collaborative Economic Development Committee Josephine County & City of Grants Pass; Grants Pass Tourism Committee. Government Affairs Committee for Grants Pass Chamber, Oregon State Chamber and Rogue Valley Association of Realtors.

### Why Vote for Colene

- Colene's priorities are pragmatic problem-solving, non-partisan leadership and good governance.
- Colene is a friend and supporter of our local business community.
- Colene is a proven leader who possesses decades of successes at the state and local levels bringing diverse people with opposing views together to find compromise.
- Colene's deep understanding and first-hand experience of how the State government affects Josephine County will be a vital resource.
- With over a decade of experience serving the county's business owners, she comes with a clear vision of how to support a thriving economy. She is the most experienced candidate to work with budgets, staff, and policy making.
- She has unwavering commitment to the safety of our community.
- Her focus is on fiscal responsibility, efficiency in existing budgets and fostering economic growth.
- Work along with existing housing and mental health providers.

### PERSONAL

Colene is a native Oregonian, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, aunt and wife of 38 years to her husband Ron.

### ENDORSEMENTS

Business & Community Leaders, Dave Thomason, Lowell Gibson  
Former Commissioner Dan DeYoung

*Having been disappointed by past candidates, I'm confident in endorsing Colene Martin. Her unwavering integrity, proven leadership, and deep commitment to our community make her the best choice. Colene listens, acts with honesty, and genuinely cares about our county's future. Join me in voting for Colene Martin-a leader who will represent us with calm wisdom. Lowell Gibson, CEO-NiceBadge.*

Endorsed by Oregon Right to Life

For more information [Electcolenemartin.com](http://Electcolenemartin.com)

Paid for by Friends of Colene Martin

*(This information furnished by Colene Martin.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Josephine County Commissioner, Position 3



**Pat  
Fahey**

**Occupation:** Retired

**Occupational Background:** Farquhar & Newberry CPA 1979-1981; Southern Oregon Sanitation 1981-2015; Sutherlin Sanitary Service 2016-2023

**Educational Background:** Grants Pass District 7, Graduate; Southern Oregon University Bachelor of Science (Accounting Major); Oregon Public Accountant License

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Josephine Community Library Board, Current; Rogue Community College Current; Josephine County Budget Committee, Chairman (2013-2016)

I have lived in Josephine County my entire life, I've raised a family, built a business and have had the opportunity to be involved in the life of this community.

### My Civic Involvement

Coached T Ball

Scout Master for 10 years

Helped to build the Three Rivers Community Hospital as the Foundation Chair

Grants Pass Rotary member or 38 Years

Served on the Josephine County Budget Committee for 3 years as Chairmen.

Served on the Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. and Josephine Community Library Foundation boards

Served on the Rogue Community College Board for 6 years.

Serve on the Oregon Community College Association Board

### My Professional Achievements

Served as the General Manager of Southern Oregon Sanitation for 20 Years

Served as President of the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association

Helped establish and then served on the board of Our Community Bank (1995-2005)

Founded and directed a software firm for 30 years (Pacifica Systems)

Testified before the US House of Representatives on behalf of the City of Grants Pass (1997)

### Personal Philosophy

I believe the best approach to solving a problem is to first acknowledge the problem.

I believe one of Josephine County's biggest problems is a lack of faith in the Commissioners and in County Government in general. Small issues become big problems without adequate transparency the citizens are left wondering.

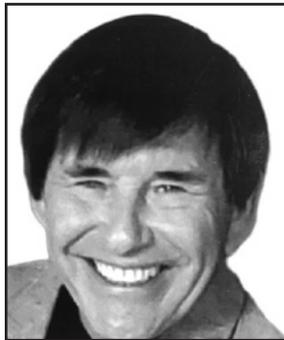
As with most big problems, there are no easy solutions. I can see a great deal of work ahead and I ask you my neighbor, the citizen, to join in me finding and implementing the right solutions.

If you have questions, suggestions or comments feel free to call or text me at 541-218-6607

*(This information furnished by Pat Fahey.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Josephine County Commissioner, Position 3



**Ron  
Smith**

**Occupation:** Western Signs

**Occupational Background:** Small business owner, grassroots organizer and property rights advocate.

**Educational Background:**

Highline High School, Highline Community College, Christian Leadership.

**Prior Governmental Experience:** NA

- A true advocate for Josephine County residents
- A team player, not a politician
- A leader committed to practical solutions and responsible governance

Fellow Citizens,

As a lifelong Josephine County native, I am dedicated to representing all residents with integrity, honesty, and transparency. My pledge is to work for the betterment of every citizen in our community.

I bring years of experience as a, small business owner, grassroots organizer and property rights advocate. For over 25 years, I've been on the people's side of government, defending our rights, liberty, and freedom from government overreach.

My life experiences have equipped me to lead and advocate effectively for our community. In 2001, my commitment to activism was recognized by Cave Junction's Chamber of Commerce who nominated me "Citizen of the Year," a reflection of my dedication and positive impact.

### My Focus:

**Law Enforcement:** Finding sustainable funding solutions for law enforcement. I fully support the Sheriff's efforts to reduce crime and address the drug epidemic.

**Housing:** Addressing the housing shortage is critical. I will work to simplify permitting, reduce regulations, and lower building costs to make affordable housing a reality.

**Homelessness:** I support a three-pronged approach: affordable housing, substance abuse treatment, and strong law enforcement, to significantly reduce homelessness. I also back community organizations helping individuals overcome addiction.

**Jobs:** I'm a strong advocate for businesses, committed to reducing regulations and streamlining development to create jobs and boost our local economy.

**Land Use & Environment:** My career has focused on land use issues, working with state and federal agencies. I'm committed to using this knowledge to mitigate forest wildfires and reduce smoky summers.

I'M PROUD TO BE THE ONLY CANDIDATE FOR POSITION #3 ENDORSED BY JOSEPHINE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY AND OREGON RIGHT TO LIFE.

**"The People's Commissioner"**

Visit: [VoteRonSmith.com](http://VoteRonSmith.com)

*(This information furnished by Ron Smith.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Josephine County Treasurer



**Eva L I  
Arce**

**Occupation:** Josephine County Treasurer

**Occupational Background:** Josephine County Treasurer 2013- Present; Chief Deputy Treasurer/Chief Administrative Supervisor Josephine County

2006-2013; Chief Deputy Tax Collector 2002-2013; Accounting Technician 1999-2002 Accounting Specialist Josephine County 1995-1999; Bakery owner/Manager; Cashier

**Educational Background:** Grants Pass Public Schools grade 1 to 12; Rogue Community College, Technology and Business classes; Rosny College Hobart Australia Tasmania Accounting and Australian History; Continuing Education classes in Taxation and Treasury Management; Session leader in various continuing education classes in Taxation.

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Josephine County Treasurer 2013- Present; Chief Deputy Treasurer/Chief Administrative Supervisor Josephine County 2006-2013; Chief Deputy Tax Collector 2002-2013; Accounting Technician 1999-2002 Accounting Specialist Josephine County 1995-1999 President of the Oregon Association of Tax Collectors 2005.

Eve Arce has worked diligently as the Treasurer for Josephine County to maintain a high standard of customer service to the public and receiving the best possible return for money invested. Eve Arce has worked in the Josephine County Treasurer's office since 1995. Eve has implemented many cost saving and efficiency measures in the Treasury office. The same work today is accomplished with staff than in 1997. Eve Arce understands the need to continually find ways to reduce costs and improve efficiency and will work to maintain excellent customer service.

The Treasurer is the county banker, managing cash and investments ranging from \$60 million to over \$90 million and accounts for all County income and pass-through receipts. Eve Arce believes the County Treasurer plays a very important role in government, keeping case safe, maximizing investment returns, and making sure money is available to pay bills on time.

Eve Arce has the integrity, experience and ability to continue the safe and efficient management of the Treasurer's office in the best interests of the citizens of Josephine County. Eve will ensure continued efficient and productive financial management as well as friendly courteous service in the Treasurer's office.

*(This information furnished by Eva L I Arce.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Josephine County Treasurer



**Mark  
DeYoung**

**Occupation:** Retired

**Occupational Background:** Wells Fargo Bank; Grants Pass, OR; 2016-2022; Retail Banking Branch Manager; Assistant Vice President. Wells Fargo Bank, Eugene, OR; 2013-2016; Area

Bank Manager. US Bank; Scottsdale, AZ; 2008-2010; Branch Manager. US Bank; Denver, CO; 2006-2008; Small Business Specialist; Branch Banker.

**Educational Background:** Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, B.A. Degree, Political Science. Senior Year President; Intercollegiate Debate Team.

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

I am the ideal choice for County Treasurer, possessing the necessary qualifications and an unwavering commitment to the principles of fiscal responsibility, transparency, professionalism, and accountability.

My professional background has given me a profound understanding of government operations, policy-making, and the critical intersection between finance and public administration. As a seasoned banking professional with nearly 25 years in the banking industry, I have consistently demonstrated my ability to manage budgets, meet deadlines, and navigate complex financial regulations. I achieved the Oregon Leadership Excellence Award through peer nominations, a testament to my effectiveness.

As Treasurer, I promise:

### **1. Complete Transparency.**

The Treasurer must have absolute integrity and transparency. It is essential that the Treasurer follows all the County Charter, County Code as well as all appropriate State and Federal law. As Treasurer, I will assure that policies and procedures are consistently followed and readily accessible to the public. The County's financial documents belong to you. The Treasurer should never put Josephine County at financial risk, and when items of internal risk are found, they should be addressed immediately. As Treasurer, I will always provide the transparency to support sound risk management.

### **2. Improved Customer Experience.**

I will bring positive change to the office of Treasurer, including extending the Treasurer's office hours.

Thank you for your vote!

### **Endorsement:**

#### **Josephine County Republican Party**

The only candidate for Treasurer endorsed by the Republican Party

*(This information furnished by Mark DeYoung.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Grants Pass Mayor



**Sara  
Bristol**

**Occupation:** Marketing, Rogue Community College

**Occupational Background:** Journalist

**Educational Background:** GPHS, 1994; Southern Oregon University, BA Communication

**Prior Governmental Experience:** GP Mayor (2021-present); Yakima City Council

Four years ago, I pledged to improve transparency, ask tough questions, and be an independent voice for Grants Pass. I remain steadfast in that commitment.

Grants Pass is an amazing place to live, and it's been an honor to serve as your mayor these past four years. I love our "small town feel," and yet Grants Pass is a dynamic, full-service municipality - the 15th largest of Oregon's 241 incorporated cities. I'm asking for the opportunity to continue building on our success.

As you've probably heard, the Supreme Court ruled in the city's favor this June in the long-running Johnson case, which began more than two years before I became mayor. While we are thrilled to finally be able to reclaim our parks, we need to continue taking steps to improve public safety and reduce homelessness.

Affordable housing is key. The city has amended policy to incentivize density, created a housing specialist position and substantially invested in building multifamily housing. We must continue to push for more housing and economic growth.

Under my watch, the council resolved substantial shortfalls in the public safety budget without layoffs or major cuts to service levels. We established a destination marketing organization to promote tourism, renovated the downtown Welcome Center, and added new public restrooms.

We have new court surfaces at parks across the city, new playgrounds at Reinhart and Westholm, and a new jump track at B Street. We're planning to rebuild the 70-year-old Caveman Pool, and new trails on Dollar Mountain will soon provide fresh recreation opportunities.

Our community still faces challenges. I will continue be an independent voice, seeking solutions, building relationships and advocating nonstop for the benefit of all in our community. I ask for your support.

**Re-Elect Sara Bristol  
for Grants Pass Mayor**

*(This information furnished by Sara Bristol.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Grants Pass Mayor



**Clint  
Scherf**

**Occupation:** Owner of small Engineering Firm

**Occupational Background:** Residential & Commercial Land planning & development

**Educational Background:** Associate Degree in Mechanical Engineering; Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering; Master's degree Business administration

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Urban Area Planning Commission; City of Grants Pass Council, Ward 1

I was born and raised in the Rogue Valley, with my children being the 4th generation of our family to live within this community.

My values are more conservative, as I am a small business owner and know the value of hard work.

With previous experience in local government, serving as City councilor for Ward 1, makes me a valuable asset to the community.

I believe the role of Mayor is to protect the community you serve. Listening to people within the community is key to understanding the needs of the community. The Mayor, you should be in service of the people, not push their own agenda.

Local government needs to provide opportunity and foster economic growth so people living within our community can prosper. The City needs to take control of its economic future, promoting growth within by supporting economic development to help business retention and prompt new business to fill up the vast amount of empty commercial space within our town.

As Mayor, you are looked upon to lead local government in a direction that serves the community you represent by listening to the community and acting on their behalf. I plan on leading Grants Pass in a conservative manner, protecting the safety of our community, and providing the community with economic opportunities so they may grow and prosper.

Endorsed by the **Josephine County Republican Party**

*(This information furnished by Clint Scherf.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Grants Pass  
City Council, Ward 1**



**Indra  
Nicholas**

**Occupation:** Owner/Manager, Indra's Ice Cream, Inc. dba Udders

**Occupational Background:** Former High School Science Teacher, Activities Director; Substitute Teacher; Instructor RCC, Franchise Owner, Home Instead Senior Care

**Educational Background:** University of Missouri - Columbia, BA Biology; National University, MA Curriculum and Instruction, Language Development Specialist (ESL), Curriculum Consultant

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Rogue Community College Board Member, Zone 1

As a candidate for City Council, my mission is to bring common-sense leadership that prioritizes the safety of our neighborhoods, economic growth, and accountability in local government.

**Safety and Security**

I stand firmly committed to the safety and security of our community. I believe in the right of every citizen to live in a safe environment, free from crime, violence, and disorder. I will work to enact policies that prioritize the rights of victims and the safety of law-abiding citizens.

**Economic Growth**

I will prioritize policies that foster small business growth and economic opportunity. I will work to cut red tape, lower taxes, and create an environment where small businesses can thrive. By promoting entrepreneurship and making it easier to start and grow businesses, we can revitalize our local economy, create jobs, and build a more prosperous future for all residents.

**Driving Accountability in City Government**

Accountability must start at the top. I believe in a transparent, efficient, and responsible city government that holds itself accountable to the people. I will work to streamline bureaucracy and ensure taxpayer dollars are spent wisely. I will advocate for policies that reinforce transparency and fairness.

As your City Council representative, I will fight to bring common-sense, conservative leadership that restores safety to our streets, allows businesses to succeed, and demands accountability from city leaders.

Vote for leadership that works for you. Together, we can bring the change our city needs.

**Endorsements:**

**Josephine County Republican Party**

The only candidate for City Council, Ward 1, endorsed by the Republican Party

*(This information furnished by Indra Nicholas.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Grants Pass  
City Council, Ward 1**



**Brian  
DeLaGrange**

**Occupation:** Energy Consultant - CLEAResult Inc.

**Occupational Background:** Energy Specialist - Evergreen Consulting; Property Appraiser - Josephine County Assessor's Office

**Educational Background:** Grants Pass High School - Diploma with Honors; University of Oregon - Bachelor of Science, Business Administration

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Vice Chair - City of Grants Pass Parks Committee; Board Member - Grants Pass School District 7

It has been a privilege to serve you on city council over the past four years. As someone born and raised in Grants Pass and now raising my daughter here, I know this is a wonderful place to live. I also believe there is potential to make our community even better.

Four years ago, I ran on the promise that I would address the housing crisis, work to get the homeless out of the parks, and build a culture of fiscal responsibility in city government. We have made significant progress on these issues, but there is still much to be done. I am committed to delivering additional results on these issues in my second term.

A new focus will be the affordability of our city water bill. City council needs to look at options to modify rate structures to be more affordable for households with low to moderate usage.

I will also focus on improving residents' quality of life by rebuilding Caveman Pool with features for all ages, working with businesses to create a more vibrant downtown and plaza for community events, and ensuring our police and fire departments have the resources to continue delivering high-quality public safety services.

City councilors are unpaid. I give my time because I care about our community. I'm confident my experience, knowledge, and vision can help our city achieve a brighter future. I make decisions with the best interests of our entire community in mind, I don't bow to any special interests or political groups.

I would greatly appreciate your vote, so we can continue working to make Grants Pass an even greater city!

*(This information furnished by Brian DeLaGrange.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Grants Pass City Council, Ward 2



### Jay Meredith

**Occupation:** Director of Accounting, Fondo, 2021 to Present; CPA (self-employed consultant), 2020 to Present; CFO, American Mineral Research, Inc., 2018 to Present

**Occupational Background:**

Finance Director, City of Grants Pass (2010 to 2020); Co-founder, DYDD Capital LLC (2004 to 2009)

**Educational Background:** University of Kentucky, Bachelor's degree, BS in Accounting - 1999, CPA and Accounting; Licensed CPA since 2001

**Prior Governmental Experience:** City of Grants Pass - Finance Director, 2010 to 2020; Josephine County 911 Agency - Board Member (most years since 2010); Josephine Community Library District - Budget Committee member since 2018; Rogue Community College - Budget Committee member since 2023

[www.VoteJayCPA.com](http://www.VoteJayCPA.com)

[www.facebook.com/Vote.Jay.CPA](https://www.facebook.com/Vote.Jay.CPA)

#### Serving Grants Pass in various ways for 16 years!

The Grants Pass City Council needs a financial/budget expert and a public safety advocate. I am both!

I first moved my small financial business to Grants Pass in 2006. Little did I know that I would soon work in the Finance Department of the City of Grants Pass and then serve as the City's Finance Director from 2010 to 2020. I learned a great deal about City operations and spent many years financially advising management and the City Council on ways to achieve our Citizens' collective goals while keeping the city financially healthy.

Since 2012 I have also volunteered countless hours with organizations dedicated to advocacy for Grants Pass and Josephine County Law Enforcement and Public Safety operations. Both City Council members and Josephine County elected officials hear from me regularly with recommendations on public safety budget improvements. Law enforcement programs need more of our support to help address our most significant local challenges.

While every major department of the city plays an important role in Public Safety, local Police and Fire continue to need our support at both the City and County level. My service on the GP City Council would just allow me to continue serving Grants Pass public safety in a slightly different way!

*(This information furnished by Jay Meredith.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Grants Pass City Council, Ward 2



### Victoria Marshall

**Occupation:** Teacher, Retired

**Occupational Background:** English Teacher, Debate Coach GPSD7 1996-2019

**Educational Background:** Southern Oregon University: BS

English, Teaching Certificate; Churchill Scholar Honors Program: Graduate Honors, Philosophy; Post Graduate ESD and SOU: Reading/ESL/MAT Studies

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

#### A Leader for a Safe, Strong Community

I am committed to building a safe, thriving city where families and businesses prosper. I will focus on public safety and economic growth, bringing strong leadership to our city's most pressing challenges.

#### Priorities:

##### 1. Public Safety First:

Every resident deserves to feel safe in their neighborhood, workplace, and at school. I will advocate for safe streets by prioritizing police funding. I will focus on responsible budgeting to ensure our police have adequate funding to recruit and train officers. I will work to streamline the city's budget without burdening taxpayers, while investing more in the security of our city.

##### 2. Promoting Local Business and Economic Growth:

Safe communities attract business and investment. A secure city is an environment where both can flourish. I will work to ensure businesses feel protected and supported by our local government. I will work to eliminate unnecessary regulations and fees that stifle small businesses. I will support policies that attract new investment and create jobs, in order to fuel a prosperous, thriving city.

##### 3. Leadership with Integrity:

Our city needs leaders who are willing to make the tough decisions and stand by their convictions. I will bring a conservative-minded, results-oriented approach to City Hall. By focusing on practical solutions, not political games, we can solve the issues citizens demand.

#### Vote for Safety, Security, and Success

Our city is at a crossroads, and the choices we make now will determine our future. Grants Pass can return to a city where people feel safe and businesses thrive. With your vote, I will work to make that vision a reality.

#### Endorsements:

##### Josephine County Republican Party

The only candidate for City Council, Ward 2, endorsed by the Republican Party

*(This information furnished by Victoria Marshall.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Grants Pass  
City Council, Ward 3**



**Erich  
Schloegl**

**Occupation:** Maintenance Planner, Timber Products

**Occupational Background:** Marine Corps, Helicopter Crew Chief, Instructor, Aviation Maintenance Management.

**Educational Background:** MA - Leadership Studies, BS - Professional Aeronautics

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

After graduating High School, I joined the Marine Corps where I served honorably for over 26 years, retiring as a Major. I honor duty to Nation and will integrate dedication to service as a City Council member.

My wife was raised in Southern Oregon, which brought us to the Rogue Valley often, and we decided to make Grants Pass our home. We have two wonderful daughters; one has completed college and the other is half way through. Our families deserve to feel safe in Grants Pass once again. I am dedicated to making this happen.

**PARK SAFETY**

Due to decisions made by an enabling leadership, our city has declined. Relocating the homeless is merely pushing these problems to the side. Support exists and should be expanded for those who want to improve their lives. My goal is to ensure drug free Parks that cannot be used for camping. I want to get people back into society as productive citizens without sacrificing the quality of life for all residents.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Public drug use must be stopped, and law enforcement allowed to do their job. Grants Pass must have fully funded police and fire departments. I will support our firefighters and law-enforcement officers, returning decision making to their expertise and leadership. As a City Council member, I will make sure our budget supports these goals.

**LEADERSHIP**

I am a Constitutional Conservative who will demand culpability and regard for the taxpayers. I support personal freedom, personal property rights, and liberty to raise a family without government intrusion. I am ready to serve as your next city counselor, just as I faithfully served my country in the military.

**Endorsements:**

**Josephine County Republican Party**

The only candidate for City Council, Ward 3, endorsed by the Republican Party

*(This information furnished by Erich Schloegl.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Grants Pass  
City Council, Ward 4**



**Kathleen  
Krohn**

**Occupation:** 30-year Holistic Healthcare; 20-year Addictions Counselor; Retired

**Occupational Background:** Alternative Health Therapy; Drug/Alcohol Counseling

**Educational Background:** BA -Addictions Studies, 2002; Trade School- Massage Therapy, 1985; Fluent in German

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

As a 14 year resident of Grants Pass, I have experienced the beauty of Josephine County; however, I'm deeply concerned about the negative changes I've noticed over the last five years. Our city's lack of leadership is evident with rampant homelessness, vacant stores, and rising taxes, all of which inspired me to run for City Council.

Change is necessary!

My goals include the implementation of common-sense measures to prevent further deterioration in our city. Our leadership's policies have encouraged homelessness, increasing the financial burden on taxpayers. As a direct result, our citizens' quality of life has decreased. Results include empty storefronts, because businesses can't afford to remain in Grants Pass.

Imposing extra taxes on property owners and utility bills rather than properly managing the budget is a disservice to the local taxpayers. I will fight for Grants Pass and our Conservative, Spiritual and Social values by reducing government interference, promoting safety, and respecting taxpayers and businesses.

I am Kathleen Krohn and I kindly ask for your vote. I will fight for what is right and help Grants Pass thrive.

**ENDORSEMENTS:**

**JOSEPHINE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

The only candidate for City Council, Ward 4, endorsed by the Republican Party

*(This information furnished by Kathleen Krohn.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Grants Pass City Council, Ward 4



### Vanessa Ogier

**Occupation:** Dispatcher for Oregon State Police

**Occupational Background:** Financial Sector

**Educational Background:** RCC

**Prior Governmental Experience:** GP City Council 2021-Present; Council President 2024; Liaison to various city committees

I am excited to announce my re-election campaign for Grants Pass City Council, Ward 4. Serving our community for the past four years, including this year as Council President, has been a tremendous honor. I've worked hard to ensure our decisions are guided by facts and always putting the best interests of our residents first.

#### Housing

I promised to be a strong advocate for housing, and I've kept that promise. The Council since 2021 has directly incentivized over 180 housing units, ranging from affordable to market-rate, senior, and family housing. We established a successful revolving housing fund that continues to support low-income housing development. Looking ahead, I'll continue pushing for housing by utilizing the Urban Renewal Agency for future projects and advocating for a Multi-Unit Property Tax Exemption program to incentivize multi-family housing. The development of city-owned land along Allen Creek for housing remains a key goal.

#### Public Safety

On the public safety front, I bring a unique perspective as a full-time police dispatcher. I understand the challenges faced by our police, fire, and dispatch, both in terms of funding and the increasing demands on their services. As our community grows we must ensure our public safety divisions keep pace with it while balancing the protection of major tax hikes to our neighbors with the least financial resources.

#### Parks/Homeless/Public Spaces

I have also been a long-standing advocate for giving control of our parks back to the taxpayers and getting homeless out of public spaces and into the care of nonprofits where they can receive support.

I come to every meeting fully prepared and focused on serving our community with common-sense solutions. Re-electing me means continuing this hard work and I would be honored to have your vote.

*(This information furnished by Vanessa Ogier.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Cave Junction Mayor



### Jean Ann Miles

**Occupation:** Retired/Volunteer

**Occupational Background:** Teacher, Savanna School District, 17 years; Substitute teacher, Instructional assistant, TRSD, 3 years

**Educational Background:** Walden University, MA, Special Education; CSU Fullerton, BA, Teaching Credential; Santa Ana College, AA Criminal Justice

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Cave Junction City Councilor, Council President, and Parks and Recreation Commission member; Local Public Safety Coordinating Council; Josephine County Housing and Community Development Council; Solid Waste Agency; Collaborative Economic Development Committee; Josephine County Blue Ribbon Charter Review Commission

Since I was appointed to the city council seven years ago, I have strived to make Cave Junction better. My main areas of focus are public safety, economic development, and housing. To accomplish this, we need someone who is experienced at working with people at all levels of government. For example, before last legislative session, I drove at night in a heavy rain to Salem to testify on behalf of Cave Junction at a forum hosted by the state Chamber of Commerce on the impact of Measure 110 on cities. Legislators from both parties were there. My, and other's testimony led them to revise Measure 110 so now Law Enforcement has the tools to make our community safer.

I have made several other trips to Salem to lobby legislators and the Governor on matters that are of concern to our citizens. Much of our ability to accomplish our goals is restricted by state laws. Housing is impacted by state zoning laws, and 110 affected our public safety. I know more of what is needed in Cave Junction than people in Salem, and will lobby for laws that will help us here.

I have also been active in community groups; Ford Family Leadership Program graduate, League of Oregon Cities, Chamber of Commerce Board member, and former board member of IVCDO and a former member of IVFD CERT. I have the knowledge, time, experience, and the contacts to get things done!

*(This information furnished by Jean Ann Miles.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Cave Junction Mayor



**Jesse  
Dugas**

**Occupation:** JPS Computers, LLC - Owner; Illinois Valley High School - Coach

**Occupational Background:** Dugas Construction; Home Depot; 7-11

**Educational Background:** Illinois Valley High School; Lane CC; Southern Oregon University

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Cave Junction City Council Pos.4

I believe in the potential of our town to grow and prosper in a way that benefits all residents. My commitment is to focus on enhancing safety, fostering economic and community growth, and advancing our infrastructure—ensuring Cave Junction is not only a great place to live but also a thriving community where businesses can flourish and families can feel secure. Safety is paramount. Every resident deserves to feel safe in their community. I will work closely with local law enforcement and community leaders to develop and implement comprehensive safety measures that address the current needs of our town including public safety and fire protection. This will include strengthening community policing efforts, enhancing emergency response capabilities, and fostering an environment of cooperation and trust between the community and those sworn to protect it. Economic and community growth are deeply interconnected. As mayor, I will prioritize supporting local businesses and attracting new ventures that align with the values and needs of our residents. By creating a business-friendly environment that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship, we can provide more job opportunities and bolster our local economy. Additionally, I will promote programs that enhance the quality of life for all citizens, ensuring that growth benefits everyone. Advancing our infrastructure is key to our community's long-term success and sustainability. I plan to address the pressing needs of our roads, public utilities, and digital connectivity. By investing in these critical areas, we can lay a solid foundation for future growth. My vision for Cave Junction is clear: a safe, prosperous, and connected community. With your support, we can make this vision a reality. Together, let's embrace the opportunity to lead Cave Junction into a bright and thriving future.

*(This information furnished by Jesse Dugas.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Cave Junction City Council, Position 2



**Tina Casey  
Jones**

**Occupation:** Caregiver 2023-present; Retired from outside employment 2020-2023

**Occupational Background:** VA certified caregiver, 2023-present; freelance writer, Illinois Valley News, 2019-2020; General

Manager, Training Director, New Store Opening Director, Disney Stores, 1997-2016; Operations Manager, Pacific Universal Brewing/Guam, 1994-1997; Catering & Conference Services Director, Indian Wells Resort, 1991-1994, Sales Manager, Guam Hilton International, 1987-1991

**Educational Background:** Centralia College, Centralia, WA, 1977-1978, degree incomplete due to move to Europe; University of Guam, 1988, Hotel Management certification

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Cave Junction City Council, position #2, 2020-present

As the city council liaison to the Parks & Recreation Commission I have been focused primarily on the great outdoors in Cave Junction - specifically the finalization and installation of the Jubilee Park spray pad and smaller projects, such as the "Welcome to Cave Junction" sign on the north end of town. Due to the 2020 pandemic which contributed to a whopping increase in prices for materials we had to find additional funding as well as source contractors that could complete the projects within budget and on time. I am pleased to report that these two items can be checked off our to-do list as of July 2024.

Now our focus moves on to the expansion of Jubilee Park which will include an additional ball field, fully renovated accessible restrooms and designated areas for tennis, pickle ball and basketball, just to name a few. Our plan to revitalize Old Stage Park is still on our list, as is a dog park.

My promise to the city of Cave Junction? Create an environment where businesses can thrive, creating jobs for local residents; making our city a place that residents can be proud to call home!

*(This information furnished by Tina Casey Jones.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Cave Junction City Council, Position 2



### Stephen Strauss

**Occupation:** Principal Technical Program Manager at Rivian

**Occupational Background:** Harley Davidson Engineering; IT Operations Manager

**Educational Background:**

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Liberty University

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

Why am I running?

I've lived in Cave Junction for over five years, and my wife's family has been here for over a decade. We've made this community our home. I'm running for City Council because I believe in Cave Junction and its potential. I know how to work with a team to solve problems and make sure everyone is working toward a common goal. Our community needs leadership that listens, cares, and takes action.

Experience That Matters:

As a father of four and a long-time Cave Junction resident, I understand our community's needs. With years of experience managing large budgets and leading teams, I bring practical, results-driven leadership to the city council. My goal is to ensure efficient resource use and prioritize what matters most to the community.

Key Strengths:

I am committed to listening to this community and making sure every voice is heard. As a City Council member, I will focus on sustainable growth, public safety, and making sure Cave Junction remains a place where families can thrive. This includes improving infrastructure, youth programs, and promoting smart economic development.

Community Focus:

\* Economic Growth: I'll work to encourage local businesses and middle-income housing.

\* Transparency and Accountability: I'll scrutinize every dollar spent and ask the tough questions.

\* Investing in Our Future: I'll prioritize schools, parks, and public services to benefit our children and community.

Call to Action:

Together, we can create a thriving Cave Junction. I ask for your vote and your trust to help make this vision a reality.

*(This information furnished by Stephen Strauss.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## City of Cave Junction City Council, Position 4



### Jason Peters

**Occupation:** 6th Grade Teacher at Lorna Byrne Middle School

**Occupational Background:** Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army (17.5 years)

**Educational Background:** IVHS

(1996); Dual B.S. in Mfg. and Mech. Eng., Minor in Business-OIT

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Military Leadership, Project Management

EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS:

As a father of ten, a passionate educator, and a dedicated baseball coach, I know firsthand the importance of community, family, and education. My experience in operations management, business development, and military service has prepared me to lead Cave Junction with integrity, dedication, and a deep understanding of our community's needs.

Key Strengths:

I bring proven leadership and a commitment to transparency and accountability. I will focus on sustainable economic growth, enhanced public safety, improved infrastructure, and strong support for our local schools and youth programs. My goal is to create a thriving environment where every resident, especially our children, can flourish.

THE PEOPLE:

As an elected official, I pledge to represent all citizens of Cave Junction, regardless of political position. I am not just a candidate; I am a community member, deeply invested in our shared future. I will work tirelessly to ensure that Cave Junction is a place where everyone feels heard, supported, and valued.

- 1. Find Solutions to Homelessness:** Committed to developing comprehensive, compassionate solutions to address homelessness. Includes working with local organizations to provide housing, support services, and reintegration opportunities, ensuring clean streets and cared-for residents.
- 2. Revitalize City Pool and Boost Economy:** I aim to transform the city pool into a thriving community center for family and recreational activities, ensuring a safe, enjoyable environment for all. Concurrently, I will focus on easing business burdens and encouraging new enterprises to spur job creation, enhancing both our community's recreational and economic landscape.
- 3. Increase Law Enforcement:** Enhancing safety with stronger police presence.
- 4. Enforce City Code Regulations Fairly:** Committed to ensuring city code regulations are enforced effectively and equitably. Working to create a level playing field for all residents.

*(This information furnished by Jason Peters.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.



**Katherine  
Mechling**

**Occupation:** Retired Family Practice Physician

**Occupational Background:** Sole Proprietor, Clear Creek Family Practice, Selma, Oregon; 2000-2022; Physician, Siskiyou Community Health Center, Cave Junction; 1995-2000

**Educational Background:** Gonzaga University, BS, Biology; 1981; University of California, Davis, MA, Zoology; 1984; The George Washington University School of Medicine, MD; 1995; Josephine County Master Gardeners(OSU), MG; 2023

**Prior Governmental Experience:** none

The Illinois Valley is a source of amazement and inspiration, with unrivaled diversity of plants, soils, and people. Resources need to be managed carefully, to meet current and future needs.

After 25 years as a business owner and the personal family physician to many people here, I am ready to change shoes and apply science-based practices with the IVS&WCD. Prior to medical school, I attended UC Davis, earning my Masters degree in Zoology studying cell biology. That foundation in very basic science will help me better serve the people and critters of the Illinois Valley, who all depend on sustainable soils and clean water. I sincerely appreciate your support.

*(This information furnished by Katherine Mechling.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.



**Zachary W  
Robinson**

**Occupation:** Veterinarian - Illinois Valley Veterinary Service; Farmer - Cattle/Swine/Berries

**Occupational Background:** n/a

**Educational Background:** Bachelor of Science in Chemistry - Oregon State University; Doctor of Veterinary Medicine - Iowa State University

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

I grew up on a farm in the Illinois Valley and have lived here for over 40 years. I own a veterinary practice in Selma. My wife and I own a farm on which we raise livestock and berries.

My veterinary work has taken me to many of the farms in the Illinois Valley and I have seen many different irrigation systems. Over the years, I have educated many newcomers to the area about water law and how water rights work in Oregon. In several cases, I have helped people figure out the irrigation systems on the farms which they have purchased.

I look forward to working on the Soil and Water conservation board to improve the productivity and efficiency of farmland in the Illinois Valley.

*(This information furnished by Zachary W Robinson.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District  
Director, Zone 5**



**Janice I  
Denney**

**Occupation:** Board member Soil & Water Shed Council; Associate Board Member Soil & Water Shed District; VP Illinois Valley Garden Club; Member of IVFROG

**Occupational Background:**

JoCo Forestry YACC/Young Adult Conservation Corp Group Leader; USFS Tree planting, Firefighting, Campground Patrol; NMFS-Scientific Observer, Program Biologist. Biologist on Foreign Fishing Vessels/Data Collection New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mediation of Fishing Industry of Foreign Governments;

**Educational Background:** Grants Pass Public Schools grade 4-12; OSU graduate 1984 BCS Honors; Diploma of Herbal Medicine 1995

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Board member Soil & Water Shed Council; Associate Board Member Soil & Water Shed

Family owned farm and orchard in Idaho; 50 years of dedication to volunteer work/conservation services; experience with tree planting, fire and trail maintainance; BCS with Honors, Herbal medicine; maintained 2 acres adjacent to National Forest Reserve, small farm animal husbandry; taught food resilience and cheese making; Replanting native plants onto current property which had been heavily logged; Personal investment vs Political Interest; Encouraging Education and sustainability, small independent vs industry

*(This information furnished by Janice I Denney.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District  
Director, At Large, 1**



**Matthew L  
Robinson**

**Occupation:** Printing, Publishing, Medical Research, and Farming

**Occupational Background:** Engineering, Biochemistry, Farming

**Educational Background:**

Southern Oregon University, BS in Chemistry, Summa Cum Laude; Oregon State University, PhD, Nuclear Engineering

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

Proper access to irrigation water is essential to our way of life in this valley. This region is blessed with plentiful water resources. The availability of water is what makes agriculture possible. Our irrigators not only increase the productivity of our farms, they also raise the summer water table, assist in fighting and preventing wildfires, and provide a better environment for the regions wildlife.

As a lifetime valley family farmer, I understand the practical aspect of the regions water systems. I also studied hydrology as part of my engineering studies at Oregon State University and have a good theoretical background in the subject as well.

I support increasing water storage, more agricultural wells, and granting more surface water rights to our farmers.

We must work to maximize the irrigation usage and give our local farmers the water they need to make our community thrive.

I look forward to being able to help our community by enhancing the production of food with improvements in water distribution.

*(This information furnished by Matthew L Robinson.)*

Candidate statements are printed as submitted. The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.