

Official On-Line Voters' Guide Baker County, Oregon General Election

November 5, 2024

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Featuring...

A note from your County Clerk

County Treasurer Candidate Statement

Traci Robinson-Ferguson

Compiled list of County and City Candidates

Countywide measure 1-131 text

Countywide Weed District measure 1-130 text

Pine Eagle School District measure 1-129

Hello Baker County Voter,

I would like to take a minute to say thank you for looking at our On-line Voters' Guide. You may be thinking that it is shorter than what you expected to see. For clarification, this Guide is an optional resource for which our County level candidates may choose to submit a statement. As you will see, for this November's general election, one Baker County candidate submitted a statement. In addition to the submitted Candidate Statement, you can access Candidate Filing forms for County Candidates, the Notice of Measure Election forms for the different measures that have been filed through their respective links and a compiled list of filed County and City Candidates. The links are found at www.bakercountyor.gov by clicking the "What's New" located just under the photo on the homepage.

The General Election is November 5, 2024. The majority of ballots are planned to be mailed out to voters on October 16th though some groups, such as Military and Out of Country / State Absentee, get mailed out a little earlier. As this is a general election, the candidates nominated at the May Primary for their party will appear on all ballots. All of the county level offices in Baker County are non-partisan which means that regardless of party affiliation, all ballot styles contain the county level offices. The last day to register to vote is October 15. You may return your voted ballot by mail, deliver it to the Baker County Clerk's Office or drop it in any one of our Official Ballot Drop Boxes, which are as follows:

Baker County Clerk's Office

1995 3rd St., Ste. 150 Baker City, OR 97814

541-523-8207

www.bakercounty.org

Monday-Friday

8am-5pm 7am-8pm

Election Day

Drive Up Drop Site County Courthouse

4th Street Driveway

Baker City, OR 97814

7 days a week

Election Day

24 hours

Until 8pm

Halfway City Hall

155-B E. Record Street Halfway, OR 97834

Monday-Thursday

7am-10:45am, 11:45am-4pm

8am-8pm

Huntington City Hall

50 Adams St. E

Election Day

Huntington, OR 97907

Monday - Friday **Election Day**

9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm

9am-8pm

Richland City Hall

89 Main Street

Richland, OR 97870

Monday-Friday

8am-12pm

Election Day

8am-12pm, 1pm-8pm

Community Connections

2810 Cedar Street

Baker City, OR 97814

Monday-Friday **Election Day**

8am-12:30, 1:30-4pm

8am-12:30, 1:30-8pm

If you decide to return your ballot by mail, it is our recommendation to mail at least 7 days before Election Day so that we receive it in time for tally of Election Day unofficial results. Post-marks do count, as long as they are post marked on or before Election Day and received in our office on or before November 12th through the mail, however, those results will not be tallied/reported until the final Certification release.

Those are some important highlights. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out and my staff or I would be happy to assist you. We take pride in being your trusted source of election information.

Best Regards,

Stefanie Kirby, C.R.A. & C.E.A.

County Clerk

Baker County Clerk's Office

1995 3rd Street, Ste. 150

Baker City, OR 97814

skirby@bakercountyor.gov

Ph: 541-523-8207

Fax: 541-523-8240



Name of Candidate:

Traci Joi Robinson-Ferguson

Occupation:

Interim Baker County Treasurer / Tax Collector

Educational Background:

Baker High School Mt. Hood Community College

Occupational Background:

Current Baker County Interim Treasurer (July 2023 – present) Chief Deputy Treasurer for Baker County (July 2001 – June 2023)

Prior Governmental Experience:

Current Baker County Interim Treasurer (July 2023 – present) Chief Deputy Treasurer for Baker County (July 2001 – June 2023)

As your current Baker County Interim Treasurer, I am grateful to have served the county for the past 23 years. I look forward to continuing my work as the Baker County Treasurer.

I am well-versed in the preparation of financial reports and budgeting for the county, and how our property tax funds are allocated to the local districts. I strive for detailed and accurate bookkeeping and am extremely conscientious. I worked closely with the previous treasurer as her chief deputy treasurer for 22 years and unreservedly made the transition to assume her position as Baker County Treasurer when she retired.

As a life-long Baker County resident, I care deeply about our community and am honored to serve as your Baker County Treasurer.



Filed Candidates

November 5, 2024 General Election

Baker County, OR

For candidate contact information, please contact the appropriate City Recorder for City Candidates, Oregon Department of Agriculture for Soil and Water Conservation District Candidates or visit this link for County Sheriff and County Treasurer filing forms: Candidate Measure Filings.pdf (bakercountyor.gov)

Baker County

County Sheriff: Travis Ash

County Treasurer: Traci Robinson-Ferguson

City of Baker City (541)524-2033

City Council: Doni Bruland, Loran Joseph, Gratton Miller, Helen Louise Loennig, Roger Coles, Stephen C Carr, Randy Daugherty

City of Haines (541)856-3366

City Council: Kenneth Bain, Dawn O'Grady, Richard Howe

Mayor: Dennis Anthony, Brian Pound

City of Halfway (541)742-4741

City Council: Brandon Janes

City Council, 2 Year Unexpired Term: Jackelyn Jackson

Mayor: Nora Aspy

City of Huntington (541)869-2202

City Council: Wade Boxberger, Derick Bland, Wayne Brust, Justin Power

Mayor: Charles Guerri

City of Richland (541)893-6141

City Council: Nancy L Nelson-Presley, Deloris Dennis

Mayor: Andy Patton

City of Sumpter (541)894-2314

City Council, Position 1: Darold Smith

City Council, Position 3: Marsha Demaris

Mayor: Linda Wise

City of Unity (541)446-3544

City Council: Travis Bradford, Kinzi Rasmussen, Travis Rasmussen, Dan Davis

Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 2: Deryl Leggett

Zone 3, 2 Year Unexpired Term: Mike T Williams

Zone 4: Joel Rohner

Zone 5: L Dean Defrees

At Large 1: Jaclynn R Gambill (West)

Burnt River Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 1: David W Nygard

Zone 2, 2 Year Unexpired Term: Diana D Fillmore

Zone 3, 2 Year Unexpired Term: Joseph (Bryan) B Hardy

At Large 1: Mark Allen Fillmore

Eagle Valley Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 2: Kyle R Ransom

Zone 3: Rick D Jackson

At Large 1: (Ronald) Ron R Still Jr

Keating Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 2: Christopher (Eric) E Porter

Zone 3: Curt Nelson

At Large 1: Scott B Wilde

At Large 2, 2 Year Unexpired Term: Skyler Martin

1-131 Commissioners discuss relocating Idaho border on dates determined by Commissioners.

Shall Commissioners discuss relocating Idaho borders at times when the Commission Board determines necessary, rather than on prescribed dates?

If passed, the Baker County Board of Commissioners will meet to discuss how to promote the interest of Baker County in any negotiations regarding relocating the state borders of Idaho and Oregon on dates and at times that are determined by the Board. This changes the requirement that these meetings be set on specified dates, namely the second Wednesday of March, July and November.

1-130 Four Year Local Option Tax for Noxious Weed Control

Shall Baker County levy approximately \$0.0660/\$1,000 assessed value, \$130,000 annually, for four years beginning 2025-2026 for noxious weed programs? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

This is a special levy outside the County's tax base. The last weed levy rate was approximately \$0.05885 per \$1,000 assessed value. Funds generated from the last levy amounted to \$100,000 annually for programs such as herbicide give-away and the Cost Share program. Funds were used to provide noxious weed treatments county-wide and outreach/education to local communities. The new proposed levy provides a tax of \$130,000 annually. Taxes raised under the new levy would allow for the continuation of the department's assistance programs, county noxious weed treatments, increase education/outreach with the local communities. The tax rate under the new levy will be approximately \$0.0660 per \$1,000 assessed value based on 2024-2025 fiscal year assessment. The proposed levy would have a beginning date of July 1, 2025 and ending date of June 30, 2029. ESTIMATED EXAMPLE: A \$200,000 assessed property would yield an estimated \$13.20 annually under the levy. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based upon the 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.

1-129 Bonds to Repair and Update Schools, Additional Classrooms; Improve Safety

Shall Pine Eagle School District repair and update schools and improve safety by issuing \$5,432,510 in general obligation bonds? 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.

Pine Eagle School District seeks bonds to repair and update schools and improve safety. District has been awarded \$5,432,510 State grant that would be available only if bonds are approved. Funds would be used to finance capital costs, including:

- High School improvements:
 - o Replace original heating system with energy-efficient HVAC
 - o Install fresh air system to improve air quality
 - o Replace main electrical system; increase electrical capacity
 - o Add secured entry vestibule, front office with ADA accessibility
 - o Remodel existing office into additional classrooms
- Elementary School improvements:
 - Replace existing gym floor
 - Replace main electrical system
- Site improvements, demolition, furnishings, equipment, bond issuance costs.

District would establish citizen oversight committee to ensure proceeds are used for purposes indicated. Bonds may be issued in multiple series; each maturing within 16 years from issuance. The estimated annual tax rate would be \$1.36 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Actual levy rate may differ due to final interest rates and changes in assessed value.