

Official On-Line Voters' Guide

Baker County, Oregon

Primary Election

May 19, 2026

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Featuring...

A note from your County Clerk and Candidate Statements from:

County Commissioner, Position 2

Casey Aldrich

Peter Hall

James Marcum

Dan Johnson

County Commissioner, Position 3

Bill Harvey

Kody Justus

Whitney Rilee

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 the Primary Election this May, seven Baker County candidates submitted statements. In addition to the submitted Candidate Statements, you can access the candidate filing forms for County Candidates, PCP's (Precinct Committee Person) for both major parties within Baker County, and the Notice of Measure Election forms for the different measures that have been filed through their respective links on our website. The links can be found at www.bakercountyor.gov by clicking the "What's New" located just under the photo on the homepage. Please note, the full text of the measures is printed on your ballot as well.

The Primary Election is May 19, 2026. Most ballots are planned to be mailed out to voters on April 29th though some groups, such as Military and Out of Country / State Absentee, get mailed out a little earlier. Since this is a closed primary, you must be registered as a Republican or Democrat to receive a nominating ballot for those partisan offices. Those who are registered Non-Affiliated or any other party selection will receive a nonpartisan ballot. All county level offices in Baker County are nonpartisan which means that regardless of party affiliation, all ballot styles contain the county level offices. The last day to register to vote or change your party is April 28th. 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
Election Day 7am-8pm

Drive Up Drop Site

County Courthouse
4th Street Driveway
Baker City, OR 97814
7 days a week 24 hours
Election Day Until 8pm

Halfway City Hall

155-B E. Record Street
Halfway, OR 97834
Monday-Thursday 7am-10:45am, 11:45am-4pm
Election Day 8am-8pm

Huntington City Hall

50 Adams St. E
Huntington, OR 97907
Monday - Friday 9am-12pm, 1pm-5pm
Election Day 9am-8pm

Richland City Hall

89 Main Street
Richland, OR 97870
Monday-Friday 7am-12pm
Election Day 8am-12pm, 1pm-8pm

Community Connections

2810 Cedar Street
Baker City, OR 97814
Monday-Friday 8am-12:30, 1:30-4pm
Election Day 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 the tally of Election Day unofficial results. Post-marks do count, only if they are post marked on or before Election Day and received in our office on or before May 26th through the mail, however, those results will not be tallied/reported until the final Certification release in June.

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.C.C.

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



Casey Aldrich
Baker County Commissioner, Position 2

Occupation: Farm and Ranch

Educational Background: Baker High School

Occupational Background: Occupational Background Small Business
Owner with experience in cold chain delivery and sales;
Forestry & Wildfire; Leadership Roles in Various Industries;
Accounts Management; Public Relations



Prior Governmental Experience: None

Casey Aldrich

Common Sense for Baker County

My family has been in Baker County for over 100 years. I was born and raised here. My wife and I have 3 beautiful children. I believe in freedom, rights, and the Constitution. Our county faces many challenges as we attempt to thrive in a modern new world while maintaining our traditional old world ways of life. I believe government was intended to be of the people, by the people, and for the people. I am of the people and for the people of Baker County. If elected county commissioner I will serve the citizens of Baker County, not as a politician, but as a fellow citizen.

Transparency

- Implement policies that create government transparency
- Make government meetings and discussions open to the public
- Make government data and public information easily and conveniently available

Communication

- Encourage, enable, and involve the public in discussions of county issues
- Listen to the concerns, comments, and ideas of citizens
- Improve communication fluidity between commissioners, departments, and the public

Accountability

- Create avenues for voters to hold officials accountable to the people and offices they serve
- Scrutinize every issue with common sense, reason, and the desire to ensure that decisions are being made in the best interest of citizens
- Prioritize citizens over politics

Economic Development

- Explore and promote new and existing tourism opportunities
- Cut unnecessary red tape for businesses
- Explore opportunities for local and natural resource capitalization

Taxes and Wasteful Spending

- Advocate against new taxes, tax increases, and wasteful spending
- Promote meaningful spending with emphasis on citizen benefit over government benefit
- Advocate to reduce or eliminate government service fees

Peter Hall
Baker County Commissioner, Position 2

Occupation: Retired

Educational Background: BA, University of Washington, German/Political Science

Occupational Background: Culinary and Public Service

Prior Governmental Experience: Councilor, City of Haines, Oregon 2019-2024
Director, Haines Fire District Board 2019-2025
Director, League of Oregon Cities 2019-2021

James Marcrum
Baker County Commissioner, Position 2

Occupation: Retired

Educational Background: B.S. in Business Management and Leadership

Occupational Background: Leadership roles in manufacturing, corrections and private security.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Optional Information: As county commissioner I will work to help the county grow, maintain access to our natural resources, and improve the quality of life for the people of Baker County. I will always listen to the concerns of the residents of Baker County and be transparent. Honesty, integrity and communication will always be first and foremost in my actions. I believe in and will always support our constitution.

Dan Johnson
Baker County Commissioner, Position 2

Occupation: Majority owner/operator, Bonanza Mine (Halfway, OR) since 2011,
Vice-chair of Eastern Oregon Mining Association,
Chair of Baker County Republican Central Committee

Educational Background: Studied at El Camino Junior College, Oregon College of Education
and University of Oregon

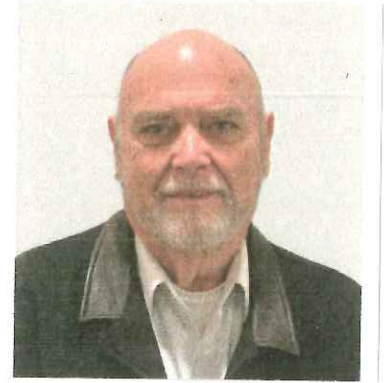
Occupational Background: Workers Compensation Specialist and investigator
followed by 30 years as owner/CEO of a medical evaluation firm with offices in seven states

Prior Governmental Experience: Employee of State Accident Insurance Fund (SAIF) and Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries
(BOLI); City Councilman (Silverton, OR); appointed member of Baker County Natural Resources Committee

Optional Information: I have been married for over 50 years, raised four children, and have built a strong foundation based on faith,
family and community service. We cherish spending quality time with family and friends, as well as engaging with the people in our
community and sharing life experiences. My strong beliefs in ethics and fairness have always guided my path, and I firmly believe in
treating everyone with dignity, regardless of their past or station in life. I believe that everyone has the potential to make a positive
contribution to their community.

Currently, I am a member of the Baker County Natural Resources Committee (NRAC) and serve as vice-chair of Eastern Oregon
Mining Association. My experience in business development is a valuable asset to build a better economy for Baker County. My
past city council experience has provided me with a deeper understanding of city ordinances/laws, and public operations inclusive of
department support.

My expertise as an auditor and workers' compensation specialist was instrumental in my business successes, which include 30+
years of experience in building and managing a medical evaluation firm that eventually employed over 60 people in multiple western
states. My diverse industry knowledge, inclusive of agricultural practices, equips me to effectively serve Baker County as
Commissioner.



Bill Harvey
Baker County Commissioner, Position 3

Occupation: Custom Building Contractor and Developer

Educational Background: High School Diploma

Occupational Background: Eight years in the Grocery Business
Forty-six years in Construction
Ten-years Blue Mountain Building Industry Association President

Prior Governmental Experience: Eight-years as Baker County Commission Chairman
Twelve-years as Baker County Planning Commission



Optional Information: I have lived in Baker County for fifty-four years. I have been married for thirty-six years with four children, eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

We live at the base of the Elkhorn Mountains outside of Haines. I would not want to live anywhere else. I have spent my life serving others in some capacity. I have spent time with Work & Witness Teams traveling to Africa, Philippines and Costa Rica doing construction on churches and schools.

Kody Justus
Baker County Commissioner, Position 3

Occupation: Cattle Rancher

Educational Background: Graduate of Baker High School 1989; Active in leadership through Future Farmers of America (FFA); Department of Public Standards and Training; Basic Corrections at Western Oregon University.

Occupational Background: Served in the United States Army from 1989-1992, including deployments in Germany and Kuwait. Former Correctional Officer. Former State Brand Inspector. Extensive experience in ranch operations management, budgeting, human resource management, strategic procurement, marketing, and business ownership.

Prior Governmental Experience: Formerly elected Precinct Committee Person and served as Vice-Chair of Baker County Republican Party; Former member of the Baker County Natural Resource Advisory Committee; Military service in the United States Army – committed to public service and leadership.

Optional Information: I believe the fundamental role of government is to maintain order, provide stability and ensure safety so that our communities can thrive. Citizens should have full confidence that their lives, liberty and property are protected. When these core principles are challenged in Baker County, it is the responsibility of county leadership to safeguard and uphold the rights of the residents.

I am committed to fostering a leadership environment where ideas are openly shared, innovative solutions are thoughtfully considered, and effective problem-solving is prioritized. I will work to cultivate a Commission grounded in trust and transparency – one that delivers balanced, mutually beneficial outcomes while establishing clear county priorities and sound public policy. It is equally important that our local government remain steady and resilient amid political transitions, elections, and administrative changes.

I am dedicated to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of public meetings by ensuring agendas are shared in advance, discussions remain focused on clearly defined objectives, and action steps and timelines that promote accountability.

My life experiences have equipped me to make clear, principled, and rational decisions. I will approach each decision with a careful understanding of both the immediate impact and the long-term implications for our county.

It is an honor to seek the opportunity to serve a county I deeply value. I respectfully ask for your support in bringing my experience, commitment, and dedication to the Baker County Commission.

Thank you.



Whitney Rilee
Baker County Commissioner, Position 3

Occupation: Victim Assistance Program Director

Educational Background: Bachelor of Science in Physical Activity and Health: Community Health from Eastern Oregon University in 2019. Minor in Physical Education and Psychology. Certification in Financial Coaching in 2021.

Occupational Background: Teacher of Jr/Sr High at Harvest Christian Academy 2016-2019, Office Manager at Baker County Juvenile Department 2020-2021, Victim Assistance Program Director 2021-present.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Optional Information: Baker County needs a leader who listens to input from county employees, represents the people, and has the courage to make difficult decisions. I believe I am that leader. I have worked for Baker County for six years and am deeply aware of the need for improved communication, unity of vision, and uplifting leadership. My goal is to listen first, understand the real challenges facing our population and work toward thoughtful, innovative solutions. My hope is that residents of every generation feel invested in shaping a community that is strong, connected, and thriving. As an advocate, I have learned the importance of listening to diverse perspectives and approaching tough decisions with respect and fairness. My work with attorneys has expanded my knowledge of researching laws, reinforced the importance of diplomatic discussions with people from all sides of the table, and sharpened the critical thinking skills necessary to lead others.

My background as a teacher, mother, and wife has given me the humility to admit when I am wrong. If I do not know an answer, I will not make one up. Instead, I commit to doing the work – researching the issue, consulting experts, and developing well-informed plans.

As the vice president of the county employee association, I developed leadership and negotiating skills relevant to the commission chair. Leading from the grassroots level up is how I intend to lead this county, just as I helped lead the association. Our community deserves positive change, and I am ready to be part of delivering it.

