

# 2014 McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce Candidate Questionnaire

Dear Reader,

The following questions were posed to candidates by the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce. The questions were designed by the Government Affairs Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Each candidate running for office in a position or district that would represent a piece, or the whole, of McMinnville was sent a specific questionnaire to their candidacy. The following answers are directly from the candidates and have not been edited for content, spelling, or grammar; however, editing for consistent formatting was completed to create this document.

Any candidates not included in this questionnaire is only due to the Chamber not receiving the candidates feedback by the deadline needed (including an extension). The Chamber is not endorsing candidates in any race, only serving to provide Awareness and Education about candidates and their position on points that the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce leadership felt were important to clarify.

If you have any questions please contact Nathan Knottingham at [nknottingham@mcminnville.org](mailto:nknottingham@mcminnville.org).

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## **Suzanne Bonamici, Candidate U.S. Congress**

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

### **1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences, which will enable you to effectively, serve as a U.S. Representative?**

My very first job was working in my mother's small business. I worked my way through community college, college, and law school in Eugene before joining the Federal Trade Commission as a consumer protection attorney in Washington, DC. I met my husband Michael in DC, and in 1986 we moved to Washington County, where we have lived ever since. At that point, I entered private practice and specialized in representing small businesses.

After several years of private practice, I decided to take some time off to raise my young children and became an active community volunteer. It was the school advocacy work I did during those years that first took me to the Oregon State Capitol and led me to run for the State Legislature.

I served one term as a State Representative in the Oregon House before being appointed to serve in the Oregon Senate. I was reelected to the Senate twice, in 2008 and 2010. In the Oregon Legislature, I was Chair of the Consumer Protection & Public Affairs Committee and a member of the Education &

Workforce Development Committee. During this time, my listening and positive negotiating skills came in handy, allowing me to build bipartisan support on much of my legislation. This ability to find places of agreement, rather than focusing on the disagreement, served me well in Salem and continues to help me in Congress today.

I ran for Congress three years ago and was first elected in a special election on January 31, 2012 and then elected to a full term in November of 2012. I serve on the Education and Workforce Committee and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, where I hold the leadership position of Ranking Member on the Environment Subcommittee. During a divisive time, I have been able to make small but important bipartisan achievements like passing a bill to connect local businesses with community colleges to teach students the skills needed for available jobs; preserving access to justice by stopping major cuts to the budget for federal public defenders; passing legislation to protect our oceans and lakes by better predicting and responding to harmful algal blooms; and crafting legislation to improve weather forecasting without cutting funding from climate research.

**2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (bills/ideas/changes) you will advocate for during the 2015 legislature?**

First and foremost, I am running for Congress to help create more opportunities for the people of Oregon to have a secure economic future, which means there are many priorities to be considered. My top priorities include rebuilding a strong economy, and fostering a quality education system for everyone. A library of books could be written (and have been) on these topics and the many issues that are involved with each. To briefly summarize, I would like to pass legislation authorizing long-term investments in infrastructure projects to grow our economy and create more living wage jobs, as well as support workforce development programs to close the skills gap and train workers for jobs available in their communities. I introduced the Workforce Infrastructure for Skilled Employees Investment Act to help workforce investment boards coordinate with a local business liaison dedicated to conducting an in-depth analysis of local business needs and applying that analysis to workforce investment efforts.

I would also like to introduce and pass legislation in the area of public education by expanding access to early childhood education, make significant changes to No Child Left Behind to prevent “teaching to the test,” expand programs that close the aforementioned skills gap and prepare Oregonians for existing jobs, and make college more affordable. We can all agree that a well-educated population will strengthen the economy and build stronger communities.

**3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in Oregon today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?**

Oregon’s First Congressional District is made up of five counties that include metropolitan, industrial, agricultural, coastal lands and everything in between. Because of this diversity, I hear a number of issues come up within my district but the two I hear about most often during my discussions with constituents and business owners are the need for more economic certainty and the need to do more to support our infrastructure systems, including our roads, highways, bridges, and water systems.

As mentioned above, these issues are already on my radar. The partisan gamesmanship that led to our government shutdown was the least productive experience of my tenure and I can guarantee that I will never play politics with our economy and the certainty that businesses need to grow and thrive. This also includes outstanding issues, such as tax reform, trade, and the reauthorization of the Export-Import bank. I will advocate for increased funding of infrastructure and work with the rest of the Oregon delegation to direct dollars to Oregon whenever we can. Businesses need an honest and transparent

debate – and Congress must stop enacting short-term policies and stop avoiding controversial debate on the important issues.

**4. Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass will be completed in 2017. The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce is concerned about how to secure funding to complete the entire project. How will you help facilitate funding and completion of this vital project?**

The Newberg-Dundee Bypass project is critical for the regional economy. I have been an advocate for the project and the funding needed to make sure this project is completed in a way that addresses the current challenges. I am proud of the collaboration happening at the local level but am deeply disappointed that the bypass was not funded during the last round of TIGER grant funds. I was a strong advocate for this project at every level and my office will provide as much assistance as possible to get feedback about the grant application to help during future funding applications. I also recently met with the local elected officials in Yamhill County to discuss the challenges with the project and to strategize about potential state and federal funding opportunities. I will continue to have these conversations, make calls, write letters, and do what I can to champion this project.

**5. How will you involve the business community in statewide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact Oregonians?**

I regularly communicate with businesses, both small and large, in my district and stay in touch with the organizations and associations that represent the business community around the state. We are fortunate to have a number of conveners in Oregon that are working to move us in the right direction. When appropriate, I am also happy to act as a convener to ensure we're all working together. I will also continue to participate in these discussions at the state and federal level, to provide assistance through funding requests, phone calls, letters of support, attendance at important meetings and events in Oregon and in Washington, DC, when the opportunities arise.

**6. Mandatory sick leave is an issue that is becoming much more prevalent at local levels of government. What is your position on a statewide paid sick leave law? Please explain.**

More than 40 million private sector workers in the U.S. are not able to take a paid sick day if they get sick or a member of their family does. When workers are forced to come into work sick, they are less productive and risk spreading infection to their co-workers and customers. No one should have to choose between their source of income and doing right by a sick child or other family member. Our current Family Leave & Medical Act helps some people but it only covers unpaid leave, which is not an option for many of the constituents working in the First District.

I have heard the argument that paid sick leave mandates will hurt businesses and the economy. However, the growing collection of research indicates decreased turnover and healthcare costs, and higher productivity, in cities that have already passed paid sick time mandates.

145 countries around the world have been able to provide their employees with earned paid sick days and it is time for the U.S. to join those ranks.

I have also met with many businesses, including small businesses, that make it a priority to offer paid sick leave because they see the value in providing this benefit to their employees. I hope we can work together to including business' feedback in any effort to develop and implement a fair paid sick leave policy.

**7. What role does government have in retaining, growing or attracting businesses to the area and how will it be funded?**

The federal and state governments are not job creators. Aside from funding infrastructure projects that create jobs, our role is limited to fostering an environment in which businesses can grow and thrive, and then allowing them to do so.

At the state, county, and municipal levels there are some funds available to incentivize business growth or relocation, but it's not a large amount. The federal government can help by supporting workforce development programs that train a competitive workforce that has the skills needed for available jobs so businesses don't have to seek employees elsewhere to remain competitive. We can also support the delivery of a quality education so children grow up with the critical thinking skills and qualities needed to succeed in the workplace. Our tax system is also in need of reform, and I look forward to working with businesses to see what we can do to simplify the system, especially for small businesses owners.

**8. What is your view on how video lottery funds should be spent?**

I do not have any oversight of the Oregon Lottery as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives,

**9. What are your thoughts and position on funding and CTE development in secondary schools?**

I currently serve as a member of the Education & Workforce Committee, the CTE Caucus, and am a vocal advocate for STEM education in Congress. I am a steadfast advocate for career and technical education options that prepare our youth to join the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy, which includes the Perkins Act.

As our education system evolves to meet the needs of our economy, I am working to help students get access to information on the various options they have after graduation. Last year, I introduced legislation to help ensure high school students are made fully aware of their career and education options prior to graduation by supporting the development of comprehensive career counseling programs in school districts across the country.

**10. What are your thoughts and position on tax reform? How will you enact your plan?**

I support efforts that reform and simplify the tax code in ways that are fair and protect middle class and low-income families. I will not support efforts that increase the tax burden on the middle class and those who are working hard to join the middle class.

**11. What are your views on the Work Ready Community initiative and how do you see your role effecting the outcome?**

As I mentioned before, as I travel around the district, I hear from businesses and job seekers that there is a skills gap between applicants and what is required for open positions. We need to address the skills gap and to make sure we are adequately training the workforce to meet the demands of available jobs. Unfortunately, there isn't one easy solution to the workforce development challenge. I support several approaches including workplace readiness initiatives as long as these are carefully designed to incorporate feedback from local employers and are designed to meet the needs of the community.

As a member of the Education & Workforce Committee, I know there is great opportunity to help address workforce issues and I look forward to continuing to work with the communities in the First Congressional District to make sure we have a trained workforce ready to meet the demands of local businesses.

The amount of work that ACT has put into building the Work Ready Community Initiative is remarkable and I am impressed that the Initiative has been able to spread to every county in Oregon over the last two years. The large number of local businesses, agencies, associations, labor groups, and community colleges that support the initiative is a good sign, as is the number of people earning certificates. I have not had a chance to analyze the data coming out of the five counties within my district but look forward to doing so.

If reelected to Congress, I will continue to make workforce readiness a priority. I was proud to support reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act this year, and since 2012 I have led my colleagues on a letter to the Appropriation Committee advocating for funding for WIA. I will continue to advocate for these successful programs.

## **12. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?**

I am proud to have received the support and endorsement of a number of businesses, organizations, and groups including:

- In-district businesses including Nike, Intel, Genentech, Boeing, the Standard, Portland General Electric, and NW Natural
- Building Trade Associations including the Machinists, Bricklayers, Painters, Ironworkers, and Sheet Metal Workers
- Transportation companies like BNSF, Union Pacific, and Alaska Airlines and transportation workers unions including the Allied Pilots Association, the Amalgamated Transportation Workers, the Teamsters, and more
- And a number of local business leaders representing businesses large and small

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## **Jason Yates, Candidate for U.S. Congress**

### **1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a State Representative/Senator?**

Before anyone elected to Congress is allowed to assume office, he or she is required take an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. It seems that all too often, this sacred oath is treated as a formality; an empty ritual.

Today, whether we are talking about NSA intrusions into our privacy, warrantless searches, federal encroachment onto state powers, or Congress's new habit of supporting undeclared wars, too many members of Congress use the Constitution as a doormat. Over the long run, this puts our freedom and prosperity at risk.

I have a good working class job and a fine family. This lets me relate to the lives of most of the people who live in our district. But my passion for making sure that Congress stays within it's constitutional authority makes me qualified to take that oath and serve the people faithfully.

### **2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (bills/ideas/changes) you will advocate for during the 2015 legislature?**

The first thing I think we need to do is to revitalize Oregon's natural resource economy. It is true that in decades past we logged and fished irresponsibly. But we have gone too far the other way. Jobs in the tourism and technological sectors either cannot support families or are not practical options for working-class families.

With what we now know about our precious eco-systems, new forestry and fishing practices, and other technologies, I believe that we can responsibly and sustainably revitalize our natural resource economy. We should also give the green light for LNG export terminals and use our energy to break the energy monopolies of destabilizing authoritarian regimes while creating jobs and improving our balance of trade.

I also believe we need to reverse the federal government's encroachment on state educational systems and begin encouraging a shift away from over-reliance on traditional brick and mortar schools. Our schools need to be as diverse as our children, their learning styles, and their communities needs are. Finally, I believe we need to audit the entire federal government and build more transparency into our monetary system.

**3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in Oregon today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?**

Corporate tax rates are too high. The idea of a "big bad corporation" is largely a myth. Most corporations are small family businesses. Truth be told, there is no such thing as a true corporate tax; we pay almost all corporate taxes because corporations build the cost of these taxes into the price of the goods and services we buy.

To stay competitive, they leave the country to escape these rates and often take jobs with them. Let's lower corporate tax rates - doing so will keep more businesses and their jobs at home while lowering prices in competitive industries. It will also spur investment.

I also believe that increasing mandates on business is a job killer. Employee benefits are a good thing, and I support them. To make it possible to offer benefits sustainably, we need to create a job creation environment. Piling mandates like ObamaCare on employees, in the longrun, is not the way to do it.

**4. Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass will be completed in 2017. The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce is concerned about how to secure funding to complete the entire project. How will you help facilitate funding and completion of this vital project?**

I believe, that in the long run, the Newberg-Dundee Bypass will be a net job creator and a catalyst of economic development. In Congress, there are many ways to promote important projects through direct legislation or more indirectly through amendments. I will fight hard to secure financial partnership from the federal government to develop this key piece of infrastructure.

**5. How will you involve the business community in statewide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact Oregonians?**

The local business community is the hub that holds each town together. Even though every town doesn't have a Nike, Intel, or Columbia Sportswear they do have multiple small businesses that help run

and stabilize the local economy. Every business, great or small, should be treated the same by state legislators. This is also true for US legislators.

Once elected, I promise to have an Open Door Policy at my office. This promise will be available to every citizen and business owner. As your elected Representative, the only way I can effectively serve you is to be available to listen to your thoughts and concerns.

**6. Mandatory sick leave is an issue that is becoming much more prevalent at local levels of government. What is your position on a statewide paid sick leave law? Please explain.**

While I think that paid sick leave might be a sensible benefit for many employers to offer their employees, I oppose making paid sick leave mandatory. I do not believe that government should expand its practice of telling businesses what benefits they must offer their workers.

By creating a better economic environment for business investment and increasing economic activity, the market for labor will become more competitive as it was before the 2007 recession. This, more than any government mandate, can do more to create upward pressure on employee benefits without creating economic burdens on business that discourage hiring and destroy jobs.

**7. What role does government have in retaining, growing or attracting businesses to the area and how will it be funded?**

The government is a necessary part of business. It exists to give balance and fairness to citizens and businesses alike. Sadly, overregulation is driving businesses out of state and out of country. I will propose new legislation to lower the tax burdens and overregulation on businesses so they are able to thrive. By allowing companies more freedom, it affords them the opportunity to invest more money into the community by hiring more employees, upgrading equipment, and lowering prices on their goods and services. This legislation would also increase business competition thereby helping the consumers in each business market with more choices to spend their money.

**8. What is your view on how video lottery funds should be spent?**

Education funding was one of the major points that Oregon was sold on when the lottery was set up. Education remains a key point to building the leaders of tomorrow. The funds from Oregon lottery proceeds should continue to be funneled into local school districts to build a lasting infrastructure that will continue to improve student's school experience.

**9. What are your thoughts and position on funding and CTE development in secondary schools?**

Career Technical Education should be a hallmark of secondary education. Trade work such as welding, auto repair, and computer work are very important jobs that fewer and fewer students are studying. If these jobs are not taught in school, how can students know about the possibilities of well-paying careers that don't require a college degree? For that reason alone, technical trade work should not only be taught but required for students to know about. Students should have an opportunity to take at least one technical trade class during their high school career. Lottery funds could be used to fund this extended program. It would allow for more teachers to be hired and for overall class sizes to shrink.

**10. What are your thoughts and position on tax reform? How will you enact your plan?**

Taxes are the source of the federal government's funding. That means that you are the boss of the federal government! With that in mind, I want to see a complete tax reform overhaul. Washington, D.C. is full of needless agencies and an over abundance of laws and regulations. One way to start to reign in overtaxation is the eliminate those unneeded agencies, laws, and regulations. One of the departments that needs the most work is the IRS. I support a full annual audit of the IRS as well as a flat tax. As your next Representative, I will propose this during my first session in Congress.

**11. What are your views on the Work Ready Community initiative and how do you see your role effecting the outcome?**

Oregon has become a leader in the Work Ready Community program. This program is a workforce development program that helps economic, education, and workforce strategies. All 36 counties in Oregon are participating in the program. This program will help Oregon emerge from the slumping recession we have endured. Along with Career Technical Education, tax reform, and helping reduce the grasp the government holds on individuals and business, this program can help Oregon become the nation's premier entrepreneurial destination for large and small businesses from all around the country.

**12. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?**

I am endorsed by Oregon Right To Life, Oregon Firearms Federation, Taxpayers Association of Oregon, former US Congressmen Tom Delay and Bob McEwen, State Representatives Jim Weidner and Kim Thatcher, RP Advanced Mobile Systems, Bug Busters Pest Control, Andre Stefansky's Painting, and many more. Please visit my website [www.YatesForCongress.com](http://www.YatesForCongress.com) for a more complete list of endorsements.

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## **Ken Moore, Candidate for House District 24**

**1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a State Representative/Senator?**

As an electrical and software design engineer at Hewlett- Packard in McMinnville I learned to deal with the conflicting demands of the marketplace. Balancing the strength, weight, power consumption and cost of a product demanded well engineered solutions just as the challenges that face our district require well considered and creative uses of our natural and economic resources.

For three years back in the 80's I tried my hand at farming. Acting on the advice of some friendly neighborhood farmers I planted 40 acres in a mix of oats and alfalfa. The idea is the oats come up the first year and are harvested but the alfalfa grows at a slower pace and is ready to harvest the next year. I am proud to say the oats were a bumper crop and the dairy farmer that came to look at them in the



barn, said "Ain't nothing wrong with those oats." Which, if you know dairy farmers, is high praise. He bought the entire crop. Well it was beginners luck because the alfalfa harvests barely covered the planting costs not to mention the equipment and fuel. It turned out the field needed lime and when I found out how much that would cost I decided it was time to let a real farmer take over and I leased the field on shares. All this is to say, I have seen some of the challenges of farming first hand and that experience will inform me as I work in the legislature to assist Oregon agriculture.

As the Board Chair of the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of McMinnville (UUFM) I served our diverse faith community as we wrestled with the growing pains of a new congregation. My faith constantly calls me to be compassionate and work to bring the human family closer together.

As an apartment owner-manager I have worked with hundreds of tenants struggling through financial difficulty and personal hardship. This experience has helped me to learn to balance the demands of compassion and a contractual relationship.

For the past five years, as a licensed, bonded, insured contractor & handyman I have come to understand some of the challenges of small business ownership. Going into the homes and businesses of folks who have asked me to come in hopes that I can solve a problem (or a list of problems) and working with them to find a practical, cost effective solution has been a constant source of job satisfaction. As a successful small business owner I have gained appreciation of the interface between the state legislature and small businesses.

As the Board Chair of Gallery Theater for 10 years, I helped to deliver year after year of quality entertainment on a shoestring budget. Boasting eight shows a season and an active children's dance and theater program, Gallery Theater is a justified source of community pride. It was my pleasure to work to provide the opportunity for people of many backgrounds and ages to come together, have fun and create something wonderful for the entire community.

I firmly believe that the quality of our children's education will determine the quality of our future. This belief has led me serve as an ASPIRE councilor helping high school students prepare and apply for college admission and scholarships. As a founding board member of The Shadow Project, a nonprofit that has helped to close the achievement gap for more than 6,500 children in special education, I was instrumental in bringing the program to many schools in McMinnville and Hillsboro. As a volunteer in the schools serving to help children succeed, I have learned first-hand from teachers and administrators, the challenges of our education system.

My interest in strengthening the voice of the community in government led me to initiate a democracy discussion group, which, among other things concerns itself with the growing power of government lobbyists to control our democratic process.

All these experiences have prepared me to effectively represent House District 24. I strongly believe that my ability to listen and bring people together is what will serve House District 24 the most. Our district is full of hard working, experienced, intelligent, passionate, and visionary people who are ready to elect someone who will turn their ideas into effective bills. Government is, after all, supposed to be "*...of the people, by the people, for the people...*" -Lincoln. My campaign is focused on hearing the needs of the voters living here, and my time in Salem will be spent making sure that their voices are heard.

**2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (bills/ideas/changes) you will advocate for during the 2015 legislature?**

1. Stable funding for education - The yo-yo funding of education is wasteful and is a barrier to reaching our educational goals.
2. Living wage job expansion - A healthy local economy is driven by successful entrepreneurs and the growth of midsized businesses. I will work to create and maintain a healthy business climate, free of unnecessary regulation.

3. Public-private partnerships in CTE - I am eager to create a working template for business to support and benefit from partnering with the professional, technical, and agricultural skills programs in local schools.

**3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in Oregon today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?**

1. Lack of qualified job applicants - I want to focus attention on workforce development, internship programs, Work Ready Community initiatives, and public-private partnerships in CTE.
2. The burden of over-regulation - I want to relieve business of the red-tape in startup and expansion, incubate entrepreneurship, and consolidate and make accessible the existing, yet spread-out assistance programs.

**4. Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass will be completed in 2017. The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce is concerned about how to secure funding to complete the entire project. How will you help facilitate funding and completion of this vital project?**

I believe one of the purposes of government is to provide for public projects which small groups cannot accomplish on their own. Infrastructure is the primary example of this; providing solid transportation infrastructure is vital to strengthening the backbone of our economy. I will consistently work to identify funding sources for this high-priority project by keeping it in the forefront of budget negotiations with my fellow legislators.

**5. How will you involve the business community in statewide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact Oregonians?**

During my campaign, I have sought out business leaders for discussion about issues they are facing, attended Economic Development sessions to listen to business leaders' presentations, and have joined and participated in a number of business community organizations, including the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce. Yes, I will have an "open door" policy for ALL my constituents, but in addition you will find me knocking on YOUR door, continuing the conversations I have already started: what is working, what is not working, and what needs to be done.

**6. Mandatory sick leave is an issue that is becoming much more prevalent at local levels of government. What is your position on a statewide paid sick leave law? Please explain.**

The working people who lack sick time are concentrated in low-wage service sector jobs – those most likely to come into regular contact with the public. Without earned sick time, sick employees go to work and sick children are sent to school and childcare, reducing productivity, spreading illness, and increasing healthcare costs. This adds substantial burden to our economy.

I am concerned about a patchwork of different local laws developing that would make an administrative nightmare for a small business to work or grow across local jurisdictional lines. I would like to see a statewide earned sick-leave law that addresses these public health aspects, and still provides for minimal impact on businesses and their operations. If not implemented correctly, the effect on small businesses could be very detrimental. I feel there should be phase-in periods and discussion around exemptions. For example, one idea that might be explored is tracking this earned time using the already existing Unemployment Insurance system.

**7. What role does government have in retaining, growing or attracting businesses to the area and how will it be funded?**

Government should be a partner and willing facilitator of economic development, but should seek the input and direction of existing commerce and industry. I have been in many of the current economic development conversations at the city, county and state level and have heard repeatedly from businesses about the needs to:

- match the skills of job-seekers and the skills needed by employers;
- provide access to capital;
- support value-added agriculture;

- have available better economic data and assessment;
- provide focus on growing markets;
- incorporate regional flexibility and local-control for addressing regulatory barriers;
- have integration and support of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs).

As far as funding, many of these do not NEED funding. Skills trainings can be handled like in question #9 below - through CTE development funded by private partnerships. Data and assessment can primarily be handled by funneling existing studies and research into a central, accessible system run by a university. Similarly, local control, SBDCs, growing markets, support of value added agriculture all can be accomplished by existing systems shifting their focus and consolidating operations. These changes SAVE us money, not cost us more.

### **8. What is your view on how video lottery funds should be spent?**

A little background to answer this question clearly: Oregonians vote to approve how Oregon Lottery funds are distributed. Over the years, voters have approved constitutional amendments allowing Lottery funds to be used for economic development (1984), public education (1995) and natural resources (1998). Some funds are constitutionally dedicated by voters. The current ratios are 57% for education, 27% for economic development, 15% for State Parks and natural resources, and 1% for gambling addiction treatment.

Currently, ORS 461.547 separately specifies that 2.5% of Video Lottery proceeds are to be allocated to the county for local “economic development activities.”

I believe the county government, in consultation with industry and commerce, should determine the best use of these funds by evaluating and acting on the 2 pages of “strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats” enumerated in the 2013 Grow Yamhill County Economic Development Plan.

### **9. What are your thoughts and position on funding and CTE development in secondary schools?**

Career and Technical Education (CTE) development in secondary schools is critical to our future, and one of the key reasons I am running. After 15 years of decline, shop classes have returned to 21 Oregon high schools and middle schools because of the Legislature’s initial \$2 million investment in 2011.

In 2013, House Bill 2913 was the next step in creating a coalition of business, labor and education to fund Career and Technical Education Revitalization grants that will allow additional schools statewide to restore wood shop, metal shop and other trade courses. I applaud this coalition and will work to see that it is continued.

Meggitt PLC, invested \$100,000 in Yamhill-Carlton High School to provide space and equipment to teach welding. Now YC High graduates are hired by Meggitt as soon as they graduate. Meggitt is able to hire skilled and trained workers who get good pay right out of high school. I want to take this low-cost model and create a template that can be used in our other schools and other industries.

When HB 2913 was voted on in 2013, my opponent did not vote for these shop classes to be continued. He did not vote to save the taxpayer money by encouraging business support of these programs. Let me be clear, there was opportunity to:

- save taxpayer money
- have smaller government
- educate and train our children, at lower cost
- boost our economy by increasing our skilled workforce
- employ many of our young adults in high-paying jobs right out of high-school

And our current representative did NOT vote for this. He says he is for *Jobs & Prosperity*, and *Education*, but he didn’t vote for it. I WILL vote for this.

### **10. What are your thoughts and position on tax reform? How will you enact your plan?**

Tax reform is large part of what the next legislative session will be addressing.

I have seen how our current representation has led to unstable education funding, has wasted our tax dollars on repeated cycles of hiring and downsizing teachers, and has given us poor educational outcomes. I will cut this waste by working to stabilize this education funding.

I have seen how our current representation has permitted the fiasco of paying for a Cover Oregon website that never worked, wasting even more of our hard-earned tax dollars. I will be there to keep an eye on accountability in government contracts.

My opponent says he doesn't want to waste your tax dollars, but I have seen how our current representation has taken pay, then not shown up to do the work - he has the highest absentee rate of any representative. When I am hired to do this job, I will take it seriously, show up, listen, work hard, and act in good faith.

There are many unnecessary layers of reporting, taxing, and crediting that have crept into law over the years. I believe we can do this better and more efficiently by simplifying the tax code, streamlining reporting, and freeing resources to actually collect the taxes that are already owed. By doing this, I believe we can lower the tax burden on our families and grow small businesses.

**11. What are your views on the Work Ready Community initiative and how do you see your role effecting the outcome?**

The Certified Work Ready Communities (CWRC) initiative is a key economic development tool to prepare Oregon's workforce for tomorrow's industries and market Oregon's skilled workforce as a competitive advantage for business. Participating in this initiative helps unify and align Oregon's education, workforce and economic development strategies – which ultimately creates jobs, makes businesses more competitive, and attracts new businesses to the state. It also serves our children by making sure that education stays relevant to the skills they will need to succeed in the workforce.

Among other successes the Work Ready tests, that are an alternative to OAKS testing, have boosted high school graduation rates. I will work hard to continuing funding for this program in the 2015 session of the legislature and I will bring this into the other conversations on economic development.

**12. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?**

This is exactly what got me off my political couch, and I ask voters to look at this very closely.

I am constantly inspired by the phrase “of the people, by the people and for the people.” I came into the public arena to fight the takeover of our democracy by money. I, like most of us, despair over the results of this corruption at the national level but when I saw what appears to be the same forces at play in Salem I began my campaign for the legislature in earnest.

I have earned the nomination of the people of the Independent Party, the Democratic Party, and the Working Families Party.

I have many Republican supporters, Democratic supporters, Independent supporters, and supporters who are so tired of politics they don't want a party.

Look at the list of my endorsers online at [www.MooreForOregon.com](http://www.MooreForOregon.com), and look at the official Secretary of State list of the donors that have funded my campaign: <http://bit.ly/KenMooreMoney>

Then look at my opponent's endorsements and his official list of donors from the Secretary of State: <http://bit.ly/WeidnerMoney>

You will notice that the vast majority of my donations are from people, while my opponent's are from Political Action Committees (PACs) or large corporations, like Oregon Bankers PAC, Waste Management, Oregon Insurance PAC.

I have a few out-of-state donors (cousins and an uncle) who want to see someone that they think is a good man in office. My opponent has out-of state donors like Eli Lilly & Co., Pharmaceutical Research Manufacturers of America, Johnson & Johnson, and Oregon Restaurant Services (based in Bemidji, Minnesota?).

My opponent is funded by a different geography and a different economy than the one we live in.

I remain without allegiance to multinational interests that seek to manipulate our legislative process for their profit with little regard for the people of our state. I look forward to working with the people of our local businesses to create an economy that works for everyone.



Friends of Ken Moore, PO Box 1122, McMinnville, OR 97128  
[www.MooreForOregon.com](http://www.MooreForOregon.com) • [ElectKenMoore@gmail.com](mailto:ElectKenMoore@gmail.com) • 503-852-1487

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## **Jim Weidner, Candidate for House District 24**

1. In addition to serving in the State Legislature since 2009, I have owned and operated several small businesses with experience in the restaurant industry, industrial vibration analysis equipment and now I'm manufacturing eye glass lenses in our lab in Newberg. I understand the struggles beset small business owners, and I stay connected to those organizations that work in conjunction with and represent our small business entrepreneurs. I understand the challenges of making a payroll, navigating the minutia of government licensure and over regulation all while knowing the responsibility that comes with signing the front of a paycheck. I have consistently stood up for small business and have helped many constituents move forward when they were confronted with bureaucratic "red tape". I understand that Oregon is in competition with 49 other states and the entire globe for business, and I'm dedicated to reestablishing Oregon as a viable place to expand business and invest in capital enterprise while creating the fertile business climate that fosters job growth and prosperity.

2. Working with our business owners to identify additional hazards to growth and removing those barriers to business legislatively. I have introduced several measures and will continue to find innovative solutions to reintegrate our returning veterans into the workforce. I have introduced policy bills to invigorate our economy, relating to the timber industry, wave technology, biomass production, recruiting 3D printing manufactures and anything that can establish Oregon as both a technological "silicon forest" and as productive stewards of our natural resources. Furthermore, I will continue to work towards an affordable health care program that helps both our citizens and businesses stay healthy and profitable. I have worked with companies like Zoom Care who have business minded health clinics which are able to quickly and efficiently see patients with same day and after hours care alleviating pressure off our Emergency Rooms while keeping cost down across the board. I have supported legislation that allows businesses to create contracts directly with doctors to streamline payment for services rendered. Business and health care policy are my priorities for next session to better equip both business and Oregonians for a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.

3. With the debacle of the Cover Oregon roll-out, many businesses are expressing uncertainty in projected costs for health care coverage which leads to hiring freezes and fear of adding additional full-time employees. Oregon has both an unemployment and underemployment problem. Unemployment due to lack of job opportunities and underemployment because businesses are restricting full-time employees due to health care uncertainty. We can only incentivize job creation once we can have solid policies in place that allows for businesses to accurately project their costs and plan accordingly. While sitting on the House Committee on Health Care, I will continue to express these viewpoints and seek common sense solutions to help businesses get the stability they need to expand jobs and create wealth.

4. As an ODOT listed project of statewide significance, I plan on keeping ODOT accountable in completing the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and will push to have funds secured within the Governor's Biennium Recommended Budget. In addition, by keeping open lines of communication with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle serving on the transportation committee, we will keep the Newberg-Dundee Bypass funding a priority.

5. As a member on the House Business & Labor Committee, I work with and have been endorsed by many of the largest pro-business organizations in the state. My relationship with Oregonians in Action, Associated Oregon Industries, Oregon Farm Bureau, National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB) and many more have resulted in cooperative passing of legislation that encompasses the interests of business statewide. Furthermore, by encouraging citizen involvement I have had the opportunity to work with constituents to resolve additional business problems that they bring to my attention. Often citizen input creates more responsive and reflective legislation that highlights government hindrance to growth and job expansion.

6. Oregon has good employee protection laws and I support those already on the books, but I feel that small businesses should negotiate with their employees and tell potential employees up front about their sick leave policy. I'm hesitant to support a unilateral "one size fits all" policy which may place undue burdens upon our small businesses resulting in financial constriction and hiring freezes.

7. Government can lay the foundations for economic development with prudent government spending, lower taxes and incentives for entrepreneurship so we can expand businesses, increase employment opportunities and recruit capital investment into Oregon. We need to remember that we are in competition with 49 other states and the entire globe for business. Taxes and fees have a rippling effect throughout our state economy. When taxes and fees are increased, spending, hiring, and investment decreases. We need to remember that introducing means to allow corporations in Oregon to continue family wage jobs is good for all of us. We must be careful not to hinder economic progress and to maintain Oregon as a viable option to locate and operate a business. State government must recognize that every tax dollar we spend is derived from our family budgets and shouldn't be spent carelessly. When citizens retain more of their money, we are allowing the economy to operate as it should. Government can trust our citizens to spend their money on products and services they need, and in turn their money will transfer from individual to business and back to the state creating wealth, job opportunities, and true prosperity.

8. Approximately 80% of video lottery earnings go towards funding public education, economic development and natural resource programs. Additional funds are also designated for gambling addiction recovery services and programs. I do not like it when government programs knowingly implement costly policies then ask for lottery funds to supplement the general fund. These lottery dollars are already allocated and are established in the Oregon constitution since 1984 and in 1991 the Oregon Legislature approved video lottery and dedicated its allocation.

9. As a son of a school teacher and husband to an educator, I collaborated with my colleagues to work on bipartisan legislation to promote our education system. We worked across the aisle and I introduced a bill to fund K-12 education at \$6.9 Billion for the next biennium. I Co-Sponsored and together we passed legislation to efficiently direct funding resources to classrooms by utilizing student-teacher ratio information. I introduced legislation reviewing our standardized testing and passed legislation to award additional grants under the Career and Technical Education Revitalization Grant Program. I'm very pleased with Dr. Maryalice Russell and her enthusiasm to utilize Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum as

a classroom. By partnering with Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum to create the Engineering and Aerospace Sciences Academy, we are able to provide unique science and aerospace engineering assignments to equip our student for the 21 century economy. With CTE focusing on real-world skills, we can prepare our students to engage in the economy by sharpening their talents and interests in a variety of fields and industries. Our students will enter college with additional focus in an area of their choosing or enter post-education industrial training with more confidence.

10. Again, I believe that when citizens retain more of their hard earned money we can expand businesses and spur economic growth. I have always wanted to repeal Measure 66 & 67 which sought to tax the gross receipts sales and chase away businesses who wish to locate and operate here in Oregon. I support elimination of the estate tax as this money and property that has already been taxed. Often, our small family farms are most vulnerable to this type of taxation resulting in a loss of equipment and family resources. Small farms and family businesses operate on thin margins and this type of taxation can severely harm the viability of continued business operations. I also think that Oregonians deserve to keep their hard earned money in the tax kicker. The best way to freeze taxes is to slow the growth of government. Specifically, I would re-introduce my 6% growth bill. This bill would limit government growth to 6% annually to retain government growth slightly above the average rate of inflation. The remaining revenue would be placed into the Rainy Day Fund and couldn't be withdrawn unless there was negative economic growth. With so many unfunded liabilities, state government needs to allow the economy to catch up so we can balance our budget and become solvent once again.

11. I support the Work Ready Community initiative and encourage the collaboration of educators and jobs creators to promote Oregon skilled workers. I agreed with Governor Kitzhaber when he identified the National Career Readiness Certificate as a key workforce development strategy. I will continue to support the NCRC and all statewide efforts to grow our economy.

12. I have received support from many businesses including Oregon Mutual Insurance, Zoom Care, Bug Busters, Verus Optical, Lago de Chapala and numerous local family farms. I'm endorsed by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) of Oregon, Associated Oregon Industries, Oregon Loggers Association, Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregonians in Action, Oregon Truck PAC, Oregon Family Farm Association PAC, Oregon Small Business Association PAC and many more pro-business associations. I have stood up for business in the state legislature since 2009 working for common sense solutions to grow our economy. I am a small business owner and will work alongside those who seek to create a vibrant economy by reestablishing Oregon as a fertile business climate.



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**Sal Peralta, Candidate for County Commissioner**

**1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a Yamhill County Commissioner?**

Sal works for the News Register and Digital Media Publishing as a project manager and marketing and technology consultant. He has been heavily involved in public service since coming to Oregon in 2001 and provides information technology consulting for local non-profits, including Policy Initiatives Group.

During the past 10 years, Sal has employed nearly 100 people as the owner of Vanguard Campaigns, and has served on various policy boards.

In 2007, Sal helped to form the Independent Party of Oregon. He has served on the party's executive council and as party Secretary for the last 6 years. He has worked with the elected officials at all levels of Oregon government to protect Oregon consumers; promote reforms that give citizens a greater voice in elections; increase accountability in government; and encourage economic development.

Major reforms he has championed in past years include providing incentives to businesses to expand in Oregon and hire new workers; Buy Oregon First, which keeps tax dollars in Oregon by giving preference to Oregon companies in the awarding of state contracts; the Open Primary, which would give all Oregon voters a greater voice in our elections; Fair Elections Oregon, an effort to reduce the influence of special interest money in politics; and the Oregon Transparency Initiative, which provides greater disclosure about how state tax dollars are spent.

Sal was born and raised in Colorado. He went to public high school on the Air Force Academy, and attended the University of Colorado where he studied political science and was editor of the CU Campus Press. Prior to moving to Oregon, he interned for US Senator Tim Wirth, and was a legislative aide in the Colorado State legislature.

(bio excerpted from [www.votesal.com](http://www.votesal.com))

**2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (bills/ideas/changes) you will advocate for during your term?**

**Top 3 Economic Priorities**

- 1) The development of a West Valley Enterprise Zone to encourage economic investment in Sheridan and Willamina, and working with the legislative delegation to enable McMinnville and Newberg to take advantage of the state's Strategic Investment Program to create incentives for mid-range and larger businesses to locate facilities in Yamhill County.
- 2) Increased funding to the county for vocational training modeled after programs being developed in the Yamhill-Carlton school district; and increased funding to county schools for childhood education.
- 3) Winning Tiger grant funding to improve the terminus of Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee bypass south of Dundee (see below) and working with Congressmen Peter DeFazio and Greg Walden to fully fund Phase 2 of the Bypass.

**3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in Yamhill County today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?**



**1) Lack of infrastructure/failing infrastructure, especially in rural communities.**

One of the biggest challenges Yamhill County faces is an inadequate economic base to address needed infrastructure improvements to water and sewer infrastructure; inadequate rail infrastructure; and inadequate telecommunications infrastructure (particularly in the west valley).

Addressing each of these areas will require decades of attention by the commission, better coalition building, and strengthening our county's current relationships with members of both the federal delegation and with the dominant party in the state legislature.

I have built an extensive network of relationships with officeholders and agencies at all levels of state and federal government through the political work I have done over the last decade. I believe that I am well-suited to start those heavy lifts.

**2) Need for improved workforce/vocational training.**

I am working with a coalition of state legislators to create incentives for businesses to invest in vocational training in local K-12 school districts and community college districts. Being elected commissioner will make it much easier for me to strengthen that coalition through personal relationships developed through the board position that the commission holds on Worksource Oregon. (I also address this issue in greater detail in my response on question 8.)

**4. Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass will be completed in 2017. The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce is concerned about how to secure funding to complete the entire project. How will you help facilitate funding and completion of this vital project?**

**The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce is right to be concerned about Phase 2 of funding.**

Nationally, the long-term funding for transportation projects is threatened by several factors: A decline in revenue for the State Highway Fund due to decreased travel and increased fuel economy; an increased cost of debt service; potential loss of federal funds due to cessation of ARRA funding and the exhaustion of funds in the Federal Highway Trust Fund; and increased costs of construction.

Currently, there is no dedicated funding source for Phase 2 of the project. The Federal government has significantly reduced funding for large scale infrastructure projects, so barring a massive infrastructure bill, most of the heavy lifting will need to be done at the state or local level. There appears to be little appetite locally for a tolling solution.

**There is no magic bullet to phase 2 funding.**

Our county is much more poorly positioned than it has been in the past to gain a larger share of revenue from these funding sources.

The \$192 million which comprises the lion's share of monies for Phase I of the bypass was secured by State Senator Larry George, primarily through the threat of a public referendum on HB 2001 (2009) if monies were not allocated to complete the project.

The loss of Senator George, along with Commissioners Stern, Lewis, and Kathy George during the last several years has significantly reduced the influence of Yamhill County officeholders over the state legislature and members of our federal delegation.

**In order to gain the funding that we need to complete the bypass, our county needs to build more influence than we currently have at both the state and federal levels, since these are the primary sources of funding for transportation projects.**

Additionally, we need to elect officeholders who will support the funding mechanisms for these kinds of capital construction projects, especially when Yamhill County gains the lion's share of the benefits. Every member of our legislative delegation except Senator George voted against the funding mechanism for the Newberg-Dundee bypass and (at least) one of our two current commissioners campaigned on a pledge never to support such projects, if doing so would require a tax increase.

If elected, I will be in a position to use my relationship with Congressman Peter DeFazio, the senior or ranking member on two key federal transportation committees, to obtain funding for Phase 2 of the bypass.

**5. How will you involve the business community in countywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact Yamhill County?**

I am a member of the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce through my work at the News-Register. I have a personal membership in the Willamina Chamber of Commerce. If I am elected, I will join and attend the Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Sheridan Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, one of the most frequent complaints I have heard from local city councils is that the commissioners are not doing enough to reach out to local city councils. During the current election cycle, I have begun communicating regularly with city council members, and have plans to continue to engage local councils as a member of the commission.

**6. What is the leading economic opportunity in McMinnville/Yamhill County/Oregon? What would you do to take advantage of the opportunity?**

Fully funding of Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee bypass is easily the biggest economic opportunity in the county. The passage of Phase I will allow both Newberg and Dundee to dramatically improve their downtown cores while simultaneously improving transportation access to the I5 corridor for McMinnville, Lafayette and Dayton.

The county needs to do everything it can to help facilitate the proposed improvements to Newberg and Dundee downtown cores, and to work with MEDP to showcase McMinnville as a much more attractive place to site midrange companies.

I believe that we need to position McMinnville to take advantage of the state's rural SIPS program, to provide incentives for businesses to locate in McMinnville (see question 7).

**7. What is your view on how video lottery funds should be spent?**

In the 2011-2013 biennium, the state allocated \$14.1 million in grants and \$253,000 in loans to projects located in Yamhill County. The bulk of these funds, \$11.5 million, were allocated through the Oregon Department of Education to local school districts. An additional \$1.1 million went to fund the construction of the new Yamhill County Transit Center. Approximately \$450,000 went for watershed restoration. \$240,000 went toward Yamhill County Parks and other park and recreation districts. An additional \$360,000 went for Grants and Loans through the Business Oregon Program.

Generally speaking, I would like to see Yamhill County districts and businesses receive a larger share of funding in each of these areas, and a greater amount of local control over these dollars.

However, the question most directly relates to the \$550,000 of discretionary funds for economic development. Having reviewed the two most recent Grow Yamhill County reports, I generally agree that the county needs to do less “ad hoc” funding. This means not only establishing better criteria for projects seeking grant funding, but also a more strategic approach for using the funds to leverage additional resources.

For example, as a member of the Willamina Chamber of Commerce, I have recently started working with community leaders in the west valley to promote economic development in that part of the valley. We are very early in the process, but one idea that has been discussed is to establish an enterprise zone in the West Valley to encourage existing businesses to engage in capital investments for the purpose of expanding their workforce in the West Valley and to create new incentives for businesses to locate there.

Using a portion of our discretionary lottery dollars to help our towns develop things like enterprise zones would be a good use of discretionary lottery dollars.

#### **8. What are some positive issues happening in our County and how will you support them?**

We have seen two very important programs take root in the Yamhill-Carlton school district that I believe can be a model for the rest of Yamhill County, and indeed, all of Oregon. The first is the development of an industry-driven manufacturing and metal-working program, which was sponsored by A-Dec and Meggitt Polymers. The second is the development of the industry-driven viticulture program that is the brainchild of wine maker, Ken Wright.

One of the main reasons I am running for commissioner is to lend support to these kinds of programs. One of the promises I made during the primary election was to work with state legislators and educators in Yamhill County and in other jurisdictions to create incentives for businesses to work collaboratively with school districts to develop these kinds of programs.

I am pleased to announce that I have taken the first steps in that endeavor, working with State Representatives Joe Gallegos and Mark Johnson to develop a bi-partisan bill “The Oregon Job Training Act” to provide state tax credits for businesses that invest in vocational training in local school districts.

As Commissioner, I will be much better positioned, through the commission’s role on Worksource Oregon, to play a role in developing vocational training programs to help prepare current and next generation for jobs that they can take part in right here in Yamhill County.

**9. How do you see the County affecting Workforce Development for Yamhill and creating a Work Ready Community? Is this a position for the County?**

I discussed some of my ideas around workforce development in the previous question.

Workforce training *\*should\** be an important role for county commissioners. However, it will require us to elect a commissioner who understands the nature of coalition building, who is willing to put in long hours, and who has the skills necessary to advance the county's strategic interests while working with people and organizations both inside and outside of the county.

Although the basic job function of commissioners is to deal with the county budget and county ordinances, that is just the bare minimum of what we should expect of our county commissioners. Most of the time spent by members of the commission is on committee work. It is on those committees that our commissioners can bring success or failure to projects that matter to Yamhill County.

**10. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?**

Most of my financial support has come from individual donations in amounts of \$100 or less. My campaign has received more than 300 individual contributions, most from Yamhill County residents. I have also built a strong coalition of business leaders, labor organizations, and elected officeholders from both parties who have provided endorsements, along with financial and volunteer support.

**Local Prominent endorsers:**

- Sheriff Lee Vasquez (ret)
- Commissioner Mary Stern (ret)
- Ted Crawford, Dundee Mayor
- Kathy Oriet, Carlton Mayor
- Jan Coleman, former Yamhill County Clerk
- Geri St. Onge, Willamina Chamber of Commerce President, Willamina City Council
- Kellie Menke, McMinnville City Council
- Myron Redford, founder Amity Wines
- Denise Bacon, Newberg City Council
- Jason Lett, President, Eyrie Vineyards

**Statewide Prominent endorsers**

- Senator Jeff Merkley (dem)
  - Rick Miller, Founder/CEO Avamere Corporation (one of Yamhill County's largest employers)
  - Brett Wilcox, former head of Oregon Investment Council, CEO Summit Power Alternatives, former CEO Northwest Aluminum
  - James Kelly, Rejuvenation Inc. CEO
  - Jeremy Rogers, Vice President, Oregon Business Council
  - State Senator Frank Morse (rep)
  - State Rep. Andy Olson (rep)
  - State Rep. Bill Kennemer (rep)
  - State Rep Brian Clem (dem)
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## **Stan Primozich, Candidate for County Commissioner**

1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as County Commissioner?

My experiences during 10 years of district management with the JC Penney Co., 7 years of owning small retail businesses, and 31 years as a financial professional with Prudential have given me a well-rounded business background. With these different perspectives I believe I have the necessary skills to assimilate the various complex issues that face the county commissioners into sound business strategies. This background coupled with my significant civic service of 23 years on the local school board, 2 years on the state school board, 3 years on the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) board, 3 years on the government affairs committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and 12 years of service on the administrative council of St. James church have given me a comprehensive background in complex, multi-million dollar budgets. I am experienced in making the tough decisions that are necessary to operate in a sound fiscal manner while still being able to fulfill the mission of the enterprise.

2. If elected, what are your top three priorities for Yamhill County?

My first priority is to make certain we continue to do business in a fiscally sound manner. We will continue to budget in the way that gives us an ending fund balance. We will make certain that all county services are budgeted with the ability to maintain their service levels for at least three years, even with a downturn in the economy. A good example of the need for fiscal responsibility is the potential loss of 400k from the Sheriff's budget that will occur if Benton County should build a new jail in the next year and no longer pay to rent beds from Yamhill County.

A second priority will be to partner with all county cities to develop strategies for growing our economic base using the unique attributes of each area of Yamhill County.

My third priority will be to muster all the combined federal, state, and local assets to fund the completion of the Dundee-Newberg Bypass project. This will necessitate considerable efforts on our part to ameliorate the regulatory nightmare that currently hinders the process.

3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in Yamhill County today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?

I believe we should be focused on a countywide vision. As mentioned earlier I want to work with all our cities to lay the groundwork for a common purpose without losing sight of the many different and important projects being worked on that reflect the unique perspectives and attributes of the bounty of Yamhill County. What I would hope we can do now is find a way to overlay a county vision that encompasses all these various projects not only for a comprehensive master plan but to also create the dynamics of collaboration and teamwork.

My second concern is finding our way to avoid thinking that government is the best resource for fixing our local problems. Recently in regard to the Wallace Bridge Project an unelected bureaucrat was quoted in an email as saying "the economic health of that area is not my concern". This person is in a decision making position where he can not only hinder, but all but stop a project that has the potential

to provide economic stability and growth in the west end of our county and at the same time bring in tremendous revenue to rest of our county. We can look all around Yamhill County and find any number of wonderful outcomes that are the direct result of individuals and small groups coming together to solve local problems and enhance their quality of life. I want us to celebrate and promote that kind of thinking and action.

4. Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass will be completed in 2017. The McMinnville Area Chamber is concerned about how to secure funding to complete the entire project. How will you help facilitate funding and completion of this vital project?

Completing this very important project is a vital piece to the viability of growth and economic stability of our county. I am aware of how much time and effort has gone into this project on the part of Dave Haugeberg and many, many others. We must continue with a vibrant and focused campaign to get the attention of all of our state and federal legislators to get them to push this project through. I know our local contingent has been to Washington D.C. several times, most recently working on getting the funding to fix the fishhook. We must continue that kind of pressure to complete the project. Everyone must now move in the same direction on this even if it wasn't their first choice for a solution.

5. How will I involve the business community in countywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact Yamhill County?

I cannot think of a better place to go for that involvement than the Chamber. I have been a member of the Government Affairs committee of the McMinnville Chamber for the last 3 years. I have participated in two chamber days at the Oregon state capital and experienced the impact the show of coordinated effort can have on lawmakers. The chambers throughout our county have a real sense of the needs and concerns of their members and additionally are in daily contact with the businesses in their respective communities. Those relationships give invaluable insights into what our business communities need to stay viable and to grow. If elected County Commissioner, I will make myself available for conversation, connecting, and collaboration with all who choose to involve themselves in working together toward prosperity.

6. What is the leading economic opportunity in McMinnville/Yamhill County/Oregon? What would you do to take advantage of the opportunity?

In McMinnville the leading economic opportunity is a strong partnership between our Chamber, McMinnville Economic Development Board, and Chemeketa Community College. Nathan, Jodi and Holly working on strategic plans for showing the dynamic impact of a systemic approach to showing our value to interested parties from outside and inside the county. In Yamhill County the completion of the bypass without the fishhook will facilitate business growth and increased tourism. The Wallace Bridge project developer has not given up on finding a way to complete his planned development. It could mean 500 family wage jobs upon completion along with a projected revenue stream of over \$240 million dollars annually. That would be a tremendous blessing to the entire west valley and the county as a whole. Oregon has so many wonderful attributes to attract new business but, we do not have a focused approach to business development and a stable economic base from which to operate.

7. What are your views on how video lottery funds should be spent?

I believe lottery dollars should continue to be used for economic growth and development. We have an example right here in McMinnville of how when properly utilized they make a tremendous difference. I am referring to Betty Lou's. We receive approximately \$250,000 in lottery money annually. I believe these dollars can be leveraged to help other entrepreneurs realize their dreams and develop jobs in the private sector that are sustainable and with great growth potential.

8.

All of our 10 cities have unique qualities and characteristics. We need to develop a network where all our cities are engaged in a plan for countywide excellence. Carlton has really come alive as has Amity and there is a renewed spirit of community in Dayton. The rails to trails, has the potential to be a connecting link. As with all projects there are issues to overcome but, that is the beauty of working with local citizens and not government agencies, we can work out our issues for the good of everyone.

9. How do you see the county affecting Workforce Development for Yamhill County and creating a work ready Community? Is this a position for the county?

We need to be aware of what is happening in our schools so we can be a partner with them in bringing together the resources needed to provide qualified workers for a variety of occupations. There is a significant movement underway to provide our young people with the skills necessary to help them achieve gainful employment. We need to support these efforts. We certainly do not need to try to become the provider of these services.

10. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your campaign?

I have received funds from Allen Larsen, Larsen Motor Company, Les Toth at Toth Inc., Dr. Kim of Naturomedicine Center Inc. they have been my three largest individual contributors. I am endorsed by Oregon Taxpayers Association, Oregonians in Action, Oregon Firearms Federation, they also gave me a \$1,000 donation, Oregon Right to Life, Chehelam Valley Chamber of Commerce, Oregon Family Council, Yamhill County Republican Party.

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## **Zack Geary, Candidate for City Council Ward Two**

**1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a City Councilor?**

Currently, I serve as President of the McMinnville City Club, sit on the Board of Directors for the McMinnville Downtown Association, sit on the Board of Directors for the Yamhill Enrichment Society, sit on the Yamhill County Parks and Recreation Board, and am involved with Nourish Yamhill Valley. Throughout college, I volunteered and interned on numerous political campaigns and the staffs of elected officials in the city and municipalities.

Throughout all of these, I have crafted the skills to effectively listen to disparate positions on complex issues and move forward with action I feel confident in.

2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (ideas/changes) you will advocate for during your term?

The city has done a great job of setting goals and timetables to give overall direction to the body. On top of those, I would really like to increase involvement of more and diverse citizens in everyday goings on. Active participation by many and an informed electorate are keys to success for any community's long term health. The City is at a time where the next generation of young leaders needs to come of age and take positions of leadership. Further, I believe we need to be doing all we can to increase our City's efforts in sustainability through the decisions we make and effective use of our established Sustainability Committee. Further, the pledge to the future of urban renewal in the downtown and NE gateway district is going to shape the future of our City. The successful long term management and oversight of that is of high priority.

3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in McMinnville today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?

I think that we face issues that aren't unique to the broader state and national community. While we are strong, we are still somewhat small and that proves difficult in a few areas for business. Keeping our area demand up from both tourism consuming and local consumption to keep businesses able to operate at healthy levels and seek growth is important. Creatively increasing total utility achieved by our goods here is important. Additionally, harvesting and retaining a good labor force to fill our community is a strategy to combat a lack of qualified and sustainable employees. Needed in any economic growth, development, and vitality of our business community is good people.

4. How will you involve the business community in citywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact McMinnville?

My strategy to keep the business community involved in the citywide discussions is twofold. First, I will continue to keep a presence in the business community. Continuing to go to Chamber events, continuing to visit a wide range of business, and continuing, at all these stops, to talk with business owners and key players to maintain a pulse on business in McMinnville. Second, I plan to do my part to keep the business community abreast of developments and happenings at the City that would be of use and relevance to them and their enterprises.

5. What is your position on citywide growth, and how do you see McMinnville growing and developing in the next four years?

I think that the growth of our great City is inevitable. Due to increases we have already seen in the notoriety of our gem we call home, we are bound to see growth. Growth and development, however it may present itself, should be embarked upon with discretion, smart planning, and discussion.

6. What is your position on System Development Charges and how they should be managed?

Systems Development Charges are an extremely complex issue. As a City, we need to continue to find ways to pay for our parks, our schools, our infrastructure, and our projects in a changing world. Our projections for growth and development need to constantly be monitored, updated, and scrutinized by as many eyes as possible and checked against the costs the City needs to accommodate growth and development, maintain our existing infrastructure, and stay smart in planning ahead.

7. What positive things are happening in McMinnville and how do you plan on continuing those?



McMinnville stands at the precipice of a new future of prominence. Capped by the national recognition of our Main Street by Parade Magazine, McMinnville is becoming known for our livability, our community strength, and our opportunity for success.

8. What is the primary role of government in creating a responsive business environment?

Creating a community with high livability and stability will help build a strong business community. Being an active member of government and seeking out unique, progressive, and creative business development programs will go far to create a responsive business environment.

9. What is the leading economic opportunity in McMinnville? What would you do to take advantage of the opportunity?

The investment of the City into urban renewal plan for downtown McMinnville and the Northeast Gateway district should be considered a leading economic opportunity in McMinnville. The potential to growth and develop that area in harmony with our downtown, coupled with our fantastic Economic Development Partnership office as a resource, gives me great hope for economic success in McMinnville.

10. How do you see the city working with the Workforce Ready Initiative and making our city clearly identified as Workforce Ready?

As an individual that graduated higher education in the economic maladies of the last few years, and having to compete that job market for a time, I can say that the Workforce Ready Initiative gives me great hope for both the potential impact on the un/underemployed as well as the employers of a potentially enhanced workforce.

11. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?

At this point, all endorsements are pending and all contributions have been from citizens.

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## **James Galbreath, Candidate for City Council Ward One**

Thank you for your interest in inquiring about my decision to run for office of City of McMinnville Ward 1 Councilor.

1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a City Councilor? I have no prior experience either appointed or elected for Governmental Office. I have attended several seminars and received certificates of completion from Portland State University in Business.

2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (ideas/changes) you will advocate for during your term? A. I intend to follow the book of what has been passed prior to taking office. What the Council has passed or put on the ballot and voted in has to be followed.

B. I would like more discussion and openness with the homeless and people with drug or mental problems. I realize that some have been contacted and we need to gather more identification of these residents and where they are located.

C. When I was gathering signatures in Ward 1, people seemed to be unaware and afraid to find out about where to go to receive services from City Government.

3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in McMinnville today and what will you do to correct/overcome them? First off downtown parking is terrible and there should be some way to help the zoning with any city parking. Many people work and take public transportation while a great number for many legitimate reasons have to drive. The disabled parking should have a hard look on how it can be improved, then there is an aging population to think about.

Secondly as we grow we need to preserve some older structures on Third Street keeping in mind that we make sure the buildings are earthquake proof and pass all the codes such as exits and have fire protection. I believe this can be handled without forcing businesses to close due to time, money, and citations. We need these owners to have every opportunity to remain open and sell their wares.

4. How will you involve the business community in citywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact McMinnville? The City of McMinnville has had Forums such as the one sponsored by the McMinnville Downtown Association concerning the Measure of the street bond. I do not know who said it first but if it isn't broken do not fix it.

5. What is your position on citywide growth, and how do you see McMinnville growing and developing in the next four years? Look at how much McMinnville has grown in the last few years. We need to start looking at the effect the long awaited BYPASS, although I think it will be more than 4 years before it's completion. This will make a huge difference in McMinnville's future. I am all for the expected influx into the business community.

6. What is your position on System Development Charges and how they should be managed? As I see it Jurisdictions are allowed to charge contractors under the State of Oregon law System Development Charges "SDC". Now this sounds great if you have a purpose such as keep such things like chain stores out of town. The sad fact is in a small town like McMinnville you are asking a group of workers to be forced to give up the profit to grow so others could reap the benefits without doing without donating themselves. This splits the town with bad feelings and hurts not only the construction company's ability to stay open but banks and merchants would be put in a position of having to offer credit they can not afford.

7. What positive things are happening in McMinnville and how do you plan on continuing those? What I see positively is the Parade Magazine's small town contest. We are moving away from dirty streets, and moving towards painting things like the Marquee of The Mack Theater. This will be a boon for the upcoming 2014 Oregon Main Street Conference coming in the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

8. What is the primary role of government in creating a responsive business environment? The City Council is a guide to help its citizens and businesses become success stories. I do not believe you can forget the consumers. A great part of the Council's work is to stabilize and for-see growth. We have to attempt steady growth with high levels of living wage employment and price stability. By adjusting the

spending of tax revenues it can bring its forward thinking to the public forum while saving for much needed utilities, safety, at the same time pay off debt and have a rainy day fund.

9. What is the leading economic opportunity in McMinnville? What would you do to take advantage of the opportunity? When the Bypass starts to bring in people with the buying power to shop, buy property, vacation, sight see, and bring new growth to town, we have to prepare the improvement of our infrastructure. We have time to rediscover the train depot for excursion tours. We have the time to erect more modern destinations to stay and closer to downtown. If we keep public transportation costs down then it will allow affordable access to our entire town. It may be time for a new look at affordable airport and shuttle service to Salem and Portland.

10. How do you see the city working with the Workforce Ready Initiative and making our city clearly identified as Workforce Ready? Oregon joined more than thirty States utilizing the NCRC on 1/25/2011 with Governor Kitzhaber under the support of key businesses and work force leaders. McMinnville is supporting the NCRC in their hiring practices. It is good to see McMinnville identified as Workforce Ready. I like this practice and it is good for the employers who take advantage of it. The only problem in the back of my mind is that local young people residing in town may lose out due to being classified as less than journeymen or journey women and be left out, forced to take minimum wage employment with no chance of learning their trade in town and having to travel elsewhere for this knowledge.

11. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy? As of this moment no business, organization, or group has funded or endorsed my candidacy. I have asked for advise from a few people but no one has given me anything but their personal opinions.

**Thank You for this opportunity to express my candidacy**

**James Galbreath**

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## **Kevin Jeffries, Candidate for City Council Ward One**

1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a City Councilor?

I have an extensive background in public services and civic involvement. Both professionally and voluntarily I strive to protect Oregonians through advocacy and consumer protection.

BA, History/Social Science from Western Oregon University, 2006; Masters in Teaching from Western Oregon University, 2007; Licensed Social Studies teacher.

Chief Policy Director for State Rep. Chuck Riley 2008-2011. Communications Director for State Rep. Terry Beyer and State Senator Lee Beyer 2011. Consumer Liaison for State Insurance Commissioner 2011 to current.

McMinnville City Councilor, 2011 to Current; Vice-chair of Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Government.

2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (ideas/changes) you will advocate for during your term?

- 1) Promote economic development at our Airport and the former Evergreen property
- 2) Great a teen focused service program with School, Parks, Library, Churches and Polices to help steer our youth in a positive direction and prevent the spread of gang activity.
- 3) Continue to be a advocate for my community and work with you to get things done that matter to you.

3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in McMinnville today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?

Business need to feel safe both monetarily and physically. They need to have a sense of stability and wellbeing. The gang activity downtown is starting to spread throughout other parts of down and we need to work with our schools, Churches, and Police and other city departments to overcome the crime and intimidation.

The City also needs to be very mindful of businesses and the effect that higher sewer rates and property taxes can effect them. Long term planning for these times of rate changes should be the norm, not a year to year guessing game.

4. How will you involve the business community in citywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact McMinnville?

First I would encourage business to participate in our council meetings. We have time set aside for public comment each meeting. Let us know what you think and what is of concern to you. Do not assume that the council will "do the right thing" and that you have nothing to worry about. Sometimes we just don't know what the right thing is and getting input from the community is extremely valuable and in too short of supply.

Also, you are always free to reach out to me and tell me what's on your mind.

5. What is your position on citywide growth, and how do you see McMinnville growing and developing in the next four years?

For the last 20 years we have been trying to expand our urban growth boundary with no success. We are now at a point were we have very little land in which to expand, whether that be for residential or job creating commercial or industrial lands. This is a real problem and one that doesn't have a simple answer.

We need to figure out how we can use our current land resources to their full potential. We also need to make sure that the impact of development doesn't diminish the quality of life for those who already live and work in McMinnville.

6. What is your position on System Development Charges and how they should be managed?

I am a strong believer in System Development Charges, I see them as a user fee. Having developers carry the burden for the impact their project has on the city is fair. Whether it be a fast-food restaurant or a housing development, those developments have an impact on the city and the business and citizens who already live and work here. They shouldn't be left to pay for someone else's project and their impact on the city.

That said, I would like to see the level of SDCs be equitable and fair for the developer and the citizens of McMinnville and the funds to be spent on mitigating the impact of development.

7. What positive things are happening in McMinnville and how do you plan on continuing those?

I'm thrilled that we have finally passed a transient lodging tax. With these funds we can further promote this great city and its many businesses. The City Council is directly responsible for a portion of the funds and we have more flexibility on how to spend it. I would seek input from the business community on how to best spend that money.

The loss of Evergreen from our business community has been felt and it certainly is not a positive thing, but we now have an opportunity to see some new businesses come in and hopefully further diversify our employment opportunities. I will work with Jody Christiansen and the McMinnville Economic Partnership to recruit businesses to come here and help smaller McMinnville companies to grow and expand here.

8. What is the primary role of government in creating a responsive business environment?

Since I work for the State Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) I am faced with this question everyday. Knowing when to get out of the way and when to support and regulate is difficult. I have learned that the only way that business and communities can thrive together is when government supports both equally.

To borrow from my department's mission statement, Government should strive to *'empowers and protects its citizens through fair and efficient regulation while encouraging a financially stable, innovative, and competitive marketplace.'* I do this everyday as a consumer liaison for the state and I take that mindset with me to the council.

9. What is the leading economic opportunity in McMinnville? What would you do to take advantage of the opportunity?

We have one of the best economic development minds in the country in Jody Christensen and I will continue to support the work she does and the McMinnville Economic Development Partnership (MEDP).

We need to further improve and promote the industrial and commercial opportunities at and around our airport. I will work with the MEDP and the Airport Commission to make sure this resource is noticed by businesses looking for a new home.

10. How do you see the city working with the Workforce Ready Initiative and making our city clearly identified as Workforce Ready?

We need to do more to make sure that businesses have the skilled employees they need for today and tomorrow. Traditionally this responsibility falls on our education system. I think the

city can help by partnering with our schools to provide leadership skills and real world work experience. McMinnville is blessed with amazing staff and a highly skilled work force. We should be doing more to support our schools in the manor.

We also need to do a better job of establishing amenities that are appealing to people so they will want to live and work here. We cannot continue to rely on the Portland Metro area to provide us with highly skilled commuters. They inevitably find work closer to home. We need to help them make McMinnville their home.

11. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?

I have not actively sought the endorsements of businesses or organizations during this campaign. That said, Betty Lou of Betty Lou's Inc has volunteered her endorsement for my candidacy.

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## **Alan Ruden, Candidate for City Council Ward 2**

*1. Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences that will enable you to effectively serve as a City Councilor.*

I have been serving as a City Councilman representing Ward 2 in McMinnville for the last four years. As a member of the City Council, I am currently working on the Northeast Gateway Citizens' Advisory Committee, the Community Choices Committee, and the Airport Commission. Also, by virtue of being on the City Council, I serve on the Budget Committee and the Urban Renewal Agency. From 2009 to 2010, I was on the Planning Commission for the City. Prior to that, I was appointed to various committees in McMinnville, which included the first Citizens' Advisory Committee on Transportation. I have also served on the Chamber Government Affairs Committee and the Board of Directors.

*2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (ideas/changes) you will advocate for during your term?*

- The creation of new and sustainable jobs within the city, which would come about through economic development.
- Assist in the progression of the Urban Renewal District and the enhancement of our downtown.
- The development of the McMinnville airport, which would include a new Fixed Base Operation building and the reconstruction of the runways, which has received grant funding and should be completed in 2016.

*3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in McMinnville today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?*

The first issue that I want to overcome would be the lack of land to facilitate the future growth of McMinnville's residential and commercial population. We need to expand the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) to meet the needs of a growing city for the next 20 years. Once the state legislature clarifies the rules by which to increase the UGB, I will be an advocate for submitting a plan that will not be appealed.

Another issue that adversely affects business in McMinnville is the landfill. I have been a vocal opponent of the expansion of the Riverbend Landfill. I was able to build consensus on the City Council in order to draft a letter raising concerns about the negative impact of the landfill expansion on the future business environment within the City and surrounding areas. I will continue to raise my voice as a warning of the negative aspects of the landfill, including the appearance, truck traffic, and odor.

*4. How will you involve the business community in citywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact McMinnville?*

The Citizens' Advisory Committees on all issues that impact McMinnville are a great way to facilitate the interchange of information and ideas concerning business growth. As a City Councilor, I believe in being completely transparent on issues that involve the future economic growth of the city. We need to have a strong Chamber of Commerce, a vibrant McMinnville Downtown Association (MDA), and a highly proactive McMinnville Economic Development Partnership (MEDP).

*5. What is your position on citywide growth and how do you see McMinnville growing and developing in the next four years?*

I am a firm believer in investing wisely in the future of the City of McMinnville. I have supported the Newberg-Dundee bypass, the creation of the Urban Renewal District and the Northeast Gate Project, and the drafting and presenting of the street improvement bond, which will be voted on this November. I feel that the Newberg-Dundee bypass will be a profitable investment for the City. It will be in operation by the end of 2016 and we will begin to measure the economic impact it has on our community. I am excited about it and have fully supported our involvement.

*6. What is your position on System Development Charges (SDCs) and how they should be managed?*

SDCs are managed very well in the city by competent professionals on staff. I see that not changing in the near future. SDCs are a legal way to fund the development of sewers, parks, etc. The question has been raised as to how much do we raise these fees and when. That is still open to discussion. My general feeling is that they should be raised in careful consultation with staff and citizen groups.

*7. What positive things are happening in McMinnville and how do you plan on continuing those?*

The positive things include things that I have already listed, such as Urban Renewal including the Northeast Gateway, promotion of the MDA, and the bypass. We also instituted a lodging tax this year, and expect to see a growing balance of funds to be used to promote McMinnville and improve the downtown area. I feel that the lodging tax is a positive ordinance and should have started years ago.

Of course, being reelected is the best way for me to continue on!

*8. What is the primary role of government in creating a responsive business environment?*

I believe in being proactive in our approach to investing in McMinnville's future. The investments that I have mentioned previously will bring about economic growth, which will create jobs and create a healthier economic environment. Sometimes we have to make tough choices and we have to be good stewards over taxpayer funds. In so doing, I believe in being transparent in all city related issues, and building consensus with our leaders in both the public and private sectors.

*9. What is the leading economic opportunity in McMinnville? What would you do to take advantage of the opportunity?*

Growth in small- and medium-sized businesses seems to be poised for expansion and new job creation. I would take advantage of this opportunity by being proactive and having faith in our future and in our citizens. I firmly believe that we should move forward believing in a bright future for McMinnville.

*10. How do you see the city working with the Workforce Ready Initiative and making our city clearly identified as Workforce Ready?*

I feel that McMinnville needs to be ready to fulfill the employment needs of all companies that wish to expand or relocate to McMinnville. I see various employers who are involved in the process of training and mentoring young people to help fill future opportunities that may come to them as individuals and to the companies they would work for.

*11. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?*

There are no businesses that have funded or publically endorsed my candidacy. I would hope for and expect in the next 30 days, to be publically endorsed by the existing City Council and mayor, the News-Register, and the Chamber of Commerce.

In closing, I am asking for the public endorsement by the Chamber of Commerce for Alan Ruden for City Council Ward 2. This request is based on my ongoing government experience, on my enthusiasm for the future of McMinnville, and my ability to get things done.

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## **Tim Casey, Candidate Yamhill County Sheriff**

Please describe your qualifications and past job experiences which will enable you to effectively serve as a Yamhill County Sheriff:

There are many decisions and reasons that have led me to believe that I am the right person for Sheriff. I care immensely for Yamhill County and the citizens that reside in Yamhill County. The second reason is



that I believe that I can make a difference in the community and make a positive impact for the employees of Yamhill County Sheriff's Office. I have had the pleasure of serving in law enforcement for 13 years. My work experience is not limited as a public employee; I have experience in real estate and owned a very successful business. I have previously managed personnel, assets, budgets and property. As Sheriff there are several issues and information that one is privy too, an elected official needs to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times and treat all citizens in the county with respect. I believe that my life experience and maturity enable me to conduct myself in such a manner.

Leadership and trust from employees and citizens is critical in being a Sheriff, I have the overwhelming support of the Sheriff's Office union members and they have formally endorsed me for Sheriff. Having the trust, confidence and support of the employees is crucial to running a successful office. The Deputies that I work with believe in me and my leadership abilities and that's why they have endorsed me. I believe that I am a fortunate person and was taught at a young age the importance of honesty, integrity and respect, these morals have guided me and have assisted me in making sound decisions. I am aware that by asking for the citizens of Yamhill County's vote that they are trusting me, and I do not take that lightly. The residents of Yamhill County should expect that I will uphold their constitutional rights and will hold the Yamhill County Sheriff's office staff, including myself to the highest moral and ethical and professional standards that they expect from a Sheriff.

2. If elected, what are your top three priorities (bills/ideas/changes) you will advocate for during your term?

I. Reduce child abuse, domestic violence and drug use (heroin, prescription medication abuse), increasing mental health training for officers by introducing new policing and training programs listed below which are specifically designed for those distinct crimes.

II. Work with the County Commissioner's and other key stakeholders to explore sustainable funding options for the Sheriff's Office.

III. Establish programs within the Sheriff's Office which are designed to work with and welcome our minority populations. I want to build trust and relationships with the minority community so that trust is created and residents feel comfortable interacting with law enforcement.

3. What are the two most harmful issues affecting business in Yamhill County today and what will you do to correct/overcome them?

I believe the two most harmful things affecting business in Yamhill County have nothing to do with law enforcement which are land use restrictions and system development charges.

Expanding the urban growth boundaries and reserve area will allow more land to be available for well managed commercial and industrial growth. Unfortunately, land use laws and appeals have nearly made it impossible for communities to grow and develop commercial and industrial land. This is unfortunate because development will grow the tax base and allow for sustainable funding for city and county infrastructure.

System development charges have sky-rocketed in recent years. I realize that government entities need fees to grow and fund operations however, when the cost to develop becomes counter productive to development then perhaps those costs should be re-evaluated.

4. How will you involve the business community in countywide discussions on issues that impact the business environment and other key issues that impact Yamhill County?

Low crime rates are critical for communities and businesses to succeed. Consumers don't feel comfortable shopping, visiting or working in an area where there is crime or the fear of crime. Meeting with business owners, property owners and consumers will be a vital part of my agenda in understanding what it is that law enforcement can provide to promote and enhance a partnership with the business community. I believe in a collaborative approach to solving problems, as Sheriff I will always look for ways to collaborate and involve community members and key stake holders.

5. How do you plan to improve the Sherrif's office during your term?

There are two components of the Sherrif's office that very important for an office to function at the highest level.

I. Internal Operations: This component involves how the office operates internally, I want to ensure that our systems such as report writing, paperwork flow, case management and department communications are function able and effective. Inefficiencies in any of these areas can slow productivity and cause internal disfunction. Having an office that is performing at a high level is what tax payers should expect, I will ensure that the office makes any improvements needed.

II. External Operations: This component involves policing functions designed to reduce crime, fear of crime and enhance the livability of Yamhill County. I will implement or improve programs such as, computer forensics, domestic violence response teams, community response team, mental health crisis response, narcotics team and our multi-agency child abuse team by increasing training, funding and prioritizing their mission.

6. Are there programs you would like to add to the Sherriff's office and if so how do you plan to add those programs?

I know our citizens would benefit greatly with the implementation of a computer forensics unit. Criminals are using digital computer instruments to facilitate and commit crimes just like someone would use a gun to rob a bank. I believe there are a lot of cases and investigation that could be solved if we have the ability to investigate and examine the digital instruments being used to commit crimes. The Federal Government offers financial assistance for training and equipment to local law enforcement agencies.

Mental Health First Aid for Law Enforcement, having Deputies trained will dramatically increase their ability to identify persons have a mental health crisis and increases the knowledge of local resources.

District Attorney Brad Berry is and advocate for creating special domestic violence investigation teams. These teams received specialized training to help insure a successful prosecution which helps breaks the cycle of violence. Domestic violence cases are some of the most difficult cases to prosecute because the victims relationship with the offender.

7. What is your experience with budgeting and operation management as it pertains to law enforcement?

My strengths come from owning a business in the private sector and I believe those who have prior experience budgeting money that is yours and not someone else's learns how to better manage expenditures, revenues and forecasts. If you know how to appropriately manage a budget it does not matter if it's a law enforcement budget or a public works budget. The county finance department will provide the total budget amount approved by the commissioners and I will prioritize the department line items and fund them accordingly.

8. What businesses, organizations or groups have funded or endorsed your candidacy?

Yamhill County Republican Party	Ken Austin, Owner, A-Dec Inc.	Hopp Insurance Agency, Inc. Hampton Plumbing Company
Oregon Right to Life	Robin Baker - President, GFU	Marion Ag Service, Inc.
Oregon Family Council	Brian Casey, Newberg Chief of Police	Cohen & Cohen, LLC
Yamhill County Sheriff's Office Employees - Local 223	Pat Casey, OSU Head Baseball Coach	Meadow Ridge Farms Inc.
Oregon Firearms Federation	Rolly Heuser, Coyote Joe's Restaurant	Doug Petersen Auctioneering, Inc.
Taxpayer Association of Oregon	Joint Council of Teamsters No. 37	Hillsboro Police Officers Association
Oregon Family Farm Association	Curtis & Michelle Grubbs - Former mayor of Willamina	Yamhill County Detective Marc Brodeur and his wife Leslie
Oregonians in Action	Gunny Brandon - Vietnam War Hero	Mark & Betty Vergets, Newberg Ace Hardware
Yamhill County Commissioners:	Terrence Mahr, Retired Newberg City Attorney	Dale & Jennie Thorton
Allen Springer	Dave Daniels, May Trucking Company	Don & Amy Stackpole
Kathy George	Crabtree Rock Co., Inc	Colleen Schroder
Mary Starrett	Quadco, Inc.	Dr. Derrick Kim
Joe Shipley (Former Sheriff Candidate)	John Kerekanich, Owner, Newberg Ford	A & E Security System
Dr. Ronny Cooksey	Joseph Evers	Stone Wolf Vineyards
Ron Davison	Ad Rutschman, Linfield-Retired	Edge Exchange
Perry Stubberfield		Timothy Hennessy
Ron Noble, Retired McMinnville Chief of Police		Stan Kosmicki
		The Fouke Family: Philip, Linda & Alexis

The Janzen Family

Travis Hill

YCSO Deputy Trombla &  
Family

Marcia Lavacot

Richard Louys

Ray & Nina Clevidence Jr.

McMinnville Tire Factory

Newberg Tire Factory

Mike & Char Gunn

John & Candace Kirsch

Leonard & Christine Johnson

Willcuts Company Realtors

Marc Willcuts

Acme Wineworks

Kurt & Marianna Schluter

Abby's Legendary Pizza of  
Newberg

Bug Busters Pest Control

Eric Kuehne Farms LLCJem  
100 Ice Cream

Caroline M Crabtree-  
Osborne

Charlie Sitton, Century Hotel

Meri Kerekanich,  
President/Founder, Women  
of Willamette (WOW)

Mike Colvin

Gregg Hottmann Insurance  
and Financial Services, Inc

Stephen Miller dba Intrepid  
Self-Defense Systems

Roy & Joyce Zimbrick -  
Willamina

John Trudel - Author & The  
Trudel Group

Delbert & Jessie Ellis

George & Judith Hafeman

Deborah Francis

Phillip Fouke

Augie and Betty Frownfelter

and many more respected  
Businesses & Families  
throughout Yamhill County!

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