



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE BOZEMAN AREA

# Voter Guide for 2020 Elections on November 3, 2020

As citizens, we enjoy the right to vote for the people who make and uphold our laws.  
This right is the foundation upon which our democratic form of government is based.

Many people in the world do not share this right.

Besides being a right, it is a civic duty that we should all feel privileged to perform.

**BECOME INFORMED AND VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER 3 ELECTION**

A project of the League of Women Voters of the Bozeman Area

BOZEMAN DAILY  
**CHRONICLE**  
*empowering the community*



**The fall 2020 Voter Guide** covers elections for the U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Montana Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Auditor, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Montana Supreme Court Justices, Public Service Commission, Montana Senate, Montana House, Gallatin County Commissioner, and Clerk of District Court. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order and their responses are presented exactly as submitted. Candidates running for uncontested seats are listed but were not asked to submit information.

The League of Women Voters presents this guide a part of its Voter Education mission. The League does not endorse candidates and we are not affiliated with political parties. We thank the Bozeman Daily Chronicle for its assistance with this Voter Guide. We hope this information is helpful to you in determining which candidates will best represent you in the coming term and we urge you to exercise your right and your civic duty to vote on November 3.

## UNITED STATES SENATE

*Candidates answered the following two questions:*

- 1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected to the U.S. Senate and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)**
- 2. What do you think the U.S. Senate should do to help the economy recover from the current pandemic recession? (50 words or less)**

### Steve Bullock (D)

**Age:** 54

**Education:** Claremont McKenna College, Columbia Law School

**Campaign Website:** <https://stevebullock.com/>

**Question 1:** Our nation's top priority is getting the COVID-19 pandemic under control and strengthening our economy in the wake of this disaster. We must also improve and expand access to healthcare, by ensuring that everyone can afford health coverage and getting prescription drug prices under control. To tackle all of the tough issues facing our nation, we need to address the flood of dark money in our elections from special interests that block attempts to find solutions to our biggest challenges.

**Question 2:** Even before the COVID-19 outbreak, our economy was in need of significant infrastructure investments. As soon as I get to the Senate, I will work to pass a comprehensive infrastructure deal that puts Americans to work in good-paying jobs, and strengthens the foundations that our small businesses are built on.

### Steve Daines (R)

**Age:** 58

**Education:** Chemical Engineer, Montana State University

**Campaign Website:** [www.stevedaines.com](http://www.stevedaines.com)

**Question 1:** As your U.S. Senator and a fifth-generation Montanan, it's been an honor to protect our Montana way of life. I'm proud to have been named one of the most bipartisan and effective members of Congress – reaching across the aisle to deliver results like getting the Great American Outdoors Act signed into law. This is a historic conservation win that will protect and provide critical funding for our public lands for generations to come. I'm also working across the aisle on a major prescription drug reform bill that will lower drug costs for Montanans. I'll always work to put Montana First.

**Question 2:** Having spent 28 years in the private sector, I know what it takes to build businesses and create jobs. I'm proud to have provided critical support to our Montana small businesses to keep their doors open and workers paid during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Candidates answered the following two questions:*

- 1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)**
- 2. What do you think the U.S. House should do to help the economy recover from the current pandemic recession? (50 words or less)**

### Matt Rosendale (R)

**Age:** 60

**Education:** Chesapeake College

**Campaign Website:** [www.mattformontana.com](http://www.mattformontana.com)

**Question 1:** There are many critical issues facing our country—two of them are rebuilding our economy and improving access to quality, affordable healthcare. Right now, we need to focus on providing businesses the certainty they need to re-open and re-hire their employees by implementing liability protections for small businesses during the pandemic as long as they follow all recommended health guidelines. It is also imperative that we work to reduce the cost of prescription drugs and ensure coverage for those with pre-existing conditions. In Congress, I will work tirelessly to get our economy back on track and improve our healthcare system.

**Question 2:** I believe to address the current economic crisis, Congress needs to remove barriers to job creation and economic growth, decrease taxes, and provide long-term regulatory relief, incentivize investment in American business, and rein in out-of-control government spending.

### Kathleen Williams (D)

**Age:** 59

**Education:** BS in Political Economy of Natural Resources; MS in Recreation Resources

**Campaign Website:** [KathleenForMontana.com](http://KathleenForMontana.com)

**Question 1:** The issues Montanans tell me they care about most are; fixing healthcare, fostering opportunity, and protecting our outdoor heritage. All Montanans deserve access to quality, affordable healthcare. I support allowing those 55 and older to buy into Medicare and protecting coverage for people with preexisting conditions. Everyone should be able to craft and achieve their American dream. We need to support innovation and our critical economic sectors. Protecting our public lands and clean air and water is paramount. I'm ready to go to the House and be a true, independent voice for Montanans, not special interests.

**Question 2:** Help stem the pandemic, get people back to work, and build for the economy of the future. We have to have a healthy workforce and healthy consumers, cutting red tape for people starting a business, closing tax loopholes that disadvantage small businesses, supporting our major economic sectors, and fostering innovation.

# GOVERNOR

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected Montana Governor and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What budget challenges do you expect in the next biennium and how do you plan to address them? (50 words or less)

## Lyman Bishop (L)

Did not respond

## Mike Cooney (D)

Age: 65

Education: Butte High School; B.A. University of Montana

Campaign website: <https://cooneyformontana.com>

**Question 1:** Responding to the coronavirus pandemic has been my top priority since the outbreak began, and making sure Montana's families and businesses have the support they need to weather this storm will continue to be my focus as governor. I have worked hard to get resources where they are needed most, and am going to continue reaching across the aisle to enact job-creating measures that help folks get back on their feet and put Montana on the road to success in the 21st century economy.

**Question 2:** I worked closely with Governor Bullock to secure a balanced budget that not only meets our needs, but includes a robust rainy day fund. I will work with Republicans and Democrats to keep us on sound financial footing while growing our economy and creating good-paying jobs right here in Montana.

Lt. Governor: Casey Schreiner

Age: 38

Education: BA, MA Montana State University

## Greg Gianforte (R)

Age: 59

Education: Bachelor of Science in engineering, Stevens Institute of Technology; Master of Science in electrical engineering, Stevens Institute of Technology

Campaign Website: [gregformontana.com](http://gregformontana.com)

**Question 1:** The most important issue facing Montanans is recovering from the coronavirus crisis and its economic fallout. Montanans are hurting but resilient. I know we'll come out of this stronger than before. The path forward is clear. We need to get our economy going again, get Montana open for business, and get Montanans back to work in good-paying jobs – all while protecting our Montana way of life. To lead Montana's comeback, we need proven business leadership in the governor's office. We need someone who's built a business and created good-paying jobs in Montana. That's what I'll bring to the governor's office.

**Question 2:** Because of the uncertainty created by COVID-19, we don't know what the state budget will look like, but when our economy rebounds, revenues will rebound. We can recover from this crisis without raising taxes. I will not raise taxes, and I oppose a sales tax. Period.

Lt. Governor: Kristen Juras

Age: 64

Education: Bachelor of Arts, University of Montana; Juris Doctorate, University of Georgia School of Law

# SECRETARY OF STATE

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected Secretary of State and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What changes would you make to improve the voting process in Montana? (50 words or less)

## Bryce Bennett (D)

Age: 35

Education: Bachelor's Degree - Communication Studies (University of Montana)

Campaign Website: <http://www.bennettformontana.com>

**Question 1:** We need a leader with a proven record of bringing Republicans and Democrats together to get things done. Growing up in a small town in eastern Montana, partisan politics did not come up much when we had work to do and big changes to tackle. That's why I worked in the legislature to protect healthcare for over 90,000 Montanans and successfully battled the dark money corrupting our elections. As Secretary of State, I'll give Main Street the tools to succeed in the midst of this pandemic, defend access to our public lands, and keep our democracy transparent and secure.

**Question 2:** I know the only voice that should matter on Election Day is Montana voters. That's why I'll battle the special interests dumping millions of dollars to sway our elections, stop partisan politicians trying to suppress your vote, protect your private data, and keep voters safe in the midst of COVID-19.

## Christi Jacobsen (R)

Did not respond

# ATTORNEY GENERAL

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected Attorney General and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What changes do you think should be made to our criminal justice system? (50 words or less)

## Raph Graybill (D)

**Age:** 31

**Education:** Columbia University; Yale Law School; University of Oxford

**Campaign Website:** <https://www.raphgraybill.com/>

**Question 1:** Healthcare is the defining issue in the Attorney General's race. Right now, there's a lawsuit by Republican Attorneys General to repeal the Affordable Care Act. It threatens healthcare for the 429,000 Montanans with pre-existing conditions, and would destroy 10,000 jobs and close rural hospitals. My opponent says he entered the Attorney General race to join this lawsuit and to take away our healthcare in the middle of a pandemic. I'll always fight to protect our healthcare and economy. I'll also fight for voting rights and equality under the law, including for recognition of the Equal Rights Amendment.

**Question 2:** Our criminal justice system needs a serious reinvestment in treatment and prevention services, as well as new ways to deliver mental health care and care for Montanans struggling with addiction. Having worked with the NYPD for four years, I know that enforcement only works if we take treatment seriously.

## Austin Knudsen (R)

**Did not respond**

# STATE AUDITOR

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected State Auditor and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What changes would you make to improve the regulation of insurance and securities in Montana? (50 words or less)

## Troy Downing (R)

**Age:** 53

**Education:** New York University, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Department of Computer Science.

**Campaign Website:** <http://TroyDowning.com>

**Question 1:** As a businessman with experience in both the Insurance and Securities industries, I have seen how bad actors can mislead consumers and I have seen how heavy-handed regulation can stifle business. First and foremost, this is a consumer protection agency and that it is of paramount importance to protect Montanans from bad actors. My office will focus on education and transparency. Education for consumers so they know what to look for and what to ask, education for business so they know what's expected of them. Transparency, to increase clarity on what MT consumers are paying for and how their dollars are being spent.

**Question 2:** I will streamline the regulatory code to focus on consumer protection while making it more business-friendly. If we encourage businesses to operate in MT, we create more options, more competition, and better pricing for all Montanans. Our premium costs for health and workmans comp can be driven down by increasing market competition.

## Shane A. Morigeau (D)

**Age:** 35

**Education:** BS, Resource Conservation, University of Montana School of Forestry and Resource Conservation (2007); JD, University of Montana School of Law (2010); LLM, University of Arizona School of Law (2011)

**Campaign Website:** <http://www.shaneformontana.com>

**Question 1:** The key issues I'll face as Auditor are returning the office to protecting Montanans and putting Montanans first, facing the effects of COVID-19 on insurance & healthcare, and making sure our public lands stay public on the State Land Board. I will roll back the red carpet that's been put out for insurance industry and make sure Montanans have access to fair, affordable, quality coverage. COVID-19 presents big challenges, and the Auditor's office must make sure that savings are passed to consumers where possible, and that any insurance rate changes or proposed hikes are examined with a fine-toothed comb.

**Question 2:** I'd lead a charge on better transparency in healthcare billing and educational initiatives and return the workplace culture of the office to higher morale by finalizing the CBA that the incumbent has blocked at every turn. I'll advocate for legislation with improved teeth to protect Montanans in insurance.

## Roger Roots (L)

**Age:** 52

**Education:** B.S. Sociology, MSU-Billings, M.S., Criminal Justice, Roger Williams University, J.D., Roger Williams University, Ph.D. Sociology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Campaign Website:** [rogerroots.com](http://rogerroots.com), [Lysanderspooneruniversity.com](http://Lysanderspooneruniversity.com)

**Question 1:** The economic distress and carnage caused by the government's coronavirus policies will be long-lasting. Many Montana businesses have been destroyed and many Montanans have been driven into poverty and misery by these government policies. Meanwhile, no one in any government position has even lost a paycheck. (Needless to say, the actual harm caused by the coronavirus has been much less than government officials warned.) As State Auditor I will investigate the government officials behind these crimes and expose the government's abuse and misuse of resources during this unforgivable period of government overreach.

**Question 2:** Insurance and securities are overregulated, and almost all of this has been invited by the industries themselves. I would work tirelessly to eliminate requirements that Montanans purchase insurance they do not need or want. I would work to make Montana a haven for securities and cryptocurrency investment and exchange.



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected Superintendent of Public Instruction and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What is your position on universal pre-K education? If you support it, how do you think it should be funded? (50 words or less)

## Elsie Arntzen (R)

**Age:** 64

**Education:** Degree in Economics from UM and a Degree in Education from MSU

**Campaign website:** [elsieformontana.com](http://elsieformontana.com)

**Question 1:** Student safety will continue to be my top priority. As State Superintendent, I have ensured that schools have the resources and flexibility needed to serve students. I have secured federal and state waivers from burdensome regulations so teachers can focus on teaching and students can focus on learning. I was also one of the first state superintendents in the country to get Montana's federal CARES Act dollars out to schools to meet their immediate safety, educational, and nutritional needs. I will continue being a strong leader for Montana's students, families, and educators.

**Question 2:** As Montana's Superintendent of Public Instruction, I will continue advocating that our current K-12 public school system be fully funded before the Legislature considers funding other programs. I expanded early learning and kindergarten transition support within the Office of Public Instruction in my first year of office as Superintendent.

## Kevin Leatherbarrow M.ED. (L)

**Age:** 49

**Education:** Master's in Education

**Campaign website:** Facebook

**Question 1:** Special Needs Children. The state of Montana needs to do a much better job dealing with the fact it has let these children and the families down. We need to come up with a better way of meeting IDEA and ESSA protocols and compliance laws. We need to restructure the way training is being implemented. We need better support for families. We need way better support for students, inside the classroom and out in the time of Covid19. We will need parent and caregiver support for Special Needs children who cannot attend schooling. Ex, online learning and having teachers or aids visit homes.

**Question 2:** I don't support universal pre-k education. The program falls under one-size-fits-all model and involves too much government into the process. Privately owned pre-k's do the job better than public schools. I believe strongly the Voucher program would work well if the parents could pick from a wide range of schools.

## Melissa Romano (D)

**Age:** 43

**Education:** B.A. in Science, M.S. in Elementary Education

**Campaign Website:** <https://www.romanoformontana.com/>

**Question 1:** I care deeply about public preschool, special education funding and mental health. However, as schools grapple with the coronavirus, an even more pressing challenge will be supporting our schools and teachers as they work to help our students get back on track. This will not be easy and will require input from stakeholders, and require an investment in our public school system. We need a leader at OPI who will make sure our schools and teachers are adequately supported as they navigate these extraordinary challenges, and I am confident my colleagues can turn to me for leadership and support.

**Question 2:** We are doing our state a disservice by not offering a public preschool option to our working families. It is time for Montana to invest in our children and invest in public preschool. I will be working with legislators on both sides of the aisle to fund this essential program.

# SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

## Chief Justice

## Mike McGrath

Unopposed

## Justice No. 5

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What do you perceive as the greatest obstacles to justice in Montana? (100 words or less)
2. What experience do you have that would be useful to you in this position? (50 words or less)

## Mike Black

**Age:** 58

**Education:** Havre High School, Havre, MT; B.A. with high honors, University of Montana, Missoula, MT; Cornell University Law School, Ithaca, NY

**Campaign website:** <http://blackformontana.com/>

**Question 1:** First, disadvantaged individuals in Montana lack resources to pay for legal counsel in our civil justice system, particularly in family law (including domestic violence) and consumer cases. We need to encourage established lawyers to engage more in pro bono activity to help our less fortunate. Based upon my work at Montana Legal Services, I have some ideas to help accomplish greater participation and I would have more influence to push them if elected. Second, Montanans need a Justice in Seat 5 dedicated to protecting the right of individuals to obtain justice in our courts, which we do not have now.

**Question 2:** I have deep Montana roots, descending from railroaders and homesteaders, and broad private practice experience, representing all sorts of people. I worked for Attorney Generals of both parties, fighting dark money in our elections. My experience is different than others on the Supreme Court and I am committed to Montana.

Laurie McKinnon

Age: 60  
Education: Doctorate (Judicial Studies), University of Nevada (exp. 2022); Masters (Judicial Studies), University of Nevada (2016); Juris Doctorate, University of Baltimore School of Law (1986); B.A. (Economics), Goucher College (1982)  
Campaign website: www.McKinnon2020.com

Question 1: a.) The legislature and executive are by their very nature subject to change and popular thinking. The judicial branch provides the foundational stability our democracy requires. If the judicial branch is not independent of the partisanship present in the other branches, then that foundational stability is lost. Maintaining an independent judiciary by making impartial and non-partisan decisions requires dedication to these principles, and experience. b.) Ensuring equality of justice in Montana must include unbiased and fair decisions, adherence to the rule of law and our Constitution, access to courts for all Montanans, and ensuring a meaningful opportunity to be heard.  
Question 2: I have been a justice on the Montana Supreme Court for 8 years and have already made thousands of decisions as your justice. Before that, I was a Montana district judge for 6 years handling all types of litigation concerning people’s lives. I have been a lawyer for 33 years.

Justice No. 6

Jim Shea  
Unopposed

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DISTRICT 3

Candidates answered the following two questions:  
1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected to the Public Service Commission and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)  
2. What qualifications do you have that will allow you to accomplish these objectives? (50 words or less)

James E. Brown (R)

Age: 49  
Education: Beaverhead County High School Class of 1989; University of Montana – Missoula class of 1994 (BA in History and political science, with minor in Spanish); Seattle University School of Law class of 2004 (J.D.); University of Washington School of Law class of 2005 (Masters in Tax Law)  
Campaign website: https://www.jamesbrownformontana.com  
Question 1: In 1997, the Montana Legislature approved the deregulation of the Montana Power Company, a decision which resulted in Montana’s families experiencing a huge jump in their power bills. Further, deregulation resulted in the loss of both hundreds of Montana jobs and life-long retirement investments for many shareholders and MPC employees. Two decades later, the State is still trying to recover from this deregulation policy disaster – a policy which my opponent, incredibly, supports in principle. Thus, I believe the great challenge for the Commission moving forward is to ensure that Montana’s energy production and delivery is affordable, reliable, and sustainable.  
Question 2: The PSC is a quasi-judicial regulatory body. PSC Commissioners are to serve as neutral judges on matters that come before the Commission. Consequently, I am well-qualified for this legal and regulatory position given that I am a business owner, employer, and have been a private practice attorney for 16 years.

Tom Woods (D)

Age: 59  
Education: Broadfield Science Education (Physics, Biology, and Chemistry) Masters in Public Administration  
Campaign Website: TomWoodsForPSC.com  
Question 1: The primary job of the Montana PSC is to regulate monopolies. It is currently doing a terrible job, resulting in high energy rates our families, businesses and schools. Despite the fact that the company is making record profits, rates for residential customers and irrigators were dramatically increased while corporate customers were given rate cuts. Should I be elected to the PSC, my priority will be to bring balance back to the relationship between reliable service and reasonable cost to ratepayers. As it stands, the Commission has made decisions that lack both fairness to the ratepayers and transparency to the general public.  
Question 2: As a 4-term legislator, I fought the monopolies every step of the way and authored legislation that promotes renewable energy and protects Montana families and businesses from sky-rocketing power bills. I’m ready to take this work to the next level.

District Court Judge District 18 - Dept 2

Rienne H. McElyea  
Unopposed

## MONTANA SENATE

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected to the Montana Senate and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What budget challenges do you expect in the next biennium and how do you plan to address them? (50 words or less)

### Senate District 31

#### Christopher Pope (D)

Age: 67

**Education:** BA, Spanish Literature, University of Oregon [1976]; Masters of Public and Private Management, Yale University, School of Management [1988]

**Campaign Website:** PopeForMontana.com

**Question 1:** Montana's overburdened state health care system will be the most significant issue in the coming state legislative session. The COVID crisis has placed significant pressure on every aspect of our delivered medical services. Recent budget cuts, especially to the state's mental health services, amplify the urgency of identifying long-term program and budget solutions. I continue to be a strong advocate for universal, affordable health care. I am also focused on three additional legislative initiatives: charting with urgency the thoughtful transition to a clean energy future; expanding educational opportunity for students with disabilities; and pursuing strategies for property tax relief.

**Question 2:** The COVID-driven economic downturn will place significant pressure on our state budget as we approach 2022. Legislators must replace divisive partisanship with pragmatic partnership to solve the anticipated budget shortfalls – in healthcare, in public education, and in state support services for our most vulnerable citizens, to name an important few.

#### Nicolas Allevato (R)

Did not respond

### Senate District 35

#### Walt Sales (R)

Unopposed

## MONTANA HOUSE

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected to the Montana House of Representatives and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What budget challenges do you expect in the next biennium and how do you plan to address them? (50 words or less)

### House District 61

#### Jim Hamilton (D)

Unopposed

### House District 62

#### Ed Stafman (D)

Age: 66

**Education:** B.S. in Math, State University of New York at Stony Brook (1975); J.D, Florida State University College of Law (1977) (also attended law school at Gonzaga and the World Academy of Int'l Law in the Hague, Netherlands); M.A. & completed coursework for a PhD in Religion, Florida State University (2005); Rabbinic ordination, ALEPH Rabbinic Program (2008)

**Campaign Website:** www.edstafmanformontana.com

**Question 1:** As we emerge from COVID, we should be guided by five principles: SCIENCE: Science, not politics, will keep our families safe. PREPARATION: Our health care providers must have what they need to protect themselves and treat us. PROTECTION: We must protect programs which assist public schools, children and families, and the vulnerable. OPPORTUNITY: We have the opportunity to create an environmentally sustainable infrastructure relying on renewable energy, attract good jobs, and address inequalities in health care access, family and sick leave, and wages. ENGAGEMENT: Together, we can accomplish much, but we must all engage in the process, beginning with voting.

**Question 2:** We can address COVID-related revenue shortfalls by eliminating tax breaks for corporations, special interests, and the very wealthy, such as the oil/gas tax holiday, capital gain tax credits, and corporate operating loss carrybacks. We must also reverse the massive tax cuts given the very wealthy by the last Republican governor.

#### Francis Wendt (L)

Did not respond

### House District 63

#### Alice Buckley (D)

Age: 27

**Education:** B.A. Yale University

**Campaign Website:** www.aliceformontana.com

**Question 1:** The most important issues will be the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring Montanans' health, safety and economic stability are prioritized. All Montanans deserve access to affordable, comprehensive healthcare and I'll push for an investment in public services and programs that support children, working families, and vulnerable populations. I'll work to ensure opportunity is democratized for every Montanan – regardless of income, gender, or race – and will address inequalities with respect to our tax code, criminal justice system, access to healthcare, education, housing, and employment opportunities. I imagine an inclusive, equitable, diverse, and resilient future for our community.

**Question 2:** I anticipate revenue shortfalls due to the economic impact of COVID-19, resulting in pressure for budget cuts. The health and economic crises spurred by the pandemic have demonstrated the importance of good government: I'll work to find new revenue streams while protecting the essential services and programs Montanans rely on.

## Bryan Donald Haysom (R)

Did not respond

## House District 64

### Doug Campbell (L)

Age: 57

**Education:** Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, MSU and ASU

**Campaign Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/DougForMT> and <http://DougForMT.us>

**Question 1:** There are so many important issues facing Montanans, that a 100-word summary is a disservice. However, we must work to increase Montanans' trust in their public servants, and increase transparency and understanding of Montana's fiscal policies. We should also work to increase voter confidence through continued diligence on fighting campaign corruption, less restrictive ballot access for 3rd-party and independent candidates, expanded election turnout and security, and work to decrease the size of government through increased efficiency and input from Montana citizens. Montana is a large and diverse state, but we must avoid partisan ideologies and work together for practical solutions.

**Question 2:** While Montana's fiscal position is currently in good shape, the pandemic-induced recession will bring strain through reduced revenues and increased spending on mandated services. Montana legislators will have to sharpen their pencils and make difficult and painful decisions, but in the end we must develop and execute a balanced budget.

### Jane Gillette (R)

Age: 49

**Education:** University of Montana, Master's in Public Health (2018); University of Washington, Doctor of Dental Surgery (2002); Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor of Science – Biology (1998).

**Campaign Website:** [DrJaneGillette.com](http://DrJaneGillette.com)

**Question 1:** Budget: COVID-19 will have significant budgetary impacts. Protecting and maintaining essential and expected services will be the top issue. Government needs to be efficient, effective, and accountable to ensure that valuable tax dollars are used wisely.

Economic Growth: Gallatin County is the fastest growing micropolitan area in the nation. Of great importance is providing a stable and empowering business environment to ensure sufficient numbers of adequately paying jobs, obtainable housing, first-class education, and investment in smart and sustainable infrastructure.

Public Lands: One of the greatest treasures Montana has to offer is our public lands. We need to ensure public access.

**Question 2:** All budgetary categories will be impacted, from healthcare and education to roads and parks. I intend to utilize my expertise in evidence-informed policy-making to set a new standard in which bias is minimized and policy decisions are informed by data, scientific evidence, and maximally objective economic analyses.

### Brian Gabriel Popiel (D)

Age: 45

**Education:** BA Gonzaga University; MBA University of Montana

**Campaign Website:** [www.brianforhd64.com](http://www.brianforhd64.com)

**Question 1:** Access to our most essential services has been under attack in Helena for years. My biggest concern is protecting Montana's Medicaid expansion, which has been a resounding success in allowing small business expansion and protecting our rural hospitals. My second biggest concern is ensuring that we continue to fund our schools at appropriate levels to ensure that the next generation of Montanans has the same opportunities as I did.

**Question 2:** Montana is likely to face a significant hit to its budget due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Protecting our most essential services, like access to health care, education, and our public lands is going to be a huge challenge that will require thoughtful and reasonable decision-making.

## House District 65

### Jolene Crum (R)

Age: 42

**Education:** B.S in Biotechnology with Pharmaceutical research experience

**Campaign Website:** [jolenecrum.com](http://jolenecrum.com)

**Question 1:** We must maintain medical freedom. We must keep what we gained at the Nuremburg Trials (Nuremburg Code). Anything medically done to a person must be voluntary must have informed consent. We must maintain religious freedom and our Constitutional rights. We must also keep the right to bear arms given to us by the 2nd amendment. Dr. William Thompson needs to testify before Congress regarding fraud committed by the CDC regarding MMR and autism (see movie Vaxxed).

**Question 2:** I have attended 2 state budget meetings remotely through the Montana budget policy center. School budgets will be an issue, because I think a percentage of families will be home-schooling due to Covid. I think every category will be affected by Covid and we will have to navigate that together.

### Kelly Kortum (D)

Age: 35

**Education:** B.S. Computer Science from Montana State University 2008, High School Diploma from Carter County High School in Ekalaka MT 2003, 10 years as IT Specialist at the Community Food Co-op

**Campaign Website:** [kellyformt.com](http://kellyformt.com)

**Question 1:** Healthcare, especially regarding the pandemic, will be front and center in the next legislative session. Montanans need extra medical and economic support for the next two years and we must craft and pass Montanan solutions to keep our families healthy and safe. I expect a budget shortfall so I am committed to defending funding for public education, mental health services, and infrastructure. Citizens of Montana have a right to vote and right to privacy and I will not allow those rights to be infringed.

**Question 2:** If we have a budget shortfall, the legislature must maintain programs and services that bring stability and opportunity to our lives: public education, healthcare programs, reliable internet access, job training programs, to name a few.



**Denise Hayman (D)**  
Unopposed

House District 66

**Colette K. Campbell (D)**  
Age: 51

**Education:** NAEYC Early Childhood Associates Degree; MSU Bozeman Media and Theater Arts BA with a minor in Small Business and Entrepreneurship  
**Campaign Website:** campbellformontana.com

**Question 1:** Montana will be grappling with the economic effects of a pandemic for many years to come. COVID has wreaked havoc on our economic system, our health and wellbeing, and societal norms. COVID has exposed points where the system is faulty and unmaintained. We must find common ground between opposing viewpoints and bring Montanans back to civil conversation about what taxes are meant to do and envision how we want our state government to operate for all Montana citizens.

**Question 2:** COVID will likely deal the Montana budget a significant loss in state revenue. Priorities will need to be reviewed. Families are struggling to make ends meet. Property taxes are taking a toll on too many Montanans. I support a high-end luxury tax over any state sales tax.

**Jedediah Hinkle (R)**  
Age: 40

**Education:** Bachelors of Science (Fish and Wildlife Management)  
**Campaign Website:** jedediahhinkle.com

**Question 1:** One of the most important issues I expect to face as a Representative is the issue of healthcare. Change in healthcare can be difficult on a state level because of the state’s subjection to the umbrella of federal laws, however we do have possibilities for positive change. Legislation can be complex or as simple and impactful as requiring price transparency for procedures. Keep in mind that expanded Medicaid will only impact a certain subset of Montana’s overall population. Changes that will lower healthcare costs for All Montanans is what we desperately need to focus on and must be addressed.

**Question 2:** Currently projections have Montana dealing with \$253 million in shortfalls due to expenditures exceeding expected revenue. We need to balance the budget without further stressing the Covid-affected economy. Democrats are currently proposing multiple tax increases. I will oppose tax increases as this will further hurt the economy and individual families.

**Andrew Schaefer (L)**  
Did not respond

House District 68

**Emily Brosten (D)**  
Age: 29

**Education:** Bachelors of Arts with a concentration in Graphic Design  
**Campaign Website:** www.emilywithmt.com

**Question 1:** I was born and raised in Montana, one of the biggest concerns I keep witnessing and hearing about is the amount of growth that is taking place across the state. This has an impact on affordable housing, natural resources, and our local economies. If elected, I will be a representative of Montana’s values and advocate to ensure the protection of our public lands, support of our rural communities through workforce development, affordable healthcare, and increased public education opportunities. You can read more about my messaging on education, economic equality, and healthcare online at www.emilywithmt.com

**Question 2:** I anticipate there will be a number of budget challenges within the next two years. My strategy is to work with the individuals within both parties to find common ground and solutions for the communities we are representing. I’m here to serve, listen, and be a voice for my constituents.

**Caleb Hinkle (R)**  
Age: 28

**Education:** Has majored in Political Science & American History  
**Campaign Website:** https://calebformontana.org/

**Question 1:** One of the biggest issues that may appear in the 2021 legislative session is the push for an online sales tax, an attempt to address our State budget shortfalls. I find this to be the wrong solution to this problem and will oppose any attempt at instituting another tax on Montanan’s. Another compounding issue over the course of many sessions is ever increasing regulations. Many of these regulations are outdated in my opinion and need to be reviewed again. I am currently reviewing solutions on how the House will address regulatory measures in the future.

**Question 2:** As we have witnessed with most budget shortfalls there is always a lot of pressure to raise taxes. Under the current pandemic and economic stress Montanans do not need a tax increase. We need to focus on cutting out inefficient spending to solve State budget issues.

House District 69

**Jennifer Carlson (R)**  
Unopposed

# GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected County Commissioner and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What actions should the county take to address growth? (50 words or less)

## Carter Atkinson (R)

Did not respond

## Zach Brown (D)

Age: 30

Education: BA, University of Montana

Campaign Website: [www.brownformontana.org](http://www.brownformontana.org)

**Question 1:** Criminal justice reform, land use planning, supporting agricultural producers, and preserving open space are my top priorities. As a state legislator, I supported “Justice Reinvestment” policies, and passed new laws supporting misdemeanor expungement and drug treatment courts. With this background, I am eager to support addiction and mental health services; dig into incarceration and public safety budgets; and support reinvestment in the Law and Justice Center. For land use planning, I will continue to forge common ground between conservation interests and agriculture. As a legislator, I have received awards from the Montana Conservation Voters and the Montana Farm Bureau.

**Question 2:** Growth planning is Gallatin County’s fundamental issue. I believe that county government should lead the way on growth planning, and the best way to start that process is by initiating a cutting-edge transportation plan. Thoughtful, inclusive, well-planned, and transparent transportation infrastructure planning leads to better, more thoughtful growth.

# Clerk of District Court

Candidates answered the following two questions:

1. What are the most important issues you expect to face if elected Clerk of District Court and what are your positions on them? (100 words or less)
2. What changes would you make to improve the court working conditions within the constraints of the existing Law and Justice Center? (50 words or less)

## Sandy Erhardt (D)

Age: 45

Education: University of Oregon, Bachelor of Science - Environmental Studies/Planning, Public Policy & Management

Campaign Website: <http://sandy4clerkofcourt.org>

**Question 1:** The biggest issue in Gallatin County’s Clerk of Court office will be the increased caseload. The next Clerk of Court must face the challenges of maintaining a well-functioning office as Gallatin County grows. The Clerk’s office is the first and most important contact for most people and is responsible for providing guidance and proper information. My priorities will be providing excellent customer service, maintaining accurate records efficiently, and ensuring access to our judicial system, regardless of means. My 19 years of experience in the Clerk’s office has prepared me for this job and makes me the most capable candidate.

**Question 2:** Gallatin County is behind on services that should have been available years ago. As Clerk I will advocate for the modernization of our court system, to include e-filing and the implementation of a digital case management system. These are imperative in improving efficiency and access of our court system.

## Jesi Stahl (R)

Age: 38

Education: High school graduate and Two years college

Campaign Website: [www.jesistahlforclerk.org](http://www.jesistahlforclerk.org)

**Question 1:** There are many unknowns coming in the months ahead, we are likely to still be dealing with Covid-19 and any mandates that will be issued. I will continue to ensure the office remains accessible to the public while protecting the public and staff. I will constantly work with the public and potential jurors to keep them informed regarding the Court’s procedures and expectations. For the last ten years, I have always followed the statutes and laws pertaining to the Clerk of District Court’s office and will continue to do so.

**Question 2:** I will continue to be flexible and accommodating with each situation that arises. I will work with attorneys and self-represented individuals to utilize electronic filing procedures, for the safety, convenience, and timely filing without having to come to the Law and Justice Center.



## Access My Voter Page (<https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>) to check the following:

- If you are registered to vote
- Your voter registration address\*
- Location and directions to your county election office
- The status of your mailed ballot
- View a sample ballot

*\*Mailed ballots will not be forwarded to another address. Check “My Voter Page” to ensure that your mailing address is correct.*

# REGISTER TO VOTE

## To vote in Montana, you must:

- Be registered as required by law.
- Be 18 years old or older on or before the next election.
- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Have lived in Montana for at least 30 days.
- Not be incarcerated in a penal institution
- Not be adjudicated by a court of law to be of unsound mind

## To register:

Download the Voter Registration Application from your county election office website (<https://gallatincomt.virtualtownhall.net/election-department> for Gallatin County) or from the Secretary of State website <https://sosmt.gov/elections/>

You can also call your local county election office and they will mail or email a Voter Registration Application to you.

Fill out the form and drop it off, mail it or email it to your county election office (Gallatin County Elections Office, 311 W. Main, Room 210, Bozeman, MT 59715; phone 582-3060; email [gallatin.elections@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:gallatin.elections@gallatin.mt.gov))

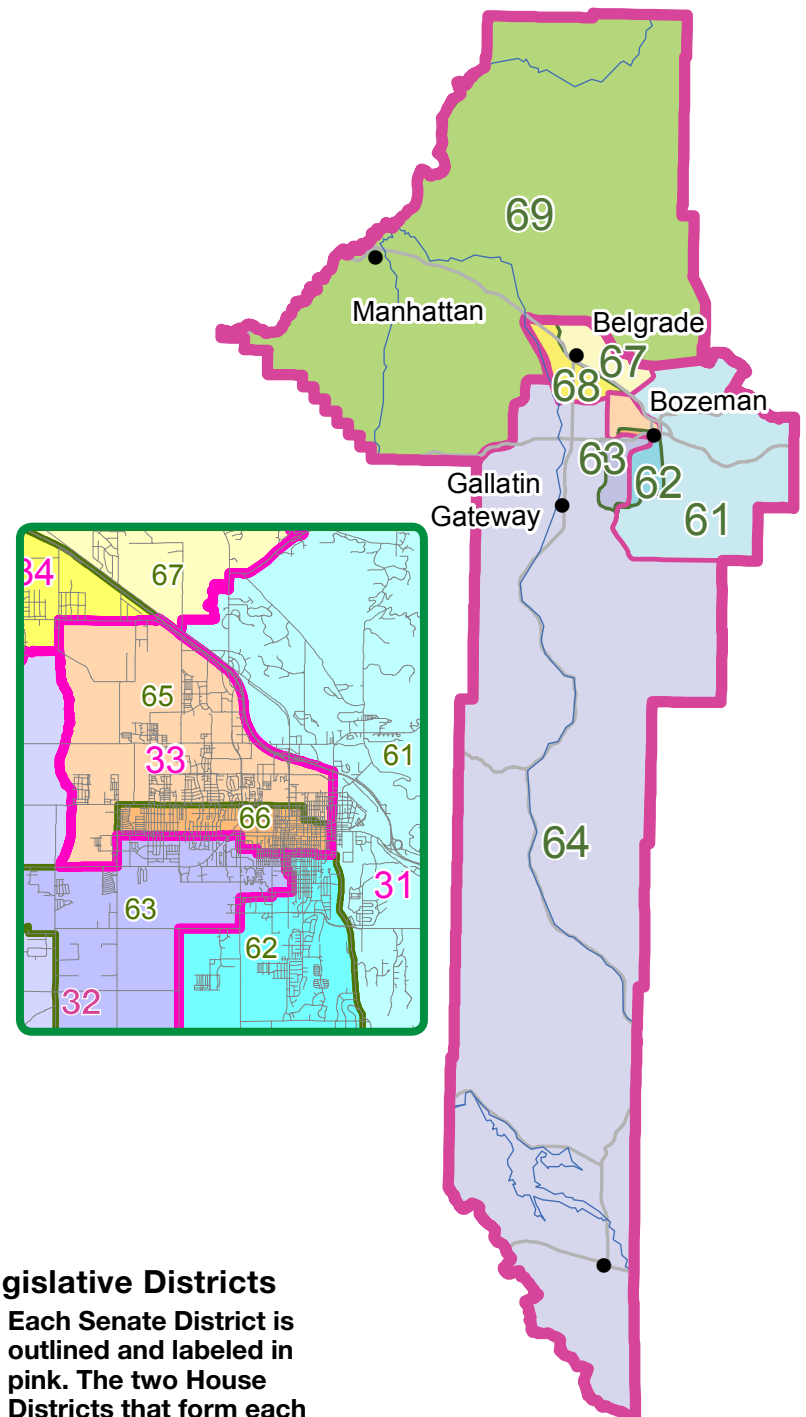
Regular voter registration for the 2020 General Election closes 10-days prior to Election Day. Late registration begins October 27.

If you miss the regular registration deadline, you may still register to vote by appearing in-person at the Election Department in the County Courthouse at 311 West Main - Room 210 in Bozeman until noon the day before the election or from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on Election Day. Registration and in-person voting will also be conducted at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds exhibit halls on Election Day from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

## VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3

# Montana Legislative Districts

## For Elections Held in 2014-2022



## Legislative Districts

Each Senate District is outlined and labeled in pink. The two House Districts that form each Senate District are separated by a green line and labeled in green.

## Source:



- County Line
- Stream or Lake
- Highway



# THE NOVEMBER 3 ELECTION IS BY MAIL-IN BALLOT

Ballots will be mailed to active and provisionally registered voters starting October 9, 2020.

Return postage is prepaid. You do not need to add any postage to the return envelope if you return your ballot by mail.

Ballots should be returned by mail at least one week before Election Day. If you don't have your ballot in the mail by then, you should drop it off in-person.

Beginning Oct. 9, the following locations will function as places of deposit for ballots during their regular business hours through Election Day on Tuesday, Nov. 3. And on Election Day, they will have extended hours from 7:00 AM until 8:00 PM.

Gallatin County Election Office  
311 W. Main St., Bozeman

Belgrade City Clerk's Office  
91 E. Central Ave., Belgrade

Manhattan City Clerk's Office  
207 S. 6th St., Manhattan

Three Forks City Clerk's Office  
206 N. Main St., Three Forks

West Yellowstone City Clerk's Office  
440 Yellowstone Ave., West Yellowstone

Big Sky Water & Sewer District Office  
561 Little Coyote Rd., Big Sky

Office of Associated Students of Montana State  
University (ASMSU)  
221 Strand Union Building, 751 W. Grant St.,  
Bozeman

## Along with the locations listed above, the following locations will be places of deposit ON ELECTION DAY ONLY:

Gallatin County Fairgrounds  
901 N. Black Ave., Bozeman

Hope Lutheran Church  
2152 W. Graf St., Bozeman

Belgrade Special Events Center  
220 Spooner Rd, Belgrade

Bridger Canyon Fire Station  
8081 Bridger Canyon Rd., Bozeman

River Rock Community Center  
101 River Rock Rd., Belgrade

Gallatin Gateway Community Center  
145 Mill St., Gallatin Gateway

Manhattan Christian High School  
8000 Churchill Rd., Manhattan

With the exception of the Gallatin County Election Department, these locations serve only for depositing of voted ballots. If you need to register, update your information, or wish to vote in-person, please contact the Gallatin County Election Department at 406-582-3060 or [gallatin.elections@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:gallatin.elections@gallatin.mt.gov) for information about these services. In-person voting is available October 2, 2020 through Election Day, November 3, 2020 at the county election office and on Election Day ONLY at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds exhibit halls.

# LWW

## League of Women Voters of the Bozeman Area

Join us in making our communities Fair, Vibrant and Strong.

The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. With more than 100 years of experience and over 700 local and state affiliates in all 50 states, the League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations. Join the League and be directly involved in shaping the important issues in our community. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages.

For more information, contact Faye Boom at 406-582-4915 or [fdboom@gmail.com](mailto:fdboom@gmail.com)  
Visit our website: <https://my.lww.org/montana/bozeman>

# BECOME INFORMED AND VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3