

VOTERS GUIDE

JULY 2022

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WENATCHEE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VALLEY

WENATCHEE

CHELAN COUNTY

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REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY PLAN

VOTED ON BY RESIDENTS OF DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 2 AND CHELAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 1

Residents of Chelan County Fire District 1 and Douglas County Fire District 2 will be asked to vote on a ballot measure to create a Regional Fire Authority, which would combine Chelan County Fire District 1 and Douglas County Fire District 2.

Wenatchee Fire Chief Brian Brett explained that Chelan and Douglas Counties have worked collaboratively for years, but invest in separate capital from different budgets. He said combining the Fire Districts into one Regional Authority could save money on administrators and duplicate infrastructure. The two district's combined revenues and combined expenses has a wider margin than the districts do separately, Brett noted that the Districts would be able to do more as one entity.

The volunteer firefighter base has decreased significantly over the past 10 years, which means fire stations need to hire more full-time staff. The Regional Fire Authority would hire 6 additional full-time firefighters. Additional staff would allow the department to maintain the level of service we currently enjoy as our community grows.

Regardless of whether the August 2nd ballot measure is approved, Chief Brett explained that both counties will ask for the same amount of funding separately in a later election. However, if combined, they would be able to provide more service with the same amount of money.

County Commissioner Position 2

Anne Hessburg



How long have you lived in Chelan County?

Raised in Wenatchee, and now a resident of Leavenworth, I have lived in Chelan County most of my life.

What is your current occupation and educational background?

For the past 10 years I have worked as an Environmental and Land Use Planner for Grette Associates where my primary responsibility is to provide permitting services to clients throughout Chelan County. I earned a degree in Speech Communication from the University of Washington.

What experience do you have that qualifies you for the office you are seeking?

My experience as an Environmental and Land Use Planner, combined with my service on the Leavenworth Planning Commission and Leavenworth City Council, have prepared me to serve as a County Commissioner. In these roles I have advocated to protect people's private property rights, contributed to long-range and current land use planning decisions, and earned valuable experience collaborating with community leaders to address issues facing our communities.

Why did you decide to run for office and what do you hope to accomplish?

My 15+ years of local government and professional experience has given me a deep understanding of permitting and development issues in Chelan County, and the financial consequences these issues have created for our citizens and the County. After thoughtful consideration, and a lot of encouragement from county residents, I decided to run.

As Commissioner my main priorities will be:

Collaborative Leadership - I will invest time building relationships, managing conflicts, and bringing people together to find common ground and understanding.

Honest Dialogue - I will support open and honest conversations that encourage residents to engage, contribute, and share ideas. Two-way communication is the key to successful representation.

Restoring Confidence in County Development - I will advocate for clear, consistent administration of regulations, and experienced staff who seek solutions in a professional manner.

Do you feel you could be, or have been, a good steward of taxpayer dollars? Why or why not?

Charged with balancing and maintaining the City of Leavenworth's multi-million dollar budget, my record shows that I have, and will continue to be, a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

Shon Smith



How long have you lived in Chelan County?

46 years. My family landed here when our car broke down on Blewett Pass as my parents were moving back to Moses Lake after college. My sister and I were raised and graduated from Cashmere HS. After college at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa Idaho, I returned to Cashmere with my wife of 29 years now, and raised four incredible children, 20, 18, 16 & 14.

What is your current occupation and educational background?

I own the Wok-About Grills in Wenatchee (1997) and Leavenworth (2014). Fresh out of college, I worked for Idaho Timber for two years and moved home to work for Dovex Fruit for two years before opening the Wok. I graduated High School in 1989 and Northwest Nazarene University in 1993 with a BA in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance.

What experience do you have that qualifies you for the office you are seeking?

My goal has always been to be self-employed. From a young age I realized that hard work and determination pays off. Being a business leader in Chelan County for over two decades and employing 100's of young people has been very rewarding. Some of the original employees that opened the Wok are still with me today as the General Manager and Managers in both restaurants. Treating people the way I want to be treated has always come back to me 10x! Chelan County runs like any other business, but on a grander scale. Being a good steward of people and finances is a leadership skill that I possess and want to bring to the families of Chelan County through the Commission.

Why did you decide to run for office and what do you hope to accomplish?

Being a father of four children, I want to protect and provide opportunities not only for them, but also the families of Chelan County. Our rural way of life is under increasing pressure and managing that pressure for responsible growth is my motivation to run for public office. Protecting property rights and funding effective law enforcement will help insure that Chelan County is "open for business" without sacrificing our lifestyle. Agriculture and tourism is our lifeblood and the opportunity for our children to work and live here need to be protected and cultivated for future generations, and that's what I plan to do.

Do you feel you could be, or have been, a good steward of taxpayer dollars? Why or why not?

In business, one needs to be creative and flexible. The failure rate of small business is close to 60%, and the failure rate of restaurants is even higher. My abilities to make decisions that are sometimes uncomfortable, have kept the doors open at my businesses for 26 years now, and I don't intend to let the change anytime soon. 63 employees and their families trust me to make sound decisions to ensure that they will have a consistent paycheck and the opportunity to grow within our business. For the last four years I have sat on the Board of Director at the Town Toyota Center at the pleasure of the Chelan County Commissioners, and have helped guide it through the Covid Pandemic. That has been no small feat, and with the dedication of the TTC management and staff, it is on a healthy path to continue contributing to the economic health of our entire community for many years to come.

Zachary Miller



Zachary Miller has withdrawn from the race for County Commissioner Position 2.

County Clerk

Sandra Arechiga



How long have you lived in Douglas County?

Il was born in Mexico and raised in Yakima, WA. I am a mother of three amazing children: Omar, Anthony and Karisma. Who has inspired me to become a go-getter; a person that doesn't stop dreaming, and I wouldn't change it for the world. I have been a "Soccer Mom" for more than 17 years. I am proud to be a Hispanic-American and to provide the best service to all our citizens and everyone.

What is your current occupation and educational background?

Through my career I have developed strong leadership skills, and high rapport with all my past employers such as Wells Fargo Bank, Washington Trust Bank, Confluence Health, and Chelan County.

Over the last eight years, I have gained essential experience by serving the Clerk's Office as Courtroom Clerk, Jury Administrator, Court Facilitator, Court Collections, Records Management, Front Desk Clerk, and Processing Passports.

What experience do you have that qualifies you for the office you are seeking?

Through my work in the Clerk's Office I have learned the role and inner functions of the Clerk's position; additionally, I have leveraged my heritage, as a Spanish-speaking American, to serve and assist all citizens in Chelan County, ensuring they receive proper guidance to suit their individual needs.

Currently, I serve as a Family Law Court Facilitator, where I take pride in collaborating as a team player, being a quick learner, and being a detail-oriented person.

Why did you decide to run for office and what do you hope to accomplish?

When elected as Chelan County Clerk, I aim to build bonds among the staff, faculty, and administration. My commitment is to serve all citizens and treat each other with respect, courtesy, transparency, and professionalism.

Do you feel you could be, or have been, a good steward of taxpayer dollars? Why or why not?

I think I would be a good steward of taxpayer dollars. I pledge to work in good faith with the Chelan County Commissioners during the budget process. I believe that my predecessor was also a good steward and I plan on utilizing her experience going forward. I aspire to contribute unwavering time and efforts into making a positive impact on the Chelan County Clerk's Office and its residents.

I humbly ask for your support by voting for Sandra Arechiga as your next Chelan County Clerk.

Marty Young



How long have you lived in Douglas County?

My wife, Jackie, and I have lived in Chelan county on Blewett Pass for over 24 years and raised 9 children. We also have 13 grandchildren now.

What is your current occupation and educational background?

I have a Bachelors of Science (BS) degree in engineering from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology and a Masters degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Oregon. After almost 25 years in an engineering career, I began working for the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) at Washington state almost nine years ago. I am currently a WorkFirst Program Specialist assisting families and single parents with cash benefits. The families receiving cash benefits must participate in the WorkFirst program to get a job or get a better job to allow them to thrive and no longer need assistance.

What experience do you have that qualifies you for the office you are seeking?

I have years of production and operations management and leadership experience overseeing 45 to 100 employees and supervisors. These management positions also involved budgeting, quality control, safety, union negotiations and productivity. My nine years at DSHS involve working with customers and dealing with constantly changing Revised Code of Washington (RCW) laws and Washington Administrative Codes (WAC). My WorkFirst job is now completely paper free and electronic documents are used exclusively.

Why did you decide to run for office and what do you hope to accomplish in that role?

I want the office to continue to be managed by a fiscal conservative. I lead by example and manage by walking around to understand the front-line work and utilize subject matter experts. Teamwork is used to successfully build morale and efficiency. I will humbly seek assistance from all resources to make the transition as seamless as possible. My experience with lean techniques from engineering can bring new ideas into reducing any waste to improve efficiency.

Do you feel you could be, or have been, a good steward of taxpayer dollars? Why or why not?

I am a good steward of taxpayer dollars in my current position at DSHS. I am detail oriented and meticulous in processing applications to ensure only those in need receive assistance. I am fiscally conservative and will continue to work for taxpayers in this manner.

Brandi Buck



How long have you lived in Douglas County?

I have lived in the Wenatchee Valley for 14 years now and have remained a Chelan County resident for that full time. I am originally from Bend, Oregon.

What is your current occupation and educational background?

I recently started my business as a Real Estate Agent as I have a lengthy background in Business Development, Account Management, Customer Service and Sales. I Graduated from Sisters, High School and was homeschooled prior to that. After graduating, I pursued an education at Central Oregon Community College and then attended Bryan College of Court Reporting.

What experience do you have that qualifies you for the office you are seeking?

Working directly with the public and local business owners over the years has been a very rewarding experience. I have learned how to manage my own business and client accounts; how to reach others and help them achieve their goals. Being one of Wenatchee's Top 30 Under 35 has shown me that I can accomplish what is set before me and my work ethic doesn't go unnoticed.

Why did you decide to run for office and what do you hope to accomplish in that role?

I love the Wenatchee Valley and after this past few years, I have been more aware of what is going on in the world and in our own community. I was looking for a way that I could be more involved and help serve the public and when this opportunity arose, I felt compelled to step up so I could utilize my skills, work ethic, morals and overall eagerness to help serve my community.

Kim Morrison has done a fantastic job. I only hope to maintain and grow that position to fulfill the legacy she has led over the years.

Do you feel you could be, or have been, a good steward of taxpayer dollars? Why or why not?

For me personally, I weigh out pro's and con's. In past experiences, I assess different situations and gather information before making decisions. For example: How will this be beneficial to my client and will it cost them more than its worth? I think using those types of principles are crucial in that type of position. My first and foremost concern is helping benefit, serve and growing our community.