



Official On-Line Voters' Guide

Baker County, Oregon

General Election

November 3, 2026

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Featuring...

A note from your County Clerk

County Commissioner, Position 3 Candidate Statements

- Kody Justus
- Whitney Rilee

Compiled list of County and City Candidates

Hello Baker County Voter,

I would like to take a minute to say thank you for looking at our On-line Voters' Guide. You may be thinking that it is shorter than what you expected to see. For clarification, this Guide is an optional resource for which our county level candidates may choose to submit a statement. As you will see in this guide, for the General Election in November, two Baker County candidates submitted statements. In addition to the submitted Candidate Statements, you can access the candidate filing forms for all County Candidates that have been filed through their respective links on our website. The links can be found at www.bakercountyor.gov by clicking the "What's New" located just under the photo on the homepage. Please note, detailed candidate information for City Candidates can be obtained from the City Recorder of the City they filed with. I have included a list of filed candidates in this guide for information.

The General Election is November 3, 2026. Most ballots are planned to be mailed out to voters on October 14th though some groups, such as Military and Out of Country / State Absentee, get mailed out a little earlier. The last day to register to vote is October 13th. You may return your voted ballot by mail, deliver it to the Baker County Clerk's Office or drop it in any Official Ballot Drop Box in the State. For a list of local dropsites, see the following information:

Baker County Clerk's Office

1995 3 rd St., Ste. 150	
Baker City, OR 97814	
541-523-8207	www.bakercountyor.gov
Monday-Friday	8am-5pm
Election Day	7am-8pm

Drive Up Drop Site

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

Community Connections

2810 Cedar Street	
Baker City, OR 97814	
Monday-Friday	8am-12:30, 1:30-4pm
Election Day	8am-12:30, 1:30-8pm

Halfway City Hall

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

Huntington City Hall

50 Adams St. E	
Huntington, OR 97907	
Monday - Friday	9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm
Election Day	9am-8pm

Richland City Hall

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

If you decide to return your ballot by mail, it is our strong recommendation to mail **at least 7** days before Election Day. If you mail within the 7 days, it is also recommended that you walk your ballot into the Post Office and ask for a hand cancel date stamp. Post-marks do count, only if they are post marked on or before Election Day and received in our office on or before November 10th through the mail.

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

Best Regards,



Stefanie Kirby, C.C.C.

County Clerk

Baker County Clerk's Office

1995 3rd Street, Ste. 150

Baker City, OR 97814

skirby@bakercountyor.gov

Ph: 541-523-8207

Fax: 541-523-8240



Kody Justus
Baker County Commissioner, Position 3

Occupation: Cattle Rancher

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you.

Whitney Rilee
Baker County Commissioner, Position 3

Occupation: Victim Assistance Program Director

Educational Background: Eastern Oregon University,
Bachelor of Science in Physical Activity and Health,
minor in Psychology and Physical Education. Financial Coaching Certification.

Occupational Background: Teacher, Harvest Christian Academy. Office Manager, Baker County Juvenile Department. Program Director, Victim Assistance.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Optional Information: As your County Chair, I will:

- Work with fellow commissioners to ensure a well-managed, fiscally sound foundation for Baker County;
- Promote cooperation between the County and surrounding cities;
- Support policies that grow small businesses and enhance our natural resource-based economy;
- Advance cost-efficient technology upgrades that help serve citizens;
- Connect county and non-profit programs to serve our at-risk population;
- Advocate for a strong rural health care system

I understand the importance of listening to diverse perspectives and approaching tough decisions with respect and fairness. I am well-versed in the county's budget process, grant-writing requirements, office administration skills and programs, ever-changing state and federal policy challenges, and negotiation requirements. I have also served on the Baker County Multidisciplinary Team for 5 years, and the Northeast Oregon Compassion Center fundraising team for 7 years. This knowledge and experience has prepared me to represent Baker County citizens and manage daily administrative tasks as required by this position.

As a fourth-generation Baker County resident, I will honor our community's traditions and bring a fresh perspective to our future. I am no stranger to hard work and service. I am a mom, wife, volunteer, and victim advocate. As our community looks towards generational change, I am ready to be part of it. I will step up for Baker County citizens every day.

I ask for the honor of your vote to serve as your Baker County Chair.

Filed Candidates
November 3, 2026, General Election
Baker County, OR

**For candidate information, please contact the appropriate City Recorder for City Candidates, Oregon Department of Agriculture for Soil and Water Conservation District Candidates or visit www.bakercountyor.gov for the County Candidates found under the "What's New" icon.

Baker County

County Clerk: Stefanie L Kirby

County Commissioner, Position 3: Kody Justus

Whitney Rilee

City of Baker City (541) 524-2033

City Council: Randy Schiewe, Jared P Bain, Gratton Miller, Samantha Haldane, Sarah Langron Heiner

City of Haines (541) 856-3366

City Council: Noel Scott, Angie Shurtleff, Jeannette Corbin

Mayor: Kenny Bain, Kay Rood

City of Halfway (541) 742-4741

City Council: Kertis Lorence

City Council, 2 Year Unexpired Term: Gene Zachary, Nora Aspy

Mayor: Jackelyn Jackson

City of Huntington (541) 869-2202

City Council: Robyn McKay, Lillian Mathews, Harmonie Hicks

Mayor: Charles Guerri

City of Richland (541) 893-6141

City Council: Debra Buchanan, Jef Geurts, Dianna Carnell

Mayor: No Candidate Filed

City of Sumpter (541) 894-2314

City Council, Position 2: No Candidate Filed

City Council, Position 4: No Candidate Filed

Mayor: Linda Wise

City of Unity (541) 446-3544

City Council: Robert Bradford, Erin F Cantrell, Kinzi Rasmussen

Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 1: Myron Miles

Zone 3: Mike T Williams

At Large 2: Tim A Kerns

Burnt River Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 2: Diana Filmore

Zone 3: Bryan Hardy

At Large 2: No Candidate Filed

Eagle Valley Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 1: No Candidate Filed

At Large 2: Michael Marlow

Keating Soil and Water Conservation District

Zone 1: John Wirth

At Large 2: Skyler Martin