

# Watchmen Voter Guide for County Commissioner District 1

*\* Click on each candidate's name to see their completed questionnaire \**

Question	<a href="#">Bill Brooks</a>
<p><b>2.</b> To help Kootenai County's economy grow, do you support</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raising fees, (If so, which ones?)</li> <li>2. Keeping property assessments low</li> <li>3. Cutting spending (if so, what areas of the budget and by how much?)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, almost exclusively on out of state licenses and permits.</li> <li>2. Yes, especially property taxes. Property tax is an outdated and bad way to fund county government. It can only be changed by state legislators in Boise, County Commissioners cannot change state statutes.</li> <li>3. There are many expenses that have slowly crept up on the taxpayers of Kootenai County. The state keeps mandating more and more services that the county <u>must</u> provide. We need to begin a hard push back on our legislators to halt these practices.</li> </ol>
<p><b>3.</b> What is your opinion of eminent domain? What is your opinion of when it should be used?</p>	<p>I am opposed to the use of eminent domain.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> Do you support or oppose forced annexation? Why or why not?</p>	<p>Opposed. It is the illegal "taking" of private property.</p>
<p><b>5.</b> Our county is growing very rapidly, where do you see we need to improve infrastructure and what are your plans to improve it?</p>	<p>I believe that responsible developers are more than willing to pass on reasonable impact fee to buyers of properties being developed. Those fees are passed along to the County.</p>
<p><b>6.</b> Due to the rapid growth in our communities, our schools are reaching maximum capacity. What are your plans to accommodate more schools to meet the growing needs of the increased population?</p>	<p>This is not a problem that comes before the Kootenai County Board of Commissioners. I would support a more enlightened attitude in the State for private schools and home schooling.</p>
<p><b>7.</b> Do you support or oppose Urban Renewal Districts? Why or why not?</p>	<p>Generally speaking, I do not support URDs. URDs as they exist represent taxation without representations. All monies returned to the County should be redistributed to the people who paid them originally. The County collected the money one check at a time - they should give it back one check at a time - not consider it a budget windfall and spend it.</p>
<p><b>8.</b> Do you support or oppose the proposed work release center in Kootenai County? Why or why not?</p>	<p>Strongly oppose. My first duty as a County Commissioner is to protect the health and safety of the residents of the County. With the recidivism rate of over 20% and perhaps as high as 80% this facility poses a real and direct threat to the people of the county. I authored the language and pushed for the advisory vote to be on the May 19th ballot.</p>
<p><b>9.</b> Do you support or oppose requirements for developers to pay for community infrastructure?</p>	<p>Support. (See my answer to question #5).</p>
<p><b>10.</b> Do you support or oppose the idea of a county manager? Why or why not?</p>	<p>I support a Countywide discussion on the merits of various forms of county government as provided by Idaho law.</p>
<p><b>11.</b> With the rapid growth of Kootenai County, do you think we need more commissioners?</p>	<p>Yes. Keep the Commissioners close to the people.</p>
<p><b>12.</b> What persons or groups have endorsed your candidacy?</p>	<p>No groups but many citizens (to numerous to list).</p>
<p><b>13.</b> Please detail anything else you believe would assist us in your qualifications as a County Commissioner?</p>	<p>Please go to my website: <a href="http://BillBrooks.us">BillBrooks.us</a> also if anyone has any questions please call me at (208) 699-0506 or (208) 699-Bill - anytime.</p>