



Watchmen Ministry North Idaho Voter Guides Boundary County

Our goal for the Watchmen Ministry North Idaho Voter Guides was to create a nonpartisan document that educated the voter on where candidates stand on issues that matter to YOU. Questionnaires on race specific issues were sent to ALL candidates in contested races on the November Ballot for Kootenai, Bonner, Boundary, Shoshone, and Benewah Counties. The results are posted in a side by side / easy-to-compare chart.

★ Please be aware that if candidates did not respond in a particular race, we are not including the voter guide in this packet as there are no answers to report. The complete voter guides, including those that declined to respond are available on our website. Also not included here are races where the candidates are running unopposed. You can view their answers on our website.

Attached are the Voter Guides for Commissioner and Legislative District 1. The complete set of **Voter Guides** is available on the Watchmen Ministry North Idaho website. In addition to Voter Guides, each candidate's complete questionnaire with their answers is on the website.

Please take the time to become an informed voter. Pray about your choices, go vote, and pray about the results.

Go to www.WatchmenMinistryNorthIdaho.com for complete voter guides, candidate questionnaires and important news.

Our Voter Guide is 100% 501c3 compliant so that it may be dispersed in churches.



Remember, it is your God given civic responsibility to not waste a single opportunity to VOTE.



By voting we perform the minimum of our civic duty by electing and empowering those public servants who give their full attention to governing.



We cannot sit this election out. Your VOTE counts!

Watchmen Voter Guide for Boundary County Commissioner District 2

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

	John L. White	Steve Fioravanti
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	<p>Joined the Race after the questionnaires were sent out for the May Primary.</p>	My name is Steve Fioravanti. I'm running for Boundary County Commissioner, District 2. I'm running because I would like to see more transparency and citizens participation in our county government. Our current Board of Commissioners lacks foresight and vision and we need an infusion of creative ideas and energy to tackle the complex issues that face us today. I will defend our God-given rights of life, liberty and property. I stand for medical freedom and I oppose all unconstitutional mask/vaccine mandates.
2. When do you believe life begins and how does this belief affect your executive decision making?		Life begins at conception. I'm unwavering in my values and it does not affect my executive decision making.
3. What is your opinion of eminent domain? Under what circumstances do you believe it should be used?		The exercise of governmental power of eminent domain to acquire privately owned land should only be used in an extreme situation. For instance, a private property contiguous to our national border, where a national security breach has occurred, and an enemy to our Republic might be conducting operations that would bring harm to our citizens. I would support taking the necessary action to secure our border in a situation like this.
4. Do you support or oppose forced annexation? Why or why not?		I would put this on the ballot and have our citizens decide on whether or not to annex additional land.
5. Our county is growing very rapidly, where do you see we need to improve infrastructure and what are your plans to improve it?		We currently have gridlock to access building permits in our county. Boundary County used to have its own planning and zoning department staffed by a county employee. We now subcontract this function to a private firm based in Sandpoint. I've heard numerous stories from exasperated citizens as they've fought to get timely and consistent answers from this private firm. It has caused unnecessary construction delays and has led to gridlock. This needs to change.
6. 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?		Competition to public education is good and we should look to alternative means of educating our children. I fully support candidate Branden Durst, who is running for Idaho Superintendent of Public Education. His platform calls for a parents right to choose. Money will follow students to any school: traditional, charter, private, micro school or something else. School choice is an excellent option for parents when the funding follows the student. This gives parents more choices to choose from in their children's education. These alternative options would ease the burden in our crowded schools and eliminate the need for more bonds and tax levies on our citizens.
7. Do you support or oppose Urban Renewal Districts? Why or why not?		I would support an urban renewal project with the caveat that no individual's property was seized improperly. In addition, it would have to be a privately funded project without the use of tax payer money. The project should be vetted with community engagement to garner support, and it should follow planning and zoning requirements.

	John L. White	Steve Fioravanti
8. Do you support or oppose requirements for developers to pay for community infrastructure?	<p>Joined the Race after the questionnaires were sent out for the May Primary.</p>	I support developers paying their fair share for community infrastructure.
9. In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?		Elected officials are directly accountable to the people who elected them. This is the foundation and structure of our government.
10. Do you support or oppose the idea of a county manager? Why or why not?		We have a small county population. I don't believe a county manager is needed at this time. We can save those tax dollars for something else.
11. With the rapid growth of the county, do you think we need more commissioners?		No.
12. In recent years some groups have advocated for legalizing marijuana in our state, do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?		I would oppose legalizing marijuana for general recreational use. However, I would not be opposed to using in a restricted manner, such as medicinal purposes.
13. Do you believe the ARPA funds come with Federal requirements that might conflict with Idaho values? Why or why not? How will you advocate for the funds to be used locally?		The ARPA funds absolutely include requirements and compliance with federal mandates and executive orders. Everything about these funds conflicts with Idaho values. I do not condone taking one cent of these funds and I fully support our stance to be free and independent from federal government overreach.
14. Do you believe the six Row Officers (assessor, sheriff, prosecuting attorney, treasurer, coroner, and clerk) should be appointed or stay elected? Why or why not?		This should always be an elected position to keep these officials accountable directly to the people.

	John L. White	Steve Fioravanti
15. What is your background and why do you believe it qualifies you for this position?	Joined the Race after the questionnaires were sent out for the May Primary.	<p>A career full of experience working in these industries: Automotive, Construction, Industrial, Manufacturing, Restaurants and Sanitation, have given me a wide breadth of knowledge and expertise. I've worked with department heads in all capacities in running companies, which has helped me to develop strong project management skills.</p> <p>I've undertaken many personal construction projects on my own properties and I have a good working knowledge for the permits and planning process, not to mention construction experience. Two of my children have graduated from Bonners Ferry High School. In addition, I've been very involved in our community leading a local conservative and Christian based organization. It is this skill set that qualifies me to serve as a Boundary County Commissioner.</p>

Watchmen Voter Guide for Legislative District #1 State Representative - Position B

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

	Sage G. Dixon
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	Sage G. Dixon, House of Representatives Seat 1B, I am running in an effort to continue the honest, principled, conservative representation I have provided for the past eight years.
2. When do you believe life begins and how does this belief affect the legislation you will support?	Life begins at conception, and I have been a constant supporter of pro-life legislation during my tenure in the legislature.
3. What are the top three issues that you feel the legislature needs to address?	The legislature needs to address property taxes, needs to strengthen family values legislation, and needs to continue to oppose federal overreach into our state.
4. What do you consider the biggest health care issue for Idaho, and where do you stand on it?	The biggest healthcare issue for Idaho right now is the staffing shortage most healthcare facilities are experiencing. In addition to a general lack of employees, forced vaccine mandates, which I oppose, have exacerbated this problem, as well as other healthcare policies initiated last year. Medicaid expansion has exponentially increased the amount of money Idaho has to spend on healthcare, and efforts to curtail this harmful social program should continue. We also need to be vigilant against pushes for euthanasia under the guise of "healthcare" which is starting to be seen in other states.
5. Idaho's school system has a lot of room for improvement, how would you legislate to improve K-12 education in Idaho?	Increasing the opportunity for parents to direct their children's education is a priority, as well as improving the funding formula for public schools. Having state dollars follow the student to each different education source is important, as is strengthening our curricula standards.
6. Do you support or oppose legislation to prohibit gender reassignment treatment/surgery on minors?	I wholeheartedly support legislation to prohibit the mutilation of the bodies of minors in the name of gender reassignment, and voted in favor of such legislation earlier this year.
7. If elected, how will you ensure that you are aligned with your North Idaho constituents' values and how your voting record will reflect those values?	I have provided accurate representation for the constituents of District 1 for the past eight years. We have a broad spectrum of political philosophies that range from populist libertarians to leftist progressives, but the vast majority are traditional, conservative republicans. My voting record is consistent with the interests of the majority of my constituents, as well as the values I espouse in public.
8. What is your definition of marriage?	Marriage is the union of a man and woman in the bonds of matrimony, under the eyes of God, and preferably facilitated by a Church.
9. In recent years, sexually explicit materials have invaded public schools and libraries. In your opinion are these materials appropriate for minors under 18 years old?	Sexually explicit material should not be available to minors in any publicly funded building, and especially in schools and libraries.

	Sage G. Dixon
10. What is your opinion regarding freedom of choice for parents for the education of their children, for example School choice?	I believe parents should be able to direct their child's education as they see fit, and that there should be as many education options as possible. Years of effort on this topic have started to bear fruit, and I am hopeful the next session will see major change instituted.
11. Migration from other states has caused property taxes for current homeowners to substantially increase. What legislation would you recommend to prevent the property tax increases that are causing financial burden and forcing some owners out of their homes?	Our property tax formula is a multifaceted system that needs streamlining. I would like to see all property taxes for owner occupied properties go away. If we are unable to do this, then a constitutional amendment to hold assessments, or taxes, at the level when the property was purchased would be helpful as well. A minor improvement would be a rolling average assessment to reduce the volatility of property values.
12. In your opinion, should the House of Representatives and the Senate have their own attorney/legal representation apart from the Attorney General?	The Legislature should have their own legal representation separate from the attorney general. This is an effort we have tried to get accomplished for a few years, and, last year, separate counsel was provided to the legislative services office with the intent of serving legislative needs.
13. In recent years some groups have advocated for legalizing marijuana in our state, do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?	I do not support the legalization of marijuana, either medical or recreational. Although alcohol can be just as harmful, accepting another mind-altering substance to be used in the state is directly against our constitutional directive to promote temperance. Despite the marketing of pro-marijuana activists, the fiscal impact is often negative, and the criminal aspect does not diminish with legalization.
14. What is your background and why do you believe it qualifies you for this position?	I am the incumbent for the position, and have proven to be an effective legislator during my tenure in the office. I am well versed in the founding principles of our nation, have been a small business owner, have been a teacher in my church, and have a deep interest in the reformation of our system of government.

Watchmen Voter Guide for Legislative District #1 State Senator
** Click on each candidate's name to see their completed questionnaire **

	Scott Herndon
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	Scott Herndon, candidate for Idaho State Senate, district 1
2. When do you believe life begins and how does this belief affect the legislation you will support?	<p>At fertilization. We should establish equal protection for all humans from fertilization to natural death. In 2020, I changed the Idaho Republican party platform to state “We affirm that abortion is murder from the moment of fertilization. All children should be protected regardless of the circumstances of conception, including persons conceived in rape and incest. The federal judiciary has played the tyrant in dozens of Supreme Court pro-abortion opinions since Roe v. Wade, and Idaho has the sovereign authority to defy the federal judiciary and to criminalize all murders by abortion within the state’s jurisdiction”.</p> <p>I have written a bill to ban all abortion in the state of Idaho, without exception. Quite simply, abortion is the unlawful killing of an innocent human being and should not be tolerated in Idaho. Idaho has the constitutional authority to ban abortion regardless of contrary federal court opinion. My bill to abolish abortion in Idaho has been filed four years in a row in the Idaho House but has not received a hearing. This year, it was House bill 460 filed by representatives Scott and Nate. See the text at https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2022/legislation/H0460.pdf.</p>
3. What are the top three issues that you feel the legislature needs to address?	<p>1) The legislature needs to address its balance of power to the judiciary. Until we stop allowing the judiciary to unconstitutionally veto legislation, we will have a malfunctioning Republic.</p> <p>2) The legislature needs to address the tax system. Our current complex system of “income” taxes, sales taxes, property taxes and other fees for services should be replaced by a first use consumption tax to simplify the tax system.</p> <p>3) The legislature needs to address the balance of power with the federal government. Currently 42% of Idaho state “revenues” are federal government inflows to the state budget. 42% of this money is national debt financed. Which creates two issues – a federal government running programs through the state’s management for which the federal government is not constitutionally authorized. Second, the state of Idaho is facilitating massive expansion of federal debt by accepting these federal cash inflows.</p>
4. What do you consider the biggest health care issue for Idaho, and where do you stand on it?	Medicaid expansion and its \$11 million a day cost to the state budget. Single payer healthcare will always result in higher prices and inferior service. When voters approved Medicaid expansion at the ballot, the legislature should have reversed it because the voters were not given all of the information about future costs. Now the legislature should do all it can to move away from a single large payer and encourage increased competition in healthcare including the promotion of alternative healthcare modalities.
5. Idaho’s school system has a lot of room for improvement, how would you legislate to improve K-12 education in Idaho?	The state constitution requires the legislature to provide for a system of free, public, common schools. Without a constitutional change, the legislature currently possesses the constitutional authority to dictate the basic curriculum of public education. Also, the system is not required to be a government run system. The legislature could promote competition in education by having funding follow students and not institutions.

	Scott Herndon
6. Do you support or oppose legislation to prohibit gender reassignment treatment/surgery on minors?	I support legislation to prohibit “gender reassignment” surgery on minors. It is actually impossible to change God-given gender.
7. If elected, how will you ensure that you are aligned with your North Idaho constituents’ values and how your voting record will reflect those values?	First, my voting record must conform to God’s standards for civil government whether or not the constituents’ values align. Second, my voting record should conform to the US and state constitutions before I concern myself with whether my record conforms to my constituents’ values. But once conformed to the absolute Lawgiver and conformed to the federal and state constitutions, it is important to stay connected to constituents through email, newsletters, social media, videos, forums and groups so that I know the concerns of North Idaho and stay connected to the people of North Idaho.
8. What is your definition of marriage?	Marriage is the God ordained union of one man and one woman for life. It is accomplished through publicly known intent by a consenting and eligible man and a consenting and eligible woman. The intent to marry is published, meaning it is known publicly, and it is accompanied by solemnization (a ceremony) with witnesses. It is completed by consummation.
9. In recent years, sexually explicit materials have invaded public schools and libraries. In your opinion are these materials appropriate for minors under 18 years old?	There should be no exception in Idaho Code that allows libraries to have available for minors sexually explicit materials. This loophole in Idaho Code ought to be closed.
10. What is your opinion regarding freedom of choice for parents for the education of their children, for example School choice?	Freedom of choice for parents – school choice. The legislature is required to fund a system of free, common, public schools. Free obviously means the legislature appropriates public money for education. Common means that the legislature can dictate what is taught in public education. Public means the system has to be available to everyone. I am in favor of options other than the government running the free, common and public schools. I am also in favor of a funding formula that allows the legislature to have the money follow the student rather than an institution. This should increase school choice.
11. Migration from other states has caused property taxes for current homeowners to substantially increase. What legislation would you recommend to prevent the property tax increases that are causing financial burden and forcing some owners out of their homes?	Property taxes. Your question suggests that migration from other states increases property taxes on existing homeowners. This is only true if the cost of providing government services goes up. In other words, while the market value of your home may have doubled due to increased real estate demand and limited supply, if the cost of government services only goes up 3%, then you will likely only see an increase in your actual property tax bill of 3%. Of course, if the population base of an area increases, then it is likely that government services will need to increase in order to provide the same types and level of service to the growing population. I am in favor of eliminating the funding of local governmental services by property taxes and replacing the funds with a consumption tax on first purchases of goods and services.

	Scott Herndon
<p>12. In your opinion, should the House of Representatives and the Senate have their own attorney/legal representation apart from the Attorney General?</p>	<p>Yes, the legislature should have their own legal counsel that serves only the legislature and not the executive branch of government.</p>
<p>13. In recent years some groups have advocated for legalizing marijuana in our state, do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?</p>	<p>Marijuana legalization. There are good arguments on both sides. If marijuana were to be legalized, there is a legitimate concern as to the effect of marijuana on the brains of young people. Therefore, just like the state regulates tobacco use and purchase, there probably ought not be legalization for minors. My prime instinct is that we shouldn't criminalize a plant itself but acts and commissions of criminality (with actual victims) while using the plant. This is easy to do with alcohol, since we can test a person's BAC as to whether they are impaired by alcohol.</p> <p>Similar such tests for marijuana use are elusive, and that concerns me about the legalization of marijuana.</p>
<p>14. What is your background and why do you believe it qualifies you for this position?</p>	<p>I moved to the Sandpoint area in 2004 and at the time was a computer programmer for large corporations like Toyota Motor Sales and Charles Schwab. I have a BS in Finance from Arizona State University. I became a custom homebuilder in the Sandpoint area starting in 2007 and run a successful local business since then. I am a former Bonner County jail chaplain and am the current chairman of the Bonner County Republican party.</p> <p>I began going to Idaho Republican party state conventions in 2018 and have managed to get seven platform changes adopted into the Idaho Republican party platform. Since 2019 I have written 13 pieces of legislation that have been introduced to the Idaho legislature. Of those, 2 bills have been signed into law, on campaign finance and parental rights regarding newborns, and one resolution on abortion has passed the Idaho House.</p> <p>I have a vision for the proper role of state government and the design of the American Republic that includes a healthy balance of power between the state and federal governments and between the legislature and the executive and judicial branches of government. I also have experience with the Idaho legislature and what kind of consistent, principled and resilient conservative leadership is necessary to be effective in advancing the proper role of the state and preserving the God ordained liberties of the people.</p> <p>My website is HerndonforIdaho.com where voters can learn more.</p>