

## Kootenai County Commissioner District 1

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

	<a href="#">Marc Eberlein</a>	<a href="#">Dale Gibboney</a>	<a href="#">Bat Masterson</a>	<a href="#">John Padula</a>
<b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	Marc Eberlein, County Commissioner, Dist 1, Kootenai County Property taxes are out of hand/Budgets & spending are out hand	Dale Gibboney and I'm running for Kootenai County Commissioner District #1. My grandkids live here in Kootenai County. I would like to try and preserve the life style we now enjoy for my grandkids. One way of doing that would be to manage this rapid and out of control growth that is going on right now.	Murray "Bat" Masterson, County Commissioner Position 1. I want to develop a pro-active business model whereby the county can become self-sustaining with the day-to-day operations. The cost of doing business within the county has reached new heights. We need to establish a program leading to sustainability, so we do not have to keep going back to the taxpayers for more money. I want to improve transparency within the commission towards the citizens and make a commitment to the taxpayers. I am working for you, your children and grandchildren.	John Padula. County Commissioner, Seat 1. To represent the people.
<b>2.</b> When do you believe life begins and how does this belief affect your executive decision making?	Defacto...Life begins at conception / murder is forbidden by God nor will I transgress the laws of God	Life begins at conception. I would never be in favor of allowing County taxpayer money to be used to fund anything like Planned Parent Hood, if this is what you mean.	Life begins at conception, that belief is held in high regard and will not impact executive decision making.	Upon conception. We are created in the image of God therefore I have a high regard for human life.
<b>3.</b> What is your opinion of eminent domain? Under what circumstances do you believe it should be used?	Eminent domain is a tool... Only to be used when no other means is available and land owners need be reimbursed in full for their loss	Idaho already has state law that covers eminent domain. As a County Commissioner my power is limited. If there is a case where land must be taken by eminent domain then the private party must be compensated. In my opinion that land is no longer valued at market value. If someone has an urgent need for that land, the price now exceeds market value and the owner should be compensated accordingly. This is capitalism and the law of supply and demand.	My position on eminent domain; it is a useful tool but is frequently abused. If eminent domain is going to be used it must prove to be beneficial to all, and then those landowners whose property was taken, have to be compensated at fair market value.	I am not a supporter. Only when everyone effected agrees.

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4. Do you support or oppose forced annexation? Why or why not?	<u>No</u> It would be contrary to private property rights	I am not in favor of forced annexation. There is already Idaho State law that deals with this subject. But there are also laws proposed that will make it more difficult to force annexation. Anything that is forced on someone, especially something that goes against an individual's property rights is wrong.	I am opposed to forced annexation.	Undecided
5. Our county is growing very rapidly, where do you see we need to improve infrastructure and do you have plans to improve it?	Growth is a function of private enterprise – as such private enterprise should bear <u>all</u> costs, fire, police, ambulance et. For new development	There are two things about rapid growth that need to be addressed. First, State laws need to be changed to allow growth to pay for itself. Second, it needs to be managed. The County Commissioners and the citizens of Kootenai County need to petition the State Legislatures to change laws dealing with impact fees (fees paid by the developer with new construction, passed on to the new buyer). The growth cannot continue to put the cost burden for new development infrastructure on the current tax payers. Kootenai County and the cities need to come to an agreement regarding a Comprehensive Plan which all of us can agree on. The current pace of growth and lack of planning cannot continue. Otherwise, Kootenai County will not be a great place to live in the future.	We need to increase accessibility to residential areas by increasing our road systems, we need to improve Police, Fire and EMS services to all citizens.	I've been meeting with developers, builders, realtors, and residents to try and figure out a plan to manage growth, so no one is neglected in the decision making.

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<b>6.</b> What is your opinion of red-light cameras and license plate readers? Should they be used by the County?	Mixed emotions privacy concerns – if a loved one was hurt or killed by another person would we want justice? Yes	I do not believe red-light cameras should be used. In fact, it is questionable if they are actually constitutional. Being a former law enforcement officer, I do see a good use for license plate readers. When the proper steps are followed by law enforcement and the justice system, and a warrant has been issued for a person with a known vehicle, license plate readers can aid in the apprehension of that person thereby taking a dangerous person off the street.	These items are beneficial to law enforcement, and I think they should be used, to many accidents are caused by excessive speed.	I would not support them.
<b>7.</b> Do you support or oppose Urban Renewal Districts? Why or why not?	Oppose. One of the biggest scams put forth and is <u>to the detriment</u> of tax payers	URD at one time had a good use; but like all good things they get abused. I am not in favor of URD because most of the time they use eminent domain to take the land. Also, the URD have people appointed who are not elected presiding over the URD which has the authority to tax. The URD keeps the tax money while the County or City has to continue to provide services without payment from the taxes collected by the URD.	I support urban renewal, but one must move cautiously with this , not to create isolated communities.	Neutral at this time.
<b>8.</b> Do you support or oppose requirements for developers to pay for community infrastructure?	Support. Absolutely, see my response question #5	I support the requirements for the developers to pay for community infrastructure. Growth must pay for itself and not burden the existing taxpayers. Otherwise, they will eventually be taxed out of their homes.	They need to pair their share, but not all of it, if done correctly everyone living in these developed areas will pay “fair share”.	I am currently researching pros and cons.

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<b>9.</b> In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?	Yes. The function of elected officials is to oversee Govt. activities on behalf of the taxpayers	I will be accountable to the people of Kootenai County. I'm elected to represent the people and their views. If the people want something that goes against what I believe is right, and I can't explain my position well enough to change their mind then the people should decide. First and foremost, I represent the people of Kootenai County.	I will be accountable to the citizens of Kootenai County, that is who I will be elected by.	To the people of Kootenai County. That is who I would represent.
<b>10.</b> Do you support or oppose the idea of a county manager? Why or why not?	Oppose. County manager would be accountable to commission not the voters See my answer to #9	No county manager. The people of Kootenai have said no to this several times already. The people who run the government must be elected. And that job should not be passed off to anyone else. The voters hold the elected officials accountable with their vote. The voters would have no authority to hold a county manager accountable.	Opposed, I think the county will function more effectively with a good board of commissioners.	Not in support. We need to limit government.
<b>11.</b> 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?	Oppose. Medical marijuana has helped some people and I support that. As such "pot" is another animal, legalized or not, it is detrimental to society. Mind altering drugs have caused great damage to society	I am against the legalization of marijuana. I believe it is mostly abused and that leads to the deterioration of the person using it and eventually to our society. Legalizing marijuana has only led to more crime and drug abuse.	Opposed, it is a proven gateway drug, leading to other drug abuse. It also has several bad side effects when used by itself. The cost to taxpayers for illegal drug use continues in states where marijuana is legal.	I strongly oppose. It's part of the destruction of our society.
<b>12.</b> What should the county's policy be regarding federal funding of county projects?	"Free federal money" comes with strings attached. For example federal funding using federal to fund transit system – that I voted against.	Taking federal funding is a necessary evil. Those monies are our taxpayer's money to begin with. However, you need to read the details and see if you can live with the deal you are making with the federal government.	Used correctly the federal funding can be very beneficial to the residents, it can be very costly when not used correctly. That being said, I believe we should take advantage of those funds when appropriate.	I oppose federal funding.

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<b>13.</b> What is your opinion on restricting public comment at county meetings? Why do you hold this opinion?	To restrict public comment is contrary to our constitution. A commissioner is the representative of the people to oversee Govt activity	Our form of government is “by the people and for the people.” It is necessary to hear from the people so the Commissioners know which direction to go. This not only goes for public meetings but holding town halls to inform the people of what is happening in our county. Commissioners should make themselves available to the people via phone and email as well.	The citizens have a right to be heard, Since the commissioners are not very accessible, I think it needs to continue, I am in favor of a time limit.	I would not restrict. We need to hear from the public.
<b>14.</b> What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	Former county commissioner with commendations from the KCRCC for conservative principals / lower taxes / less spending – business owner – no bankruptcy	I was a policeman for 12 years and flew police helicopters for 7 of those 12 years. I was the Chief Pilot and managed the training program for all new pilots coming into the division and managed the recurrent training program for about 35 line pilots. I left law enforcement to get into corporate aviation, flying jets for Time Warner for 27 years. I became the Chief Pilot there and managed 18 pilots and flight attendants. I also managed the training budget of approximately \$1.2 million dollars in todays money. I was entrusted with approximately \$150 million in capital assets (airplanes). I am very familiar with budgets and managing people.	I served as a fire commissioner for Timberlake ire district for two terms, I also served two terms on the EMS Joint Powers Board as a commissioner, I was appointed by Governor Phil Batt to a Commissioner position, for a 4-year term in the inaugural year of the commission. In this role I was the only non-physician member, I sat on the board of the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association for several years as well. I have also held a number of management positions with upwards of two hundred employees under me.	Pastor. I deal with multiple people and tasks every day. I sit on four boards, dealing with budgeting and administration.