

Shoshone County Clerk

	Lori Osterberg
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	My name is Lori Osterberg and I am running for Shoshone County Clerk. I am running for this office because I was asked and I felt like I could help make a difference. Making sure that we are good stewards of our finances is key and election integrity is at the forethought of many people's mind. I decided to run to assist and facilitate those principles. I could either be a citizen that complains or one to serve, so I decided to serve.
2. Election integrity has become a serious concern for voters. How will you preserve election integrity at the highest level?	Voting is a fundamental process and people want confidence in that process. Ensuring that every vote is legal, secure, and making sure that all voters have access to their local precinct.
3. Our county is growing very rapidly, where do you see we need to improve election infrastructure and what are your suggestions?	Clean up voter rolls and to be sure they are current and maintained. Update county website with current information about elections. Encouraging constituents to work at polling positions at each precinct. Encourage local political committees to submit their list of election judges as per Idaho Code 24-303. If elected I will learn more about how and what our county has in place and what their procedures are. I really cannot advise at this point as I am not sure.
4. What should the county's policy be regarding federal funding of county projects?	I believe it is a double edge sword. It is taxpayers' monies so we are deserving of them, but you need to read the fine print and know the string that the federal government has attached to receiving these funds.
5. Do you support or oppose Urban Renewal Districts? Why or why not?	I oppose, with saying that Shoshone County is not facing this problem as most of our land is public.
6. What is your preference on paper ballots vs. electronic ballots?	According to brennancenter.org they released a report on August 15th 2019 that the estimated cost for cyberattack on elections was \$833 million. I believe that if there is cyber, we will have attacks. It cannot ever be totally secure. Cyber attacker's only goal is to steal, kill and destroy. That is a lot of tax dollars being spent on an issue that could be resolved by simply going back to paper ballots verses machine. Paper ballots and hand counting worked for hundreds of years.
7. In your opinion, what does the Clerk provide in terms of checks and balances regarding the other elected officials?	A county clerk is responsible for numerous duties. One of the main duties is to ensuring that all account services and financial reporting is current and accurate. The Board of County Commissioners would not be able to move forward in their daily duties without knowing the available funds in accounts and if contracts and procurements are nondelinquent. This position helps to ensure there is no over expenditure of tax payer dollars.
8. In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?	A clerk is accountable to the county taxpayers. It is the peoples vote and they essentially are your boss.
9. 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 oppose the legalization of marijuana. It is part of the devastation of our society and it can lead to other drug use. I do however, believe in the legalization of medical marijuana.
10. What is your view of moving the budget from the Clerk's Office to a commission manager under the Board of County Commissioners?	I oppose this, it is an elected position voted by and working for the citizens of your county not the commissioners.
11. How would you utilize the budget that you manage while being fiscally responsible?	Working and staying within the budget is essential. Over expenditure is a hardship on county tax payers, and making sure that funds are allocated in the proper areas. It is unreasonable to expect tax payers to fund unnecessary matters.
12. What is your view on eliminating the property tax in favor of a higher sales tax?	I am currently researching pros and cons.

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13. What would be your suggestions to improve transparency in the county year-end financial reports to the citizens?	Encourage the citizens to attend the meetings and to request the public records.
14. What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	<p>I worked for Kellogg School District #391 for 29 years in the transportation department. In 2011, I became the dispatcher, trainer, and assistant director under Tony Dechand. From 2019-2021, I was the director. During my tenure, I learned a lot about budgeting and staying within it. During the 12 years of leadership, I received 100% on federal and state compliance. I was also a state trainer for 12 years for region 1 & 2. I was the go-to person for the school district to ask questions about Idaho Code. I took a position at the state level at Idaho Department of Education, as a Region 3 specialist. My knowledge of Idaho code, best practices, regulations, statutes, and budgeting helped secure that position. One of my duties as a regional specialist was auditing and helping school districts stay within their budget. I took great pride in being able to advise Idaho school districts and bus contractors with their queries.</p> <p>I am currently the treasurer, Pinehurst Water District Board. which involves going through bank statements, verifying credit card expenditures, etc. The main duties of a treasurer are to oversee the financial administration of the organization.</p>