

## Bonner County Commissioner District 2

	<b>Jeffrey Roberts</b>	<b>Asia Williams</b>
<p><b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?</p>	<p>Name: Jeff Roberts.</p> <p>Office: Bonner County Commissioner District 2.</p> <p>As a, Christian, husband, Home-school father of 6, patriot, land owner, and business owner, I have many reasons to do my part to keep my county free, conservative and protected from the radical wave of leftist policies that are taking over our country. I have volunteered most of my life in faith based and liberty focused organizations and this an opportunity to bring my values of Biblically centered Constitutional values to local government.</p>	<p>Commissioner Asia Williams, I am writing to announce my candidacy for re-election as Bonner County Commissioner for District 2.</p> <p>It has been a privilege to serve the public, and I am eager to continue providing professional leadership for our community. My background in business, risk management, internal auditing, and insurance has been instrumental in improving the overall function of county government. I am seeking re-election to ensure these vital functions and improvements continue.</p> <p>I appreciate your support in this upcoming election.</p>
<p><b>2.</b> What is your opinion of eminent domain? Under what circumstances do you believe it should be used?</p>	<p>I feel that eminent domain, while Constitutional, has been seriously abused, and has exceeded it's intent of being only used for public good and ensuring just compensation. I have seen cases where eminent domain was used to take land from one private party and given to another for a strip mall. I believe this is abuse. And follows the trend we see federally in the western states of state land being taken and placed under federal control, in violation of Article 1 section 8 clause 17 of the U.S. Constitution.</p>	<p>I believe that a property owner's personal investment should not be subject to government seizure simply because there is a public interest.</p> <p>In my role as commissioner, I advocate for the county to work directly with homeowners to reach mutual agreements. Eminent domain should only be considered when there is a verifiable, significant risk that justifies such action.</p>
<p><b>3.</b> If faced with a budget deficit, would you support cutting spending or increasing taxes? What would be your reasons for this decision?</p>	<p>Limited government is a foundational principle of our country. Taxing and spending our way into national bankruptcy is one of the greatest failures of our nation, and our children will reap the consequences. Cutting spending should always be the first choice.</p>	<p>I believe that budget deficits should be addressed by cutting spending rather than increasing taxes.</p> <p>With my professional background in business and internal auditing, I possess the necessary acumen to ensure that public funds are managed effectively. Failure to properly manage a budget should not result in an additional financial burden on taxpayers.</p> <p>I believe my experience is vital to maintaining these standards and ensuring fiscal accountability.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> Do you support or oppose forced annexation? Why or why not?</p>	<p>I am opposed to forced annexation. I believe central control generally leads to more abuse and less accountability. I believe rural America tends to have a culture of more liberty-centric and independent ideals that are what made America so prosperous.</p>	<p>Property owners choose their locations intentionally.</p> <p>It is critical that the Commission carefully evaluates areas of city impact to ensure that growth boundaries are clearly defined and transparent to the public.</p>

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<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?	I am opposed to forced annexation. I believe central control generally leads to more abuse and less accountability. I believe rural America tends to have a culture of more liberty-centric and independent ideals that are what made America so prosperous.	<p>One of my focus areas is on improving access to healthcare, with a particular emphasis on women’s health and mental health services. As our community grows, we are committed to meeting the resulting increase in demand for these essential resources.</p> <p>Regarding infrastructure, I recognize that residents are seeking improved road conditions. While our Director of Roads and Bridges continues to do an excellent job prioritizing maintenance, we are working to increase communication with the Planning Department. This collaboration will ensure the Director has access to accurate traffic counts to prioritize the areas requiring the most attention.</p> <p>Finally, I remain dedicated to enhancing our emergency services. I am working closely with our EMS Chief to improve overall operations and develop a strategic plan for future growth.</p>
<b>6.</b> What is your opinion of red-light cameras and license plate readers? Should they be used by the County?	I believe the trend America has been on for man years is a dangerous one, police state, surveillance, intrusions of privacy, warrant less searches, and government monitoring Americans in all aspects of life is contrary to American founding principles. I am opposed to this technology being used by government.	I am in opposition of surveillance of residence. I do not agree that they should be used in the county.
<b>7.</b> Do you support or oppose Urban Renewal Districts? Why or why not?	I only support using tax funds for urban renewal, IF there is a surplus, and ONLY on infrastructure prescribed by law, and in very, very limited circumstances after all other critical infrastructure and essential services are funded.	I do not support the URDAs they are funded by tax increment financing.
<b>8.</b> Do you support or oppose requirements for developers to pay for community infrastructure?	With Bonner County growing at roughly 3% per year, and 80% of that growth being from out of the area, coupled with a roughly 9% increase in cost of living, on top of the county's state imposed budget limit cap of 3% over the previous years budget. the current growth rate is unsustainable. I believe development and growth need to cover the added impact on county expenses and services rather than having existing taxpayers cover the increase.	<p>Currently, developers are not required to pay taxes on land holdings until they are developed. I believe that the resulting impact on infrastructure should be a cost of development rather than a burden passed on to current property owners.</p> <p>To address this, early in my term as commissioner, I brought in a specialist to present the process for implementing development impact fees. I look forward to further discussing how we can ensure development costs are managed. We need responsible development in Bonner County. Local developers have worked to ensure they are responsibly developing. Bonner County has seen an influx in out of state/area developers. It is paramount that the board encourage development, while ensuring that the character of our county remains in tact.</p>

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<b>9.</b> In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?	If elected I am still accountable to God my creator for my conduct, my family, and the citizens of my county as well as the Idaho Constitution. I will have the responsibility of treating my associates and subordinates with respect and decorum.	As an elected official, I am accountable to you, the people. My primary responsibility is to represent the people of Bonner County effectively.  During my time as your current commissioner, I have prioritized transparency and public involvement. I personally read all comments regarding land use and remain committed to ensuring the public has a seat at the table. I have actively fought to preserve public comment opportunities when other boards voted to remove them, and I have advocated for the continued use of Zoom to ensure meetings remain accessible to everyone.  To truly represent Bonner County, I will continue to prioritize your voices in every decision.
<b>10.</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?	As a Constitutionalist, I am very pro personal rights. However as a Christian, father, and businessman, having lived and worked in states for over 2 decades that have legalized marijuana. I have seen the destruction of motivation in men, husbands and fathers to work and provide for their families. I have seen farm land become marijuana grows, the crime and violence from the conflicts between growers, the transient workers that follow the crops and the rapes/ assaults that rise during harvest. As well as the effect of trying to hire sober, stable employees. I am opposed to legalizing Marijuana	I do not support the legalization of recreational marijuana.  I believe its availability negatively impacts society. In many cases, it acts as a gateway drug, and for others, it hinders personal growth and the development of responsibility. Furthermore, I believe communities in states that have already legalized recreational marijuana have suffered significant negative consequences
<b>11.</b> County Commissioners have an enormous responsibility with the many departments that run our county. Which departments in your opinion should receive priority for increased budgets?	I believe our roads are in need of more resources, as well as better fire management, given the vast amount of mismanaged federal land in our county that places much of our citizens at risk.	At this time, I cant say that there is a department that needs an increased budget.
<b>12.</b> What should the county's policy be regarding federal funding of county projects?	Federal money is taxpayer money. The government cannot give you anything until it takes it from someone else. Everytime we accept federal money, we are sending the message that we approve of the plundering of American citizens for the sake of our county and that we are agreeing that the role and function of the federal government redistributing wealth is justified. We will need to systematically work to reverse this trend.	Federal funding needs to be closely reviewed for the strings that are attached. Funding should not be accepted if the attached strings are not in line with the county mission.

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<b>13.</b> What is your opinion on restricting public comment at county meetings? Why do you hold this opinion?	I believe public comment and input is crucial to a free society and accountable government.	Public comment should never be removed. I advocated for zoom, public comment and public comment on each item of an agenda. The people are my supervisor...i need to hear from them.
<b>14.</b> What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	<p>As a general contractor and small business owner, I know what it means to be accountable to the people you serve. For years, I've worked directly with members of the public, executed complex contracts, balanced tight budgets, and managed multiple crews and subcontractors to deliver results on time and within scope and budget. Those same skills—common sense, receptive to ideas, transparency, and fiscal responsibility—are exactly what local government needs.</p> <p>I've also spent much of my life volunteering and serving my fellow Americans, guided by a strong belief in liberty, personal responsibility, and community service. (life member of the John Birch Society, Campaign for Liberty volunteer, Constitution party) If elected to the Board of Commissioners, I will bring those values with me every day. My commitment is simple: to listen to residents, safeguard taxpayer dollars, and help keep Bonner County free, prosperous, and accountable for the future generations who will call it home.</p>	<p>With my diverse background as a Six Sigma Black Belt, Licensed Practical Nurse, Internal Auditor, and Grant Writer Consultant, I offer a unique and comprehensive skill set to the board.</p> <p>My professional expertise is grounded in my Master of Business Administration and reinforced by my affiliations with the American Society for Quality, the Institute of Internal Auditors, and the Government Finance Officers Association. Furthermore, my extensive experience in insurance, risk management, and healthcare has already proven to be invaluable to the responsibilities of this role.</p> <p>I am confident that my qualifications and commitment to excellence will continue to serve Bonner County well.</p>