

Democratic Precinct Committeemen 203

	Adam Bennett	Teresa Jo Dean
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	No Response Received	My name is Teresa Dean. I am running for precinct 203 captain. I am running for this position because I believe in the founding principles of our County and State's constitution. Over the course of my lifetime, I have seen the loudest and most extreme voices vote while the more moderate and quiet voices opt out. With the polarization of our country, moderate voices need to be heard more than ever. Encouraging those voters to get to the poles is an important part of our electoral process.
2. Do you believe that the central committee should endorse candidates in primaries and non-partisan elections? Why or why not?	No Response Received	In modern society, politics are a subject that most people are unwilling to talk about openly. Many people have come to rely on experts they trust to sift through the facts and present them with an opinion. The Central Committee has specialty knowledge on the candidates through research and repeat exposure. The endorsement can be beneficial in saving time for the average voter who is busy with their own area of specialty. However, it is my preference that every eligible voter fulfill their civil responsibility and educate themselves prior to elections.
3. How will you inform the people you represent about the goals and objectives of your central committee?	No Response Received	It is my goal to reach people in a variety of mediums to fit their personal preferences. My goal is to figure out where the gaps are in existing communication to enhance those channels. Social media is a preferred platform for many, especially our younger generations. Part of my strategy will be connecting those people with the existing local social accounts and participate in keeping those accounts active and relevant. Traditional methods of communication through telephone, mail, newspapers, local news, and community events are also essential for effective communication. Where there are gaps, I will work diligently on enhancing connections to fill those gaps.
4. What do you consider the most important qualities in a candidate for local office?	No Response Received	The most important quality in any candidate is respect and candor. It is important to be able to debate opinions with respect in order to learn from one another in order to produce the optimal outcome for all. Candor builds trust and prevents misunderstanding. Both are equally important and neither can exist long without the other.
5. Do you believe your values accurately reflect the values of Kootenai County residents? How will you work to incorporate those values into the central committee?	No Response Received	Yes. I spent most of my life in Kootenai County. I believe that most residents here have common values of family, community, and respect for one another and our beautiful environment. We want healthy National and State Parks in which to hunt, fish, and get back to nature. We also want to have financial prosperity for our families which can sometimes conflict with our conservation efforts. Finding that balance for the benefit of all parties and future generations is not an easy task but can be achieved with respect and candor.
6. Becoming a precinct committeeman is the most direct way to influence your local party, shape its priorities and fight for the principles that built this nation. Are you willing to vote for these principles even when they are not popular? Please explain your answer.	No Response Received	Yes, I am willing to do that. I believe leadership at the local level requires integrity, consistency, and the courage to stand by core principles even when they are not popular in the moment. At the same time, voting by principle does not mean ignoring others or refusing to listen. I am committed to hearing diverse viewpoints, explaining my decisions transparently, and treating everyone with respect. When faced with difficult or unpopular choices, I would weigh them carefully, act in good faith, and prioritize what I believe best serves the long-term well-being of this community and the nation.

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7. Meaningful change begins in our local elections. As precinct committeemen you serve as a link between the voters and your parties' leadership. What are two or three top priorities that you want to bring to the central committee?	No Response Received	1: Empowerment of moderate candidates. Kootenai County has strongly held to values tied to both Democrat and Republican principals. We want limited government, but we also don't want hard working or disabled or elderly people to live in poverty. We believe in a hand up, not a handout. We believe in protecting our environment, but we also need to balance the economic impact of conservation. 2: Education of voters. From our High Schools to our colleges, to our senior living communities and all paths in between, we need to reach out to voters. There are those that prefer mail, those that prefer email, those that prefer the phone, and those that want social media content. We need to reach them where they are.
8. Are you willing to hold party leaders and candidates accountable to stay focused on principle over compromise? How will you do this?	No Response Received	Yes. With candor and moral compass.