

Republican Precinct Committeemen 420

	Joe Alfieri	Pete Erbland
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 Peter Erbland. I am running for Precinct Committeeman in Precinct 420. I am the incumbent. I believe that I can continue to be a strong conservative voice while building bridges to fellow committeemen so that the committee can speak to the community with a unified voice. We are all Republicans and there is more that we agree on than disagree on. We should focus on our core common values and beliefs. We should avoid categorizing each other and name-calling as it gets us nowhere and is only divisive. I believe that I have the skills to listen to and hear the viewpoints of others and if I am misinformed or mistaken, I will change mind after critically analyzing the issue. If I remain of the same view, I will say so.
2. Do you believe that the central committee should endorse candidates in primaries and non-partisan elections? Why or why not?	No Response Received	I prefer a policy of not endorsing or recommending candidates for partisan or non-partisan offices. Each voter has a responsibility to vet each candidate using critical thinking skills. The voter should not just take the advice of others, no matter who the influencer might be. Voting is a fundamental right and responsibility that should not be left to the judgment of others, no matter how well meaning. The voter is essentially asked to abandon his or her responsibility and leave it to others. Non-partisan races should be allowed to remain as such, free from political influence going in and remaining so while in office. That's why they are designated as non-partisan.
3. How will you inform the people you represent about the goals and objectives of your central committee?	No Response Received	I am running in a competitive race in my precinct. My campaign materials are mailed to every registered Republican voter in my precinct. I will also be walking my precinct, delivering materials as well as engaging with voters I meet. I routinely go to Republican sponsored events to meet and speak with voters from all over the community. I hope that my message of conservatism and unification is clear and persuasive.
4. What do you consider the most important qualities in a candidate for local office?	No Response Received	The most important quality in a candidate for local office is the desire and ability to listen and hear what constituents are saying. Each candidate should be willing to study the duties of that office and stay in his or her own lane when discussing the goals they have. A highway district commissioner may have a strong belief in the right to bear arms, but the constituent really needs to know what that candidate will do in fulfilling the duties of that particular office once elected. The duties of local office holders are just that- local, not national.
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	I have lived in Kootenai county for 44 years. I appreciate what we have, and how much we will miss it if we don't hang onto what made this place great to live in. My values are rooted in a deep faith and love of family as well as the US and Idaho Constitutions. Each decision I make as a committeeman is guided by these principles.
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. In my tenure as a committeeman, I have voted for and supported (or opposed) resolutions, recommendations and actions that were not popular with one "faction" or another. I will continue to take a stand in every decision I make based on my fundamental beliefs and the principles that built this nation, including the US and Idaho Constitutions. I will represent the people of my precinct 420 in the same way if they choose to elect me.

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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	<p>First, I hope to instill an atmosphere of collaboration and cooperation. No more "we vs. them."</p> <p>Second, I hope the committee will focus this term on concrete community problems such as overgrowth, housing and good paying jobs for our young families and singles. no one wants them to leave the area because of high expenses and relatively low wages.</p> <p>Third, I want to see a movement towards fixing the problems with public education in a positive way. Many families cannot home school. Private schools should remain as such. I have seen firsthand the quality of public schools in our community and there is much to be proud of. We can't let the problems overwhelm the good that these schools are doing. We have both a moral and constitutional duty to improve our public schools.</p>
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	<p>Yes. I believe that I have done this in my term. Going against the grain is not easy. But the easy way is to compromise because leaders or candidates catch us up in groupthink. None of us wants to be constantly in the minority. It's uncomfortable. But also, necessary. We must use our critical thinking skills to evaluate the proposals of candidates and leaders. If I find them to be in conflict with my principles I will continue to stand up and say so.</p>