

### Republican Precinct Committeemen 514

	<b>Michael P. Burgess</b>	<b>Russell Mann</b>
<b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	<p>Michael Burgess Precinct 514 Committeeman</p> <p>The freedom to fulfill our obligations to God, our family and our neighbor have been runover, ignored and purposely curtailed. The form of government we were given 250 years ago can only work for a moral people, it will work for no other. At the state level the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry has a stranglehold of influence on the positions of leadership, especially in the Senate and in the Governors office. The corporate interests of this lobby have no incentive to mind Faith and Family issues.</p>	<p>Russell Mann, Precinct Committeeman 514.</p> <p>I'm running because I believe the Kootenai County Republican Party leadership needs to CHANGE.</p>
<b>2.</b> Do you believe that the central committee should endorse candidates in primaries and non-partisan elections? Why or why not?	<p>The central committee should share its opinion about any candidate for any taxing District position on up, because principles are involved in the decisions they will make in office. The local offices and boards are the training ground for understanding statutes, and being accountable to a budget.</p>	<p>No to both.</p> <p>For primaries, the role of the official Republican party is supposed to be to hold neutral primaries so Republican VOTERS, not party insiders, can decide who represents them in the general election. According to court records, in 2016 the DNC put its thumb on the scale for Hillary Clinton. I think it's poor leadership for KCRCC to behave like the Democrats.</p> <p>For non-partisan elections, longstanding law and tradition in Idaho is to hold non-partisan elections for roles in which competence, not obedience, is important. Taxing districts like EMS, roads, water, schools, NIC, and libraries should be elected from people who are qualified, not people who are pushing an agenda.</p>
<b>3.</b> How will you inform the people you represent about the goals and objectives of your central committee?	<p>The goals and objectives of the Idaho Republican Party Platform is very extensive. It is the mission of the central committee to hone the platform to perfection and to implement it in policy at the appropriate levels of government.</p>	<p>My phone number and email are public. (208) 462-0033 and russellforidaho@gmail.com</p> <p>I also keep an email list of anyone who signs up at russellforidaho.com</p> <p>During election seasons, I've been walking my precinct to deliver literature directly to doors, and will continue to do so.</p>
<b>4.</b> What do you consider the most important qualities in a candidate for local office?	<p>The wisdom from experience, which is a beginning of humility to the truth. Virtue, because God wants to marvel at it in his cooperative creatures. An appreciation for timeless values, and to pass it on by example to one another.</p>	<p>Leadership is about integrity. And integrity is about transparency and accountability. These are the core values I consider a "must" in any candidate.</p>

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<b>5.</b> 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?	Words should be the sweet echo's of example. One can not be objective about himself, but one can gage when others ask for your help that your values resonate with others.	I believe my values reflect the community I was born and raised in, built businesses in, planted churches in, volunteered in, umpired Little League in, raised my children in, and continue to dig deep roots in.  Honesty, hard work, integrity, transparency, caring for our neighbors, pro-2A, pro-life, pro-education in all forms, pro-law enforcement, small government, least regulation necessary, opposed to anti-semitism and racism.
<b>6.</b> 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.	I think of Alexander Solzhenitsyn and his pen for inspiration. I point to the play Twelve Angry Men to explain to others how one man can stand against group think. I also imagine Noah building the ark. The most important aspect of being humble is to be humble to the truth, and stand for it.	Yes. Anyone who knows me knows that I'm not afraid of standing up for what is right even if it's not popular. Over several years umpiring baseball, from Little League, to High School, to American Legion and travel ball I learned that some decisions you make will make half of the people mad no matter what.  I endeavor to listen first to my constituents, see all sides of any issue, and make the best decision possible under the circumstances. After that, I believe it is my duty to explain my decisions with transparency and accountability, and be open to any criticism I may face.
<b>7.</b> 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?	A return to respect of property rights that have been circumvented by well intentioned "process" . I am championing this with candidates when we vet them, because they need to know what they believe before being sworn in, it is too late to learn it on the job. I also want to address how to reign in the abuse of committee chairman's "Drawer Veto". We are still in the "to solve a problem you must first define it" stage.	1. Change the leadership. Chairman Regan has brought shame and harm to our Republican party.  2. Bring back Integrity. Transparency & Accountability have been missing for years.  3. Fair Shake. Stop trying to rig the elections by campaigning against Republican candidates.
<b>8.</b> Are you willing to hold party leaders and candidates accountable to stay focused on principle over compromise? How will you do this?	When compromise is the expected result of a deliberative body, then gross exaggeration of argument is incentivized in order to bring the expected compromise closer to your position. Compromise is a false choice. Positions must stand on their own merits, up or down.	Am I willing, yes.  I do want to point out that compromise is the heart of our system in America. We are all in this together, and have different paths as we each pursue our own happiness. Compromise is how we can all be equally dissatisfied.  Good principles, however, aren't where we compromise. When principles are compromised, accountability can be held with transparency, communicating openly and clearly about what has happened.  Ultimately it's the voters who hold us all accountable.