



VOTER GUIDE

Awake Oklahoma & Grassroots Today VOTER GUIDE

August 25, 2026 – Runoff Election

(Version 3 – released Aug 14, 2026)

not all races have been completed. Be watching for updated info.

early voting dates: Thursday, August 20 and Friday, August 21: 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Saturday, August 22: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

NOTE: Our voter guide provides our recommendations in Oklahoma elections in which we are familiar. There are some races that we may miss or don't have the information needed to make a suggestion. We cover Osage County/Tulsa County/Wagoner County areas more extensively, but do our best to cover the major elections in other counties and across the state.

This guide originated as friends asked who we were voting for since they knew we researched the candidates. It reflects our personal opinions and insights.

OK SQ 844 – This requires the Legislature to set a reimbursement rate for local governments and districts that lose revenue due to Oklahoma's property tax exemption for manufacturing facilities.

This state question would change how schools, counties, cities, libraries, and other local services are reimbursed for revenue lost through manufacturing property-tax exemptions. The Legislature would determine important parts of the future reimbursement system. If reimbursements are reduced, local communities could face pressure **to cut services, raise fees, or seek additional local taxes.**

- **Our Choice - Vote No**

This simply looks like a lot of unclear language (intentionally) to add back onto the backs of Oklahomans additional taxes for revenue lost because of poor decisions and we are expected to make up the difference. A **HARD NO!**

OK SQ 846 – If passed it would add an amendment to the state constitution that voters must present identification when voting. This sounds great for those wanting ID to be mandatory to vote. HOWEVER, it is very vague what proof/ID will be required and allows the OK Legislature to have the authority to specify what that proof would be rather than a vote on this question for photo ID by the voters.

- **Our Choice - Vote No**

Photo ID should be mandatory to vote. Oklahoma State Election Board Chair, Paul Zirix helped write this very ambiguous state question and seems to be intentionally vague. Why does it not define clearly what ID will be required? Or that it should be PHOTO ID? Why does it amend our Constitution but then gives the legislature the authority to determine what qualifies as proof of identity? Last, why was a state question, which is important to every Oklahoman, put on a runoff, expected low turnout election—unless, of course, you don't want many people voting for it. Perhaps the problem with election integrity ARE OUR ELECTION BOARDS. The Oklahoma State Election Board sure showed us they are lacking integrity with this one.

CITY OF BIXBY PROPOSITIONS (4)

The city of Bixby is in great turmoil right now. If you live there you know. In the last few months: the mayor resigned, the city manager was suspended over an aggravated DUI arrest, the asst city manager placed on administrative leave for not communicating what was happening. The City manager prior to Joey Wiedel also had to resign.

Obviously, Bixby government and officials need some time to clean up their act so citizens can trust them. Simply based on that, why are they pushing these propositions and asking for more money? Until they can pull their act together, I would vote no.

Proposition 1 - City of Bixby - No

Proposition 2 – City of Bixby - No

Proposition 3 – City of Bixby - No

Proposition 4 – City of Bixby - No

Bixby, clean up your act before putting your hand out for more money.

OK GOVERNOR:

I see lots of social media chatter after the debate, not to mention all the crazy allegations made on political mailers that show up daily in our mailbox. That should not be our criteria for voting. We aren't voting for who the best speaker is. We aren't voting for who can put out the most mailers.

We ARE voting for the person who has Oklahomans' best interest at heart. With that in mind, here are my thoughts:

- **OUR CHOICE - Mike Mazzei – R**

Mazzei excels with budgets and finances. A needed asset for this position. His plans to reshape the state, lower taxes, and turn our educational system around are sound. He has promised to stand against Islam/Sharia Law—an increasing concern in every single state and is the only candidate to do so.

He has been decisive with details not just vague promises...albeit the debate wasn't a shining moment for him. I'm not voting for who is the best speaker though. I'm voting for who will work for the best for Oklahoma and keep it conservative.

I've watched the two other candidates immediately jump on the bandwagon of popular public opinion to make claims they will do things, with no follow through. They are only bold campaign promises with no follow-up action. Plus the bold public accusations by other candidates, when exposed as false, come back and make small, quiet retractions. It shows who they are, and in my opinion that what they say can't be trusted.

Mazzei's details on

- Eliminating property taxes for seniors and vets gets a thumbs up.
- Protecting Oklahoma farmland, energy assets and property rights from foreign entities gets a thumbs up. (Note those who are saying the aluminum plant is the "Mazzei Smelter" continue to expose their unwillingness to speak truth. The proposed aluminum plant is NOT Mazzei's idea or plan. Oklahoma legislatures introduced it (and endorsed Drummond) and Gov Stitt had already worked that deal. What we can pray for now, is a governor who will guide the details to protect Oklahomans.
- Reforming education—which is a desperate need and which he has stated a solid plan.

- **Gentner Drummond – R**

The troubles are mounting for the Drummond campaign after video footage came out that he referred to some members of the Republican Party as "fascists." Additionally, that he had donated thousands to Democrats over the years—including Biden. Although he claims to be a Republican, where he puts his money says different.

The fact that numerous of the Oklahoma state representatives who endorsed Drummond also voted FOR the aluminum smelter, including two who introduced and authored the legislation! Plus the fact that Drummond said nothing about the smelter until a few days after Mazzei received Trump's endorsement speaks of political theater to grab attention over an issue he wasn't trying to stop and which, in fact, those who support him pushed through to make it happen.

His banks have benefited and made possible the growing number of marijuana-selling companies, even as he claims as the AG to shut down the marijuana grows. So benefiting from them and then trying to say you are trying to shut them down is hardly acceptable.

He stood with the Coweta City Council which blocked further investigation into how many citizens' names/email addresses were fraudulently used by Beale Infrastructure to write emails to support a data center, by citizens who DID NOT write those emails. When the

city redacted the names of the individuals in an open records request—preventing further investigation—Drummond supported keeping the names redacted which in essence stopped further investigation into Beale. If your name had been fraudulently used by a data center builder, wouldn't you want to know? I would! And why has Beale been allowed to continue to try to build data centers in the Tulsa area and Claremore when they use those tactics? As the AG, why is Drummond not investigating THEM and their shenanigans?

He told me that CAIR (which work with HAMAS and Muslim Brotherhood) had been banned in Oklahoma, and yet they held a huge meeting and fundraiser here a week ago promoting hate. So sounds like they weren't actually banned.

If, as the Attorney General, he is letting these things slide, then why would I think that if he becomes governor, he would protect us?

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

- **Our Choice – Dr. James Taylor – R**

a History and Government teacher, community leader, pastor, he has lived the need for a change. His priorities center on improving academic outcomes, strengthening support for teachers, and building genuine partnerships with parents who wants to focus on teacher shortages, practical legislative solutions, and accountable spending that improves student outcomes. Something we currently don't have.

His opponents insist Taylor is not qualified. That is an insult to every single teacher as it means they feel teachers are not qualified to lead and are "less than" a bureaucrat with a piece of paper that says he's qualified, but is out-of-touch with teachers and students. And worse yet, lost control with a student...see below.

- Robert Franklin – RINO a Democrat who changed to Republican in 2023, but didn't change his political ideology at all.

Franklin needs to step down. Evidence has surfaced (with a recorded admission) of when he grabbed a special needs student by the ears and left angry claw marks behind both ears. In the audio admission, he states it was "unfortunate." It was more than unfortunate. Putting his hands on a child and causing physical harm would be classified as assault. His claim that the child was becoming agitated and he did it to protect others is bogus. Use logic here. If you were trying to subdue someone who was becoming a danger, you wouldn't grab their ears. If you are close enough to grab ears, you could grab their arms, which would be a logical and automatic response. Grabbing someone by the ears speaks of someone who is angry. Teachers are given instruction on what to do if a special needs student becomes agitated. Grabbing the ears certainly isn't on that list.

It's important to also look at Franklin's tenure at [Hissom Memorial Center](#) from 1981-86 where he taught **special education & so should have been trained on how to deal with special education students**. "Hissom was legally condemned as a "human-development emergency." The institution was found to have subjected

vulnerable children with disabilities to relentless physical abuse, gross medical neglect and widespread chemical sedation of vulnerable children with disabilities.

“Yet, an intriguing professional paradox arose from the landmark litigation. Despite the facility’s closure due to inhumane conditions, the teachers who worked there neither faced any judicial consequences nor experienced career repercussions. Instead, Hissom’s teachers cleanly transitioned into local public-school systems. **Among them was Dr. Robert Franklin...**”

(For that complete investigative article on Tulsa Today click this link:
<https://bit.ly/FranklinClaws>)

Last, Franklin is no Republican. He switched to the Republican Party in 2023, but has remained fully Democrat in the ideology he promotes. He calls DEI (radical racist ideology) biblical. He has endorsed the book, “Separation of Church and Hate” working to remove Christianity and biblical values from America. He claims socialist James Talirico has set a “high standard,” but certainly not for conservative American values.

Ours is a hard no for this overpaid bureaucrat who has lost touch with how to work with students or teachers.

LABOR COMMISSIONER –

- **Our Choice – Kevin West – R**

Fought for Oklahomans when he and Rep Tom Gann filed a brief asking the Oklahoma Supreme Court to overturn \$98 million in rate increases for Oklahoma Natural Gas (ONG) well as \$1.77 billion of the utility’s ratepayer-backed bonds. The rates were approved by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) and then commissioner Todd Hiatt.

Gann and West’s brief claimed the OCC failed to perform lawful audits of ONG’s bonds in every rate case since the bonds were issued.

Additionally, in December 2025, with Rep. Rick West, R-Heavener, Gann and Kevin West asked the court to overturn a \$127 million rate increase and \$760 million in winter storm bonds for customers of Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company (OG&E). Now THAT is the kind of action we want to see from our representatives who are standing up for us!

- **John Pfeiffer – R**

His donors are where I have some big red flags and a “no” here. Including NextEra Energy, a donor with a history of legal and ethical controversies, Centerpoint Energy (TX), power companies, water companies...hmmm. Can we say datacenter issue?

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

- **OUR CHOICE – Marty Quinn – R**

Between these two candidates, Marty Quinn gets our vote for a couple of reasons. Having served in the Oklahoma legislature as a representative for 4 years and then a senator for 8, he understands the process of getting legislation introduced and passed. His goal is for tort reform, which it is the ongoing lawsuits that have driven up insurance prices. That combined with his forty years' experience in the insurance industry, make him a better pick & more broader experience choice in this race.

- **Bob Sullivan – R**

Initially I liked Sullivan until I started digging into who was supporting him which truly tells the story of who he is. That was where I had to put on the brakes. One of Sullivan's ardent supporters is RINO Chris Kannady, who called conservative Republicans in the OK House a "cancer." If he is behind Sullivan, that means Sullivan isn't truly conservative. He also has a huge number of lawyers supporting his campaign. How can we get any tort reform done to lower insurance rates, when lawyers are one of his largest group of supporters? Last, CAMP is his campaign consultant—formerly run by Fount Holland. For those who understand the world of campaign consultants, CAMP is one with ethics standards that many would call questionable at best.

Strike, one, two and three on Sullivan.

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US Senator

This is the only runoff election for a federal position.

- N'Kiyla Thomas - D
- Jim Priest - D

OKLAHOMA LEGISLATORS:

House of Representatives – watch for more races and info in the June edition.

HD1

- **Our choice - George Phipps – R**
- Chris White – R

HD 9

- **Our Choice – Scotty Stokes – R**

Endorsed by Rogers County GOP, Stokes is the director of Rogers County Emergency Management with 30 years' experience as a fire captain and paramedic.

- Crystal Campbell – R

Winner will face off with Andrea Biscardi – D in the general in November.

HD18

- **Our Choice - David Smith – R**
- This is a man you can trust who has served since 2018 with integrity. Has served on numerous committees with distinction and has a solid conservative voting record.
- Pamela Gordon – R
Lots of questions about this lady. Such as why is the Portsmouth Democratic City Committee donating to her campaign? Why are the majority of her donors from out-of-state? Too many suspicious things here.

HD19

- **Our Choice – Anthony DeVore – R**
- Michael Brittingham – R

HD 38 – covering parts of Grant, Garfield, Kay, Logan, and Noble counties. this race we have two. We like them both. You decide.

- Danielle Deterding –R
Probably the better choice of the two...
- Madison Bolay – R
Appears to be the choice of Oklahoma Conservative Coalition (McCall) and appears to be backed by the Hilliary family--who are linked to broadband grants. CAMP is her campaign consultant, which tells me a lot about this candidate—and not in a good way.

The winner will face off with Doyle Lewis (D) in November.

HD47

- **Our Choice - Toby Thompson – R**
A blue-collar, oil worker man of the people. A man of integrity and conservative values.
- Kevan Gentry – RINO
Gentry changed his affiliation from a lifelong Democrat to Republican in order to run. He is supported by Chris Kannady and Leslie Osborn—both who lean left with “R’s” behind their names. Kannady the guy who said conservatives in the Republican Party were a cancer. So that would mean,

if he is financially supporting Gentry, Gentry is NOT conservative—just as his running as a lifelong Democrat up until this race reveals.

HD81

- Troy Talley – R
- Rusty Rains – R

HD 91

- Teresa Sterling
I can't say I'm happy with either candidate. If I had to choose one I would choose Teresa. Those donating to her are a concern. I don't think she has enough experience to not get gobbled up by the "bad guys" but probably a better choice than her opponent.
- Roberto Seda

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State Senators

SD17

- Justin Wood - R
- Abby Thompson – R

SD18 –

- **Our Choice - Jack Stewart - R**
- Tyler Herring

SD24

- **Our Choice – Robert Keyes – R**
- Jon Painter – R

SD26

- Rich Koch - R
- Jessica Winegeart – R

SD32

- Jean Hausheer - R

- Curtis Erwin - R

SD34 –

- **Our Choice - Sen. Dana Prieto – R – incumbent**

Pros and cons with Prieto. His freshman year less than stellar in my opinion, he was listening to many of the wrong people and making many poor votes. His voting record his sophomore year has been much better if you are looking for a conservative candidate. His work to expose the corruption in DHS along with Rep. JJ Humphrey, on the other hand was awesome. He took a lot of flack over it, but kept pushing through. The result was the director had to step down—thanks Sen. Prieto for that!

- Aaron Forst – R

Ran as a Democrat for the House around eight years ago. Now running as a Republican. Doesn't seem to have changed his liberal leaning stance much.

OKLAHOMA COUNTY: County Commissioner Dist 3

- **Our Choice - Alex Warren – R**
- Jessica Clayton – R

ROGERS COUNTY

Rogers County Assessor

- Lane Carter – R – probably the better choice of the two, but not a great choice.
- Eric Long - R

Rogers County Commissioner, Dist 1

- Teddy Noland – R – probably the better choice of the two, but not a great choice.

- Kenny Breshears – R

Endorsed by the incumbent who supported the green energy scam and data centers. This shows a complete lack of discernment about what is really happening and the lack of transparency and alignment with Beale Infrastructure (which in the Coweta data center was proven they sent out fraudulent emails as if residents supporting the data center!) They are the same ones behind the Claremore data center. Good luck with that.

TULSA COUNTY

For additional information and rankings you can go to: <https://bit.ly/TulsaCountyCandidates>

Office 4: (This looks to be a race for November rather than this cycle. But remember this info)

- **Our Choice - Dustin Allen**

Between the two in this runoff, for those who are interested in having a judge who will hopefully rule according to the law and not from bias, the ONLY choice would be Dustin

Allen. He has served as Assistant District Attorney in TC and Assistant District Attorney in District 27 (Wagoner and neighboring northeastern Oklahoma counties) so he has experience on both sides of the judicial system.

See below on Radford, who has repeatedly shown her hatred of conservatives and Republicans which, I believe makes her unfit as a judge who appears to rule from personal prejudice.

- **Absolutely NOT - Loretta Radford**

Judge Radford has repeatedly disparaged Republicans on her social media posts. Judges have to at least appear neutral for citizens to feel they have hope for justice within the courtroom. Radford's obvious disdain for Republicans raises the legitimate question for Republicans whether she could do that or not.

Tulsa City Council: sadly, the Tulsa City Council is full of councilors that are not doing a good job for the people of Tulsa and need to be replaced! However, the candidates running against them, aren't much better—except in Dist 2 where there is a one good candidate – Bisogno. The best I can say is, due to their utter disrespect for Tulsa voters, Vanessa Hall-Harper & Lori Decter-Wright need to be voted out. If Laura Bellis had someone running against her, she would be in that same category. They are immature, untrustworthy and mock the citizens who dare ask questions or disagree with them. But make no mistake, all nine need to go. I am not making choices in any except the Dist 2 race.

Dist 1 –

- Thomas William Moore – perhaps the best choice.
- Reggie Williams
- Corinice Wilson
- Mareo Johnson
- Vanessa Hall-Harper – **incumbent who needs to be removed**

Our choice of the above candidates is based on the poor and disrespectful actions of Hall-Harper who has been put in the scales and found wanting. Her demeaning and disparaging texts during a city council meeting to other city council members against a Tulsa resident asking questions, along with how she did not recuse herself from a committee and subsequent vote to grant almost a quarter of a million dollars to a group in which she helped establish and would benefit from, are enough (although there is more) to say she should not be in any form of leadership.

Dist 2 –

- **Our Choice – Aaron Bisogno**
- Anthony Archie –
Anthony has proven himself to be nothing more than a puppet to vote in accordance with the Tulsa City Council “club.” Rumor has it he wants to run as mayor, when he hasn't even proven he can do much more than stand

with the demeaning actions of Hall-Harper, Decter-Wright and Bellis. He is a disappointment and no leader.

Dist 3

- Jackie Dutton – incumbent
- Tanisha Bowen

Dist 5

- Karen Gilbert – incumbent – more conservative than her opponent
- Adam Burnett

Dist 7 –

- Dave Perry – perhaps the best choice in this race
- Kenny Wogoman
- Lori Decter-Wright – **incumbent who needs to be removed.**

She is an embarrassment for the city of Tulsa who has disparaged Tulsa residents who take their time to come to city council meetings and express concerns. No one should be mocked and name-called for speaking up for Tulsa. Plus her texting other city councilors during the meetings, as she has done other times according to open records requests, to discuss votes during city council meetings is against the rules. She needs to go.

Dist 9

- Pete Regan – perhaps the best choice in this race
- Ben Johnson
- Shawn Tiemann

WAGONER COUNTY

County Commissioner – Dist 3

- **Our Choice - Dennis McCollough – R**

The only man running who is trustworthy, qualified, and actually living in the district when he filed to run. He has 39 years' experience working with the OK Dept of Wildlife Conservation - Wetland Development Unit across the state, overseeing 1.6 million acres. The agency doesn't get any tax dollars, and they have had to learn to leverage the money from hunting and fishing licenses to cover their budget, bringing in \$3-\$4/dollars for every dollar in license purchases. That's a skill set we can use! He wants to make sure money is being spent correctly, with more accountability and transparency—which actually every candidate referred to that need.

- **Patrick Sampson – R – A HARD NO!**

Sampson is a former Wagoner City Councilor, who claimed he moved and was living in his mother's home in Coweta (Dist 3) to run for county commissioner. The first issue is although he stated he moved to Coweta in June 2025, he continued to serve as a Wagoner City Councilor until September 2025. **You can't serve in an area in which you don't live.** So if he was telling the truth about living in Coweta, he should have immediately

resigned his position in Wagoner. If he was lying & didn't live in Coweta, then he was ineligible to file and run as County Commissioner in District 3. Bottom line is, by his own words, he has an issue in at least one of the areas. And in newly surfaced documented evidence, he states he was still living in the city of Wagoner on Aug 10—just two weeks before the election.

Sampson and his wife purchased a home in the Forest Ridge addition on August 10. On the mortgage papers, which he & his wife signed, it states he was residing in the city of Wagoner at the time of purchase. NOT in Coweta--as he had stated at the Election Board hearing on April 13 and as he put on the paperwork when he filed to run for office in 2025. Note, for County Commissioner, you have to live in the district you are running for. This is more proof that Sampson has continued to reside in the city of Wagoner, just 2 weeks before the election, when he had to be living in Coweta. Additionally, his new home in Forest Ridge is in the **Broken Arrow school district**. However, Sampson posted on Facebook on Aug 9 that his son is playing football for COWETA schools. We learned his attempt a couple of weeks ago to enroll his son in Coweta schools was turned down because he could not provide proof he lived in the Coweta school district. Allegedly, his sister, who lives in Coweta, signed an affidavit stating Sampson and his son have been living with her for a few months. But if that were true, then why didn't Sampson submit her address to Coweta schools earlier this month? Why does there seem to always be a discrepancy about where Sampson lives? Why doesn't he seem to know where he lives? How does he keep getting his son on teams in cities/districts where they don't live or qualify? And somehow now, according to Sampson, his son is on the Coweta team even though the Sampsons now live in the Broken Arrow school district.

The Election Board's actions to allow Sampson to remain on the ballot after a dispute was filed in April over the legality of whether he lived in the district, **was not** proof that Sampson belonged on the ballot at all. The Wagoner County Election Board Secretary told me personally it wasn't their job to investigate the issue! She accepted documentation from one candidate in that hearing, but refused the exact same document from the other. In doing so, the Board violated the statutes. They did not operate with the same rules for both candidates according to the hearing nor did they follow the rules of the statutes—even though the Secretary has continually claimed they did.

Additional investigation into his service as a Wagoner City Councilor reveals that due to his actions and statements, along with a couple of others, a discrimination lawsuit was filed. According to a report of that lawsuit, Sampson attempted to bring accusations about an individual to a meeting that was not on the agenda and not approved. After the meeting ended, without a vote, Sampson stated, **"We will discuss this at a later date and if I don't get the action I want, there will be hell to pay."** Those actions and others resulted in the city of Wagoner having to pay a settlement to the employee.

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Didn't cover a race you need? [Click here](#) and then insert your address for information on the races in your area.

Please don't forget to vote Aug 25!