

# Montana Conservation Voters Bozeman City Commission Voter Guide

www.mtvoters.org

September, 2009

Who we elect Matters! This is especially true at the local level where the candidates we elect put our local tax dollars to work, and are the first line of defense for protecting our healthy communities, clean air, water, and beautiful outdoor heritage.

Montana Conservation Voters' endorsement process included the use of a questionnaire reflecting local conservation priorities, candidate interviews with chapter members, and endorsement decisions made by the chapter board, which were then advanced to the MCV Political Action Committee and Board of Directors.

This year's Bozeman City Commission election is critical to ensuring that the Commission continues to protect the conservation values so important to the community. Bozeman residents enjoy a conservation majority on the City Commission, and should all three of this year's Montana Conservation Voters-endorsed candidates win, residents will continue to have conservations champions standing up for thoughtful growth and renewable energy. Sean Becker is running for Mayor against Bob Chase (who did not seek MCV's endorsement), and Carson Taylor and Chris Mehl are running for the two open City Commission seats, one vacated by Sean, the other by Jeff Rupp. Also running are Chris Budeski and Elias Harman, neither of whom sought MCV's endorsement.

Copies of the candidates' questionnaires are available to MCV members upon request by calling 254-1593, or e-mailing kevin@mtvoters.org.

## 2009 Municipal Election Calendar

October 5th: Close of regular registration. Late registration begins. Voters may still register at the local election office up to and including on Election Day, fill out and submit a voter registration card, and vote a ballot.

October 19th: Absentee election ballots are sent out.

November 3rd: Municipal General Election. Voters have until 8:00 p.m. of November 3rd to return mailed ballots to the county election office or to ballot drop-off boxes in their town or city.

### Here's what you can do as a Conservation Voter to elect these candidates.

- Help the candidates with phone calls, meeting with voters at their doors, or with mailings and fundraisers.
- Write a letter to the editor in support of these candidates.
- Register to vote, and vote in the November 3rd general election.
- Donate to Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee to elect pro-conservation candidates:  
www.mtvoters.org/pac

### Sean Becker, Mayor



Businessman Sean Becker was elected to the Bozeman City Commission in 2005, resulting in a "conservation majority" on the Commission. He is now running for Mayor to carry forward the work of the Commission and ensuring that conservation is kept at the forefront when making decisions about community growth. As a City Commissioner, Sean helped to create the Climate Change Task Force and wants to "maintain the momentum of this effort by continuing to amend ordinances towards these recommendations." Sean manages Montana Craftsman Woodworks, a door manufacturing company, and previously was an economic development professional. Sean is an avid outdoorsman, a Montana Conservation Voters member and appreciates Bozeman's access to nearby trails and wilderness areas. Sean was recently married to Nolita Becker. **To support Sean, send funds to Becker for Bozeman, 610 S. 3rd Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715, phone 406/581-7571 or sean@seanbecker.net.**

### Carson Taylor, City Commissioner



Carson Taylor has been a dedicated school board member for the Bozeman community since 2001 and wants to continue his public service on the City Commission. As a member of the school board, Carson has worked to "make strides towards considering environment in construction and building maintenance. He wants to ensure that public buildings are efficient, saving both energy and taxpayer money. Carson is an attorney and mediator, as well as an adjunct professor of business law at Montana State University. He is a member of Montana Conservation Voters and is married to DeeDee Taylor. **To support Carson, send funds to Carson Taylor, 8 W. Harrison, Bozeman MT, 59715, www.vote4carson.com, phone 579-6423 or ctaylor587@aol.com.**

### Chris Mehl, City Commissioner



Mehl is seeking a seat on the City Commission to be a voice for responsible planning and growth and economic development. He is the Policy Director for Headwaters Economics, a Bozeman-based independent research group that works with communities to promote economic growth. As a member of the Bozeman Planning Board, Chris played a role in updating the city's Growth Policy. He also is on an advisory board with local business leaders to develop an Economic Growth Policy for Bozeman. Chris formerly worked for The Wilderness Society as Communications Director, and served as Communications Director for Congressman Lee Hamilton for 13 years. Chris and his wife, Laura Hoehn, enjoy hiking, skiing and Bozeman community events. **To support Chris, send funds to Chris Mehl, 1115 S. Willson Ave., Bozeman MT 59715, www.mehlforbozeman.com, 581-5992 or mehlchris@hotmail.com.**



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# Inside: Endorsements for the 2009 Bozeman City General Election

## Election Calendar

**October 5th:**  
Close of regular registration. Late registration begins.

**October 19th:**  
Absentee ballots are sent out.

**November 3rd:**  
General election Day.

## Bozeman Candidates

Here is a list of current Bozeman office-holders, and candidates who are on the 2009 General Election ballot. Visit [www.mtvoters.org](http://www.mtvoters.org) or call (406) 254-1593 for up-to-date information through election day.

Paid for by the

Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee  
PO Box 63, Billings, MT 59103 • David Tyler, Treasurer

## Your Vote Matters in the Upcoming City Elections!

The candidates we elect this fall are the first line of defense for protecting the health of our community, for clean air, clear water, and for shaping Bozeman's future. The City Commission makes decisions about recycling, and plays a role in moving us towards a clean energy future.

Montana Conservation Voters' Voter Guide informs you about who is running, and who we are supporting. Send in your ballot by November 3rd and make your voice heard and your vote count.



If you weren't sent a ballot and live within city limits, contact the Gallatin County Elections Office at (406) 582-3060 for a ballot.

Position	Incumbent	Up for re-election	Candidates who have filed
Mayor	<u>Kaaren Jacobson</u>	Yes, but not running	Sean Becker, Bob Chase
Commission	Jeff Krauss	No	
Commission	<u>Jeff Rupp</u>	Yes, but not running	
Commission	<u>Sean Becker</u>	Yes, running for mayor	Chris Budeski, Elias Harmon, <u>Chris Mehl, Carson Taylor</u>
Commission	Eric Bryson	No	
Commission	Juliann Jones	No	

Previously endorsed Incumbents and currently endorsed Candidates are underlined.