Pam Houser Running for Kootenai County Fire Commissioner district 4 (no personal website)

I have lived in Kootenai County for most of my life. I started the 3rd grade in Post Falls and graduated from high school in 1980. I married my husband, Richard Houser in 1981 and we raised our family here. We have 3 grown children and 5 grandchildren. My husband passed away in 2020. I love to read, enjoy the outdoors, spending time with my family and volunteering for worthy causes. Kootenai County is a wonderful place to live, learn, work and play and I consider myself blessed to be here.

I am currently employed by Heritage Health as the VP of Marketing and Community Relations. I served as the President/CEO of the Post Falls Chamber from 2007-2016 and was a small business owner of Awards Etc. for 10 years prior to that.

- 1. I have served as a Kootenai County fire commissioner for almost 8 years. I have also had the honor of being elected by my fellow commissioners to serve as the board president. I'm not quite sure how to articulate my voting record when it comes to fire district issues, but I can say with confidence that when making decisions that impact our citizens health and safety, I advocate for best practices, best training opportunities for our first responders and fiscal responsibility when it comes to spending taxpayer funds.
- 2. I have been a registered Republican all my life. Over the past two decades, I have participated and volunteered for many events in our county. I have supported issues and candidates that align with my personal values as a Christian, and an engaged citizen.
- 3. It is the government's duty to protect us from physical and cyber threat. Inside and Outside of our borders. The purpose of "government" has become very broad, complicated, and complex. But in a nutshell. I feel the government body exists to create policy, laws, and safe boundaries for citizens, based on common sense, wholesome values, and our constitution. These policies should protect citizen rights and ensure that all laws are upheld and enforced.
- 4. I am running for Kootenai County fire commissioner because it has been a pleasure to serve the first responders, the administrative staff, and the citizens of Kootenai County for the past 8 years. I am constantly listening, learning, and donating my time to make our community a safe place to live. Because I have served 2 terms, I feel more qualified than ever, taking everything, I have learned and applying those things to important decisions that need to be made in the fire district. I have engaged and participated on the budget committee, the strategic planning committee, the negotiations team, and the facilities committee. I have participated in multiple training exercises over the years and say "yes" to ongoing commissioner training as much as possible. My goal is to serve my community, to represent the citizens in my fire district and uphold the high standards of this organization at all times.
- 5. I have served on multiple volunteer committees and boards over the past three decades. Real Life Ministries of Post Falls, CDA Nazarene Church, Post Falls Food Bank, Post Falls & Hayden Chamber, the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels delivery, Lake City and Post Falls booster clubs, KC Home Share, Republican Women, the KTEC initiative, and River City Leadership Academy to name a few.

- 6. I am fiscally conservative. My husband and I have always been responsible when it comes to managing our finances, living within our means, and trying to be in a place where we can be generous to those less fortunate or in need. I would love to see our government live within their means. (Our state seems to do a pretty good job of this, but our federal government, NOT at all)
- 7. My social values reflect my Christian values. I believe that the bible is truth and I try to live MY life by those truths. I strive for excellence, not perfection. I try to be *my best self* each day (but I fail often because I am human). I do not expect everyone to live by my values. I just ask that they respect my values and viewpoints, and I will do the same in return.
- 8. While I have colleagues, friends and family that belong to a different political party, I treat others with respect, try to be open minded and sometimes must make compromises, to get things done for the greater good. But I always staying true to my beliefs and values. I have been an engaged parent and citizen in local "politics" for 40 years. I vote republican on election day.
- 9. I have NO tax liens, criminal record or bankruptcy that effect my ability to serve with honor.
- 10. I am always available to meet with any citizen to discuss an issue. I may not have the answer that you are looking for or need. If I know little or nothing about an issue, I am the first to admit it, and find the person or resource that can lead to good conversations and hopefully great outcomes.

Respectfully,

Pam Houser KDFR Commissioner Incumbent May, 2023