

NON-PARTISAN PRIMARY

For non-partisan offices like county commission and city council, any registered voter can cast a ballot in the primary. If no candidate gets more than 50 percent, the top two vote-getters face off in the November general election.

OREGON LABOR COMMISSIONER

Val Hoyle is a former Oregon House Majority Leader and Democratic state rep from Eugene. She gave up her seat in 2016 to run for secretary of state. Getting her elected as labor commissioner is a top priority for organized labor, because the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) enforces wage and hour and civil rights laws, sets the prevailing wage on public construction projects, and oversees apprenticeship training standards. Union County Commissioner Jack Howard is also on the ballot but didn't even submit a Voters' Pamphlet statement. So her chief opponent is Tualatin mayor and insurance agent Lou Ogden — a Republican who thinks the Bureau of Labor and Industries has leaned too much toward labor and not enough toward industry. On April 23, four deep-pocketed Republican funders dumped \$100,000 into his campaign, which began airing television attack ads against Hoyle a week later. AFL-CIO, OBTC, AFT, CWA, BAC, IAFF, IAM, IBEW 48, ILWU, IUOE 701, IUPAT, IW, LiUNA, OEA, ONA, OPCMIA 82, OSEA, SEIU 503, SEIU 49, SMART, UA 290, UBC, UFCW 555, valhoyle.com

OREGON SUPREME COURT

Judge, Position 3

Meagan Flynn is a former appeals court judge and public defender who represented workers in workers comp cases. Appointed in 2017 by Governor Brown to fill a vacancy, she's being challenged by state securities attorney Van Pounds, who's running to protest the practice of judges resigning mid-term so governors can appoint their replacement, who then runs usually unopposed as incumbent. IAM, OEA judgemeaganflynn.com

OREGON COURT OF APPEALS

Judge, Position 10

Rex Armstrong, the incumbent, was once a choker-setter and warehouse worker. OEA

METRO REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

President

Lynn Peterson, a former Clackamas County commissioner and Washington transportation executive, is running to succeed Tom Hughes with the backing of virtually every union NOLC, CPBTC, AFSCME, AFSCME 3580, ATU, IAFF 43, IAFF 1660, IBEW 48, IBT, IBU, ILWU, IUOE 701, IUPAT, IW, LiUNA, PAT, PTE, UA 290, UBC, UFCW 555, WFP electlynnpeterson.com

Councilor Position 2 (S/SE)

Christine Lewis is legislative director at the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries, and formerly worked for House Speaker Tina Kotek and Multnomah County Commissioner Jules Bailey. NOLC, CPBTC, IBEW 48, PAT, UFCW 555, WFP christinelewisformetro.com

Joe Buck is a Lake Oswego City Council member, owner of the Babica Hen Cafe in Lake Oswego and Dundee, and former board member of the local chamber of commerce. IBT, IAFF 1159, IAFF 1660 JoeBuckforMetro.com

Betty Dominguez is a housing advocate at Home Forward, past president of Greater Portland Habitat for Humanity, and is the incumbent, having won appointment to fill the unexpired term of Metro Councilor Carlotta Collette in a 4-2 vote of Metro Council. AFSCME, AFSCME 3580 bettyformetro.com

Councilor District 4 (W, Hillsboro)

Dana Carstensen is a shop steward with Laborers Local 483 at the Oregon Zoo, and also works as a hazardous waste technician represented by AFSCME Local 3580. He's a graduate of Oregon Labor Candidate School. CPBTC, LiUNA, LiUNA 483, LiUNA 737, PCCFFAP, PCCFCE danacarstensen.com

Juan Gonzalez is a manager at Centro Cultural de Washington County. AFSCME, AFSCME 3580, IAFF 1660, IBEW 48, IBT, UFCW 555, WFP gonzalez4oregon.com

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QUESTIONS FOR VAL HOYLE

Former Democratic House Majority Leader Val Hoyle is running hard to be the next labor commissioner



Why do you want to be labor commissioner?

Because the job encompasses all the things that I not only am passionate about, but that I've done over the past three decades. It's standing up for workers' rights, civil rights. In addition to being a former union member, I've also been in the private sector for 25 years, so I'd make sure the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) reaches out and gives businesses the information they need to be able to follow the rules. And I'd make sure the career and technical education pipeline fits into the apprenticeship and job training programs for the jobs that are needed.

I think a lot of people don't know what labor commissioner does. What do you see the job as doing specifically?

You investigate and enforce labor laws and civil rights in the workplace, and certify the apprenticeship programs in the state. The Legislature passes labor laws, and BOLI works on the rulemaking. So it's a critical job. You don't want to have someone that's anti-worker overseeing it. It's also important to have someone that has a good working relationship with business. I am a strong supporter of labor. I consider myself a labor Democrat. And businesses trust me to be fair.

What would you do differently, if anything, from Brad Avakian?

I just think I have a different style of leadership, a collaborative style. I have no problem standing up for what's right, but I tend to do it working with other people. With my private sector background I could work with business in bringing them to the table. I think we can do a better job of making sure all workers, regardless of what language they speak, feel like they can contact BOLI, and making sure that we're out where workers are, and that workers feel like this is an agency that is focused on customer service. The other thing is making sure we have the resources in that department in BOLI that does investigation and enforcement of the labor rules. Because right now it's not good for business or workers when they have to wait 18 months for an investigation and a fine to be levied.

ONLINE EXTRA: See the full interview at nwlaborpress.org/2018/05/val-hoyle

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY CHAIR

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