



CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE 2018 GENERAL ELECTION

Position: Washington State Leg District 8, Position 2

Candidate: Matt Boehnke

Biographical Information:

- Education/Past & Present Employment/Business Experience
 1. Education: Graduate of Kamiakin High School 1986, Graduate of Eastern Washington University 1990, Graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University 2000, Military education through Command & General Staff College.
 2. Past & Present Employment: Various Army positions throughout my 22 years of service, College Professor, retired US Army Senior Officer; Owner of Bravocon IT Services, Energy Northwest Cyber Security Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers Contracting Officer
 3. Business Exp: CEO/Owner, Bravocon IT Services LLC (est. 2014)
- Past & Present Community Involvement

Arts Commissioner, Sunrise Rotarian, Water Follies Air Show Director, Tri City Americans Billet Family, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lifetime member of the American Legion, National Rifle Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, member of the Washington Education Association & Columbia Basin Veterans Coalition.

Candidate Questionnaire:

- Why are you running for office?

It is my firm belief that our region needs more broadly disciplined and experienced leadership—leadership in the hands of a candidate who has the capability and willingness to bring disparate philosophies and people together rather than driving them apart.

Our highest priority is our fiscal health. When elected, I pledge to listen to citizens and local business leaders in order to take appropriate and decisive actions to achieve the collective good. Having worked with culturally diverse groups while deployed throughout the world and locally on the city council, I have demonstrated leadership with integrity—qualities and capabilities that I will carry on behalf of our region to Olympia.

- What have you done to prepare for this position?

I have expertly managed and trained small, medium and large multicultural organizations around the world throughout 22 years of senior military service. Additionally, I have expansive experience through my community volunteerism and elected leadership positions with the City of Kennewick.

- What are three actions you would support to strengthen small business and entrepreneurship?
 1. Protecting small business leaders from harmful and/or overreaching regulations
 2. Preventing new or expansive taxes
 3. Promote entrepreneurship and defend innovation and independent thinkers
- What do you believe is the greatest economic challenge facing our region and what would be your approach to address it?

The constant threat of higher taxes. I believe in taking 2 regulations off the board for every new regulation created and enforcing a mandatory review every 4-5 years—a process that would promote transparency and effective legislation.

- If elected, what will be your top two priority issues and how will you facilitate these changes and/or ideas?

Top 3: Education, Energy, and Economy.

Education: I support the growth of WSU Tri-Cities and Columbia Basin College in an effort to advance the ever expanding educational and work force needs of our communities. A robust workforce and the education of our young people is an investment in our future. I see a void and a critical need to increase support of vocational and apprentice education options throughout our region.

Energy: I am committed to developing new and upgrading existing energy facilities and protecting the national power grid. I support research and technological developments unfettered by government regulations that are not designed and supported by sound scientific reason.

Education: Job creation is critical to a strong economy. It is imperative that government agencies decrease unnecessary regulations that drive up costs. The 8th district must be open for business and must actively recruit and retain innovative local businesses and expanding industries—prerequisites to success that will allow our regional business climate to successfully compete locally, nationally, and globally.

- Over 4500 Tri-Citians have already participated in the MyTri2030 Regional Vision project by helping to identify big opportunities that will benefit the entire region. In principle, do you support this community-driven effort? And as goals emerge, would you be interested in working together to advance regional initiatives? Yes, I am all for it, but want to challenge us all in working hard to move it to the next step. Let's take some action, with measurable results. We have had surveys in the past, but never really did anything with this information. I am interested in leading the way in working to advance our region to be the best in the state and nation! The sky's the limit, together we can do this!

****Please attach a headshot photo with your submission****

A one-minute (max) campaign video may be submitted with questionnaire responses

Please return all responses by Wednesday, September 26th

Via e-mail to: stephanie.swanberg@tricityregionalchamber.com

Via fax: (509) 783-1733

Via mail: 7130 W. Grandridge Blvd., Suite C | Kennewick, WA 99336

Thank you for completing the questionnaire!