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Garfield County Voter Guide

NOVEMBER 4, 2025 ELECTION

GARFIELD COUNTY REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

RE-1 School Board: Elizabeth Taylor (District A) and Jodi Barr (District E)

RE-2 School Board: Megan Heil (District A)

The RE-1 and RE-2 School Boards hold tremendous influence over our community's education—shaping curriculum, overseeing taxpayer funds, and setting the direction for our local schools. In recent years, however, the board has faced division, controversy, and partisan decision-making. It's time to bring stability, accountability, and excellence back to our classrooms.

Elizabeth, Jodi, and Megan are the only conservative candidates in contested districts. Your vote, support, and voice are essential to making that happen.

CMC Board of Trustees: No Recommendation

Confluence Early Childhood Board (Districts 1-4): No Recommendation

Silt Trustee: Justin Brintnall

Rifle City Council: Clint Hostettler, Rick Steffen, Scott Marsh

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

NO/AGAINST on 7A
The proposed district tax increase claims to support and expand early childhood education programs, but instead of improving efficiency, it adds more government involvement to an already overregulated sector—making it harder for providers to compete.

NO/AGAINST on 7B
The proposal would increase Grand River Health's debt by up to $88 million without a clear or sufficient plan to generate the revenue or market growth needed to pay it down.

NO/AGAINST on 7C
The proposed waiver of the property tax limit for CMC's expansion would simply add new spending rather than reallocating funds from less productive academic areas.

NO/AGAINST on 7D
7D amounts to a double tax increase. It asks voters to approve a $4.3 million property tax hike for the fire district in 2026 and to add a new 1.5% sales tax with no cap, no sunset, and no estimate of total revenue. The measure explicitly allows the district to collect, retain, and spend all funds raised, effectively overriding TABOR limits and eliminating taxpayer refunds.

NO/AGAINST on 7E
This measure has two parts: it proposes a $2.8 million property tax increase and authorizes the Fire District to take on $30 million in new debt, with a total repayment cost of $61 million. That debt would be repaid using the additional $2.8 million collected annually from taxpayers. If approved, the district would have unlimited authority to levy future property taxes to cover the debt, invest collected funds, and retain all proceeds. There is no cap, no sunset clause, and no taxpayer refund—effectively overriding TABOR protections.

NO/AGAINST on 2A (Silt, Tobacco Tax)
An indiscriminate tax increase that fails to demonstrate the effective use of existing resources and offers no measurable plan to show how additional funds would meaningfully enhance quality of life.

NO/AGAINST on 2B (Rifle, Lodging Tax Increase)
No on principle.

YES/FOR on 6A (River District)
Permanent financing now managed by the HOA; obviates need for district.

STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES

NO/AGAINST on Proposition LL

NO/AGAINST on Proposition MM

The Garfield County Republicans urge a NO/AGAINST vote on Prop LL and MM because both measures violate Colorado's Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) by retaining state revenue that should be refunded directly to taxpayers.

Prop LL would allow the state to hold onto **roughly *$12.4 million in excess revenue instead of refunding it***, providing only a temporary patch for the *Healthy School Meals for All* program, which already faces a **projected *$50 million budget shortfall*** this year and could run up over ***$1 billion in deficits by 2039***. While we fully support helping families who truly need assistance with meals, extending this program to every student in the state is unnecessary and wasteful.

Prop MM seeks to add $95 million in new annual taxes (targeting earners above $300,000) to fund expanding SNAP and school meal programs. Because of ***Colorado's SNAP payment error rate of around 9.97%***, this could amount to **$120–$175 million** every year without robust reforms.

These financial burdens and inefficiencies would hit taxpayers hard and jeopardize the transparency and accountability mandated by TABOR. This is another tax hike from a Democrat-led legislature that refuses to live within its means.

Click here to see sample ballot.

VOTER INFORMATION

Receiving your mail ballot:

- Ballots were mailed on October 10 to all active registered voters in Garfield and Pitkin Counties.
- Didn't receive your mail ballot? Please **check your registration** to ensure your mailing address is correct.
- Need a replacement mail ballot? You can call the Garfield County Clerk's office at 970-384-3700.
- Please note that after October 27 you can no longer have a ballot mailed to you. Instead, you can simply visit a Voter Service and Polling Center to vote or collect a replacement mail ballot in person. Please reach out to the Garfield County GOP if you need more information.

Returning your mail ballot:

- You can mail your ballot back or drop it off at one of the dropbox locations below.
- The clerk's office must receive your ballot by 7pm on Election Day, November 4, for your vote to count. Postmarks do not count!
- After October 28, we don't recommend that you mail your ballot. Instead, utilize any ballot dropbox listed below to ensure that it arrives on time.
- You can track your mail ballot using **BallotTrax**. This service will notify you when your ballot is received by the clerk's office and when it is accepted for counting.

Mail Ballot 24/7 Dropbox Locations in Garfield County:

- Carbondale Town Hall – near main entrance
- Glenwood Springs – Garfield County Courthouse – on 8th St.
- New Castle Town Hall – near main entrance
- Silt Town Hall – near main entrance
- Rifle – Garfield County Administration Building (195 W. 14th St., #D) – near main entrance
- Parachute Town Hall – west of the utility dropbox

In-Person Voting and Additional Ballot Drop-Off Locations:

October 27 – November 3, 2025 (excluding Sundays):

- Glenwood Springs Community Center – 100 Wulfsohn Road – Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Garfield County Fairgrounds South Hall (Rifle) – 1001 Railroad Ave. – Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Both sites open Saturday, November 1, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Both sites open Election Day, November 4, 2025, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Nov 4, 2025 – Election Day Additional VSPCs open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- Carbondale Town Hall – 511 Colorado Ave.
- Parachute Town Hall – 222 Grand Valley Way

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