

CHARLIE'S PICKS, GENERAL ELECTION 2022

I have been doing Charlie's Picks for many years. As always these are my opinions based on my research which includes meeting with candidates, going to meetings to hear them speak, and their performance history of holding office for incumbents. In addition, I am in touch with other activists and leaders of political organizations and draw from information they might have. I do the best I can with the information I have, yet there may be readers out there that have information I am unaware of and thus have a different opinion which is certainly fine with me.

STATE OFFICERS

GOVERNOR - KEVIN STITT

With time I have become ever more disappointed with his performance even to the point of being angry with him. While he has done some very good things for the state, at the same time he has done some bad things. In what I believe to be his arrogance he sometimes rejects wise counsel and continues to make bone-headed political mistakes. As such he has made many of his base angry at him and some will never vote for him. I had determined not to vote for him if he was polling at 53% or greater close to election time. However, as of around the middle of October, five different polls show the race very close. One has him up by three points and a more recent poll shows him one point behind. While his opponent Joy Hoffmeister has been a registered Republican for a long time, it was the teacher unions and radicalized teachers that got behind her and convinced her to run for State School Superintendent eight years ago. Folks who know what it takes to have a quality education system know her performance in that position has been terrible. However, most voters cruise along in ignorant bliss and as such the Democrats saw her as their best hope to win back the governor's seat. Please don't be fooled by her slick arguments and the RINO Republicans in her TV ads for governor. Please don't cut your nose off to spite your face and refuse to vote for Stitt. To have Joy elected would be worse for the state of Oklahoma.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR - MATT PINNELL

Unlike Governor Stitt, Matt is wise when it comes to politics and does not make rookie political mistakes. Unlike with the Governor's race, Matt has not offended the Republican base and his vote total will be a good reflection of the size of that base (plus others that would have voted for Stitt) had he not been such a political bone head. Of course, Matt will do a little better as he is not particularly associated with the tribes as their enemy. In dealing with the tribes, Stitt has tried to do the right thing, but the tribes have such an advantage, so it has been an uphill battle. One of Matt's opponents is the Libertarian, Chris Powell. I have known Chris for 20 years or so and consider him a friend, however, I can't think of many reasons I would vote for him.

ATTORNEY GENERAL - GENTNER DRUMMOND

It is a huge disappointment that Drummond is the Republican nominee rather than incumbent John O'Connor. Facing only a Libertarian Drummond will win this very easily.

STATE TREASURER - TODD RUSS

Todd was my pick in the primary and primary run-off elections. He is a Godly man, a good man, and well prepared to be an excellent State Treasurer.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - RYAN WALTERS

If elected, Ryan would become a game changer in our public schools. Unlike his opponent (a radicalized state teacher of the year), Ryan was a history teacher in the McAlester Public Schools that taught accurate history (not revisionist history). Because he supports educational freedom by empowering parents to direct the best education possible for their own children, and the fact that Ryan and his wife home school their children, the teacher unions and their followers are terrified of seeing Ryan elected. Stitt appointed him to serve as Secretary of Education which makes him far more qualified to serve as State Superintendent than his opponent. Recent polls show him slightly ahead of his radical opponent. This is the second most important state government race on the November ballot with the Governor's race being the most important.

COMMISSIONER OF LABOR - LESLIE OSBORN I am disappointed she was not defeated in the Republican primaries, but it is important she be elected over the Democrat. Believe me the Labor Union bosses would love to see a Democrat back in this office. The union bosses would love to have a Democrat Labor Commissioner again to use for their nefarious purposes.

CORPORATION COMMISSIONER - KIM DAVID Kim David was not my first pick for this office, but it is too important a position to allow the Democrats to gain a foothold on the Commission. This agency regulates about 80% of the industry in the State. Industries such as oil and gas, trucking, and utilities.

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES

UNITED STATES SENATE - JAMES LANKFORD

While James, a personal friend, was not my choice in the primary elections, we cannot afford to allow a young Democrat to have any encouragement to someday run again. When it comes to Washington we cannot afford to play around as it is first a numbers game. We must improve the quality of elected officials in Republican primaries not in the general election, that is if the balance of power in Washington is very close like it is now.

UNITED STATES SENATE (UNEXPIRED TERM) - MARKWAYNE MULLIN

While Markwayne was not my pick in the primary, he was my choice in the run-off elections. I believe he will win and replace Jim Inhofe. When it came to social, military, and environmental issues, Jim was a very good senator. However, he was always a big spender which causes inflation. Inhofe differed from former Senator Coburn who was against pork barrel spending (earmarks), while Jim supported them. Only time will tell if Markwayne will become a better Senator than Jim Inhofe. This will be the 3rd time Mullin's opponent, Kendra Horn, will be running for federal office. The first time she beat Steve Russell in a very close race. The second time she lost to Stephanie Bice in a less close race. This time she needs to lose by an embarrassingly large margin. Would someone in the media please ask the Republican mayors of OKC and Tulsa if they plan to vote for the Republican Markwayne or Democrat Kendra Horn? That would be interesting to know since Kendra and these two Republican mayors used to chum around all the time while they were DC interns in their younger years.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DIST. 1 - KEVIN HERN Currently Kevin is our best U.S. Rep and he is doing a good job. We want to keep him in office.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DIST. 2 - JOSH BRECHEEN When Markwayne Mullin ran for the U.S. Senate this became an open seat. Josh was a close second in the primary and won a close race over the RINO Avery Frix in the primary runoff. I talked with Josh just before my favorite U.S. Rep Jim Jordan from Ohio came to the Tulsa area on Friday, October 14th, to do two fund raisers for Josh. I became very excited when Josh told me he was committed to joining the Freedom Caucus if elected. I believe he will be elected and should become our number one best member of Congress from Oklahoma. Jim Bridenstine was the first and only other member of Congress from Oklahoma to join that excellent caucus. Josh will be an improvement over Markwayne Mullin.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DIST. 3 - FRANK LUCAS

My second greatest disappointment on the night of the primary election was that Frank was not replaced by Wade Burleson from Enid. I have known Frank for many years and while I like him personally, he has become a typical establishment lifer. Nice guy but a moderate. However, the general election is not the time to replace Frank. Perhaps two years from now will be that time.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DIST. 4 - TOM COLE

Tom is our worst member of Congress, and I would love to see him replaced. But again, the general election is not the time to do this.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DIST. 5 - STEPHANIE BICE

Stephanie was not very conservative when she was in the State Senate and has followed that pattern in Congress. My fear of her winning the primary election two years ago was that she would become a lifer (much like Cole and Lucas) and would become very hard to replace in a Republican primary. Looks like my fear is coming to pass.

LEGISLATIVE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY OFFICERS

STATE SENATE

Very few voters will have a State Senate race on their ballot. Please remember only half of the 48 senators are on the ballot each election cycle as they serve four-year terms. In addition, of the 24 on the ballot, maybe ten did not draw an opponent, and most of the remainder of the races have already been decided in the primaries. Therefore, to make this simple, I am endorsing every Republican Senate candidate but one. Following is the one Democrat I am suggesting voters elect.

STATE SENATE DIST. 28 - KAREN RACKLEY

I have heard Karen speak on two different occasions and can say she is a moderate Democrat and maybe even honest to boot. On the other hand, the Republican, Grant Green, was persuaded to run by the worst elements of the self-serving folks in the Republican party. I personally believe Green to be dishonest, corrupt, and probably a crook. Though Karen is not likely to win, I would rather have a moderate Democrat in office than a Republican like Green, especially based on the numbers in the Senate. We currently have 39 Republican Senators and only nine Democrats. If

we were to lose SD 28 to a Democrat, it wouldn't hurt a thing. In addition, we may well pick up a seat or two currently held by a Democrat. Should Karen win, it will be fairly easy to beat her with a quality Republican in four years. SD 28 includes all of Seminole, Lincoln, and parts of Pottawattamie, Oklahoma, and Logan counties.

STATE HOUSE

Just like the senate, if you have a House District candidate on your ballot, I will say we need to vote for the Republican with one exception. Remember, we have an 83 to 18 Republican super majority in the house. Failing to pick another Republican seat is not important, that is unless the Republican is expected to be a super-star conservative.

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 34 - DEMOCRAT TRISH RANSON

This district is primarily in the city limits of Stillwater. Two years ago, we had a fantastic candidate named Aaron Means, currently the Payne County Chairman. Aaron has been a Christian Pastor, a retired Lt. Col. Dentist from the Air Force and a businessman who also happens to be a black brother in the Lord. Aaron lost to Ranson by only three percent. Unfortunately, the Republican primary voters in HD 34 chose not to vote for the pastor in the 2022 primary elections and choose instead to vote for Michael Baughman, a 23-year-old homosexual that publicly promoted the homosexual agenda in the primary runoff election. Shame on the Republican primary voters in Stillwater, they deserve to see their nominee go down in flames.

COUNTY OFFICES

I can only speak about Oklahoma County in this category. Without question, every Republican in Oklahoma County (which is our most liberal county in the state) needs your vote. Especially important is Kevin Calvey (running for DA) and Miles Davis (running for County Commissioner). Because Oklahoma is one of the only counties in the state governed by a budget board rather than by the County Commissioners, it makes it very important to have a Republican in every elected office so as to have a good county government.

OKLAHOMA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOND - VOTE NO!

Ask yourself:

- Didn't we just pass MAPS for Kids a few years ago where we rebuilt or remodeled every school building in the OKC school district?
- Just how much of the millions of dollars in Covid relief funds were wasted on BS (blue smoke & mirrors) projects in our schools and just how much has yet to be spent?
- Just how many more tax dollars are we willing to spend on a government education system that has seen test scores decline under the current OKC administration as well as a statewide basis under Joy Hofmeister?
- Just how much are we willing to see our property taxes increase and do we expect to see improvement in return?

If you have asked yourself these questions and still intend to vote for this school bond, I can only reply that one of the definitions for insanity is to do the same thing over and over again and expect a different outcome.

JUDICIAL RETENTION

SUPREME COURT DIST. 2 DUSTIN P. ROWE - VOTE YES

Justice Rowe is the first appointee by Governor Stitt and is definitely pro-life. I would like to give him more time in office before making a judgment to remove him.

SUPREME COURT DIST. 5 JAMES WINCHESTER - VOTE NO

Winchester has been on the Court for a long time and is NOT pro-life. Six years ago, OCPAC made an effort to reject Winchester from the Court. Though the effort was not successful, Winchester received the second smallest “yes” vote total of any Justice since the 1950’s when we switched to an appointment and retention ballot system rather than electing our Justices.

SUPREME COURT DIST. 6 DANA KUEHN - VOTE NO

This is an unusual situation. Justice Kuehn is the most recent Justice put on the Court by Governor Stitt. Therefore, she is so new she has not made any rulings. However, she does have a judicial record as she was a sitting Judge on the State Court of Criminal Appeals. My sources tell me she is truly pro-life, but some are concerned about her support for the McGirt decision. Perhaps the tribal license plate on her car tells a story about her strong tribal commitment. Stitt, knows how damaging to the state the McGirt decision is, so why put Kuehn on the High Court? Did anyone tell him he could reject all three names provided by the judicial nominating committee and they would have to send him up to three more? There was a better candidate, but he settled for less. Sometimes Stitt acts like a rookie.

SUPREME COURT DIST. 8 DOUGLASS COMBS - VOTE NO

Justice Combs is not pro-life and needs to retire or go back to being an attorney again.

JUDGES OF THE OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DIST. 1 OFFICE 1 STACIE HIXON - VOTE NO

Based on information from my sources, Judge Hixon needs to go and be replaced by a better Judge.

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DIST. 3 OFFICE 1 GREGORY BLACKWELL - VOTE NO

Again, from my sources, Judge Blackwell needs to go.

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DIST. 3 OFFICE 2 JOHN FISCHER - VOTE YES

Even though Judge Fischer was appointed to the court by Democrat Brad Henry, my sources tell me Judge Fischer is fair and one of the best judges on this court.

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DIST. 4 OFFICE 1 BARBARA SWINTON - VOTE NO

My sources tell me Judge Swinton is the worst Judge on this Court.

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DIST. 5 OFFICE 1 THOMAS PRINCE - VOTE YES

Judge Prince has not been on this Court very long and it looks like he may be one of the good Judges appointed by Governor Stitt.

Please feel free to forward this information as far and wide as you would like. Sometime in the next few weeks, I should have the email version of Oklahoma's Red Meat Commentary up and ready to go. If you would like to receive these commentaries about twice a month, as well as information about a new PAC I plan to start and a monthly meeting for the new PAC, please send your email address to me at charliemeadows7@gmail.com

Charlie Meadows