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General Legislative Questions:

1. Please list your top three priorities if elected to the State Legislature.

My top three priorities are education, promoting sustainable thoughtful growth, and increasing collaboration.

Specifically in regard to education, I am concerned about overcrowded classrooms, and educational targets that our students continue to struggle to meet. Strong schools create strong communities and economies and more attention needs to be given to education.

I want to promote conversations and actions to address thoughtful sustainable growth in Idaho. We need to address our overcrowded roads, infrastructure, and disappearing open spaces. I believe we need to have greater collaboration between the State government, local government, business, and the residents to attain creative solutions for the challenges facing our State, while maintaining Idaho's character and keeping our tax burdens low.

It may take us some time to get back to a better normal after the Coronavirus pandemic and truly that will be the top priority for a while. We need to get people back to work and stabilize the economy and unemployment.

2. In your view, what are the top three challenges currently facing the Meridian community?

In my opinion, prior to Coronavirus, the top three challenges facing Meridian were overcrowded schools, congested roads, and continuously increasing property taxes. These challenges have continued to grow and are not going away. After this pandemic has ended the economy may also be a significant challenge facing our community.

3. What would you do to address those issues?

Concerning the overcrowded schools, I would like to find alternate ways of funding the building of new schools so that we could keep up with the growth. Impact fees are one mechanism but there are also other ideas out there that could also be viable options.

Impact fees are one option,
For our congested road systems, a tough question that has plagued everyone in the area for the past several years! I think ACHD has been working hard to engage the community and cities to work together and progress is being made. I would explore ways the state could assist counties and local governments address growth. At the state level there are many projects that need to be addressed but funding is always a concern.

I think property taxes need to be addressed at a local level. I would like to change state laws to let the local government decide on alternate ways to fund building of new schools. This could possibly help with reducing property tax burdens.

4. Please describe your philosophy on education and how you interpret the state's role as outlined in the Idaho State Constitution "to establish and maintain a general, uniform and thorough system of public, free common schools"?

The state plays a critical role in public education. The state should set standards and mastery objectives with high expectations. Communities, including parents, local school boards, and teachers should be trained how to determine and utilize best practices to engage all types of students equitably and meet the objectives for advancement.

5. Please rank in order from 1-8 the priority you would place on the following legislative issues:

- 2 ___ Economic Development
- 1 ___ Education
- 4 ___ Healthcare Policy
- 3 ___ Local Government
- 3 ___ State Operations
- 3 ___ Tax Policy
- 3 ___ Transportation
- ___ Other (Please Identify)

They are all important!

6. What separates you from other candidates running for the State Legislature?

While I have never aspired to be a politician, I am running for office to help improve our communities and state. I have experienced and seen the reality of healthcare, the inside of education, and the effects of rapid growth in communities throughout my life, both in Idaho and in several different states and outside the US while moving with the Air Force. I believe these experiences give me fresh perspectives that would be an asset as a legislator. I am a fourth generation Idahoan and I know how to work hard!

Specific Legislative Issue Questions:

7. What are your thoughts to bring a solution to the high rise in property taxes?

I think property taxes need to be addressed at a local level. I would like to change state laws to let the local government decide on alternate ways to fund building of new schools. This could possibly help reduce the property tax burden. As citizens we have rights and we also have responsibilities. Taxes fund responsibilities, we need to find a balance that the majority can agree on. Taxpayer dollars should be spent and accounted for responsibly. At this time I am

still learning about all the tax intricacies, but I will value fair taxation and lowering taxes when possible.

8. How do you propose to manage the growth that our state is experiencing?

We need to target how we grow; who we want to attract to our state, both residents and businesses. Growth needs to be directed, deliberate, smart, and sustainable. We need to give our cities and counties tools to help manage the growth. We need conversations with smart, thoughtful, innovative individuals to give us great options to choose from.

9. With that growth comes challenges for our transportation infrastructure to keep pace, how do propose we approach the transportation issues?

As I stated above: tough question that has plagued everyone in the area for the past several years! I think ACHD has been working hard to engage the community and cities to work together and progress is being made. I would explore ways the state could assist counties and local governments address growth. At the state level there are many projects that need to be addressed but funding is always a concern.

10. Do you support the Tax Reimbursement Incentive as a tool to stimulate economic development?

Yes, I think incentives can be helpful to bring new business and jobs to Idaho. We always need to review how the incentives are working. However, I think the incentive should also be given to Idaho businesses that are willing to grow in the same way.

11. Do you support Local Option Tax authority for cities and counties? If yes, for what purposes would you support it and what, if any, specific requirements do you feel should be in place? If no, why not?

Yes, some cities and counties in our state bear a large burden of infrastructure to support visitors, tourists, and residents who do not pay property taxes. This of course seems to be happening most often in our tourist towns and our larger, fast growing cities. While I am not a fan of taxes, sometimes it is the best option to give the authority to the local level and the people to decide what the most viable and sustainable options are. I would hope and expect a local option tax could relieve the burden of the property tax payer.

12. Do you believe the Idaho's tax structure is competitive with other states?

Yes or No

If no, what specific changes do you support to making it more competitive?

The tax burden of Idaho overall is lower than the majority of the U.S. Taxes can be used as a tool to guide outcomes of behavior. As a state we need to continuously review what is important to us - how that will effect our economy and in what ways we want to be competitive.

Again as stated earlier, I am still learning about all the tax intricacies, but I will always advocate for fair taxation and lowering taxes when possible.

13. Do you support the building of needed K-12 schools by bonds or other mechanisms related to growth?

Bonds or Other

Explain

I think we will always need bonds, but I don't think they are the best method to sustain the growth we have been having. The property tax payer could use a break! I think we need to have some discussions about other methods to build schools. Impact fees are one mechanism but there are also other ideas out there that could also be viable options.

14. How do you feel about the State of Idaho's response to the pandemic and the closure of non-essential businesses?

I truly believe we will never know what could have been. I think the State of Idaho acted appropriately and responsibly. I would have liked to see the State start opening on the 15th of April instead of waiting until the end of the month. But I will always respect and obey the law. I feel the Governor and our leaders had more information than the general public. Now that we have more testing available and more knowledge about the outcomes of the virus individuals can do a better job choosing for themselves.

15. What do you see as the greatest challenge the coronavirus pandemic has created for Meridian?

I am worried about the economic impact that will result from the pandemic. It remains to be seen if businesses will be able to get back to normal and provide employment. I am also worried about the effects from social isolation and distancing. I am concerned about how we are able to get back to "normal."

16. How can the legislature help Meridian businesses recover from the damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic?

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