

Commissioner of Political
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HAND DELIVERED ☐SIGNED/NOTARIZED ☐

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (08/17)

Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Natsuki Nakamura
Complete Mailing Address 507 W Lamme
Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone Numbers: Work _____ Home 217-898-6686

Person or organization against whom complaint is brought (Respondent):

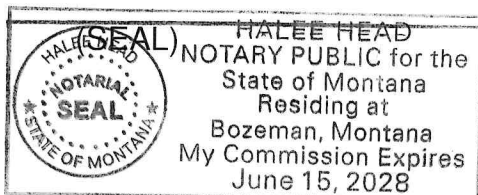
Complete Name Bozeman Tenants United
Complete Mailing Address P.O. Box 1563
Bozeman, MT 59711
Phone Numbers: Work _____ Home _____

Please complete the second page of this form and describe in detail the facts of the alledged violation.

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of Gallatin

I, Natsuki Nakamura, being duly sworn, state that the information in this Complaint is complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.



[Signature]

Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8 day of October, 2023.

[Signature]

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

Statement of facts:

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

In violation of MCA 13-37-226 and 13-37-225, Bozeman Tenants United has not filed as an incidental committee opposed to the Bozeman Water Adequacy ballot initiative that is on the Nov. 2025 ballot, and has not reported expenditures including of the forum hosted on 9/24/25. While Bozeman Tenants United did not violate anything in regards to the Mayoral and commission races because all candidates were invited to participate, the committee expended resources to oppose the Bozeman Water Adequacy ballot initiative.

Substantial time of the forum - one of the four questions to candidates - was in regards to their "stance on harmful Water Adequacy" initiative, so the expenditures on the food, venue rental, and printing of materials given to attendees (included) should be reported as expenditures opposing the Water Adequacy ballot initiative. The committee also has paid staff who are spending time advocating against the Water Adequacy ballot initiative.

Complaints must be:

- signed
- notarized
- delivered in person or by mail.

CANDIDATE FORUM EVALUATION SHEET
BOZEMAN TENANTS UNITED

Use the sheet below to take notes on candidates' answers and make your assessment of which candidate might be the most strategic for the Tenant Union to Endorse in the 2025 Bozeman election. Dues paying members of the tenant union will vote on Sunday 9/28 about which candidates receive the votes of the voting bloc committed to voting with the tenant union. To join the tenant voting bloc go to bzntenantunion.org and click on the 2025 tenant agenda.

Candidates running for Mayor: The winner will serve as Deputy Mayor for two years and then Mayor for the last two years of their term

Candidate Name	Support for Tenant Right to Counsel	Stance on harmful Water Adequacy for Residential Development Ballot Initiative (WARD)	Support for government investment in permanently and truly affordable housing	Support for tenants to build unions + collectively bargain with landlords
Brendan O'Connor				
Douglas Fischer				
John Meyer				

Other notes:

Candidates running for City Commission. Voters will have an opportunity to vote for two candidates and two will be elected to serve 4 year terms.

Candidate Name	Support for Tenant Right to Counsel	Stance on harmful Water Adequacy for Residential Development Ballot Initiative (WARD)	Support for government investment in permanently and truly affordable housing	Support for tenants to build unions + collectively bargain with landlords
Alison Sweeney				
Eli Anselmi				
Emily Talago				
Emma Bode				
Roger Blank				
Trevor Nameriuk				

Other notes:

BOZEMAN TENANTS VOTE COMMITMENTS GUIDE:

BOZEMAN TENANTS UNITED: We are the city-wide tenants union building a multi-racial, intergenerational movement of tenants to win safe, dignified and truly affordable housing for all. Tenants are a majority in Bozeman and we're uniting the tenant vote under a shared 'tenant agenda' so that we can build an unstoppable voting bloc of tenants.

THE TENANT AGENDA: The Tenant Agenda is a policy platform for the 2025 City Commission election that is by tenants and for tenants. At the candidate forum tonight, we will see how the 2025 Commission Candidates Measure up to the Tenant Agenda and will use this to determine our endorsements.

Over the next two years, we are calling on the Bozeman City Commission and 2025 City Commission Candidates to commit to...

- 1) Fund and pass universal Tenant Right to Counsel, guaranteed free or low-cost legal representation for every tenant in Bozeman facing eviction
- 2) Find creative opportunities to fund truly affordable tenant-controlled housing in Bozeman
- 3) Fight for tenants by 1) standing with tenants unionizing their apartments against corporate landlords and 2) advocating for tenants at the MT State Legislature

WHAT DOES COMMITTING TO VOTE WITH THE TENANT UNION MEAN?

We need thousands of tenants to vote with the union to build the kind of power that we need to cement our future in this town, and to win safe, dignified and truly affordable homes. This year, we're focusing on getting one thousand tenants to vote with the union. Committing to vote with the union means that you commit to vote along the endorsement of the tenant union. When we come together in solidarity, and wield our votes together, they mean so much more than when we vote alone.

You can commit to vote with the union by signing a 'commit to vote card' in person, or virtually on our website: <https://bzntenantsunited.org/2025-tenant-voting-bloc>

Sunday, September 28 - All dues paying members of the tenant union will vote on the endorsement of Bozeman Tenants United. Members-only meeting will be at 2118 S Third Ave from 5:30-7:30pm.

October 6 - Close of regular voter registration. All registration now must be done in person at the Courthouse. Open hours are M-F 8am-5pm and on Election Day from 7am-8pm.

October 17 - Mail ballots are sent out

October 28 - Ballots must be returned by mail

Tuesday, November 4th - Election Day!

For any questions, call or text 406.551.6372.

https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/bozeman-candidates-sound-off-on-tenant-organizing-housing-ballot-initiative-at-first-campaign-forum/article_d6e1f370-2d8c-4014-bc3f-6e5c4e50ebeb.html

Bozeman candidates sound off on tenant organizing, housing ballot initiative at first campaign forum

Nora Shelly Chronicle Staff Writer
Sep 25, 2025

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People raise red paper to signal their disagreement at a candidates forum hosted by Bozeman Tenants United on Wednesday night. Photo by Nora Shelly/Chronicle

City commission and mayoral candidates answered questions about tenants rights and housing Wednesday night at the first public forum of the November city election

cycle.

During the forum hosted by Bozeman Tenants United at the Bozeman Event Space, attendees were given red and green sheets of paper and encouraged to wave them high in the air if they agreed or disagreed with what candidates were saying.

Red papers waved when some candidates said they didn't support a program to provide lawyers to people facing evictions, a program the tenants union has championed. A mix of red and green came up when candidates answered a question about the Water Adequacy for Residential Development ballot initiative.

The initiative, called WARD, would require most residential developers to either bring water rights into the city for their projects, or rent or sell one-third of their units at below market rate levels if they want to pay cash-in-lieu of water rights instead.

The controversial idea is championed partially by Bozeman lawyer John Meyer, who is running for mayor, and has drawn criticism from wide-ranging interest groups. Those include the Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, building and Realtors groups and the tenants union itself, which voted unanimously not to support the idea in May when organizers were gathering signatures to put the question on the ballot.

Commissioner Douglas Fischer, who is running for mayor, Commissioner Emma Bode, who is running to retain her seat, and commissioner candidates Emily Talago, Eli Anselmi and Trevor Nameniuk and mayoral candidate Brendan O'Connor said they did not support the policy.

"The bottom line is the mandate is too steep," O'Connor said. "Most builders will just not build at all, and that does not benefit anyone, and it doesn't create affordable housing. I think we would be better served by creating incentives for developers to build affordable housing."

Fischer and some other candidates pointed to concerns that the initiative could lead to sprawl, increase housing prices and shut down new housing development in the city.

“We need effective leadership that on January 13 has a package in front of the new City Commission focused on results. That ... doubles down on water security,” Fischer said. “Let’s expand our toolbox instead of reducing it to one rigid mandate.”

A third-party consultant hired by the city presented an analysis to commissioners Tuesday that found the policy would make building unfeasible in the city. Nameniuk said he sees the policy as a building moratorium.

“When you use that emotional appeal and stuff that isn’t true to sell something else, that just doesn’t really sit right with me,” Nameniuk said. “So there’s that issue. I’m, of course, all for protecting water. We have to do so, again, in thoughtful and responsible ways.”

Meyer spoke in favor of it, Commission candidate Roger Blank said he was still undecided, and Commission candidate Alison Sweeney said it doesn’t matter how she feels because it is up to the voters.

“What we have now is unsustainable. It’s garbage, and the city is fear-mongering, saying we have to keep the status quo,” Meyer said.

Candidates also answered a question about whether they would implement the tenants right to counsel program, which the current City Commission has thrown its support behind. Several candidates said they support the program, but that the city should be creative in finding a funding source so property tax burdens aren’t increased.

“We also have to be real about budget constraints and revenue constraints too. But

that doesn't mean that we say, 'Oh, well, like there's nothing we can do here,'" Talago said.

Blank said he does not support the idea.

"This idea is a luxury the city could afford," he said. "Philosophically, it's not government's job to take care of me. It's government's job to create an economic environment where I can take care of myself."

The tenants union also asked candidates their thoughts on recent unionizing efforts from mobile home park residents and gave them a chance to make an appeal to voters. Anselmi and Blank both noted they didn't expect to win many votes in the room.

Anselmi said he supports a limited government.

"The primary functions of the city has to do with, first and foremost, public safety; second, city budget, infrastructure. Those are really the primary functions of the city. That's what we need to be worrying about," Anselmi said.

Sweeney used some of her time to say she wants the city to explore more ways to create non-market-rate housing.

"I'm going to be honest with you, no City Commission is ever going to be able to correct the housing market, but we can build housing outside of that market, and we need to do it yesterday," she said.

Bode said she supports policies that make it easier to build affordable housing.

"My housing platform centers on passing a pro-housing building code that makes it easier to build affordable housing, establishing a robust transitional housing program

to move people from the streets into stable housing, fortifying tenants rights and passing a right-to-counsel program to keep people in homes they can afford and exploring ways to de-commodify housing,” Bode said.

Nora Shelly can be reached at 406-582-2607 or nshelly@dailychronicle.com.

Nora Shelly

City government reporter

[Learn more about your privacy options](#)

Gmail

Natsuki Nakamura <nenakamura4@gmail.com>

The Tenants Have Spoken: Our Endorsements for upcoming city election

1 message

Emily LaShelle <emily@bzntenantsunited.org>

Reply-To: emily@bzntenantsunited.org

nenakamura4@gmail.com

Wed, Oct 8, 2025 at 9:25 AM



Hi Friend,

OUR VOTES ARE IN



On Wednesday, Sept. 24th, candidates running for Mayor as well as the two open Bozeman City Commission seats showed up at the tenant union candidate forum to an audience of 148 tenants. Candidates answered questions from the union about their positions on Tenant Agenda priorities like passing Tenant Right to Counsel, stopping the WARD ballot initiative, public investment in permanently affordable housing, and supporting apartment and mobile home park unionization efforts.

This past Sunday, union members deliberated and then voted on our endorsements for the upcoming election. The tenant union believes endorsed candidates will be accountable to the tenants of Bozeman, and work for our best interests while in office.

Bozeman Tenants United is organizing a voting bloc of 1500 tenants to vote the union line. Divided we beg, united, tenants win.

GET INVOLVED:

- > Commit to vote with the tenant union
- > Canvass with us and build the tenant voting bloc

BOZEMAN TENANTS UNITED ENDORSEMENTS

**Our picks for the Mayoral and City Commission election on
Nov. 4th**



Emma Bode was selected for our endorsement because:

- > She strongly supports city-supported, affordable housing
- > She strongly supports a fully funded Tenant Right to Counsel program
- > She has been a vocal supporter of Bozeman's mobile home park and building-based tenant unions

Douglas Fischer gets our endorsement because:

- > He supports city-supported, affordable housing
- > He supports a fully funded Tenant Right to Counsel program
- > He has been a vocal supporter of Bozeman's mobile home park and building-based tenant unions

**SOLD: KING ARTHUR PARK & MOUNTAIN MEADOWS
ESTATES**