



Oregon Elections -- Security, Accuracy and Transparency in Oregon's Vote by Mail System

Guest Speakers: Molly Woon, Election Director, State of Oregon and Keri Hinton, Yamhill County Clerk



Molly Woon is the Elections Director for the State of Oregon and is responsible for the administration of Oregon's vote by mail elections system by working closely with state agencies, 36 counties throughout Oregon, and the division's dedicated staff. She oversees the state initiative, referendum, and candidate processes, as well as campaign finance regulations and state voting resources.

Born and raised in the Northwest, this is Molly's second stint working in the Secretary of State's Office. In 2015 and 2016, she served as the Communications Director for Oregon Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins, overseeing communications for implementation of the Oregon's first-in-the-nation system of automatic voter registration, Oregon Motor Voter. She also served as Legislative Director, staffing the bipartisan Campaign Finance Task Force. Early in her career, Molly served as both Communications Director and Chief of Staff for the Oregon Senate Democrats and in the Government Relations Office at the City of Portland.

Molly earned her B.A. in Political Science and Communications at Portland State University, where she was elected Student Body Vice President and later pursued a M.A. in Political Science. A first generation American and college graduate, Molly cares deeply about the issues overseen by the Secretary of State, especially public participation and transparency in our democratic institutions.

Keri Hinton is the Yamhill County Clerk. Keri was appointed Clerk on July 1, 2022, by the Yamhill County Board of County Commissioners. She was elected to the position in November 2022 for a four-year term beginning in January 2023. Before coming to the Clerk's office, she served as the Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners for 7-1/2 years. Prior to that she worked in the private sector with many years spent at Western Oregon Waste as the Information Systems Supervisor. Keri has had the privilege of working for Yamhill County for 10 years and has enjoyed working with county departments, and various community committees and groups, serving in different capacities throughout her career.



In addition to her responsibilities as the chief election official of Yamhill County, she is also responsible for ensuring the recording of land use transactions and liens of properties, issuing marriage and business licenses, registering domestic partnerships, performing civil marriages, being the official record keeper of the County archives and records storage, overseeing the issuance of passports, administering Yamhill County's Veterans recognition program, and facilitating the Property Value Appeals Board hearings. Keri is focused on ensuring the security, integrity and transparency of all services offered by the Clerk's office, making it a priority to promote public trust and confidence.

Keri was born and raised in Yamhill County. She has been married to her husband Aaron for 28 years and they have four children, Drew 22, Alexis 19, Kerissa 16 and Kyra 10. In her spare time, you will find her volunteering for the myriad of activities and sports that her kids are involved in, exploring the beach or mountains, and spending time with family and friends.

MARCH 19 PROGRAM -- School Board 101, Nancy Woodward, Newberg School Board Chair