Participating In Election Is Important For Members

Volunteers help to ‘level the playing field’ for Building Trades candidates.

Many times their opponents are supported by big businesses and are able to raise more money and therefore are more visible to the voters.

Volunteers can support candidates by doing everything from stuffing envelopes to making phone calls.

“arosportant thing we can do is get out and vote,” said ACT’s Steve White.

“We need to encourage friends and family to vote as well.”

BILLY MULLINS, A MEMBER OF WV LABORERS RETIRE COUNCIL and of Local 1353, is pictured talking with Bob Wise, candidate for Governor, about issues that concern him.

Interviews, Record Get Endorsement

The WV AFL-CIO endorsement process is a long and thorough one. The decision is made to endorse a candidate only after a series of interviews, votes and review.

The process begins with a questionnaire that is mailed to all candidates - republican, democrat and independent.

Those candidates who send back the questionnaire are interviewed by a committee appointed by the Labor Council in their area.

In the interviews, the candidates are asked, among other things, about their responses to the questionnaire.

The committee members vote, on each candidate, whether to endorse, take no action, or not to endorse. The candidate needs a 2/3 majority to get an endorsement.

If the committee votes to endorse, the candidate moves on to the next stage in the process.

A vote for no action means local unions can elect to participate in the individual’s campaign, but the AFL-CIO as a whole will not participate.

A vote not to endorse means the candidate does not support labor issues and local unions are encouraged not to participate in the individual’s campaign at all.

Larry Linch is the only Building Trades member running who is currently in office.

Linch, a member of the West Virginia Regional Council of Carpenters, is running for his 6th term in the House of Delegates representing the 41st District, Harrison County.

Linch is not only a strong supporter of labor issues, but he also works for consumer protection laws and for protection of senior citizens.

As a veteran himself, Linch also spends a lot of time working veteran’s issues.

Linch introduced the ‘WV Jobs Act’ during his first term in the Legislature and has been fighting for it ever since.

“We need legislation like the ‘Jobs Act’ to protect jobs for local workers.”

“Hopefully this election will bring in new people who agree.”

Linch also serves as Vice President of the West Virginia AFL-CIO.
## WV AFL-CIO Election Endorsements

### State Senate
- 1st District - Tal Hutchins
- 2nd District - Jeffrey Kessler
- 3rd District - Louis Flade
- 4th District - Randall Taylor
- 6th District - John Pat Fanning
- 8th District - Mark Hunt
- 9th District - Billy Wayne Bailey
- 10th District - Anita Skeens Caldwell
- 11th District (unexp) - Mark Burnette
- 14th District - Jon Blair Hunter
- 16th District - Herb Snyder
- 17th District - Larry Rowe

### House of Delegates
- 1st District - Joe Delong, Randy Swartzmiller
- 2nd District - Roy Givens, Jack Yost
- 3rd District - Rick Altman, Jack Fahey
- 4th District - Scott Varner, Ken Tucker
- 5th District - Dave Pethel
- 8th District - **Bevin Seaman**
- 10th District - Larry Godfrey (D), Guy Lowther (D), Rick Motesit (R)
- 11th District - Oscar Hines
- 12th District - Mike Dunlap
- 13th District - Dale Martin (D), Brady Paxton (D), Diana Persinger-Randolph (R)
- 15th District - Margarette Leach, Arley Johnson, Herman Beckett
- 16th District - Susan Hubbard, Dale Stephens
- 17th District - Richard Thompson
- 18th District - Don Perdue
- 19th District - Seven Kominar, Harry Keith White
- 20th District - Tracy Dempsey, Greg Butcher, Lidella Wilson Hrutkay
- 21st District - Earnie Kuhn
- 22nd District - Emily Yeager, Lacy Wright
- 23rd District - Rick Staton, Eileen Schlager
- 24th District - Phil Hancock (D), Dick Mitchum (R)
- 25th District - Richard Flanigan, Mark Willis
- 26th District - Mary Pearl Compton
- 27th District - Virginia Mahan, Randolph McGraw, Sally Sussman
- 29th District - Tom Louisos, Libby Campbell
- 30th District - Bonnie Brown, Cynthia Evans, Bobbie Hatfield, Joe Shelton, Cubert Smith, Joe Smith
- 31st District - Carrie Webster
- 33rd District - **David Walker**
- 34th District - Brent Boggs
- 35th District - Bill Salomon
- 36th District - C. Randy White
- 39th District - Bill Hamilton (R)
- 40th District - Mary Poling
- 41st District - Larry Linch, Ron Fragale, Frank Angotti
- 42nd District - Diane Parker
- 43rd District - Mike Caputo, Paul E. Prunty, A. James Manchin
- 44th District - Barbara Fleischauer, Charlene Marshall, Eugene Clappole, Nancy Houston
- 52nd District - Vicky Douglas
- 54th District - Laura Rose
- 56th District - Dale Manual

## Federal & Statewide

### President
- Al Gore (D) Tennessee

### US Senate
- Robert C. Byrd (D)

### US House of Representatives
- 1st District - Alan Mollohan (D)
- 2nd District - Jim Humphreys (D)
- 3rd District - Nick Joe Rahall (D)

### Governor
- Bob Wise (D)

### Attorney General
- Darrell McGraw (D)

### Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals
- Joe Albright (D)
- Bob Bostress (D)

## Building Trades Candidates

### Bevin Seaman

Bevin Seaman is a candidate for the House of Delegates in Wood County's 8th District.

He is a life-long resident of Wood County and is currently working as an organizer for the West Virginia Regional Council of Carpenters.

Seaman is a supporter of senior citizens issues, especially those having to do with health care.

"No citizen in this state, but especially the elderly, should have to choose between medicine and food."

Seaman would also like to see improvements for working families in West Virginia.

"We must put in place and maintain the infrastructure to attract positive economic development opportunities."

## Union Members Running For Delegates to Democratic National Convention

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<td>Margaret Martino</td>
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Jessie Corley is running for the House of Delegates in the 43rd District.

Although Corley was not endorsed by the WV AFL-CIO, he is a member of Iron Workers Local 549.

He is a resident of Marion County and is currently serving as Mayor of Whitehall.
Again a 2/3 majority is needed to move on.

If the labor council as a whole votes to endorse the candidate, the next step is a vote by the WV AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education in which a 2/3 majority is needed to secure the endorsement.

“The decision to endorse a candidate is not a simple one,” said ACT’s B.B. Smith.

Building Trades Candidates

David Walker is running for the House of Delegates in the 33rd District.

He is the AFL-CIO’s only endorsed candidate running in this district - Clay, Calhoun and part of Gilmer Counties.

Walker has been an active member of Operating Engineers Local 132 for 25 years.

“As a heavy equipment operator I know about the lack of job opportunities in our area.

“I think it’s past time working families of West Virginia actually have a say in formulating the laws that govern them.

“While we struggle to pay our taxes, our lawmakers are cutting taxes for the big corporations.

“We need people in the Legislature looking out for our interests.”

Diane Parker is a candidate for the House of Delegates in the 42nd District.

She lives in Grafton and is currently employed as Assistant Business Manager for the West Virginia Laborers’ District Council and auditor for Laborers Local 814.

Parker has been a member of Local 814 for nine years.

While Parker is not a member of the Building Trades, her experience with the Laborers has helped her understand the needs of construction workers and their families.

Parker supports quality, affordable education and health care for all West Virginians, as well as, attracting living wage job opportunities.

“I will fight to bring employment opportunities to this state so our children won’t have to leave to find jobs paying a living wage.”

AFL-CIO Candidate Questionnaire

The purpose of using prevailing wages is to stop public construction from driving down wages in an area through low wage competition. The Department of Labor establishes what the prevailing wage is by surveying each community. Do you support the prevailing wage for West Virginia workers?

17. DEBARMENT - Contractors who repeatedly violate laws, have a track record of poor performance, or are forbidden from bidding federal contracts should also be forbidden to bid on state and local contracts. Do you agree?

18. ELECTRICIANS LICENSES - Will you support moving the administration and enforcement of electricians' licensing to the state Department of Labor to increase efficiency and accountability? Legislative performance audits of the State Fire Marshall have consistently shown licensing fees being used for purposes other than license administration and enforcement.

19. TAXES - Current administration proposals for major tax overhaul may lead to large breaks for the wealthiest individuals in our state, and tax increases for working families. Real reform would include elimination or regressive taxes, like the food tax, and proper collection of taxes on natural resources. Would you commit to tax breaks for working families before any tax breaks for the wealthiest?

20. "RIGHT-TO-KNOW" - In 1982, the Legislature excluded coal mining from the hazardous chemical Act. Would you support legislation to get coal mining properties and areas, and coal preparation plants, included once again in the "Right-to-Know" About Hazardous Chemicals legislation?

21. MOUNTAIN-TOP MINING - What is your position on mountain-top mining?

22. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Recent changes to state law allow economic development agencies to withhold information from the public regarding pending deals until the deal is final. Those in favor say this secrecy is needed to protect potential companies from unwanted exposure and to prevent competing states from gaining an advantage.

Those against this measure say the public has a right to know what deals are being made, before it is finalized, especially when tax funds are being committed. What do you think?

23. LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP - If elected, will you commit to not supporting a candidate for Speaker of the House or President of the Senate until after the Labor Endorsed Candidates Caucus meets?
Area Labor Council Endorsements

Cabell Area COPE
Judge - 6th Judicial Circuit
Div 1 - Alfred E. Furgason
Div 2 - Dan O'Hanlon
County Commissioner
Bob Bailey
Sheriff
Dallen Fields
Magistrate
Francis Jackson

Marion / Taylor Area COPE
Marion/Taylor Counties
Judge - 16th Judicial Circuit
Div 2 - Rodney Merrifield

Jackson/roane/mason area COPE
Roane/Jackson/Mason/Calhoun Counties
Judge - 5th Judicial Circuit
Div 1 - David W. Nibert
Div 2 - James P. McHugh

Putnam Area COPE
Judge - 29th Judicial Circuit
Div 1 - Clarence Watt
Div 2 - O.C. Spaulding
Sheriff
Stan Farley
Assessor
D.W. Arthur
Magistrates
Bonnie Dunn, June Sovine

Brooke / Hancock Area COPE
Hancock/Brooke Counties
Judge - 1st Judicial Circuit
Div 1 - Ronald E. Wilson
Div 2 - Arthur M. Recht
Div 3 - Martin J. Gaughan
Div 4 - Fred Risovich
Brooke County Commissioner
John Cainelli

Wetzel Area COPE
County Commissioner
Robert Gorby

Kanawha Valley Area COPE
Judge - 13th Judicial Circuit
Div 1 - Irene Berger
Div 2 - Carol Stafford Powell
Div 3 - Tod Kaufman
Div 5 - Fran Hughes
Div 6 - Herman Canaday, Jr.
Div 7 - Charley King, Jr.
Sheriff
Dave Tucker
Magistrates
Janie Moore, Kim Aaron,
Traci Carper, Pete Lopez,
Ward Harshbarger,
Margaret Chico Eddy,
Nancy Starks, William Witherell,
Jack Pauley

Wheeling Area COPE
Ohio County
Judge - 1st Judicial Circuit
Div 1 - Ronald E. Wilson
Div 2 - Arthur M. Recht
Div 3 - Martin J. Gaughan
Div 4 - Fred Risovich
Prosecuting Attorney
Rosemary J. Burgoyne
Assessor
Gregory Klukpner
Magistrates
Dan Tennent, Rose Humway
Harry A. Radcliffe, Gregory Fahey

Pleasant / Ritchie Area COPE
Pleasant Co. Commissioner
John Elliot

Bob Bastress, candidate for the Supreme Court, has been a member of the faculty of WVU College of Law for 22 years.
He has represented many public interests including employee privacy and equal access to the political process.
He has received several public service awards.

Joe Albright, candidate for the Supreme Court, served West Virginia as both a member of the House of Delegates and on the Supreme Court.
While in the House, Albright served as Speaker.
He has provided leadership to his community through many boards, special projects and public service activities.

Jim Humphreys, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, served West Virginia as both a member of the House of Delegates and the Senate.
While in the House of Delegates, Humphreys served as Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Revision and as Vice-Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.
While in the Senate he served as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.
Humphreys has a proven record of supporting prevailing wage and competitive bidding laws.

Bob Wise, candidate for governor, has been a member of the U.S. House of Representatives since 1983.
While in Congress, he has had a strong record of supporting unions. In 1998 Wise voted to stop H.R. 3246 which made organizing harder for workers.
He also voted against H.R. 2608 which would have restricted unions’ ability to participate in political and legislative activities.
In 1999 Wise voted yes on H.R. 975 which provided for the reduction in the volume of steel imported from foreign countries.
He also voted against H.R. 967 which will delay OSHA from issuing much needed ergonomics standards.