



Town of Paonia

Office of the Town Clerk

214 Grand Ave.

P.O. Box 460

Paonia, CO 81428

O: (970) 527-4101

F: (970) 527-4102

February 29, 2024

It has come to the Town's attention that many residents registered to vote in the Town of Paonia have received a political flyer urging voters to vote, at the regular municipal election on April 2, 2024, for Mr. Walter Czech, Ms. Kathy Swartz, and Ms. Linda McCone to elect such candidates to the three open seats on the Board of Trustees. The flyer states that it has been paid for by Ms. McCone, and endorsed by her, Ms. Swartz, and Mr. Czech.

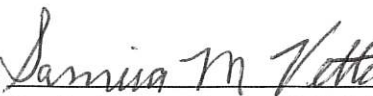
The flyer further contains a depiction of a ballot showing the bubbles corresponding with the names of Mr. Czech, Ms. Swartz, and write-in candidate Ms. McCone filled in. The bubble corresponding with the name of the remaining candidate for Trustee, Mr. Bill Brunner, is not filled in. The political flyer displays the Town of Paonia logo in the top right corner, which the Town understands has caused some confusion among members of the public.

Please be advised that:

- The Town organization does not endorse candidates for election to Town of Paonia elected offices, including the office of Trustee, and encourages registered Paonia electors to vote for the candidates whose views and proposed policies best align with the electors' respective views.
- The messaging included in the flyer is the opinion of the flyer's creator and its endorsers and does not reflect the opinion or position of the Town organization.
- The Town organization had no official role in the flyer's creation, messaging, or distribution.
- The Town did not give Ms. McCone permission to use the Town's logo, and when confronted by the Town's Election Official, Ms. McCone agreed immediately to cease distribution of the flyer and other campaign materials, if any, bearing the Town's logo.
- No candidate for election to Town of Paonia offices may create, endorse, or distribute, or cause to be created, endorsed, or distributed, any campaign materials or other literature or messaging bearing the Town's logo or letterhead, or otherwise stating or implying the Town organization's support for any candidate or set of candidates.

This Official Statement contains the official position of the Town of Paonia regarding the subject matter addressed. In addition to its publication on the Town's official website and Facebook account, the Town has distributed this Official Statement to each of the candidates for the April 2024 election and media outlets, including the Delta County Independent, the High Country Shopper, and KVNF Radio. Those subscribed to TextMyGov will receive a link to this Official Statement as published on the Town's official website.

TOWN OF PAONIA

By: 
Samira Vetter, Election Official



CC: All Paonia Candidates, Delta County Independent, High Country Shopper & Spotlight, KVNF Radio