

Phillips Co. voter turnout at 50% in primary election

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Phillips County election results from the Aug. 10 Colorado Primary Election found approximately a 50 percent voter turnout in the mail-in ballot, according to County Clerk and Recorder Beth Cumming.

A total of 1,065 voted in last week's election in Phillips County. This included 801 Republicans for 51 percent of those registered, 261 Democrats (50 percent) and three Libertarians (38 percent).

Total ballots mailed out went to 1,562 Republicans, 527 Democrats and eight Libertarians. Cumming reported there are also 758 registered unaffiliated voters in Phillips County who were not eligible to vote in the primary.

Bennet, Buck, Stringer win U.S. Senate primaries

This county's vote mirrored the statewide outcome in the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian races for the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Democrat Michael Bennet.

Bennet defeated Andrew Romanoff 54-46 percent in the state Democratic race, while in Phillips County he had a stronger presence, carrying 62-38 percent.

Ken Buck won the Republican primary, defeating Jane Norton 51.6-48.3 percent. In this county, he carried a 61-39 percent edge.

Libertarian Mac Stringer won the primary over John Finger, 52-48 percent. Phillips County's three votes showed two for Stringer and one for Finger.

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Local Republican vote differs from statewide results in two races

In two other Republican primaries, statewide Dan Maes narrowly edged Scott McInnis, 50.6-49.3 percent for the GOP selection for their gubernatorial candidate and Walker Stapleton edged J.J. Ament 51-49 percent for the State Treasurer nod.

However, Phillips County voters favored McInnis and Ament in the two races. McInnis carried a 55-45 percent edge over Maes, and Ament garnered 75 percent of the Phillips County vote for State Treasurer.

Stapleton will face incumbent State Treasurer Cary Kennedy (D) on the November ballot.

Maes will meet Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper (D) in the November election for Governor, as well as former GOP Congressman Tom Tancredo, who is planning to run as a third-party candidate.

Additionally, statewide, the Libertarian party voted for Jaimes Brown 64-36 percent over Dan "Kilo" Sallis as their candidate for governor in November. Phillips County Libertarians voted the same as the statewide outcome.

The Libertarian Party had contested statewide primary elections in Colorado for both governor and U.S. Senate races. Authorities indicate this was the first time Colorado has held primaries for any party, other than Republican and Democratic parties, since 1916.