

Seven races assured in November

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As the filing deadline closed at noon today, area voters found themselves faced with seven races in the November general election, three contests in the August primary, and a slew of unchallenged candidates. Republican Dick Miller filed for a rematch against incumbent Democrat State Rep. Tom Hawk for the 67th District seat. Hawk, who is seeking a third term, defeated Miller 4,443 to 3,249, (57.2-42.2 percent) two years ago.

State Rep. Sydney Carlin, a Democrat running for a fourth term in the 66th District, is being challenged by Republican Dee McKee of Manhattan, who announced her candidacy for the office last week.

Also on the state level, State Sen. Roger Reitz, a Republican running for a second term to the District 22 seat, faces a challenge from Democrat Rusty Wilson of Manhattan.

Pending a late filing recorded by the Secretary of State after the noon deadline, there were no other candidates in those races.

Riley County filings are topped by the race for the District 3 seat on the Riley County Commission, where incumbent Republican Bob Newsome is being challenged by Democrat Karen McCulloh. That is a rematch of a 1996 contest when Newsome, now seeking a fourth term, unseated McCulloh, a one-term incumbent at the time. The third district covers a good portion of the city of Manhattan.

Incumbent county commissioner Al Johnson, a Republican seeking a third term in Second District (northern Riley County) remained unchallenged in both the primary and general election.

In other Manhattan area state races, Republican State Sen. Mark Taddiken appeared to be unchallenged for re-election in the 21st District. There, too, the only possibility of change was a late filing in Topeka that was still being processed by the Secretary of State as the deadline passed.

Republican State Sen. Dennis Pyle will be opposed in the general election by Democrat Galen Weiland of Bendena. District 1 includes parts of Pottawatomie County.

Incumbent State Rep. Barbara Craft, R-65, will face opposition in the August primary from Republican Jack W. Taylor, Junction City. As of presstime, there was no Democratic candidate.

Republicans who have filed for re-election to the Kansas House and appeared to be unchallenged in both the primary and general election include: Vern Swanson, District 64; Sharon Schwartz, District 106; and Richard Carlson, District 61.

In the District 6 State of Board Education race, incumbent Republican Kathy Martin will face Bill Pannbacker in the August primary, and the winner will take on Democrat Christopher Renner, Manhattan, in the general election.

The Riley County register of deeds race features the only local primary contest to date. Republicans Debbie Regester and Jerry Humbert have filed, with the winner facing Democrat Michael Romaniszyn in the general election. he filed this morning.

Charlotte Shawver is retiring after more than 20 years as register of deeds.

Republican Eileen King is running for her seventh term as county treasurer; Republican Rich Vargo is running for a fourth term as county clerk; and Republican Barry Wilkerson is running for a second term as county attorney. All are unopposed.

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