

2024 Candidate Forum- First Congressional District

10/28/2024

Sponsored by:



Schedule of Events

11:30 – 11:50 Lunch

11:50 – Tom Partridge, Noon Rotary President

Introductions – Brad Meier, President/CEO, Owatonna Chamber of Commerce and Tourism

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Forum Moderator: Brad Meier

Format of Forum

Questions

- No questions provided to the candidates in advance
- Questions from the audience will be reviewed and passed on to the moderator if appropriate and if time allows
- Candidates will alternate responses to each questions and will be allowed one minute for each question-should the candidates go past their allotted time, the moderator will cut them off
- Opening statement (two minutes) (yellow card 60 sec.), red card (stop)
- Answer question (one minute, 30 seconds): yellow card (45 sec.), red card (stop)
- Closing statement (two minutes) (yellow card 60 sec.), red card (stop)

***Candidate bios were submitted by the candidates and were not modified or edited by the hosting organizations.**

***Bios of candidates are on back side of agenda**

FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Rachel Bohman (First Congressional District Candidate)

- Rachel Bohman grew up in Rochester, Minnesota as the daughter of a single mother.
- Growing up, her family struggled with poverty and addiction and Rachel worked her way through college and law school to create a better life for herself and her family.
- After serving as Head of Election for Hennepin County, she returned to her hometown in Rochester to raise her two daughters.
- Remaining deeply committed to the wellbeing of her community, Rachel was elected to the Rochester Township Board and then served as an Assistant County Attorney.
- Rachel is running for Congress to ensure that all Southern Minnesotans have access to the same opportunities that she did and to bring her vision of shared prosperity across the district to Washington.



Brad Finstad (First Congressional District Incumbent)

- Congressman Brad Finstad was elected to Congress in a special election on August 9, 2022, and was sworn in three days later with his family by his side as he took the Oath of Office to proudly represent Minnesota's First District.
- Brad is a fourth-generation farmer and resident of the New Ulm area. He and his wife, Jackie, met on the school bus in second grade and they are now the proud parents of seven children.
- A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Agriculture Education and an emphasis in Rural Leadership Development, Brad and Jackie now operate an agriculture business in New Ulm while working alongside extended family to run their generational family farm.
- Brad is proud to have served as State Director for USDA Rural Development in Minnesota where he worked to support infrastructure improvements, business development, homeownership, community services such as schools, public safety, health care, and high-speed internet access in rural areas. He previously served three terms in the Minnesota Legislature. He also held executive positions with the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association and the Center for Rural Policy and Development.

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