
Page 1: Rock Island County Board of Supervisors Candidate Survey 2018

Q1 Name: First and Last

Angie Normoyle

Q2 BIOGRAPHY: Please provide a brief bio that describes your background and the particular skills you would bring to the County Board of Supervisors.

I am a 20 year resident of Rock Island County and a graduate of Augustana College. I live in Moline with my husband Don, a physician with Trinity Unity Point, and our three college age children. After graduating from Augustana, I worked in sales for 5 years before enrolling at Northwestern University and earning a PhD in Communication. Specializing in leadership, small group and organizational communication, I work part-time at Augustana as an Assistant Professor. From 2007 to 2011, I served on the Moline School Board. During that time, we completed a strategic plan that lead to the remodeling of both middle schools to update them for 21st century learning objectives.

Q3 What are the most pressing issues or opportunities for Rock Island County in the next several years and why?

One great area of opportunity for the County Board would be to develop a strategic plan that lays out the county's financial priorities, addresses infrastructure needs and provides a decision making rubric for the board to use when faced with difficult decisions. The chaotic process of turning the Court House over to the Public Building Commission for demolition attests to the need for a strategic plan that is supported by a variety of stakeholders. The Board will face many more difficult decisions. Sitting down to discuss needs and agree on priorities in general provides a framework for making responsible decisions on specific issues in the future.

Q4 What changes or reforms to Rock Island County government would you like to implement in the next several years?

I am in favor of reducing the size of the board after the 2020 census. Some argue that a smaller board would not be as responsive to county residents. I disagree. With so many board members, many residents aren't even sure who their representative is. The large number of members diffuses accountability rather than enhancing it.

I am also in favor of continuing to utilize the expertise of a professional county administrator. Recently the board voted to form an executive committee to "oversee" the new administrator. I can't see why this should be necessary. Hopefully a consistent, professional administrator can also put organizational structures in place that will improve access to data and information to support decision-making. I have been attending board meeting for several months and I have been discouraged by the number of times when potentially important information is not readily available to the board.

Q5 Would you support Rock Island County investing in regional marketing/economic development with other local governments and the business community through Quad Cities First, which is the economic development division of the Quad Cities Chamber?

I would support investing in regional marketing and economic development, especially in support of tourism to the zoo and our parks. However, I fear that the county is not currently in a financial position to do so. This is an issue that should be a part of strategic planning discussions.

Q6 Describe your general philosophy on annexation and partnering with other local governments to develop industrial sites.

My general philosophy on partnering with other local governments is that the county's goal should be to provide a strong foundation of services that are under the necessary oversight of the county (Sheriff's Department, County Clerk, State's Attorney, Forest Preserve, Coroner, Circuit Clerk, etc.) so that the cities, towns and villages in Rock Island County can leverage their unique strengths to attract new industries, businesses and residents. The County should encourage and support local governments in their efforts to grow our community. Possible annexations and partnerships should be pursued when appropriate and beneficial.

Q7 Name two areas of government consolidation/shared services you would support, and how these would be beneficial to taxpayers.

Services that require investment in technology or equipment that can be shared without diluting their utility to one community are good opportunities for consolidation. Emergency Management Services, like the Qcomm 911 initiative, are a good example of shared services that benefit taxpayers. The county might look at ways to work with townships to invest in equipment that would streamline and improve road maintenance as well.

Q8 What do you see as the best long-term plan for Hope Creek - to sell; to contract with a private provider to operate; to continue owning/operating? Please elaborate.

I support continued county operation of Hope Creek. However, there needs to be a strong business case made to taxpayers. County officials also need to hold the State of Illinois accountable for processing reimbursements in a timely manner. Continued financial shortfalls are not sustainable and must be addressed if the county is to maintain ownership of Hope Creek.

Q9 Do you support sale, renovation, demolition or some other definitive plan for the Courthouse?

It is a shame that the historic Court House is scheduled to be torn down. However, given the failure of the County Board to maintain and update the building over the years, I believe this is the only option at this point. The Court House dilemma is a perfect example of what happens when a too large board governs without a clear strategic plan that prioritizes maintaining infrastructure and long term planning.

Q10 What is the best model for the long-term success of Niabi Zoo - public; public-private partnership; other? Please explain.

I believe the best model for Niabi Zoo is continued public oversight. Niabi has been intentionally positioning itself to act as a educational center for the community. I feel the staff should continue in this direction for long-term success.

Q11 Where would you like the County Board to concentrate its regional efforts? Check all that apply.

Implementation of Q2030 Regional Action Plan ,

Regional Economic Development ,

Tourism
