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

Q1 Name: First and Last

William Long

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 have been attending the meetings of the activities of the Co. board for the last 12 years. A Co resident for over 60 years. A taxpayer for over 60 years. A elected precinct committeeman for the Republican party. Family in the co. Active in various community organizations. Very interested in the past and future of the county. Retired from various positions, including mgt., with John Deere. Past leadership in the Y.M.C.A., the Salvation Army, Political activities and community involvement. Graduate of Moline High School. The ability to evaluate the effects of financial and human relations decisions. Mature vision of the future and past of the Co.

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

The Co organizational design has to be reviewed. Question who has what authority to commit taxpayers dollars. Who and how the various outside appointments and administrated. Is the Taxpayers dollars being distributed in a fiduciary manner? Need more governance of the procedures of maintenance of Co. assets. What ventures should or should we not enter into that competes with private industry. What is the priority views and duties of the board? Public safety, transportation, economic growth, recreational activities, are their duties/activities that should/could be shared with other Govt. bodies I.E. Cities or townships?

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

Lower taxes, more accountability from the board to the taxpayer. Reduction in the size of the board. Monitor the activities of the various committees to assure that they reflect the needs, wants and improvement of the Co./taxpayer and avoid focusing on the wants of the individual board member. Settle the on going problem of the Co. courthouse situation.

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?

yes

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

Keep the Taxpayer's in the mix and avoid increased taxes. Private/public partnerships can be beneficial. Focus on growth and expansion of the tax base.

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

The consolidation of Police, Fire and education administration should be considered and reviewed. A second look at the "Super City" concept could be reviewed.

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.

The Co has demonstrated that it does not have the ability to successfully run a facility such as Hope Creek. The public must be relieved of the financial drain the home subjects us to. Ownership has to be terminated. The aspect of turning it from a liability to a taxpaying business has to be the focal point.

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

Demolition. We do not have the resources, to continue to pursue anything else. Could be sold if the buyer entered into an agreement, to rehabilitate and repair the facility.

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

Look into a public/private partnership for the facility. It is a asset to the community, however probably could best serve the area if it was not in the control of the co. government.

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

Implementation of Q2030 Regional Action Plan ,

Air Service/Quad Cities International Airport ,

Regional Economic Development ,

Other (please describe):

The airport is a hidden jewel that, with proper development, could be the catalyst to the the short and long tem development of this area