

Questions for County Commissioner Candidates

1. Please introduce yourself, tell us why you are seeking this office and what in your background qualifies you for the position.

My name is Lindsay Moore, I am a Colorado native, a mom, a military wife and fierce advocate for our constitutional freedoms. I have been on the front lines in El Paso County for the last 2 years advocating for and defending the rights of our people to live their lives in freedom. I have seen the toll that our children, our small businesses, and our county have taken from local officials who do not look out for us, the taxpayer, the constituent first. It is past time that we have local officials who listen to the voice of the people, and I intend to stand beside them and be their voice. Our local leaders should be servant oriented, and I have been a proven advocate to the community for over 10 years. I have worked in a multitude of challenging situations and my skill sets are perfectly aligned for the needs of this servant role. I have served in a multitude of Leadership roles including serving as a Leader in our Military families, a Leader in our community volunteering with our kids, serving our Leadership at the Capitol as a Legislative Aide, and running and maintaining a large base of inventory and budgeting expenditures with extensive vendors as well as serving as a high level administrator for a non-profit for 3 years.

RESPONSE:

2. What do you think are the most pressing problems facing El Paso County?

This is a multifaceted answer that deserves paragraphs. I will focus on 3 things.

Our Sheriff's office, the emergency response times and dispatch systems. Emergency Management and Fire Preparedness and finally, our water.

All of these things work together in the county to benefit our constituent's, or they harm them. Our Sheriff's office does not have the staff to service the needs of the fast-expanding county as well as EPSO dispatch needs critical improvement. Since our Sheriff is also the Fire Warden, these 2 things are critical for the time and space we are in as a county. It is essential that our Sheriff support the needs of the county with more deputies on the roads, faster response times through better dispatch and communications to the people. We have constituent's that are being put on HOLD when calling for emergencies and that is UNACCEPTABLE!

El Paso County has an incredible opportunity to step up to the plate and help our taxpayers in our emergency response department. We learned a lot from the Waldo Canyon fire and the Black Forest Fire, we can use what we learned and make our county better by expanding our warning systems.

Together the commissioners and this department can partner to create a warning system for our citizens during a fire or emergency that is logical and functional. We have the technology at our fingertips, and we need to use it in a way that benefits everyone in the county. We can increase evacuation times and partner with local fire districts to communicate with residents a well thought out plan.

Water goes hand in hand with all the fire preparedness as well as managing our resources responsibly. There are laws in place that say we must prove 300 years' worth of water before we build. Water in the ground and water on paper are not the same thing. The front range is right now in a very dangerous place with the lack of water that has not landed in the county. The commissioners have an opportunity to partner with the surrounding water districts and create a proactive plan that would serve our citizens better, and do it now, not later when we are at a critical stage. This means having proactive commissioners, not reactive commissioners.

3. What do you think are the most pressing issues facing District 1, and what is your plan to address them?

District one has quite a cacophony of issues. I have been on the ground, asking the citizens in district one and I hear many concerns. My number one job as your next commissioner is to listen to the voice of the people, to respect them and honor them. They have not felt heard or respected in any manner, they have been stonewalled. I will take this to the board and do my very best every single day to make sure that all their concerns are taken up, addressed and find the solutions they need.

4. We continually hear from the sheriff's office and fire districts that they are suffering due to a lack of resources from limited funding. Do you see this as an issue and, if so, how do you propose to address it?

I will work with the sheriff to find where the money is going first and foremost, before we consider asking the taxpayers for more funding. We have an almost 90-million-dollar budget for the sheriff, a top-heavy department, and not enough deputies to serve the citizens. We also need a sheriff who has the experience necessary to help the fire districts and work with them, not against them. The sheriff has the job of the fire warden in our county as well as a leading the wildland fire team. That team has taken a huge hit recently and needs to be rebuilt. The goal should be having 2 functioning crews that can handle 2 fires simultaneously. It is a HUGE job and we need to make sure that our departments are staffed, they run efficiently and are doing the BEST job they can to serve our citizens.

5. Many of the roads in the county are in desperate need of major repair. How do you propose to address this need?

For the last four years Holly Williams has been saying that your roads will be fixed. Have your roads gotten any better? We need commissioners with the willingness take up the job of finding where our many tax dollars to the road funding projects are going. Our budget should be going first and foremost to maintaining our current roads. Why can we not fix what we have? We should be prioritizing the fixing of our current infrastructure before we start huge new projects. Why is it constantly falling before we try to fix it? PPRTA is funded by a 1% sales tax revenue in our county. The last 4 years have shown that we have commissioners that will continually ask the taxpayers for more money. We need to find out where our tax money is going first, and why it is taking so long to fix our current infrastructure.

6. The County Master Plan classifies Black Forest as "Large Lot Residential," (page 26) and specifies a density of no less than 2.5 acres per lot along with conservation of open space and compatibility with surrounding properties. As the commissioner of District 1, do you support this part of the master plan?

Yes, absolutely. Black Forest was supposed to be a unique space, made for big lots and those who want more freedom to do what they please with their property, live a more rural and rustic life and still be near an urban area.

7. In light of all the concern about water, do you believe the Board of County Commissioners should require that all new urban/high density developments use renewable water sources to supplement their water rights on the property?

Yes, other water sources are not sustainable any other way, and we need to continue to preserve our most precious resource.

8. Given the on-going drought and extremely high fire risk to District 1, do you believe that the fire district should be able to collect a fire impact fee for each new lot that is developed in order to add the additional resources required to mitigate this increased risk?

In 2018 there was a fire impact fee vote that came before the board of county commissioners that was supposed to support and help fund our fire districts. The vote was tabled as Holly Williams voted against this. Our fire districts are not getting what they need to help us in the best way possible.

Yes, I support our Firemen and Women and I would support the fire impact fees being paid. We learned a lot from the Waldo Canyon Fire and The Black Forest Fires, we learned that it is necessary for our fire districts to have the equipment and money they need to fight the fires. Our fire districts are not getting what they need to help us in the best way possible.

9. In the El Paso County Master Plan (page 54) it states, " Black Forest is a community with one of the strongest and most well-established characters in El Paso County. The County should maintain existing and expand the Large - Lot Residential place type in this area in a development pattern that matches the existing character of the developed Black Forest community." Since the Black Forest has had a minimum lot density of 5 acres per lot for over 50 years, would you support maintaining this historical precedent?

Yes, Absolutely. As seen above, in Question 6, the plan that was put in place in the 1980's should be honored. The residents and the county agreed to it, and it needs to be honored.

10. Have you ever received, or will you accept, campaign contributions from any developer in El Paso County?

No, I have not taken any money from any developers. I want my campaign to be funded by those I represent, the regular, everyday person who deserves to be honored and respected. I will not take money from developers.

11. What final message would you like to leave with the residents of District 1?

The number one job of our county commissioner is to protect and trust the people, to make your voice heard and to put the local authority back in your hands. I want the people of District 1 to understand that I am one of them, I understand the needs of the people, and it's time to bring integrity back into public service.

These responses will be shared with the Friends of Black Forest (2200 members) Northern El Paso County Organization (NEPCO), Our County News in Monument, and other smaller groups that are interested in hearing your responses to these questions.

Thank you for participating in this questionnaire.