

Candidate Responses

continued from previous page

and reduce class size; expand school year. Economic development & jobs creation -- support established New Mexico businesses with the same resources and commitment now invested to attract start up and speculative investors; lead energy alternatives research, and realistic technologies. Ethics and Reform -- increase oversight and accountability; open closed proceedings; promote public awareness and participation.

2. New Mexico must first and foremost complete the adjudication of water rights. Only by establishing those rights and priorities will we encourage conservation practices in agriculture. Las Cruces does not compare well with El Paso or Albuquerque in water consumption per household. We must improve conservation practices to preserve our local agriculture economy, and yet still accommodate the inevitable population growth and also attract economic development.

3. Health insurance must be affordable to employees and employers alike, or New Mexico will continue to impose a hidden tax for the uninsured on those of us who purchase insurance for our families and employees. Healthcare costs can be reduced by increasing the numbers of healthcare providers, enlarging the pool of insured participants, increased oversight of drug pricing, and greater emphasis on preventative healthcare.

4. Those of us who commute to Santa Fe would welcome the opportunity of public transportation. Unfortunately there is no free ride. The current project between Belen and Santa Fe has proven to be significantly more expensive than projected just five years ago. The final operating costs are also unknown. A southern rail would come at the expense of other critical transportation projects, and at the expense of greater priorities competing for limited state financial resources.

Nathan P. Cote
New Mexico State
Representative
District 53 (D)



1. a. Jobs. I will continue to work with the Las Cruces and Alamogordo Chambers to bring businesses to my district. I will again sponsor legislation that will attract employers to my district. b. Health care. I will support responsible legislation that will extend care to all New Mexicans who otherwise do not have health care coverage. Rural health care delivery is of primary importance to me. I sponsored and passed a physicians assistant bill last . . .

2. It is a problem that many have tried to solve for several years. I believe a water use credit system, water conservation, and

revised regulations that would help us redefine beneficial use, but this might take some constitutional changes. I would support the use of thermal infrared instruments to measure agricultural and other consumptive water uses in addition to finding more efficient ways to capture and filter otherwise unusable surface water.

3. The Governor and all the legislators have not been able to come up with a viable solution. I would like to see a board established to take a look at various health care coverage models, analysis of cost benefits, and how we might use current systems to extend coverage. We need to ensure that the insurance industry is a partner with analysis and planning. I believe a 3-year plan needs to be put in . . .

4. Yes it should, but it is a big taxpayer expense. Shortly, it will supply public transportation from Berlin to Santa Fe. As a member of the Transportation and Public Works Committee, I will continue to ask the question, encourage study, and lobby my colleagues for an extension of the Rail Runner. Such public transportation is always part of the infrastructure in Europe and Asia, why not in the U.S., specifically in one of its largest . . .

Stanford E. Locke
New Mexico State
Representative
District 53 (R)



1. Infrastructure: roads, water, septic/sewer for east mesa & Chaparral. Education, specifically what is taught at public schools, attendance requirement, discipline, and alternative to public schools including voucher systems; Access to public lands with bicycles, wheel chairs, motorized vehicles, concern about being denied access. Fight for funds for roads & sewers, fight for school accountability, and for vouchers; for rights to access to public lands; wasteful spending and governance by political correctness and activist courts.

2. Long range planning using reliable information from reliable sources and include participation from all concerned citizens including farmers & ranchers, developers. Work the plan Assure adequate agricultural water will always be affordable and available to farmers. Tax incentives and regulations that do not hinder productivity and profit that will encourage modern water saving irrigation systems and insure infrastructure in place prior to new construction. Practical not politically correct solutions.

3. Representation and participation by diverse related business, citizen, government, entities to refine solutions including: Tax incentives for businesses and individuals coupled to mandatory enrollment. Portability, minimum paperwork, uniform

records and reporting processes and procedures. Limit illegal and irresponsible use of health care system. Affordable pool for existing condition/ "uninsurable. encourage higher deductibles and penalties to individuals that abuse system, lower costs of insurance to providers, limit tort judgments. Keep private not state agency.

4. No! The rail in the north is nearly twice over budget and used money that should have provided infrastructure to every community and road system in the state. The cost of the existing rail would project the cost of a complete system to be in the billions of dollars. Systems in densely populated areas of other states do not pay for themselves. Extending the system would serve few people and tax s all.

Questions for the Candidates for Doña Ana County Commissioner

(2 questions – 50 words each)

1. What aspects of your background, experience and training qualify you for this position and why do you seek office?
2. Doña Ana County will be facing a myriad of issues involving the planned increase of military families locally, ongoing urban development, the need to preserve and upgrade existing neighborhoods, and the protection of wilderness areas. What role should county government play in providing management, services and funding to successfully meet these needs?

Dolores Saldaña-Caviness
Doña Ana County
Commissioner
District 2 (D)

No response received.

Scott Adam Krahling
Doña Ana County
Commissioner
District 4 (D)



done and succeeding. I understand the position, fair decision making and I'm honest and accountable.

2. County government should bring people together including representatives from the cities, the public and businesses to plan our growth and meet the safety, economic and quality of life needs that we have. We need to implement new policy and hold people responsible for treating everyone equally.

Doyle D. Pruitt
Doña Ana County
Commissioner
District 4 (R)



1. Serving the community I live in, bettering conditions of community. I have past experience as President of one of the largest Teamster Locals in California (7,000 strong) and held a four-year City Council seat in California. I have a B S in Structural Engineering, identifying problems and fixing them.

2. Planning ahead for open space. Wilderness kept un-encroachable. Accessing more potable water, Utilizing our wastewater better. Building a nuclear power plant with Federal, State, County and local monies, allowing more affordable electricity. Enticing large businesses into the County, affording jobs. New, more efficient building codes with efficient use of utilities.

Leticia Duarte Benavidez
Doña Ana County
Commissioner
District 5 (D)



1. This past July, I completed a successful 25 year career with Doña Ana County. As a Grants Administrator for the last eight years, I have gained significant experience managing state and federal grants for a wide variety of projects - construction and improvements in infrastructure through out the County.

2. Understanding the responsibility of county government to actively respond to the tremendous growth occurring in this community, I will support sound planning efforts and adequate investment. Dedicate resources for evaluating cost-effective solutions for addressing: road, sustainable water/waste water services, flood control, infrastructure and public safety.

Greg Sowards
Doña Ana County
Commissioner
District 5 (R)

1. Military and public school experience, along with life in the private sector, starting several businesses, Patenting and manufacturing products, while raising a large family have given me a unique outlook when

continued on following page