

Journal North County Commission Candidate Questionnaire
Tom Blog, District 2

May 12, 2004

Mark Oswald, Editor
Journal North

Dear Mr. Oswald,

Attached find my responses to your County Commission election questionnaire. Considerably more information is available on my website www.voteblog.org. Please feel free to call with any questions.

Best,
Tom Blog
505 983-9361 h/w
505 920-8785 cell
Candidate for County Commission, District 2
www.voteblog.org

Name: Thomas Blog

Place of Residence: 43 Vuelta Maria, Santa Fe, NM 87506

Date of Birth: April 15, 1957 in Panama

Education: BS, Computer Science with minor in Economics, UNM
Ongoing study in computer security and Non-Proliferation

Occupation: Hi-tech business founder (telecom), computer consultant

Family: Married 13 years to Anne, twin 8 year old children

Questions (maximum 50 words each reply):

1) What does Santa Fe County need to do to sustain its water supply? Do you support a regional water system, and if so, how should the county proceed with developing one?

The County and City must work together on a regional water system. The county will have to build and buy into shared infrastructure and water rights including the Rio Grande diversion. This can be financed with GRT, usage fees and bonds. There must be real benefits to existing residents.

2) To what extent, if any, should the county collaborate with developers to find water sources and develop points of diversion?

Discussed and debated collaboration is fine. The problem is that county lacks infrastructure, so the proposed diversion points are within the development, often near many other well users. When the county has infrastructure and diversion points (surface and ground), the developer can transfer in-basin water rights to the county.

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3) Do you support the proposed Aamodt settlement? Why or why not?

Based only on what I have read in the papers, No. It does not protect the existing non-native users, and over allocates to, and encourages excess consumption by, the Pojoaque Pueblo. Realistically, it is a Federal issue and the key part the County will play is implementation.

4) Should the Santa Fe County Commission impose more or less control on growth and development?

Impose more control. They should follow the Growth Management Plan, especially regarding clustering and mixed use zoning. Developers must prove in-basin water, preferably from a Regional Water System. Fair impact fees should offset the cost of growth (Schools, fire, sheriff, etc.) Well planned growth is good - sprawl is not.

5) What is your view of the County Commission's relationship with the Santa Fe city council? Should the relationship change, and if so, how?

Relations must improve. The citizens of both the County and the City pay for this lack of cooperation. The city (budget: \$200MM, population 68,000) is not the county (budget: \$93MM, population 138,000), but there must be improved regional cooperation on joint issues like zoning, water, roads and social services.

6) Are there other issues you feel are of critical importance that need to be addressed?

Disclosure and Transparency are critical. The County must minimize executive sessions and provide easier access to public information. Minutes, votes, maps and other information should be posted to the web. Commissioners and senior staff must disclose any dealings or holdings that impact the county, and not compete with the taxpayers.

7) Have you or your business – if you are a business owner- ever been the subject of any state or federal tax liens?

No.

8) Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding?

No.

9) Have you ever been arrested for, charged with or convicted of drunken driving, any misdemeanor or any felony?

No.

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