

FEDA 2020 Commissioner Candidate Questionnaire

1. What do you believe are the top five issues facing Rice County's commissioners today?

- (a) Fiscal sustainability!
- (b) Continued Law enforcement coverage/protection
- (c) Economic development
- (d) Planning&Zoning! Balancing this county's diversity using zoning as a tool while continuing to protect agriculture and its nuances.

2. Should preserving agricultural land be a planning priority for Rice County?

I worked on the 2010 comp plan which dwelled on protection of agriculture. I will be pleased to work on the currently outlined 2040 plan. Through planning & zoning agricultural land preservation and zoning balance is a must.

HOW IMPORTANT DO YOU THINK IT IS TO MAINTAIN RC RURAL CHARACTER?

3. As a Farmer, I believe it is important to maintain Rice County's rural flavor. As planning occurs Ag need to have a very strong voice. I served Rice County 2002-2011 on the planning and zoning commission, chairing the commission for two years. 2002-2007 were tumultuous times with not only a demanding time for growth in Rice County, but several changes in the planning and zoning department director. Although with the 2008 economic downturn stopped the demanding growth, it did allow time for more comprehensive planning.

4. WHAT TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT DO YOU ENVISION.....

This question offers 2 choices. I believe a hybrid approach can be developed that will fulfill the county needs. We do have I-35 running right through RC and have missed out on some wonderful development (jobs & tax dollars) that have passed us by and gone to Steele county. Rice County needs to reassess and hold public input discussions around this issue.

5. The proposed RC Comprehensive plan has included a sustainability section. While it

The Rice County Comprehensive plan is an oversighting tool to help direct the future of Rice County. There are seven (7) townships within DISTRICT 5. My plan is to attend a different Township meeting each month to listen to the needs of that township and its residents. I am excited to represent you and spend time with you understanding your positions.

6. What do you believe are Rice County's most pressing transportation needs.

First and foremost, continued maintenance of our current roads and bridges is a must. I am pleased to hear that Dennis Lubbe, director of RC Highway department has been working toward a plan to work with the state on a possible 6-Leg round about at I35/Hwy#19. This will be an awesome addition to really help with the traffic bottleneck in this area. I hope that moving forward we can also look and and plan for a I35/Hwy#9 off ramp/onramp. Hwy#9 ramps

would really help with the flow of truck traffic from Faribault Foods, Met-Con, the industrial park and Aldi's.

Regards,
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I want to thank the FEDA for gathering and sharing this information with you! I respectfully look forward to serving District 5 and ALL of its Seven (7) townships that District 5 represents.