

## South Lyon Area Democrats: Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

*Application for recommendation by the SLAD to voters in support of your campaign.*

*City of South Lyon, Lyon Township, and Green Oak Township.*

*Please email to SLAD candidate endorsement committee: [matthew.kardel@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.kardel@gmail.com)*

Candidate Name (as it will appear on the ballot): Jim Nash

Office/Position running for (including district number of applicable): Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner

Date of submission: 9/26/20

Please share a brief biography and personal background:

I am a veteran, Army Medic, a graduate of Florida State University and have been married for 35 years to my wife, Karen, with four children and three grandchildren living in SE Michigan. I have been in politics for many years, in Florida and Michigan, and owned two small businesses with my wife before entering office.

Qualifications for running (include previous appointed or elected public office positions and short resume):

I am the current Water Resources Commissioner, finishing my eighth year in office. Previously, I was a County Commissioner (D) from Farmington Hills for eight years. I served on the Zoning Board of Appeals in Farmington Hills three years before becoming a County Commissioner. I worked for the Florida Democratic Party from 1988 to 1991 and the Florida Legislature from 1991 to 1994, when I moved to Michigan. I was a Precinct Delegate from 1996 to 2005. I was the Chair of the Sierra Club SE Michigan Group for three years before entering the County Commission.

List requirements you have completed for the office (# signatures collected, date filed, fees paid):

I was unopposed in the primary this year and am on the ballot for November 3.

Amount of money raised as of date of submission:

\$165,000 in this election cycle

Principal duties of the office you are running for:

I am the executive officer of the Water Resources Commissioner's office (WRC). I oversee a staff of about 360 people and a budget of over \$500,000,000. My office has operations in every community in Oakland County. We have jurisdiction over 500 stormwater drains, erosion control in most communities, legal lake levels, lake improvement boards and local drinking water and sewer systems and large sewer interceptor systems serving over 800,000 people and combined sewer systems serving 200,000. We operate and maintain 19 water and/or sewer systems in 14 communities by contract, and we operate and maintain three wastewater treatment plants serving 17 communities. Oakland County WRC is also a leader in many areas of environmental protection and climate change mitigation and resilience at the county, regional, statewide and national levels.

Top priorities once elected:

To continue my work protecting our water resources from pollution caused by runoff from climate change induced extreme storms, from PFAS chemicals in the environment, from the over 9,000 toxic chemical sites across SE Michigan and from the lead in pipes of older homes. I will continue leading efforts across the county, region and state to bring in needed state and federal funding, reform laws to bring efficient and effective into effect. To continue my efforts to operate, maintain and plan replacement of our aging infrastructure to leave our kids and grandkids a decent place to live. To continue moving my office and the county off of fossil fuels and develop the alternative energies that will get us off the climate changing energy we have always used.

Plans for communicating with constituents once elected:

I will continue my three year effort to visit libraries across the county, giving talks about how our drinking water, sewer and stormwater systems work, how we protect the environment and how individuals can help keep our water clean and safe. I have already held over 25 library talks and will continue as long as I'm in office. I will continue to visit communities whenever an issue affects them that needs discussion.

What are your primary sources for information/news?

Local newspapers, Oakland Press, Detroit News and Free Press, local TV, web sites...

### **Local Issues**

*Indicate your position on the following topics, including solutions. A response is needed only if applicable to your prospective office*

City / Township / County's Master Plan:

Tax Abatement & Business Development:

Local Environmental Policies:

We work with communities across Oakland County to develop the policies and programs needed for clean water. We Oversee development mapping and development relating to water, erosion control for construction and drainage.

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services:

As WRC I have a seat on the Oakland County Parks Board. We make all decisions relating to budgets, millage proposals, personnel, parks services and rules and planning.

What do you see as the role of the city / township / county in the school system?

Public Safety:

Public Transportation:

Other comments:

Which planks of the Michigan Democratic Party do you feel most strongly about on a local level (select all that apply)? **I support all the below.**

1. Education: Improving Public Education for Children and Adults
2. Economy: Using Aggressive & Comprehensive Economic Development Policies
3. Job Training: Improving the Skills of our Workforce
4. Trade: Using an Approach Based on a Level Playing Field
5. Economic Development: Improving Depressed Communities
6. Agriculture: Protecting our Farms and Rural Communities
7. Transportation: Providing Access to Opportunities
8. Information Technology: Expanding Access to Information
9. Small Business: Nurturing Entrepreneurship and Self-employment
10. Income: Rewarding Work
11. Taxes: Providing a Sufficient, Stable and Fair Tax System
12. Health Care: Providing Health Security for Families and Individuals
13. Children and Families: Providing Help for Working Parents with Children
14. Coping With Misfortune: Bankruptcy, Foreclosure and Homelessness
15. The Environment: Protecting Our Land, Water, Air and Open Space
16. Social Justice: Achieving Equal and Humane Treatment Under the Law
17. Women: Protecting the Rights of Women
18. Veterans: Respect and Help for Those Who Serve Our Country
19. Youth: Building Citizens Who Will Brighten our Future
20. Seniors: Providing Retirement Security and Needed Services
21. Voting: Nurturing Democracy and Promoting Civic Participation
22. Faith: Connecting Our Party with People of Faith
23. Public Safety: Creating Safer Communities for All
24. Energy: Providing Power to the People
25. Judicial System: Serving the People, not Special Interests
26. Government: Freeing Politics from Money Influence and Special Interests
27. Corporations: Insisting on Corporate Accountability
28. Consumer Protection: Protecting People in the Marketplace
29. Financial Services: Protecting People in Credit and Banking Transactions
30. Providing Proper Oversight of Our Financial System
31. Local Government: Defending Our Democracy

### **Contact Information**

\*\*Candidate preferred email address: [jimnash2012@gmail.com](mailto:jimnash2012@gmail.com)

\*\*Candidate preferred phone number: 248-978-8922

\*\*Candidate home address (where you live) street address, city, state, zip:

27490 W. Ten Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Campaign mailing address (if applicable): **Same**

Campaign website: **www.nash4wrc.com**

Campaign social media (identify platform, i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.): **facebook jimnashforwrc**

Campaign hashtags:

Campaign contact name and title (manager / assistant): **Abby Lane**

Campaign contact preferred phone number: **248-202-9046**

Campaign contact preferred email address: **nashwrc2020@gmail.com**

Other contact & media info:

**Thank you for submitting your candidate info to SLAD. By submitting this information, you agree that all information submitted, except for the \*\*starred items (candidate preferred email address, phone number, and street address), can be made public and shared on SLAD online platforms and physical documents.**