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2004 Commissioner Race

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Yesterday evening, March 24, 2004, at the Kiowa Lions Hall at 7:00 p.m., the only event in this electoral season, where ALL commissioner candidates for Elbert County Districts 1 & 3 commissioner seats were present in one room for comparative evaluation, where questions could be asked of the candidates and give and take between all of the candidates was possible, was held.

Thu Mar 25, 2004 7:23 am

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"Brooks Imperial"
<brooks@forethought.net>
 coventurer

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It was held before the Elbert County Republican Party Central Committee. The minutes of the meeting show that 29 voting members were present, though it was announced at the meeting that there were 28.

The minutes do not discuss the substance of any of the candidates presentations. You had to be there in order to know what they said.

These 28 or 29 members listened to brief presentations in alphabetical order by Resa Donato, Ben Duke, John Metli, Debbie Paulson, and Tom Pennewell. These commissioner candidates comprise the spectrum of political views in commissioner candidates for Elbert County.

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The principal dividing line between the candidates is that the 3 challengers (Donato, Duke and Pennewell) all spoke in favor of new taxes in the county. Two of the three challengers spoke in favor of a regulatory master plan for zoning. The 3 challengers also were unanimous in their views that economic growth in the county should have more regulation and control.

The incumbent candidates (Paulson & Metli) did not support tax increases, did not support regulatory zoning and did not advocate for increased government regulation of growth.

All of the candidates are registered Republicans, though only the incumbent candidates sounded like Republicans. The 3 challengers sounded like big government tax & spend Democrats.

This is what happens when you have one party politics! A very few party leaders actually see the spectrum of candidates while being in a position to exercise some electoral choice between them. This choice will happen in the coming days of Caucuses and the County Assembly.

By the time the voting public sees these candidates in a primary election or in the general election in November, some of them will be out of the race. The spectrum of political views will be greatly narrowed.

The public will never make the choice that exists today in the hands of an anointed few. The public vote will be largely ceremonial.

Sincerely Yours,

Brooks Imperial

Citizens For Voter Choice

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Yesterday evening, March 24, 2004, at the Kiowa Lions Hall at 7:00 p.m., the only event in this electoral season, where ALL commissioner candidates for Elbert...

Brooks Imperial
[coventurer](#)Mar 25, 2004
7:26 am**Re: 2004 Commissioner Race**

Interesting, too bad you were not able to write a verbatim question and answer from each candidate to show how diverse they each are....

Neumann, Joseph
[joseph.neumann@dexmed...](#)Mar 25, 2004
7:48 am**Re: 2004 Commissioner Race**

First, the 29th member was Norm Happel, who showed up after the roll was initially taken. Second, I thought far too much time was allowed to each candidate for...

Tedd Lipka
[Tedd_Strange](#)Mar 25, 2004
10:47 am**Re: 2004 Commissioner Race**

Brooks, Thanks for the synopsis. The attendees count increased from 28 to 29 upon Norm Happel's late arrival @ 7:40 p.m. I totally agree with your statement...

Calhoun, Clay
[Clay.Calhoun@qwest.com](#)Mar 25, 2004
9:33 am**Re: 2004 Commissioner Race**

Clay (et. al.), People are mercurial - they will go whichever way they can. The ECR continues to welcome tax & spend liberals with open arms and reward them...

Brooks Imperial
[coventurer](#)Mar 25, 2004
3:00 pm**Re: 2004 Commissioner Race**

Brooks: I read your e-mails with a good degree of amusement. Seems as though your group fits people into two basic categories: tax and spend big government...

Suzanne O'Neill
[soneill@fgn.net](#)Mar 25, 2004
3:31 pm**Re: 2004 Commissioner Race**

Suzanne, I did not arrive at my characterizations of the 3 challengers by so tortuous a path as you took to reach your conclusions. The candidates told me, and...

Brooks Imperial
[coventurer](#)Mar 25, 2004
4:27 pm

<p>Re: 2004 Commissioner Race Thank you Mr. Chairman for the substantive and well-written response. Mr. Chairman, neither incumbent "pulls my strings." I have looked at the field...</p>	<p>Brooks Imperial coventurer  </p>	<p>Mar 26, 2004 3:33 pm</p>
<p>Re: 2004 Commissioner Race Brooks, there is, I believe, one additional group that needs to be identified. That group is "government employees", who in many cases tend to act together as...</p>	<p>geormrty@wmconnect.com </p>	<p>Mar 27, 2004 12:44 pm</p>
<p>Re: 2004 Commissioner Race Ted, It sounds like we've come to the same conclusions regarding the commissioners race with regard to the challengers, albeit through different reasoning. I...</p>	<p>Brooks Imperial coventurer  </p>	<p>Mar 27, 2004 12:48 pm</p>

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