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2004 Commissioner Race

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Re: [ECRF] 2004 Commissioner Race

Thu Mar 25, 2004 3:30 pm

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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 liberals or (hmmm...how best to describe the Elbert County Republican position?) perhaps cheapskate penny-foolish libertarians? (Decided I better leave "pound-wise" out as I have seen no evidence of that!) I specify ECR and not Republicans in general as I don't think I have seen your group advocating deficit spending like we are seeing at the Federal level -

"Suzanne O'Neill"
[<soneill@fgn.net>](mailto:soneill@fgn.net)
soneill@fgn.net
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What about us folks who stand for fiscal conservancy, responsible spending, accountability, and balanced budgets? Sounds like Republican values to me - but not values I see reflected at either the County, State or national levels. They do seem Republican unless one thinks that spending on anything other than roads or defense needs to be considered. Then, if there are only two categories I guess the individual becomes a tax and spend big-government liberal!

Quite amazing logic. Yet that seems to be what is reflected in these e-mails.

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I am OK with paying moderate taxes. I am not OK with the lack of accountability and performance I see at the County government level. The fiscal mis-steps of our commissioners have been quite amazing - and yet this doesn't seem to be a concern of the ECRs.

Suzanne O'Neill

----- Original Message -----

From: Brooks Imperial

To: ECRF@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2004 2:58 PM

Subject: RE: [ECRF] 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 with a veneer of Republican legitimacy so they can bamboozle voters and gain elected office.

Ted Lipka (below) says he's for the current system. The caucus system itself is not the problem here. While it is reasonable to put the onus on average citizens and voters to participate in the caucus system to elect candidates, we're not operating an objective caucus system in Elbert County. Citizens For Voter Choice are NOT for the current system as practiced in Elbert County.

Last night presented a good case in point. The call for the central committee meeting said there would be "announcements" under new business. Nowhere was there an indication that these announcements would be comprised of commissioner candidate speeches in an open discussion forum.

Joe Neumann comments (below) that it was too bad we didn't have a chance to prepare questions for the candidates. Too bad indeed. Disguising the true business of the meeting is typical of one-party political methods. In this case it was a tactic designed to slip the candidates through the system with a minimum of scrutiny.

Average citizens don't stand a chance on this playing field. It is completely unreasonable to put the onus on average voters to discover the nature and quality of candidates for elected office when the system in place to vet candidates is purposely operated so as to obscure those candidates from public scrutiny.

Last night we had a Republican Central Committee meeting. The majority of candidates - all of the challengers that is - discussed raising taxes and increasing

governmental intrusions into the private sector. Our party leadership said nothing until the very end of the meeting when the chairman revealed that he, too, was involved in governmental discussions to increase taxes.

The room may have been full of Republicans, but it was Democrat thinking and Democrat issues dominating the conversation.

Citizens For Voter Choice intend to draw attention and public scrutiny to the corruption of the Elbert County Republican Party this political season. Democrats have every right to present their cases for taxes and government regulation to the voters for a decision. But their political rights end at our Republican doorstep. They have no right to infiltrate and undermine the GOP in Elbert County.

Citizens For Voter Choice is a registered Issue Committee in Elbert County made up of people who intend to make it as uncomfortable as possible for tax & spend big-government liberals to exist in the Republican Party. ECR leadership may be willing to tolerate them in our party. We don't. The message needs to go out loudly and clearly that tax & spend big government liberals belong in the Democratic Party.

Sincerely Yours,

Brooks Imperial
Citizens For Voter Choice

From: Calhoun, Clay [mailto:Clay.Calhoun@qwest.com]

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 on "one party politics". The question is how, from the perspective of the ECR, do you incent the other party(ies) to increase their participation level.

Who/what is/are "Citizens For Voter Choice"?

CC

From: Tedd Lipka [mailto:tedd_strange@yahoo.com]

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 that forum. While I did learn a lot about the candidates, I also learned very little. I believe in the caucus system, despite it's consequences. The system cannot be held responsible for voter apathy. Every voter has the right to attend the caucuses, hear the respective candidates' pitch, and hopefully use what they've learned to make an educated decision. For the most part, people get the government they deserve, in my opinion. The onus is upon us who make the effort to involve ourselves to choose wisely on behalf of those who haven't a clue. That being the case, I'm not so interested in promoting full voter participation. I'm all for voter education, but I'd rather 10 informed people vote than 100 knoheads who don't bother to learn the facts.

Tedd

--- "Neumann, Joseph" <joseph.neumann@dexmedia.com> wrote:

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






<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ECRF/>














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<p>2004 Commissioner Race 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...</p>	<p>Brooks Imperial coventurer  </p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 7:26 am</p>
<p> 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....</p>	<p>Neumann, Joseph joseph.neumann@dexmed... </p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 7:48 am</p>
<p> Re: 2004 Commissioner Race First, the 29th member was Norm Happel, who showed up after the roll was</p>	<p>Tedd Lipka Tedd_Strange</p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 10:47 am</p>

initially taken. Second, I thought far too much time was allowed to each candidate for...	 	
<p>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...</p>	Calhoun, Clay Clay.Calhoun@qwest.com 	Mar 25, 2004 9:33 am
<p>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...</p>	Brooks Imperial coventurer  	Mar 25, 2004 3:00 pm
<p>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...</p>	Suzanne O'Neill soneill@fgn.net 	Mar 25, 2004 3:31 pm
<p>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...</p>	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>	Brooks Imperial coventurer  	Mar 26, 2004 3:33 pm
<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>	geormrty@wmconnect.com 	Mar 27, 2004 12:44 pm
<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>	Brooks Imperial coventurer  	Mar 27, 2004 12:48 pm

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