



Welcome, **coventurer**
[\[Sign Out, My Account\]](#)

[Groups Home](#) - [Blog](#) - [Help](#)



coventurer · brooks@forethought.net | Group Owner - [Edit Membership](#)

[Start a Group](#) | [My Groups](#)

ECRF · Elbert County Republican Forum

Search for other groups... [Search](#)

- [Home](#)
- [Messages](#)
- [Pending](#)
- [Spam?](#) [\[Delete\]](#)
- [Post](#)
- [Files](#)
- [Photos](#)
- [Pending](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Database](#)
- [Polls](#)
- [Members](#)
- [Pending](#)
- [Calendar](#)

[Promote](#)
[Invite](#)

[Management](#)

Messages

[Messages Help](#)

Message # [Go](#) Search: [Search](#) [Advanced](#)

[Start Topic](#)

2004 Commissioner Race

[Message List](#)

[Reply](#) | [Forward](#) | [Delete](#)

Message #443 of 1797 < [Prev](#) | [Next](#) >

Re: [ECRF] 2004 Commissioner Race

Sat Mar 27, 2004 12:48 pm

[Show Message Option](#)

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 believe Citizens For Voter Choice is not just another issue committee. It addresses a fundamental problem within the Elbert County Republican Party that led to bold-faced county assembly electioneering two years ago. If this is picking up where George Porter left off, then we've probably stepped into some big shoes a bit unintentionally, at least for my part. I hope we can live up to his example.

"Brooks Imperial"
 <brooks@forethought.net>
[coventurer](#)
[Offline](#)
[Send Email](#)

[Remove Author](#) | [Ban Author](#)

The mere existence of this new issue committee however, has enlivened an overdue debate by virtue of the substantive contributions that have been made on point in various forums by you and others in the past couple days. This debate is timely and important right now as we head into precinct caucuses. Two years ago at this time there was no public discussion on this point. Already we have changed the future, to paraphrase a line from the movie "T2."

Yahoo! Groups Tips

Did you know...

Learn, share, and take your group to new heights with Moderator Central. [Check it out.](#)

Best of Y! Groups



Check them out and nominate your group.

I believe your point about most of the population not giving a damn about local politics, can be traced to inadequate and difficult disclosures. We suffer this malady from a lack of public competitive political pressure. When the public has no role in policy decisions, no constituencies will develop to engage in public debate. It takes a public debate to bring policy issues into public fora. While we remain a one-party system, the public will continue to have no roll in the formation of policy. It is a vicious cycle.

The cycle will not cure itself because it is a closed system. Voters will only have a shot at gaining a voice in county policy formation if an outside group can succeed in running the tax & spend liberals back into their Democratic Party. We can only do this by closing the doors of the Republican Party to them. Once back home they can put their ideas before the public and engage Republicans in substantive public discourse on the merits of policy alternatives.

Meetings in John Dunn's airplane hangar attended by sympathetic reporters for the local fish wrap are no more relevant to the public discourse on public policy than the unchallenged palaver at an ECR Central Committee meeting. These venues stand apart and alone, without vitality; another reason why people don't care. There's no life in it - no stake for them.

Meanwhile back at the ranch, big and important issues are afoot. The front lines on what our county will become are on the northern boundary with Aurora. Aurora is very thirsty. Their water mains exist a few short feet from our border. Several of our local entrepreneurs have sold their adjudicated water rights for export to the north. The state engineer has only to say the word and water exports can begin. The county has moved to tax these water exports, however, taxes won't put water back into the aquifers. The state engineer is under legislative directives to maximize the economic value of water in the ground, so you can't blame him for allowing the transfers. People have a constitutional right to the beneficial use of their property, so you can't blame them for the transactions. Is there a balance of interests here that can maximize property owners rights, the interests of the state and county in commerce, and water conservation for the benefit of future generations? More than likely there is. Will our chance at discovering that balance be better without a public debate? Most certainly not.

This is only one reason to return the conduct of bi-partisan policy discussions to the public. The stewards of the public trust currently meeting in basements and airplane hangars aren't going to find the solutions we need.

Public policy should be squarely before the voters in the form of real elections between differentiated parties with competing ideas. Competition is a primary value that made this

country great. We need to restore a competition of ideas to the formulation of Elbert County public policy. A 2-party system will do just that.

Sincerely Yours,

Brooks Imperial

Citizens For Voter Choice

RE: ECR Blog http://www.elbertgop.com/ecr_blog.html

March 25, 2004

ECR Conspiracy Theories

- posted by Tedd @ 8:41 PM

Brooks, I like you and agree with much of what you say, but I believe that you're high and to the right on this one.

"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."

How are we not doing so? Because the Elbert County Watchdogs have been successful in forming an interest group strong enough to manipulate the system? I don't agree with most of their positions, but they aren't the first group to force their agenda on the ECR. George Porter, while I disagreed with him on very little, did the same thing for years prior to you becoming active. Unfortunately, the current populists among us, despite their claims, do not seem to have the four basic principles of the Republican Party as their main interest. I too wish that Democrats would be Democrats in this county, but unfortunately, we lack a majority of Republicans with the fortitude to participate and keep the RINOs out. On the other hand, I'm not surprised it has come to this, precisely because our predecessors forced their will on others with different (though still Republican) views, and those people who provided the support needed to fend off the RINOs have now moved on, lost interest, or simply taken their ball and gone home. The biggest failure that I have seen since I've been a part of the ECR has been the utter failure on our part to sow for a new crop of leaders and participants in this county. Right now, we are stuck between the good ol' boy network and a county populace enough to keep factions from being able to wield any power. Sadly, most of the population in this county doesn't give a damn about local politics, they just happen to cast

their votes for the locals as long as they are voting for the Governor or POTUS. From what I saw last night, the incumbent Commissioners stand a chance against their opponents. The challenge for them will be motivating their base and getting their message out. I didn't hear anything from the challengers worth replacing the current administration for. That said, I do not agree with all that the current administration has done. But I am tired of having the county start from Square One every four years, and from the sounds of it, that is what the challengers are proposing.













If you feel that another issue committee is necessary to make things more honest, splendid, and more power to you. Call me jaded, but I don't have high hopes for success in motivating the general public in Elbert County to wake the Hell up.

Reply

[Forward](#) | [Delete](#)

Message #443 of 1797 < [Prev](#) | [Next](#) >

[Expand Messages](#)

	Author	Sort by Date
<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 initially taken. Second, I thought far too much time was allowed to each candidate for...</p>	<p>Tedd Lipka Tedd_Strange  </p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 10:47 am</p>
<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>	<p>Calhoun, Clay Clay.Calhoun@qwest.com </p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 9:33 am</p>
<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>	<p>Brooks Imperial coventurer  </p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 3:00 pm</p>

<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>	<p>Suzanne O'Neill soneill@fgn.net</p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 3:31 pm</p>
<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>	<p>Brooks Imperial coventurer</p>	<p>Mar 25, 2004 4:27 pm</p>
<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>

[< Prev Topic](#) | [Next Topic >](#)

Message # Search: [Advanced](#)

[Start Topic](#)

SPONSOR RESULTS

[Real Estate in Middlesex County, MA](#)

www.hoskinsrealty.com - Get updated real estate listings in Merrimack valley and surrounding areas of Middlesex county in MA. HoskinsRealty.com will help you find your dream home. Contact us now.

[Local Orange County Health Insurance](#)

www.beachcitieshealthinsurance.com - Blue Cross/Shield, Kaiser, Aetna, United, HealthNet, Nationwidex2026;.

[Mitch Ribak - Brevard County Real Estate](#)

www.mitchrealty.com - Search Brevard County MLS.