



2020 Board of County Commissioner Candidate Questionnaire:

Post-Candidate Forum: The Questions that Were Not
Asked

The following questions were posed by the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee members and Chamber members but could not be asked at the recent BOCC Candidates Forum due to time limitations. As a candidate, we ask that you submit your responses and email them to ardath@citruscountychamber.com by end of business on Friday, July 17. We will post your responses on the Chamber website as you write them, with no editing:

Your Name: Ruthie Davis Schlabach

Candidate District #: County Commission, D3

1. What are your thoughts about the way the County is dispensing the CARES Act funds for small businesses?

The county needs to dispense all the funds and not hold back.

2. Are you knowledgeable about the regulations related to planning and development in Citrus County? What is your view of the way the Land Development Division is being managed at this time?

Yes. It needs to be seriously reviewed.

3. Many citizens have said that one of the most pressing problems in our county is the condition of our residential roads, especially Citrus Springs. There are homes on the golf course and new construction homes that are on roads that are crumbling. How do you plan on addressing this issue?

Our tax base can not support the work that has to be done on a reasonable time frame. I will work with our State Officials to bring in other resources.

4. What proactive ideas do you have for any of the topics below:

- Affordable Housing - Low Income Housing
Looking at mixed-use development. Easing constraints and proactively look for developers to invest into Apartment style housing that people can afford.
- Local Drug Addiction Resources
Educating the community, having affordable treatment facilities or programs. Reducing or addressing the stigma of addiction.
- Homeless persons and keeping homelessness to a minimum in our county.
Better support for mental health and substance abusers.
- Using the tourism tax on something besides marketing? (Examples: Using the funds for more than an “invitation” to our waterways and activities on the water; such as infrastructure that is needed for the persons that come here, additional restrooms, parking and safety resources, or maybe a conference/community center for corporate meetings and such.
Lets use some TDT funds to enforce the noise ordinance on the waterways behind peoples homes. We need some law and order on our waterways. Excessive rowdiness can hurt our tourism.

5. Under what conditions do you believe government has a right to infringe on constitutional rights? Please explain how you would apply this when considering how to restrict funds and public access to periodicals in the library (Example: New York Times subscription) ; and how you would apply it when faced with a pandemic.

For the health and welfare of the general public. In extreme conditions governments have the authority to order things that would otherwise be questionable. I might not like this personally but this is why smoking is banned in public areas.

6. Barring unforeseen family and health issues -if elected do you commit to serve your complete 4-year term?

Yes