

2010 RAVEN SOCIETY CANDIDATE POSITION SURVEY

Please feel free to attach as many pages as are necessary to include your complete answers.

1. Name: **Tony Webb**
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Louisville, TN 37777
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2. Website:

3. For which office are you running?

County Commission, District 10, Seat A

4. What is your professional background and current occupation?

After college I worked in retail for 12 years, before going into healthcare. I have worked in a nursing home, mental health facility, and I am currently employed at Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center as a Cardiovascular Technician.

5. Please list high school(s) attended and any higher education with degrees earned, if any.

I graduated from Maryville High School and attended East Tennessee State University.

6. List professional, governmental, community service or other relevant organizational affiliations you have maintained within the past 10 years. List approximate dates of service.

I am a current member of the Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center's Employee Advisory Council 2008-2010. I am the current chair of the Blount County Democratic Party (BCDP) and vice- chair of the Tennessee Democratic Chairs Association 2009- 2011. I have been a member of the BCDP since 2006. I have participated in the American Heart Association's Heart Walk since 1995 and have been the Fort Sanders Regional Coordinator for the last 6 years and Knoxville's "top walker" during the same period. I have been a FSRMC volunteer with the "Hope Center" dealing with HIV, AIDS, and other catastrophic diseases.

7. Please comment on how your own background and skills would assist you as an officeholder.

Listening to all opinions: I will listen to all that voice their opinions to me.

Problem solving (consensus): I can not ignore the people that believe differently to my opinion. Setting goals, planning, and being proactive: I must work to help solve the current problems that exist and to be ever mindful that I do not, nor does any one person hold all the solutions.

8. The Raven Society Mission Statement is at the top of this page. Do you support this mission? Why or why not? If elected, what will you do in support of this mission?

Yes, very much so. I believe in the protection of our natural and historic sites as well as controlled zoning in our rural areas. I am against spot zoning for the benefit of a single individual while ignoring the surrounding community's input.

9. What do you see as the three most critical issues facing Blount County? Being as specific as possible, please tell us how you will address each of these issues.

Debt planning: We all must realize that our debt will affect this county for many years. ALL offices must look at ways to control their spending and to be part of debt reduction. The finance committee must take lead to ensure that utilization of monies being spent are appropriate and that debt management is the top priority. I believe community input is a necessity to make a plan work. For too many years a group of government officials have ignored the citizens and have spent our money as they have chosen. This will no longer work for our county and "responsibility" is a word for all in county government. Quality education: We must listen to not only our school board, but to teachers, as they are on the front line in educating our children. It is nice to have new schools, however we can not expect our teachers to perform their jobs without the resources needed (books, computers, teaching aids, etc...). If we want "top class" schools, we all must work together. Jobs: Businesses look for areas with high education standards, green areas for recreation, and an over all stable economy. We must put forth an effort to communicate and respond to the above issues. If we are seen as a proactive community, we will attract those companies and become a leader of East Tennessee in opportunities and job growth.

10. Rapid development in Blount County has implications for the County budget, as well as for our air and water quality, scenic heritage and community character. If elected, what principles would guide your decisions regarding growth and development?

Responsible growth, clean air and water quality standards and input by

our citizens.

11. Do you support the extension of the Pellissippi Parkway (PPE) from Old Knoxville Highway (SR 33) to US 321?

a. **No**

b. Please explain *why* you support or oppose the extension, including any statistics or studies you may know of which support your opinion.

We do not need an expansion of the PPE to create growth in our county. Downtown Maryville and the city of Alcoa are scenic roadways that bring monies to the existing economy.

12. If the PPE is eventually built, how will you address the development pressures this potential new road will bring, including impacts on Blount County's secondary roads, schools, public services, air and water quality?

All services would need to be restructured, including secondary roads, schools, public services, businesses and the existing hospital. All community governments both city and county will have to work together to accomplish the developmental pressures this thoroughfare would bring.

13. Which, if any, of the proposals presented by the Growth Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) would you recommend using to raise funds to purchase and preserve green space in the rural parts of the county?

5. Bount County would collect a windfall tax in the form of Greenbelt Roll Back, this would mean that we will lose more greenspace to development. By using monies to help fund PDR/TDR we could raise funds without tax increases. I would not support an increase development in one part of the county (Louisville) to protect other areas out of district 10 that would not lose their greenspace. I would propose the monies stay in District 10 to support further growth of our greenspace. 7. It would be easy enough to place a box on your property tax bill as you do your Federal Income Tax Return for Presidential Elections. (This would be a voluntary act) 8. State License plates are a great way to advertise issues and raise money. (This is a voluntary act as well and you would choose your cause, pay the extra cost with a portion of the proceeds going to that cause and display the plate on your vehicle.

14. If elected, please describe how you would incorporate the Five Guiding Policies of the county's Policies Plan into your own decision-making process.

I would follow the policies as written except #4. I believe that development follows road enhancement and that existing roads should be a high priority.

15. What is your vision for Blount County in 20 years?

Growth in Blount County will continue for the next 10 to 20 years and beyond. We must have a responsible plan enacted that will not only encourage protection of our rural, natural and historic places, but allow for sensible and structured growth within our communities.