

2018 Grant County Candidate Forum

WNMU Global Resource Center Auditorium

Tuesday, September 18, 2018

5:00 – 8:00 pm

Listed below are the action items for the Grant County Candidate Forum:

- A) One night of debate – candidate segments:
 - 5:00 6th Judicial District Judge
 - 5:20 Commissioner District 1
 - 5:40 Commissioner District 2
 - 6:00 10-minute Break
 - 6:10 Grant County Sheriff
 - 7:20 NM State Representative District 38
 - 7:40 NM State Representative District 39

- B) Moderator will be Bruce Ashburn, Prospector and President of the Silver City Grant County Chamber of Commerce.

- C) If candidate is not able to attend, they may send a representative of their choice as a stand-in. Please let us know by September 11.

- D) No campaign literature or signs inside of the building. ONLY campaign buttons will be permitted. No personal attacks will be permitted.

- E) Timeline for each candidate segment:
 - a. **Opening Statement: 2 minutes**
 - b. **Moderator Question: 1 minute**
 - c. **Answer: 2 minutes**
 - d. **Rebuttal, if necessary: 1 minute**
 - e. **Closing: 1 minute**

- F) We will request applause only at the end of each candidate segment.

- G) Questions:
 - a. At the start of the Forum each candidate/representative will draw 2 questions for a total of 4 potential questions for each session. Given the time constraints, it is likely only 2-3 questions for will be asked for each session.
 - b. Questions will be submitted by **September 3** from the sponsors, Democrat and Republican parties. Similar questions will be pooled. (*examples from previous forum below*)
 - c. Candidates will be given the 6 potential questions **September 11**, so they can prepare their answers.
 - d. The list of questions will also be handed out to the audience at the Forum - no questions will be taken from the audience.

- H) Co-Sponsors:

- a. Grant County Prospectors - responsible for securing the date, meeting room, agenda/outline, press releases, advertising, monitoring the audience and timer.
- b. Silver City Regional Association of Realtors - responsible for providing refreshments as well as advertising.
- c. Western New Mexico University - responsible for setting up the venue.
- d. Silver City Radio – assisting by posting the Forum on their website as well as advertising in their community announcements.
- e. Silver City Grant County Chamber of Commerce – assisting with advertising.



For more info:

Kim Clark, Grant County Prospectors – 575-538-2665 – kim@silvercityrealtors.org

EXAMPLES OF 2016 FORUM QUESTIONS

State Representative

1. What do you believe are the top economic issues for the State of New Mexico and how would you solve those issues?
2. What actions would you support to improve New Mexico's currently insufficient educational outcomes? Cutting bureaucracy and red tape? Mandatory Pre-K? Funding early childhood education? Reforms to the New Mexico Lottery scholarships?
3. What would you do to reform New Mexico Government regulations and processes that are too complex and bureaucratic to benefit rural counties and local governments?
4. Where will your legacy leave New Mexico in 20 years?
5. As you have met with constituents across your District, what are the common needs?
6. If a New Mexican is not registered Democrat or Republican, they are not allowed to vote in the primary. What is your stand on "Open Primary Elections" in New Mexico?

County Commissioners

1. Where will your legacy leave Grant County in 20 years?
2. What concrete actions can Grant County take to improve the well-being of families and children who are struggling with economic and social issues?
3. As a County Commissioner how do you envision Grant County's working relationships with municipal governments, rural areas and Federal land management agencies?
4. In a time of weak local and state economies and sinking state revenues, what will you do to protect Grant County? Should any part of the County budget be shielded from cuts? What are the most pressing infrastructure or capital projects in Grant County?
5. What do you want to accomplish on the Grant County Commission and why are you the best candidate to get these things done?
6. How would you encourage diversification of our local economy and grow jobs for Grant County?