



Chairman's letter October 8, 2024

Early voting has begun in person at the Santa Fe County Clerk's office and will expand to neighborhood polling places on October 19th. You can request an absentee ballot up to October 22nd. I want to say Thank You to the Republicans of Santa Fe County who have volunteered to be poll challengers this election. It makes a huge difference when we are present and watching at the polls during voting. In New Mexico we use paper ballots and Dominion tabulators. Tabulators are like dollar bill counters at the bank. They add up the number of votes. The tabulator totals must then be posted for public viewing at the polling place under New Mexico state law.

Do we need to clean up the voter rolls? Yes. Is the Secretary of State going to do that? No. [The Southwest Public Policy Institute's](#) recent investigation exposed the partisan political bias in the Secretary of State's office. That's why we need to make sure 2024 is TOO BIG TO RIG. Will there be a red wave in New Mexico? It's hard to tell. My impression is that if Republican voters come out for Trump and vote straight Republican down ballot, we could see some upsets. Apathy is our worst enemy. New Mexico polling is sparse since we only have 5 electoral votes. However, polls have shown a less than 10% gap between R's and D's, with a recently leaked internal poll showing Trump down just 4%. How many "conservative democrats" will take advantage of the secret ballot and vote Trump, knowing it is in the best interest of their family and country?

If Trump wins the White House, and all the signs are pointing to that outcome, he can't do it alone. He is going to need the support of a Republican House and Senate. Please vote for all of our Republican candidates: Nella Domenici for Senate and Sharon Clahchischilliage for Congressional District 3. For those in New Mexico House District 50 vote Ken Brennan, and for those in Senate District 19 vote Ant Thornton. Those in the part of the county in Congressional District 1 vote Steve Jones.

Moving on to the New Mexico Constitutional Amendments and State and local bond issues.

Amendments 1 and 2 regarding Veteran's property tax exemptions. My feeling these days is that the only way to reign in wasteful government spending, such as woke DEI initiatives and green new deal boondoggles, is to starve the government of funding. In this economy, we all could use a break, and our veterans surely deserve it. Yes on 1 and 2.

Amendment 3, Judicial Nominating Commission. Should we allow the Dean of the UNM School of Law to appoint a designee to the commission? One look at [the Dean's bio](#) and that's a hard no. We have enough problems with leftist judges already. No on 3.

Amendment 4, County Officer salaries. Should the County Commissioners establish the salaries? Can you say conflict of interest? No on 4.

Bond Issues. Schools, Libraries, roads and parks all sound like good causes. However, the state has plenty of money coming in. Poor leadership has their priorities upside down. Spending on abortion clinics and useless clean energy projects is eating up the money that should be going to the schools,

libraries and roads. Again, no more property tax increases until we see good stewardship of the state budget. Same goes for local.

“Santa Fe should apply for State capital outlay funding rather than issuing their own bonds, which are funded by property tax revenue.” – Jim Williamson, RPSFC Treasurer

No on property tax increases, no on bonds.

Bank Your Vote – Vote Early!

Sincerely,

Robert Witsenhausen

Chair, Republican Party of Santa Fe County