

2010 RAVEN SOCIETY CANDIDATE POSITION SURVEY

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

1. Name: **Monika Murrell**
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2. Website:

3. For which office are you running?

County Commissioner/District 9/Seat B

4. What is your professional background and current occupation?

Currently - Field Sales Representative for Carlton-Bates (distributor for Electronics and Light Electrical) Currently - Holding the position of County Commissioner District 9, Seat B Professional Background is Sales/Management of Electronics and Light Electrical (over 20 years). Work directly with manufacturers.

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

Graduated from Bentley High School (Burton, MI) Graduated from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)

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

Board member of the Smokey Mountain Animal Care Foundation. (3 years) Commission member of the Blount County Records Committee. (3 years) Board member of the Sister City Organization. (3 years) Board member of Blount County Childrens Home (3 years)

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

For the last 20 years my profession has been in sales. As a skilled salesperson you must learn to "listen" to your customer. That is also true of public officeholders. When I was campaigning for the county commission seat, I realized that most people just want a voice in what happens in their community. I pride myself in being their voice. My

higher education was with Vanderbilt, George Peabody College of Teachers. Again, this has enhance my people skills in listening, learning and teaching.

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?

With the continued growth of the county, I feel it is my duty to due my due diligence in reviewing and researching the issues that concern the county growth. I had know idea when I orginally ran for county commissioner the many issues concerning growth. We know the county will continue to grow, but at the same time we need to be smart in this growth. Protecting Blount Counties rural, natural and historic qualities is what makes Blount County so beautiful.

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.

Originally, it was Education, Managed Growth, County Waste and our Highway Issues. These are still some of the critical issues, but add to that employment issues.

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?

Growth and Development issues come to use as commissioners. It is my duty to review and investigate these issues and make fair decisions based on those facts. As a commissioner, I have and will continue to encourage everyone and anyone to keep me informed on those issues. Each month we get a packet of information to read and evaluate. These packets are not always all the information involved in my decision making process. I will continue to review the information at hand and then also go outside that information to gather additional information via individuals, organizations and even use the world wide net for information.

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

a.

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

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