

2026 County Commissioner Candidate Questions

1. Why are you running for Pottawatomie County Commission, and what do you hope to accomplish during your term?
2. What do you see as the biggest challenge facing Pottawatomie County over the next four years, and why?
3. Pottawatomie County is experiencing growth and development pressures while also working to preserve its rural character. How should the County balance growth, agriculture, housing, infrastructure, and quality of life?
4. What role should the Pottawatomie County government play in economic development and job creation? What should the County be doing, and what should be left to cities, the private sector, or regional organizations?
5. What types of businesses and industries do you believe are the best fit for Pottawatomie County, and what should we be doing to attract and retain them?
6. How should Pottawatomie County evaluate major economic-development opportunities that bring significant investment and jobs but may also require substantial infrastructure, utilities, land, or public resources?
7. Housing remains a challenge throughout the county. What role should county government play in encouraging housing development, particularly housing that is attainable for working families and employees?
8. Infrastructure is increasingly important to both residents and businesses. What infrastructure investments should be the County's highest priorities over the next four years, and how should we pay for them?
9. Agriculture remains a major part of Pottawatomie County's economy and identity. How would you approach protecting productive agricultural land while allowing appropriate residential and economic development?
10. Jeffrey Energy Center has long been an important economic and tax-base asset for Pottawatomie County. How should the County prepare for changes in the energy industry and the potential long-term transition of that property?
11. County government has limited resources and competing priorities. How would you approach developing the County's budget, and what principles would guide you when everything cannot be funded?
12. How should Pottawatomie County work with its cities, school districts, neighboring counties, and the City of Manhattan as our region continues to grow? What does effective regional cooperation look like to you?
13. What are your top three priorities if elected, and what would success look like at the end of your term?