



# KRSL Russell Radio Election 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

1. What is your name and what position are you running for?

Andrea Krauss, Russell County Hospital Board, Position 1

2. Talk briefly about your work experience; public service and private sector.

I am a CPA and have 30 years of experience in financial management.

I have served on a number of boards over the years, including: Russell County Hospital Board (2004-2012), USD 407 School Board (2015-2019), Russell Area Chamber of Commerce (2006-2012), Russell PRIDE, Inc. (current), and Russell Development, Inc.(current).

I am currently the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Sunflower Foundation, a statewide healthcare foundation, and am Chairman-Elect of the Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA).

I have also been a member of the Rotary Club of Russell since 2004 and have served in many capacities as a volunteer for the Russell County 4-H program.

3. Why are you running for this position?

Russell Regional Hospital is one of the most important assets of Russell County. However, the financial pressures on rural hospitals are tremendous. Our hospital's status as a Critical Access Hospital (CAH) is the primary source of funding which allows our hospital to remain financially viable.

Without a hospital, it would be impossible to entice businesses and people to move to Russell County, having a devastating impact on the county's economy. The key to survival is having board members who understand hospital finance and can exercise strong financial management and oversight.

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4. What goals or ideas do you have that you would work toward if elected?

My goal is to ensure that Russell Regional Hospital remains in a strong financial position, while continuing to provide the highest quality of care. I will work to protect our status as a Critical Access Hospital so that the citizens of Russell County can continue to have access to quality health care.

I will provide strong financial leadership and oversight to protect this most valuable asset in order to make sure it is here to provide care to Russell County residents for generations into the future, while constantly seeking out innovative new delivery-of-care models and services that can be implemented cost-effectively.

5. Anything else about yourself you would like to mention?

I previously served on the hospital board during the economic downturn of 2008-2009. I recognized that falling interest rates presented an opportunity for the hospital to refinance its existing bond at a lower interest rate. I led the refinancing effort and as a result, we were able to save the hospital over \$300,000 in interest payments.

I was born and raised in Russell County, and I am committed to making sure the future is bright in Russell County. My family lives in Russell County, I am employed in Russell County, and the well-being of the family and friends I hold most dear is dependent upon the continued success of Russell Regional Hospital.