



KRSL Russell Radio Election 2020 Candidate Questionnaire

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

Janae Talbott, Russell County Hospital Board, position 2.

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

I am a Christian, 5th generation farm kid, wife and entrepreneur. I have 24 years of experience in community development, business development, public relations, marketing development, and grant writing. I have extensive experience in grassroots advocacy, legislative and policy relations, strategic planning facilitation, and am a progressive idea generator. Included in my 24 years of project leadership, I have been a collaborative partner in healthcare initiatives both locally and regionally. I lead on a regional basis for 13 out of the 24 years of experience through risk identification and prevention programs in a 12 county targeted area. A program I developed for drug endangered children was recognized by the Kansas prevention sector and presented on the national level to other practitioners working in the prevention industry. I have also assisted Russell Regional Hospital in their past community tax credit applications for healthcare equipment, walking trail development and equipment for the walking trail.

3. Why are you running for this position?

I am running for this position to assist the hospital staff, the county elected board and the management board in sustaining and growing our local hospital. It is vital that we have a hospital today and for a long time in the future. The hospital provides healthcare to our region yet also provides careers to our region and serves as a hub for potential patients to utilize services from outside the area, which brings revenue to our hospital and community businesses. Healthcare and community sustainment work hand in hand, therefore, the more we can collaborate and partner locally, regionally and statewide, the stronger our local healthcare services, healthcare workforce, hospital and community are.

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

Four interests I've identified are:

- 1) Healthcare of patients/clients – Work with the hospital staff and board(s) to continue offering quality services locally, while also considering what else can be done to advance services for both patients/clients and also the healthcare workforce.
- 2) Workforce recruitment and longevity – Consider what is working well for the current workforce and what can improve. Through those considerations continue to develop retention strategies while also recruiting future workforce needs. Rural areas and healthcare in general seem to be challenged in workforce development and retention. This issue exists in *many* workforce sectors. The opportunity to work with the current hospital workforce, board(s) and partner with regional and statewide workforce development resource(s) and educational institutions will strengthen retention and recruitment efforts and maximize the current workforce development efforts.
- 3) Sustainment of local hospital and growth opportunities – Through an assessment process, identify what services are working well and what services are seen as gaps where patients are unable to receive a service and therefore, seek services elsewhere. Consider where to improve, where to grow, and what sectors to maintain. Support the hospital in their efforts to maintain the existing facility and expand where needed.
- 4) Innovate and Identify Opportunities – There is always opportunity, in good or bad economies, opportunity lives. I don't see being a rural area or rural hospital as a negative thing, I see it as an opportunity to consider new ideas, new methods, and new services, that create innovation and opportunity for our hospital, community and businesses. There are sectors that seek innovation, to partner with those likeminded sectors that want to create new opportunities brings a progressive initiative that aides us in sustaining our hospital while positioning it for a lengthy future.

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

I encourage folks to vote. There are many talented candidates on the ballot and the winners need the support of the community as does our hospital staff and sitting board members. Supporting each other and working together are important to the future of our hospital and community.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you all.