



2013 City of Tulsa Primary and Tulsa County Special Election Primary

## **June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide**



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®**  
OF METROPOLITAN TULSA

### **Voter Guide for the Primary Election Tuesday, June 11, 2013, 7am to 7pm**

Early in-person absentee voting will be available at the Tulsa County Election Board, 555 North Denver, on Friday, June 7, 8 am to 6 pm; and Monday, June 10, 8 am to 6 pm.

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This version of the League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa Voter Guide is made possible by the League of Women Voters of Tulsa Education Fund and the following generous donors:

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**The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa** is a nonpartisan organization that provides information about political issues and candidates for public office in order to promote greater citizen responsibility and participation in government. As a nonpartisan organization, the League neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate. It publishes and distributes factual information for citizens to use when preparing to cast an informed vote.

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa

## June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

### Voter Information

#### Voter ID

*Oklahoma's Voter ID law took effect July 1, 2011. All voters are now required to produce proof of identity before casting a ballot whether voting at a regular polling place or voting early at the County Election Board.*

Acceptable identification includes documents issued by the federal, state (of Oklahoma) or a tribal government that includes the voter's name, photograph, and an expiration date that is after the date of the election in which the voter is attempting to vote. Voters also may use a voter identification card or a temporary voter identification document issued by the County Election Board.

**The following ID will be accepted:**

- A valid driver's license with an expiration date later than the day of the election.
- An identification card issued by the state of Oklahoma, which is not a driver's license, with an expiration date that is later than the day of the election; persons 65 or older are not required to have an expiration date on their state identification card.
- A tribal government ID, with a photo and expiration date later than the date of the election.
- A military/uniformed services ID, with a photo and expiration date later than the date of the election.
- A United States passport with an expiration date later than the date of the election.
- A voter registration card or a temporary voter registration document – the only forms of ID without a photo that will be accepted. A voter registration card does not have an expiration date. However, the temporary voter ID does have an expiration date and that date must be after the election.

#### **Don't have ID? Ask for a provisional ballot!**

It will take time to do the paperwork, but the Tulsa County Election Board says your vote will be counted if the name on the affidavit that accompanies the provisional ballot substantially conforms to the name on the voter rolls. Be sure the name you put on the affidavit matches the name you used to register to vote.

#### **VOTE!**

*You can vote in person at your polling place for the precinct in which you live or vote early at the Tulsa County Election Board:*

- The name of your polling place is on your voter identification card.
- The polls are open 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. on election day. If you are in line by 7 p.m., you will be able to vote.
- Early in-person absentee voting will be available for this election at the Tulsa County Election Board, 555 North Denver, on Friday, June 7, 8 am to 6 pm; and Monday, June 10, 8 am to 6 pm.

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa

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### **Notes on this Voter Guide and the June 11 Primary Elections**

Each candidate who will be on the ballot for primary elections for Mayor and Auditor of the City of Tulsa and for the special election for Tulsa County District 3 Commissioner was sent a questionnaire by the League of Women Voters and given an opportunity to respond. The League neither edits material submitted nor changes spelling, punctuation or grammar.

City of Tulsa city council candidates will not be on the June 11 ballot because each seat drew only one candidate and they are automatically returned to their seats.

The Democratic candidate for the special election for Tulsa County District 3 Commissioner drew no primary opponent will be on the August 13 Tulsa County District 3 Commissioner general election ballot and will be listed in a voter guide published before that election.

### **New this Year: Nonpartisan City of Tulsa Elections**

A charter amendment creating nonpartisan municipal elections was approved by Tulsa voters in November 2011. There is a new process for electing city officials. Candidates now file for city elective office without indicating party affiliation and the names of all candidates who filed for office will appear on the primary ballot.

The five candidates who filed for the office of mayor and the three candidates who filed for the city auditor will be listed on the June 11 primary election ballot. In these nonpartisan races, if one candidate receives a majority of the vote, that candidate is elected to office. If no candidate receives a majority and there are two candidates whose combined percentage is a majority of the votes cast, those two candidates will advance to the November 2013 general election. If the two top candidates together do not receive a majority, a runoff election will be held on August 13. The ballot will list as many candidates as necessary to make equal a majority of the votes cast.

The new term of office for mayor and auditor of the City of Tulsa will begin in December 2013, whether the candidate is elected in the primary, the runoff or the general election.

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\*Five candidates will be on the ballot for the office of Mayor of Tulsa. They are (in alphabetical order):Dewey Bartlett, Jerry Branch, Bill Christiansen, Lawrence Kirkpatrick, and Kathy Taylor. Jerry Branch and Lawrence Kirkpatrick did not submit responses to the League of Women Voters and are not included in this voter guide.

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Tulsa County Commissioner District 3 Special Election Primary

*This will be a special election, called to fill the seat which will be vacated when Tulsa County District 3 Commissioner Fred Perry retires in July, 2013.*

*The special primary election will be held on June 11. There will be four Republican candidates for this office on the special primary election ballot. The winner of this Republican primary election will face a Democratic candidate in the August 13 special general election.*

*Since only one Democratic candidate filed, there will not be a Democratic special primary election for this office.*

Candidates for the Republican Primary are listed below

Don Crall



**Campaign Information**

*Campaign Address:* 17712 S. Sheridan Road Bixby OK 74008

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 344-3701

*Campaign website:* [www.doncrall.com/](http://www.doncrall.com/)

*Campaign e-mail:* don\_crall@yahoo.com

*Social Media:* Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Don-Crall-for-Tulsa-County-Commissioner/295543127241720>

**Biographic Information**

*Occupation:* CEO Coating Specialist Inc., Professor at Southern Nazarene University

*Age:* 48

*Community Organizations:* Junior Achievement, Oklahoma Higher Ed Forum of Northeastern OK, Tulsa Area Manufacturers, Optimist International, Green Country Fox Trot Horse Association, College Access Career Readiness, Positive Action for Safe Students (P.A.S.S.), Bixby Area Chamber, Glenpool Area Chamber, Tulsa County Republican Party

*Education:* Master's in Business Administration (MBA), BS in Organizational Leadership, A/A from Tulsa Community College

*See Candidate Responses on the next page*

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa

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### Tulsa County Commissioner District 3 Special Election Primary

#### *Don Crall Candidate Responses*

- 1. The Tulsa City-County Library system is an example of a combined city/county effort that serves the people well. How can other services be combined such that cities in Tulsa County as well as the county as a whole receive quality, cost-effective services? Please explain your answer.**

Tulsa County has made great strides in combining services with cities to reduce costs while providing quality service. There are a number of ways to build on this process. I believe the various law enforcement entities should pursue one common communication system leading to better efficiency and time utilization among officers and dispatchers. Communication among departments not only saves time and money, it also increases safety for our officers and citizens.

- 2. How do you propose that county resources be equitably divided among all districts and on what basis should decisions for use of resources be made?**

The county has an obligation to provide equitable services to all districts. How do we allocate services equitably? Is a division of resources based on revenues from specific districts, population of districts, or the needs of a district? As a member of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), we are accountable to all citizens of Tulsa County. The BOCC should not choose winners or losers of our resources. Need is not district specific. The BOCC should allocate resources based on identified needs throughout of Tulsa County. Unincorporated areas must receive the same consideration of need as incorporated areas.

- 3. There is no current ballot proposal to expand the David L. Moss Criminal Justice Center (Tulsa County Jail). The county jail population is again outside the approved design limits and the budget is being stretched thin. How would you propose solving these problems?**

Our first and foremost goal must be the safety of our law enforcement officers and the citizens of Tulsa County. Jail overcrowding continues to be a concern for the citizens of Tulsa County. The problem cannot be resolved with one action. The Department of Corrections (DoC) is slow in taking inmates bound over to state custody. Many offenders are re-arrested because they cannot afford to pay fines. "Deadbeat Dads" are arrested for failure to pay child support. Some lose their job making child support payments more difficult to collect. This is only a few examples that cost the Tulsa County Sheriff's Department a great deal of money and resources. I propose several options to reduce overcrowding in the criminal justice center:

- 1) Address a timely transfer of custody to the State Department of Corrections
- 2) Create more ways to assist non-violent offenders in making retribution for non-payment of fines
- 3) Expand the "House Arrest" program to all non-violent offenders with gainful employment and allow them to continue working (including fathers owing back child support)
- 4) Work with cities to reduce the number of arrests due to non-payment of fines.
- 5) Search for additional resources to assist the Sheriff's Department in increasing efficiencies through technology and processing.

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### Brandon Perkins



#### Campaign Information

*Campaign Address:* 7221 South Columbia Place Tulsa OK  
74136

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 530-7688

*Campaign website:* [www.perk4tulsa.com](http://www.perk4tulsa.com)

*Campaign e-mail:* [brandon@perk4tulsa.com](mailto:brandon@perk4tulsa.com)

*Social Media:* Facebook [www.facebook.com/Perk4Tulsa](http://www.facebook.com/Perk4Tulsa)

Twitter [www.twitter.com/Perk4Tulsa](http://www.twitter.com/Perk4Tulsa)

#### Biographic Information

*Occupation:* Residential Neighborhood Developer

*Age:* 43

*Community Organizations:* Tulsa Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, Transportation Advisory Board, Storm Water and Hazard Mitigation Board, Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa, Tulsa Preservation Commission, Sustainable Tulsa

*Education:* BA in Finance, Northeastern State University

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

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Tulsa County Commissioner District 3 Special Election Primary

*Brandon Perkins Candidate Responses*

- 1. The Tulsa City-County Library system is an example of a combined city/county effort that serves the people well. How can other services be combined such that cities in Tulsa County as well as the county as a whole receive quality, cost-effective services? Please explain your answer.**

In addition to our library system, many other combined city/county efforts are in place serving citizens throughout Tulsa County. Among them is the Health Department that has received national recognition for their efforts. My pragmatic approach, founded in business owner principles, is one that will seek out additional opportunities for combined efforts that eliminate duplicative services and infrastructure, waste, and administrative overhead. Thorough co-operation will create a win/win scenario for all citizens of Tulsa County, saving taxpayer dollars, without diminishing the unique identity of our diverse cities and towns.

- 2. How do you propose that county resources be equitably divided among all districts and on what basis should decisions for use of resources be made?**

The basis for allocation of county resources must be fairness to all citizens of Tulsa County within the framework of a vision driven master plan. A smart plan, which enables Tulsa County to foster and develop our entire county in a way compatible with the needs, potential, and aspirations of all citizens, especially those of senior citizens that have done much to create the wonderful community of which we are proud to call home and those of our children to whom we owe our best efforts, is a must.

- 3. There is no current ballot proposal to expand the David L. Moss Criminal Justice Center (Tulsa County Jail). The county jail population is again outside the approved design limits and the budget is being stretched thin. How would you propose solving these problems?**

While the facility was designed to expand when necessary, and conditions may support expansion, it is important that we find long-term solutions to resolve both the ongoing budget overruns and the rising jail populations. Jail operations must satisfy public safety expectations, maintain fiscal viability, and protect the taxpayers from inefficiency and waste.

Many questions need to be answered. Is the Adult Detention Center a cost-efficient short-term option to relieve overcrowding? Are alternative sentencing programs designed to de-clog the system failing? Do rates and definitions need to be modified? I look forward to examining the report of the David L. Moss Task Force due on June 28, and to working with all the parties to find comprehensive solutions to these complex challenges.

We have a duty to protect the basic civil rights of our current inmate population, but it is also imperative that we address the root problems that contribute to overcrowding in the first place. We must recognize the important relationship between public safety and education. It should be noted that education and public safety are not only the twin pillars upon which a healthy community is maintained, but are shown in study after study to be directly linked to crime levels and, thereby, inmate populations. A well-educated citizenry creates a productive citizenry, reduces crime, and directly translates into reducing the taxpayer burden of supporting unsustainable jail populations.



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## Ron Peters



### Campaign Information

*Campaign Address:* 2251 E. Skelly Drive, Ste. 105 Tulsa OK 74105-5987

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 850-7611

*Campaign website:* <http://RonPeters.org>

*Campaign e-mail:* [ronpeters64@gmail.com](mailto:ronpeters64@gmail.com)

*Social Media:* Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ron-Peters-for-County-Commissioner/476051785793255?fref=ts>

Twitter [www.twitter.com/Perk4Tulsa](http://www.twitter.com/Perk4Tulsa)

### Biographic Information

*Occupation:* President, RelationsInc

*Age:* 68

*Community Organizations:* Over the years, I have served as Board President, and on the Boards of many non-profit organizations such as: the Parent Child Center of Tulsa, Hospice of Green Country, Goodwill Industries, Clarehouse and the Tulsa Boy's Home. I have also worked to improve education by serving on Boards for Junior Achievement and Rogers State University.

*Education:* BBA, University of Tulsa, and post graduate Business Management Certificate from the University of Tulsa

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

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Tulsa County Commissioner District 3 Special Election Primary

*Ron Peters Candidate Responses*

- 1. The Tulsa City-County Library system is an example of a combined city/county effort that serves the people well. How can other services be combined such that cities in Tulsa County as well as the county as a whole receive quality, cost-effective services? Please explain your answer.**

There are several successful examples of Tulsa County and the City of Tulsa collaborating on services. In addition to the library, there is Indian Nations Council of Governments (INCOG), City County Health Department, River parks Authority, and the Emergency Management Agency. In 2010, the City and County formed the Collaborative Government Advisory Committee which identified a number of opportunities for further study. These included: joint purchasing contracts, sharing highway equipment, etc. For the citizens, the long term projects of combined efforts could be more integration of park services and maintenance, golf course management and park development. We should also explore greater integration of law enforcement services between the Tulsa Police and Sheriffs office. This could include sharing training, equipment, personnel, and records.

- 2. How do you propose that county resources be equitably divided among all districts and on what basis should decisions for use of resources be made?**

Tulsa County is comprised of three County Commission districts. There are a number of resources which are currently placed equally in each district. For example, each district has a highway department which is fully equipped with employees, equipment, facilities and supplies to take care of the highways and bridges in each district. In addition, each district has at least one park, such as: Chandler, Obrien, and LaFortune parks. The park department resources are equally divided so that each park is well maintained. In addition, the resources of the Sheriff's Office are allocated throughout the county to not only support local law enforcement agencies within each city, but to also cover the unincorporated areas of Tulsa County. Finally, when the County led the successful Vision 2025 initiative, every city in Tulsa County received funding to support projects selected by that city.

- 3. There is no current ballot proposal to expand the David L. Moss Criminal Justice Center (Tulsa County Jail). The county jail population is again outside the approved design limits and the budget is being stretched thin. How would you propose solving these problems?**

The County jail is under the authority and responsibility of the Tulsa County Criminal Justice Authority. The Trustees of this Authority include the three County Commissioners along with several Mayors of area cities. There are several options which should be evaluated:

- 1) For those serving time because they owe fines or court costs, establish a road work crew where these inmates can work off their fines and costs by clearing brush, picking up litter or doing other public services.
- 2) Return to using the Adult Detention Center in West Tulsa for non-violent offenders or for only women offenders
- 3) Use the County's Court Services program for supervised release.
- 4) Long term, consider including in the next County public projects initiative funding to add two additional pods on the land adjacent to the current jail.

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## John Wright



### Campaign Information

*Campaign Address:* 2319 S. Beech Court Broken Arrow OK 74012

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 855-5558

*Campaign website:* <http://wrightfortulsacounty.org>

*Campaign e-mail:* [wrightfortulsacounty@gmail.com](mailto:wrightfortulsacounty@gmail.com)

*Social Media:* No response

### Biographic Information

*Occupation:* No response

*Age:* 58

*Community Organizations:* No response

*Education:* No response

*See Candidate Responses on the next page*

League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa  
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Tulsa County Commissioner District 3 Special Election Primary

*John Wright Candidate Responses*

- 1. The Tulsa City-County Library system is an example of a combined city/county effort that serves the people well. How can other services be combined such that cities in Tulsa County as well as the county as a whole receive quality, cost-effective services? Please explain your answer.**

The county and the city have started a dialogue to examine where there may exist duplication of services and hence a potential waste of tax dollars. This dialogue should continue and examine the equitable analysis of costs as well as benefits extended to the citizens. In discussions with a member of the Tulsa firefighters it was called to my attention that a sharing of expensive expertise in the hazmat area should be considered between jurisdictions. That which is lawful, practical and achievable should be considered at least on a pilot trial basis.

- 2. How do you propose that county resources be equitably divided among all districts and on what basis should decisions for use of resources be made?**

In examining the distribution of resources between districts to insure an equitable allocation several factors should be considered. However, much of what the county is responsible for is not based on districts. The commissioners make appointments to various boards and it is normal for these to reflect not only expertise but geographic representation and hence a district perspective and voice in the diverse departments of county governance. A look at population, square miles of territory, and growth patterns also should be considered in resource allocation to avoid a purely parochial allocation of precious public resources.

- 3. There is no current ballot proposal to expand the David L. Moss Criminal Justice Center (Tulsa County Jail). The county jail population is again outside the approved design limits and the budget is being stretched thin. How would you propose solving these problems?**

I support an expansion of the current jail facility. First on the list of core responsibilities of government is public safety and the jail plays an important role in that core function. The daily reimbursement from the state or federal government for detainees that are the responsibility of the state or federal government can offset a portion of the additional cost.

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

## City of Tulsa Auditor, Primary Election

*The June 11, 2013 primary election for Tulsa auditor will be the first nonpartisan election for this office and will elect an auditor for a term of one year. Tulsa voters approved a charter change in 2011 mandating nonpartisan elections and changing the election cycle to coincide with state and federal election calendars.*

*Under the new election rules, if one candidate in the primary wins a majority of votes cast, that candidate wins the election. If no candidate receives a majority, but two candidates' combined percentages equal more than 50%, those two candidates will advance to the general election to be held in November. If the two top vote-getters' combined percentages do not equal more than 50% of the vote, a runoff election will be held on August 13.*

*The general election, if one is needed, will be held on November 12 and the next Tulsa auditor will take office in early December.*

### **All candidates for City Auditor are listed below in alphabetical order**

#### **Cathy Ann Criswell**

**No Photo  
Submitted**

#### **Campaign Information**

*Campaign Address:* P.O. Box 4723 Tulsa OK 74159

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 835-9506

*Campaign website:* [www.TulsaAuditor.com](http://www.TulsaAuditor.com)

*Campaign e-mail:* [cathyacriswell@aol.com](mailto:cathyacriswell@aol.com)

*Social Media:* Facebook [www.facebook.com/cathyacriswellforcityauditor](http://www.facebook.com/cathyacriswellforcityauditor)

#### **Biographic Information**

*Occupation:* Retired from City of Tulsa at the end of 2011, last job title Chief Risk Officer

*Age:* 58

*Community Organizations:* I believe in giving back to our community and have volunteered for many organizations, including: Dr. Martin Luther King Commemoration Society, Inc. – Board member and Treasurer, University of Tulsa – Conference of Accountants – Advisory Board member and former Chairman, Institute of Internal Auditors – Many committee positions at the local and international level and former President of the Tulsa Chapter, Tulsa Area United Way – Former Chairman of the Audit Review Committee, RiverParks – Youth activities committee member, Girl Scouts – Troop leader

*Education:* Bachelor of Science/Business Administration, graduating with honors from the University of Tulsa

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

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City of Tulsa Auditor, Primary Election

*Cathy Ann Criswell Candidate Responses*

**1. What do you consider to be the measures of good performance by a city auditor?**

Professional staff – The foundation of a successful organization is a well-trained and motivated work force. Measures of good performance for a city auditor staff are the number professional certifications held by the audit team and the number of continuing education hours they have completed each year., Audit recommendations implemented – It does no good to complete projects and write recommendations if city managers do not make changes in operations to address the reported issues. A measure of good performance for a city auditor is the number of audit recommendations implemented, as well as follow-up to find out why corrective action has not been taken.

**2. What kind of reporting do you think the city auditor's office should supply to the community?**

Tulsa's charter, Article IV, states the city auditor's reports are to be made to the mayor and council. I believe the city auditor should provide these reports in an easily accessible form for citizens. To make information easily accessible, I would use the communication methods citizens use, such as social media, email, and websites. As an audit manager at the City of Tulsa, I helped create and publish the city auditor's annual report. This publication is a user-friendly way to inform citizens of all the work done each year and the results.

**3. What is the most important responsibility of the city auditor and why?**

Tulsa's charter clearly states the city auditor's duties, I believe all of these duties are important and will faithfully carry them out. I believe what makes the most impact is the duty to appraise the city's systems and procedures. Making improvements to systems and procedures is what helps city managers do their work more effectively and efficiently.

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*The general election, if one is needed, will be held on November 12 and the next Tulsa auditor will take office in early December.*

### Josh Lewis



#### Campaign Information

*Campaign Address:* P.O. Box 2972 Tulsa OK 74101

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 951-4432

*Campaign website:* <http://lewisforauditor.com>

*Campaign e-mail:* [josh@lewisforauditor.com](mailto:josh@lewisforauditor.com)

*Social Media:* Facebook [www.facebook.com/LewisforAuditor?ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/LewisforAuditor?ref=ts)

Twitter @lewisforauditor

#### Biographic Information

*Occupation:* Sr. Supervisor with the OK State Auditor's Office

*Age:* 30

*Community Organizations:* Josh faithfully attended Alsuma Holiness Church in Tulsa for 30 years. In 2013 he began attending MercyView, an Acts 29 church plant

*Education:* B.S. in Accounting with a minor in Speech Communications from College of the Ozarks.

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

## City of Tulsa Auditor, Primary Election

### *Josh Lewis Candidate Responses*

#### **1. What do you consider to be the measures of good performance by a city auditor?**

The Tulsa World has been running almost daily articles about the unexpected drop in sales tax revenues and what that means for the upcoming budget used to run the city. Stories frequently quote the Mayor, Mayoral candidates, and members of the City Council, but noticeably absent from the group of commentators is the City Auditor's office.

If you asked the average Tulsan what the City Auditor has done for them lately they probably couldn't tell you. While campaigning for this position I've come to the realization that most citizens don't even know we have a City Auditor or that it's an elected position. This is a pity as the City Charter envisioned the office to serve as a counter-balance to the strong-Mayoral form of government we have—not as an adversary to the Mayor and City Council, but as an independent “watch dog” who worked with the Mayor and City Council to provide efficient government but also had the ability to examine every aspect of the City apart from the Mayor's oversight.

The City Auditor should be looked to as a leader who takes an active role in protecting the taxpayer's dollar. Therefore, the measure of good performance by a City Auditor is an overall sense among the citizens of Tulsa that there exists a leader, accountable to the people by popular election, who is watching out for them. Tulsans should know precisely what the City Auditor is doing to ensure the city is run efficiently and that funds are well accounted for and never misspent.

#### **2. What kind of reporting do you think the city auditor's office should supply to the community?**

Reporting should be relevant and timely. While there are many aspects of internal auditing that will be useful to only a select group of city personnel or to the City Council, the City Auditor should always bear in mind that the ultimate end-user of the reports produced by the office are the citizens of Tulsa. Every effort should be made to ensure reports are presented in a manner that's easily accessible and well organized, the content of the reports are of value greater than the cost to produce the report, and information is reported in a timely manner so that appropriate changes may be implemented to maximize their overall effectiveness.

Performing the duties required by the City Auditor as outlined in Article IV of the City Charter would be a good place to start. And it's high time the office began performing at this minimal level, as evidenced by even a peripheral view of the reports produced by the City Auditor's office on the City's website. However, it's just as imperative the office take a proactive view in an effort to identify risks and head them off before they manifest into material costs to the taxpayer.

#### **3. What is the most important responsibility of the city auditor and why?**

Independence. As an auditor I recognize that I cannot be effective at what I do unless I am independent in fact and appearance from the entity I'm auditing. It's of the utmost importance in the Auditor's office that relationships between the auditor and officials of the City remain at arm's length. Otherwise the citizens of Tulsa would have little confidence in the City Auditor's ability to be their “watch dog” instead of a proxy of the Mayor's office or of the City Council.



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*The general election, if one is needed, will be held on November 12 and the next Tulsa auditor will take office in early December.*

**Clift Richards**



**Campaign Information**

*Campaign Address:* 7834 South College Place Tulsa OK 74136

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 688-0218

*Campaign website:* No response

*Campaign e-mail:* [cliftrichardscpa@gmail.com](mailto:cliftrichardscpa@gmail.com)

*Social Media:* No response

**Biographic Information**

*Occupation:* Auditor, City of Tulsa

*Age:* 73

*Community Organizations:* Tulsa Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors, Tulsa chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, International Fellowship of Christian Businessmen, Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants

*Education:* Bachelor of Science Business Administration Accounting

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

## City of Tulsa Auditor, Primary Election

### *Clift Richards Candidate Responses*

#### **1. What do you consider to be the measures of good performance by a city auditor?**

The best measures for the city auditor are effectiveness in accomplishing improvements for the City of Tulsa. The City of Tulsa uses several key performance measures to assess its performance. These measures are published annually as part of the City Auditor's budget request and the City Auditor is the only elected official that has performance measures published in the budget request. The three primary key performance measures we use are:

1. Achieve at least 90% acceptance rate from management on recommended solutions for improving work processes and controlling risk. Fiscal year 2012 result was: 100%
2. Achieve at least 80% implementation rate from management on recommended solutions for improving work processes and controlling risk. Fiscal year 2012 result was: 86%
3. Provide quality audits as judged by clients with quality ranking above three on a one (poor) to four (excellent) scale. Fiscal year 2012 result was: 3.25.

#### **2. What kind of reporting do you think the city auditor's office should supply to the community?**

All of the City Auditor's reports are public documents. We publish the reports of all completed audits on the City Auditor's page of the City of Tulsa website at:

<https://www.cityoftulsa.org/our-city/elected-officials/auditor.aspx>

Each year the Office of the City Auditor publishes an annual report and the internal audit plan for the upcoming year. This report titled "FY 2012-2013 Annual Report – May 2012" is available at the above URL under "Internal Audit Reports".

#### **3. What is the most important responsibility of the city auditor and why?**

I believe the people elect an auditor to keep an independent watch over city operations and the resources they have provided to the government. Citizens want accountability from the city government that resources are safeguarded and efficiently and effectively applied to the intended purposes. The most important responsibility of the City Auditor is to provide accountability of city government.

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

## City of Tulsa Mayor, Primary Election

*The June 11, 2013 primary election for Tulsa mayor will be the first nonpartisan election for this office and will elect a mayor for a term of three years. Tulsa voters approved a charter change in 2011 mandating nonpartisan elections and changing the election cycle to coincide with state and federal election calendars.*

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*The general election, if one is needed, will be held on November 12 and the next Tulsa mayor will take office in early December.*

### Dewey Bartlett



#### Campaign Information

*Campaign Address:* 3307 S. Harvard Tulsa OK 74135

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 794-9970

*Campaign website:* [www.deweybartlett.com](http://www.deweybartlett.com)

*Campaign e-mail:* [dpatten@deweybartlett.com](mailto:dpatten@deweybartlett.com)

*Social Media:* Facebook [www.facebook.com/MayorDeweyBartlett?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/MayorDeweyBartlett?fref=ts)

Twitter @deweybartlett

#### Biographic Information

*Occupation:* Mayor of Tulsa

*Age:* 66

*Community Organizations:* His civic service includes serving as a former Tulsa City Councilor from 1990 to 1994. He also served as a former chairman of the American Red Cross, Tulsa Chapter, the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board, the Tulsa Airport Authority Board of Trustees, and Mayor Taylor's Complete Our Streets committee to recommend a plan for fixing Tulsa's streets.

*Education:* Bartlett is a graduate of Bishop Kelley High School and received a B.S. in accounting from Regis University and an M.B.A. from Southern Methodist University (SMU).

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa  
June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

City of Tulsa Mayor, Primary Election

*Dewey Bartlett Candidate Responses*

**1. What strategies will you pursue to improve public transportation in Tulsa?**

Improving public transportation is very important for the city of Tulsa and must be managed in a responsible manner. One problem with public transit is the fares only cover about 20% the cost of operation. My administration has focused on finding ways to lower these cost so that we can expand our system. I am very proud of the progress we have made in converting our fleet to compressed natural gas which is a far more economic fuel source. Moreover Tulsa is a world wide leader in producing natural gas so we keep those funds in the city.

**2. What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the police and fire departments over the next three years and how will you address those challenges?**

The Police and Fire departments comprise 58% of the Tulsa budget because they are core services and essential for Tulsa's success. It's what city government should do; provide core services which helps make Tulsa safe and provides necessary infrastructure, so the private sector can grow our economy. The important question is whether we have enough police and firefighters on the streets, and the answer clearly is that we do not. Tulsa can vastly improve public safety, and put nearly 900 police officers on the streets, and we can do it without raising taxes. My plan is to repurpose the Four to Fix .67% tax to provide a dedicated source for public safety and street maintenance. This tax expires in 2014, and so I have asked the City Council to put this public safety plan on the ballot in November. While violent crime has declined, we have to be proactive to keep it headed down. If we work together, we can make Tulsa safer and do it with existing dollars.

**3. What strategies will you employ to attract and retain new businesses and jobs?**

In 2009, I promised that I would be the "jobs gettingest mayor." When I took office, Tulsa had lost 18,000 jobs, but because of my common-sense management, which fosters an environment for business, Tulsa is making great strides in job growth. In the past three years, we've added 9,000 jobs. It shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone that Tulsa was recently ranked in Forbes magazine as the No. 1 place for young entrepreneurs to start a business.

**4. Street maintenance and improvements remain a high priority for many Tulsans. What will your administration do to prioritize needed improvements and what funding options will you pursue?**

The Tulsa streets project has been completed on time and under budget. Thanks to good management and investment in infrastructure, Tulsa's motorists travel safely and more efficiently.

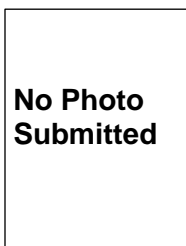
League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa  
June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

City of Tulsa Mayor, Primary Election

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**Bill Christiansen**



**Campaign Information**

*Campaign Address:* 3939 S. Harvard Tulsa OK 74135

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 877-0238

*Campaign website:* [www.billfortulsa.com](http://www.billfortulsa.com)

*Campaign e-mail:* [bill@billfortulsa.com](mailto:bill@billfortulsa.com)

*Social Media:* No response

**Biographic Information**

*Occupation:* No response

*Age:* 65

*Community Organizations:* No response

*Education:* No response

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa

## June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

### City of Tulsa Mayor, Primary Election

#### *Bill Christiansen Candidate Responses*

**1. What strategies will you pursue to improve public transportation in Tulsa?**

Utilizing a pavement indexing system, I would strive to get all of our city streets at 80% or higher rating to ensure that transportation networks within our community are at optimal levels at all times. In addition to creating a long term solution of fixing our streets, I will work hard with the council to re-evaluate the A + B bidding that the city currently utilizes.

**2. What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the police and fire departments over the next three years and how will you address those challenges?**

The many recent examples of out-of-control violent crime in Tulsa create a sense of insecurity on the part of Tulsan's. The national press coverage of our rising crime rate also hinders economic development efforts. Tulsa is currently on pace to break homicide records and it's time to make our great city safe again.

More police patrolling our neighborhoods and our streets. We will do the research necessary to determine how many police we need – and we will find a way to train and hire those much needed law enforcement officers. It's a matter of priorities, and public safety must become a higher priority in Tulsa.

The National Fire Protection Association, NFPA, standards call for four fire fighters per engine. Tulsa has not maintained the standard for many years. As a result the lives of courageous public servants are unnecessarily endangered and our citizens are being denied the protection they deserve. Our fire fighters and our citizens deserve better.

In the past eight years Tulsa has continued to move in the wrong direction regarding public safety. Political posturing and false claims of lower crime rates are not solutions. As your Mayor I will make public safety a top priority and I will be honest with you about how our efforts are working.

**3. What strategies will you employ to attract and retain new businesses and jobs?**

Tulsa's greatest asset is our people. Unnecessary, costly regulation stands between great people and great jobs. I have plans to eliminate red tape and bureaucracy. We will establish business friendly permit centers. We will provide tax well-structured and fail safe tax incentives to businesses on the tipping point of choosing Tulsa or another city.

In a Bill Christiansen administration Tulsa will initiate a proactive recruitment effort in other states. We will send "economic ambassadors" to states that are losing employers due to high taxes and bad public policy. I have recently reached out to the proprietor of a Connecticut company who is unhappy with the gun laws in that state. His company is in the gun manufacturing industry and he is looking for a new place to call home.

Firms seeking new locations must know that they are welcome in Tulsa. Our job is to eliminate red tape and roll out the red carpet. We have a great story to tell. It's time for us to start telling it.

**4. Street maintenance and improvements remain a high priority for many Tulsans. What will your administration do to prioritize needed improvements and what funding options will you pursue?**

I believe that this question directly ties back into the first question regarding public transportation. Within my first term in office we will build better negotiation techniques and stronger incentives/disincentives to ensure that our streets are repaired in a timely and efficient manner with the best design techniques possible, while maintaining the lowest cost to the citizenry of Tulsa. I will NEVER use your tax dollars that are allocated for streets in any other manner. Enough is enough; I have heard the people loud and clear that you want your streets fixed.

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

## City of Tulsa Mayor, Primary Election

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### Kathy Taylor



#### Campaign Information

*Campaign Address:* 1144 S. Lewis Tulsa OK 74104

*Campaign Phone:* (918) 392-1980

*Campaign website:* [www.taylorfortulsa.com](http://www.taylorfortulsa.com)

*Campaign e-mail:* [info@taylorfortulsa.com](mailto:info@taylorfortulsa.com)

*Social Media:* Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TaylorForTulsa>

Twitter @mayortaylor

#### Biographic Information

*Occupation:* No response

*Age:* 57

*Community Organizations:* No response

*Education:* Bachelors in Journalism, University of Oklahoma; J.D. University of Oklahoma Law School

***See Candidate Responses on the next page***

# League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa June 11, 2013 Primary Election Voter Guide

## City of Tulsa Mayor, Primary Election

### *Kathy Taylor Candidate Responses*

#### **1. What strategies will you pursue to improve public transportation in Tulsa?**

Tulsa cannot become a world class city without improvements in transit and bike/walkability. A couple of priorities – we need to push forward on the Peoria BRT bus corridor and evaluate to consider implementation in other areas. We need to look for creative ways to finance – public-private partnerships, working with businesses that have specific transit needs for their workforce, or partnering with institutions like schools or colleges. We need to require sidewalks throughout the city as part of rehab or new construction projects. We also need to ensure we are incorporating transit needs in our public works planning, so that when we build or rehabilitate roads, we do it in a way that can accommodate future transit needs.

#### **2. What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the police and fire departments over the next three years and how will you address those challenges?**

Getting more officers on the street is the biggest immediate challenge. The goal is that Tulsa is America's safest city and a new study outlining the proper staffing level within both police and fire is vital. We still have fewer officers on the street today in 2013 than we did in 2009, when I left office. And yet City spending is up \$80 million, nearly the entire budget of the police department, since my last day in office. Many of the necessary resources already exist, it's simply just a question of priorities and public safety is at the top of my list of priorities.

#### **3. What strategies will you employ to attract and retain new businesses and jobs?**

Create a good environment for business growth - a safe city, good streets and transportation, strong schools.

The city can't create businesses, but it can plant seeds (like we did with ONEOK Field and Tulsa Hills) allowing private business to invest and grow.

We must nurture small businesses/entrepreneurs - 94 percent of Tulsa jobs are at companies with under 100 people. Programs like Tulsa Achieves, which has helped 10,000 Tulsans attend college, provide a trained workforce that attracts new businesses and strengthens existing ones.

#### **4. Street maintenance and improvements remain a high priority for many Tulsans. What will your administration do to prioritize needed improvements and what funding options will you pursue?**

During my last administration, with the citizens we passed "Fix Our Streets," the largest one-time investment in Tulsa streets in our history. It is important that we get that plan back in track as it has slowed, and that requires once again engaging Tulsans across the city to get their input and priorities so that they can support continued investments in our streets, sidewalks and other needed infrastructure.

Because there are so many capital needs, it would be a tremendous mistake to divert much-needed capital funds for a permanent, new tax that would increase the operating budget, as has been proposed by Dewey Bartlett.

One priority for me will be to develop an "open platform," so that citizens can access data including information about road construction online and through their cell phones or tablets.

And I will demand coordination of departments so we quit ripping up streets repeatedly simply due to a lack of communication. That doesn't cost a dime and will improve our quality of life immediately.