



Voter Guide for the 2020 Election: Blanco County

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan civic organization and does not support or oppose any candidate or candidates or political party or parties. VOTE411.org is an online database for voters to read about candidates who have filed for an office in local, state, and national elections. VOTE411.org includes the elections that have at least two or more candidates on the ballot for an office. All responses to questions come directly from the candidates and are not edited by LWV-Hill Country Texas. The information provided on this flyer is also available at the website VOTE411.org, sponsored by the League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas.

Blanco County Commissioner Precinct 1: term of office - 4 years

The Blanco County Commissioners Court conducts the general business of the county and consists of the county judge who is elected at-large and four commissioners who are elected by geographical precinct. Each commissioner is typically responsible for building and maintaining county roads and bridges with the precinct.

Duties: adopts the county budget and the county tax rate; approves all budgeted purchases of the county; sets all salaries and benefits for county employees; authorizes all county contracts; provides and maintains all county buildings and facilities; and fills vacancies in elective and appointed county offices.

Table with 2 columns: Matthew Lewis and Tommy Weir. Rows include Email, Phone, and Website for each.

1. What experience and knowledge qualifies you to serve as a Blanco County Commissioner for Precinct 1?

Lewis: Education: BA UTA 2001, TREC Licensed Realtor 20+ Years of experience as a business owner. 5+ years serving Planning and Zoning for Blanco City. 2 Terms serving as Blanco Council Person. I bring experienced, effective, and principled leadership to the Commissioners Court. I am a staunch advocate for the citizens of the County to protect our land and water for future generations and manage growth in the county with integrity and common sense. Let's make county government work for us!

Weir: I started my first term with years of experience working with surrounding Counties and Cities Commissioners Courts, City Council and Planning and Zoning along with other State and Federal agencies. I now have four more years of hands on experience with County Budgets, managing Road and Bridge projects along with four years of continuing education. I sit on the Capital Area Regional Transport Organization committee in a ten County district and discuss regional growth with TxDot, TCEQ and other State and Federal Agencies.

2. What is the most pressing issue facing the Blanco County Commissioners Court and what do you hope/plan to do about it?

Lewis: The most pressing issue in Blanco County is government transparency and accountable leadership. Citizens are concerned about our current commissioners' responsiveness and feel like their voices are not heard. Multi-generational ranches and businesses are being negatively affected by large oil and gas companies that are forcing their way into the Hill Country with minimal oversight or environmental impact studies. In addition, negotiations were carried out without input from our citizens. Citizens have approached me concerned about single-bid contracts let by our County Commission. I am an advocate for our County's citizens and bring a progressive voice to the Commissioners Court.

Weir: I would like to continue working on staying ahead of the curve with the rapid growth, water availability, upgrading our roads and bridges and assuring our new and lifelong residents a quality product when purchasing a lot or tract of land. I will help Blanco County residents maintain a safe and affordable quality of life just starting a new family homestead or starting a new life of retirement in the beautiful Texas Hill Country.



Blanco County Commissioner Precinct 1: term of office - 4 years

3. What are the citizens who live in Blanco County Precinct 1 telling you about county problems?

Lewis: Citizens are concerned for the health of the Blanco River, the number of new wells drilled with increased growth in our county, and the demand that places on our aquifer. The Blanco River is a valuable resource and a jewel of the Hill Country and needs to be protected and maintained so that resource is available to our future generations. Additionally, citizens are concerned with the issue of eminent domain and personal property rights. Finally, citizens are concerned about our roads and low water crossings condition and our ability to plan for maintenance and growth.

Weir: My friends and constituents are concerned about water availability and quality. They are concerned about urban sprawl. They want good, effective law enforcement along with good schools. They want to make sure that the County can maintain and improve our infrastructure meaning roads and bridges, broadband, emergency services, and business.

BLANCO COUNTY EARLY VOTING IN TWO LOCATIONS WITH CURB-SIDE VOTING AVAILABLE: VOTE AT EITHER LOCATION FOR EARLY VOTING

Blanco County South Annex

402 Blanco Avenue Blanco

Johnson City Courthouse Annex - Hoppe Room

101 East Cypress

Johnson City

Table with 7 columns: Sunday October 11, Monday October 12, Tuesday October 13, Wednesday October 14, Thursday October 15, Friday October 16, Saturday October 17. Shows voting hours for Oct 11-17.

Table with 7 columns: Sunday October 18, Monday October 19, Tuesday October 20, Wednesday October 21, Thursday October 22, Friday October 23, Saturday October 24. Shows voting hours for Oct 18-24.

Table with 7 columns: Sunday October 25, Monday October 26, Tuesday October 27, Wednesday October 28, Thursday October 29, Friday October 30, Saturday October 31. Shows voting hours for Oct 25-31.

Election Day: Tuesday - November 3 Locations open from 7:00am to 7:00pm

Voter must go to the precinct location on the voter registration card.

Table with 4 columns: Precinct #, Voting Location, Address, City. Lists precincts 102, 201, 302, 303, 304, 401 and their respective locations and addresses.

Sample ballots and other Information from the Blanco County Election Department posted online: http://www.co.blanco.tx.us/page/blanco.Elections