

County Supervisor, District 4: Joey Borges

May 23, 2022



1. How should the homeless crisis be addressed? Should Del Norte County buy more motels to convert to homeless shelters?

I don't think buying more hotels is the answer. We need to work towards building more homes and creating more jobs to give people willing to work the opportunity to be successful.

2. What can be done to improve morale within the Sheriff's department? How can the Sheriff's department more effectively recruit, hire and retain experienced deputies?

After talking with multiple current and ex Del Norte County Sheriff's Office employees, the common response from everyone was accountability. The morale would be greatly improved if everyone was held to the same standard and a strict chain of command was enforced. Simply by enforcing chain of command and accountability the entire atmosphere would improve, thus drawing new people in and keeping the quality current employees.

3. What can be done to avoid the “catch and release” back into the community of criminal defendants before their matters are resolved by the courts? Should the 48-bed Juvenile Hall – with only one or two persons in custody – be repurposed as an adult facility?

The current jail is not being utilized at full capacity due to staffing issues. When staffing issues are resolved the Sheriffs Department will be able to house appropriate individuals pending the resolution of their case.

4. What is the most pressing problem in your supervisorial district? What do you propose as a solution?

A large portion of our lands are state owned, and we need to ensure the public has access to our lands. The State needs to be held accountable to maintain these properties, and in the removal of blighted homes. Furthermore, the State must pay Del Norte County the \$700,000 it owes for taking property off the tax roll.

5. How can Del Norte County become a place where young people want to remain, to raise a family, to start a career, and become a vital part of this community? What will you do to bring about these changes?

Del Norte County is beautiful place and offers a wonderful place to raise a family. By working hand-in-hand with our major agencies such as the Sheriff’s Office, school districts and City of Crescent City, we can address any issues that would deter our youth from not wanting to be here.

6. Should Del Norte County impose additional controls and fees on short-term rentals? Should short-term rentals be confined to commercial or multi-family zones, or to owner-occupied properties?

Short term rentals should be required to have the same fees as others short term rentals, and be required to follow guidelines set in place to ensure the quality of life of the people surrounding short term rentals

7. Should Del Norte County turn down state and federal grants with strings attached that dictate how local government must solve local problems? Under what circumstances should Del Norte County confront problems without outside funding?

Federal grants are a lot of times very short-termed, meaning we receive a large chunk of money to start a project, then we are left holding the bag trying to fund and maintain a project we could have never afforded in the first place. So no, I’m not in favor of strings attached.

8. Should the Measure R sales tax increase be repealed? Why or why not?

I am not in favor of increasing taxes. I believe our public safety issues should be addressed, but it should be found within our budget.

9. Briefly explain, Why are you the best candidate for a seat on the Board of Supervisors representing your district?

I have kids active in this county, a business here, and have been heavily involved in this community my whole life. I have a strong work ethic and am not afraid to make tough decisions. I love Del Norte County and want to see it become a place our children want to call home.

