

# Sarpy County Commissioner District 2- Republican

**Levi Lippincott**

www.LeviForSarpy.com

**Jim Thompson**

**Russell Zeeb**

**Questions List:**

Other	County Priorities	Decency	Personal Story	Homosexuality
Biographical	State to County	Property Tax	Constitution	Past President
Motivation	Revenue	Eminent Domain	Family	Anything else?
Qualifications	Job Creation (County)	County Business	Personal/Political	
Sustainable	Gambling	Connection	Abortion/capital	
Development	Immigration	Governing documents	punishment/etc.	

**Other - Information about making contact with the candidate.**

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	Contacted by resident of the district. Questionnaire emailed Thu, March 13, 2014 11:35 am. Candidate confirmed receipt of questionnaire Thu, Mar 13, 2014 at 2:36 PM, Answers copied from email response received Mon, 17 Mar 2014 8:16pm.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	Contacted by resident of the district. 3/30, found working phone number, left message, reminder email Sun, 30 Mar 2014 09:41am.
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	Contacted by resident of the district. Answers copied from email response received Mar 16, 2014 11:02 AM.

**Biographical - Please include biographical information you consider important for voters to know and/or reference your website.**

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	I have spent most of my adult life residing in the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners 2nd District. I was born and raised in Lexington, Nebraska, and moved to La Vista in 2003 where I have chosen to raise my family. I graduated High School with my A+ & CCNA (computer repair & computer networking) certifications and chose to go right into the field and get to work. In Spring of 2004, I married my high school sweetheart, Rose Nielsen. We have had 3 children so far: Samuel 8, Benjamin 6, & Elijah 2. I have remained in the IT industry and am now an application administrator for a large company in Omaha while Rose has chosen to stay at home and raise our children. Not being raised in a politically focused family the most I thought about politics growing up was whether or not the speeding ticket fine was too excessive. I began to pay closer attention to politics once we had our family and needed to make every penny we earned count for something. After the financial crisis in late 2007 I began to pay close attention to what the national political scene was doing and stopped just listening to the politicians and taking their word for it and began to look into issues on my own. In early 2011 I learned there was an alternative to national party politics when I found there was a local Sarpy County Republican Party I could get involved with. After being involved with the local party for about a year, in spring of 2012, I was elected to represent the Sarpy Republican Party with matters involving the State Republican Party. I was elected in 2013 to serve Sarpy County as the Chairman of the Sarpy County Republican Party and I was also elected to serve on the National Board of the Republican Liberty Caucus. I remain active in church and my community. For more information please check out my website: www.LeviForSarpy.com
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	Born and raised on a farm near Richfield, (Sarpy County) and have lived in Papillion/LaVista all my life. Graduate of Papillion High school, veteran US Army with 17 months overseas. Sarpy County Sheriff Dept 1974-2013(retired), Papillion City council 12 years, Sarpy AG society 6 years, numerous non profits on board of directors, Papillion Vol. Fire Dept 40+ years, numerous local charities involvement, married to Shellie Zeeb, daughter Stephanie Caldwell(Attorney Nebraska Attorney Generals office), 2 grandchildren, 2 step children, Austin and Arica, numerous law enforcement awards including recently named Heartland hero by the American Red Cross for saving a life while on vacation in South Dakota

**Motivation - What has motivated you to seek this office? What do you hope to accomplish?**

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	My "agenda" in running for the 2nd District Sarpy County Board seat is simple and can be boiled down to a few short items: 1. Sarpy County was the fastest growing County in Nebraska from 2000 to 2010 and the fastest growing County with a population above 25,000 from 1990 to 2000 and I want it to keep our number one spot as we move towards 2020. 2. To be able to achieve #1 we need to have an economy that is creating the kinds of jobs that will not only attract others who want the best for their lives and families, but entice our children to either stay and start their careers or return after college. 3. To succeed at #2 we need to have an environment that is ripe for growth by keeping our taxes low, providing the infrastructure for businesses and citizens to thrive, and minimize tax dollar waste by asking ourselves what, exactly, we need the government to do, and what we can do for ourselves.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	With the growth of the county and my experience working in it for over 39 years, I am well versed in the needs and area. Several public safety issues are on the table and my knowledge will be valuable to the citizens for these decisions.

Qualifications - *What three qualifications do you bring to this office?*

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	With my wife and I having been blessed to start our family at such a young age and with us wanting to have her stay at home I had to mature into the "head of household" role and hone my budgeting skills. Tackling the County budget and achieving one of my big goals of lowering property taxes is going to take someone with the budgeting skills I have developed throughout the years. Something else I bring to the table is leadership. That can be a very canned and cliché thing to say now-a-days but I believe that leadership shows with the brief track record I have already begun to establish in politics. I was elected to represent the Sarpy County GOP at the State GOP level, shortly after those in the Sarpy GOP felt I was doing such a great job I was elected to be the Chairman of the Sarpy County GOP. Then in another Republican organization I serve in, the Republican Liberty Caucus, they recognized the successes we have had in Sarpy County and elected me to serve on their national board. Having spoken about my time in the Republican Party another great quality of mine to highlight would also be my impartiality. While I do hold onto my own principles and opinions I am certainly not against hearing out every side to ensure I am taking in all aspects before making a decision. There have been many times in my work within the GOP that I have not always seen eye to eye with everyone, and quite honestly that is a good thing.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	Prior city council experience, numerous volunteer organizations, care for our youth and citizens, worked first hand with county budgets, I know the people and their needs and am a STRONG listener for their concerns

Sustainable Development - *In some venues, the term "sustainable development" is tied to the UN Agenda 21 thinking. Others consider conservation of natural resources to be tantamount. Where would you place yourself on environmental issues and why?*

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	I consider myself a Conservative and there are many that forget that the root of Conservative is Conserve. I love taking my kids out fishing and, when they get a few years older, hunting. I do not want to see the environment crumble and leave the world worse off for my children and grandchildren. That being said I have no confidence in government deeming what is correct use for my or anyone else's land. Government is supposed to exist for the mutual defense of its citizens. So, if you have someone that is polluting their land/air and it is bleeding into someone else's land/air that is first provable and secondly harmful then I feel at that point it is up to the courts to settle a property rights dispute between landowners. Almost every landowner wants nothing more than to have their land be the best it can be in order for their future use or to one day sell to someone else. It is in people's inherent best interest to take care of their land and they can do a far better job than anyone in government telling them how to do it.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	[not answered]

Personal Story - *Please briefly describe a situation where you had to stand alone for what you thought was right when the momentum was pushing the other way. What was the result?*

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	I cannot think of a Rosa Parks moment in my life where I was the lone voice against a tide of opposition. There is one scenario that comes to mind where I was a voice along with a handful of others sticking our heads above the crowd. It was in 2013 when Senator Bill Kintner introduced LB482, which would have been a formal opposition to Agenda 21 by the State of Nebraska. I went down and testified before the legislature with several others and those of us testifying for the passage of this bill were certainly not welcome in the Judiciary committee. Ultimately the bill died in committee.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	[not answered]

Constitution - *Regardless of the position sought, "upholding the Constitution" is part of the oath of office. What does taking that oath mean to you?*

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	It means that first and foremost the oath is to the Constitution, not to other politicians, and that I will not assist with the passage or implementation of unconstitutional actions.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	I have taken the oath several times, to uphold the law and serve in several elected positions and will continue to support the Constitution.

Family - *What role has your family played in your seeking this office? In holding this position, how do you foresee it affecting your family?*

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	Not being raised in a politically focused family the most I thought about politics growing up was whether or not the speeding ticket fine was too excessive. I began to pay closer attention to politics once Rose & I had our family and needed to make every penny we earned count for something. After the financial crisis in late 2007 I began to pay close attention to what the national political scene was doing and stopped just listening to the politicians and taking their word for it and began to look into issues on my own. It is the inspection of these issues and the desire to ensure the future is bright for my family and others that I decided to seek office. In holding this position and succeeding in maintaining Sarpy's greatness I foresee my children enjoying a prosperous upbringing in a great community.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	My family gave their blessing before I agreed to seek the office

Personal/Political - To what degree should an office holder's personal principles be reflected in political decision making? To whom/what will you go for counsel in decision making?

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	An office holder's principles should be reflected in every decision that they make. Depending on the decision being faced and the level of counseling required I could use a variety of different sources. For economic matters I have several mentors in my life that have helped guide my wife and I as we have grown and matured. For social matters my pastor and the associate pastor at my church are great guides in my life.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	I am not a person that can be swayed into a position because of who they are, I will go to the people vs. private interests groups.

Everyone questions - (Regardless of what office is being sought, we ask the following questions so voters can better predict how you will handle tough issues.) [This statement preceded the following questions on the candidate's questionnaire.]

Abortion/capital punishment/etc. - What definition do you give for each of these terms: pro-life, pro-choice? How do you define yourself and how did you arrive at that view? How does your position relate to the death penalty, embryonic stem cell research, and physician-assisted suicide?

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	Pro-life is the defense of life at all levels from conception to death for the innocent. Pro-choice is the advocating for legalized murder of a defenseless individual. I believe that the death penalty should only be used in the rarest of circumstances and only in those situations where there is overwhelming evidence to first prove that they are guilty of the crime and second that the individual remains a clear and present danger to the other individuals in prison. Embryonic stem cell research I am against because it can only occur with the legally sanctioned murder of children. I do not believe that physician-assisted suicide is something that should be an acceptable practice.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	Pro-life, pro death penalty, with 39 years of working with crime victims my experience and knowledge is first hand seeing their suffering.

Homosexuality - Some consider same-sex relationships should carry the same rights and privileges as traditional marriage. Some view homosexuality as an issue of potential discrimination on the level with race or ethnicity. Some consider it a matter of personal privacy. Some say marriage, for numerous reasons, should remain defined by government as between one man and one woman. Some say children should be raised by a mother and a father and that they are being forgotten in today's discussions on the subject. With which group's philosophy do you most closely agree, and why?

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	I am not sure I closely agree with any of those philosophies. Most of them fail to take into account the proper role of government and the church. Marriage is first and foremost a religious institution and the government should have no business in sanctioning what someone's faith says is and is not marriage. This obviously excludes situations where minors are harmed or sold to "husbands" because the minor is clearly being violated. I feel the government should get out of the marriage business and leave the marriage definitions up to the churches, synagogues, etc.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	[not answered]

Past President - What key considerations did you use in deciding how you voted for President in 2012?

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	I took the time to look at each candidate and at the economic & social issues that they were advocating for as well as their proposed solutions to those issues. The one that lined up with me as closely as possible I voted for.
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	I voted Republican, my only choice with the issues at stake.

Anything else? - Declare anything else you want voters to know about you.

<b>Levi Lippincott</b>	If you want to get in touch with me directly please feel free by email at levi@leviforsarpy.com or my cell number is 402-216-6396. If you would like you can also peruse my website and learn more about me at your leisure: <a href="http://www.LeviForSarpy.com">http://www.LeviForSarpy.com</a>
<b>Jim Thompson</b>	waiting for response
<b>Russell Zeeb</b>	[nothing further noted]