

Mountain Creek Golf Club Memorials

Bobbie Box

Billy Wayne and Dolores Roe

Jerry Gibbs

Billy Wayne and Dolores Roe

Wes Henson

Stephen and Sterling Myers

Tommy and Kei Antilley

...Primary Election

results

(Continued from front page)

In the election for County/District Clerk, Monica Reyes received 521 votes and 112 under votes.

In the election for Commissioner, Precinct 4, Joe Sefcik (I) received 88 votes and 31 under votes.

In statewide races, Coke County Republican voters agreed with the majority of Republican Texans in their choices for Ted Cruz as U.S. Senator, Mike Conaway as U.S. District 11 Representative, Greg Abbott as Governor and Dan Patrick as Lt. Governor. Coke County's Democrat voters also agreed with other Texans in their votes for these races. They cast their votes for Beto O'Rourke for U.S. Senator, Jennie Lou Leeder for U.S. District 11 Representative, and Michael Cooper for Lt. Governor. With the huge field of nine candidates running for the Democrat nomination for Governor, Lupe Valdez and Andrew White pulled ahead of the pack in Coke County and statewide.

There were 11 non-binding propositions on the Republican ballot and 12 on the Democrat ballot. These propositions and the results (in percentages, for/against) for both Coke County and statewide are listed below.

Republican

1. Texas should replace the property tax system with an appropriate consumption tax equivalent.

Coke County 60/40; Texas 67/32

2. No governmental entity should ever construct or fund construction of toll roads without voter approval.

Coke County 90/10; Texas 90/10

3. Republicans in the Texas House should select their Speaker nominee by secret ballot in a binding caucus without Democrat influence.

Coke County 84/16; Texas 85/15

4. Texas should require employers to screen new hires through the free E-Verify system to protect jobs for legal workers.

Coke County 90/10; Texas 90/10

5. Texas families should be empowered to choose from public, private, charter, or homeschool options for their children's education, using tax credits or exemptions without government constraints or intrusion.

Coke County 74/26; Texas 78/22

6. Texas should protect the privacy and safety of women and children in spaces such as bathrooms, locker rooms, and

showers in all Texas schools and government buildings.

Coke County 94/6; Texas 90/10

7. I believe abortion should be abolished in Texas.

Coke County 73/27; Texas 68/32

8. Voter fraud should be a felony in Texas to help ensure fair elections.

Coke County 97/3; Texas 95/5

9. Texas demands that Congress completely repeal Obamacare.

Coke County 92/8; Texas 87/13

10. To slow the growth of property taxes, yearly revenue increases should be capped at 4%, with increases in excess of 4% requiring voter approval.

Coke County 89/11; Texas 94/6

11. Tax dollars should not be used to fund the building of stadiums for professional or semi-professional sports teams.

Coke County 85/15; Texas 87/13

Democrat

1. Should everyone in Texas have the right to quality public education from pre-k to 12th grade, and affordable college and career training without the burden of crushing student loan debt?

Coke County 91/9; Texas 96/4

2. Should everyone in Texas have the right to refinance student loan debt with the Federal Reserve at a 0% interest rate, as relief for the crushing burden of debt and an investment in the next generation of Americans?

Coke County 91/9; Texas 94/6

3. Should everyone in Texas have a right to healthcare, guaranteed by a universal, quality Medicare-for-all system?

Coke County 94/6; Texas 95/5

4. Should everyone in Texas have the right to economic security, where all workers have earned paid family and sick leave and a living wage that respects their hard work?

Coke County 94/6; Texas 96/4

5. Should the Democratic Party promote a national jobs program, with high wage and labor standards, to replace crumbling infrastructure and rebuild hurricane damaged areas, paid for with local, state, and federal bonds financed through the Federal Reserve at low interest with long term maturities?

Coke County 84/16; Texas 93/7

6. Should everyone in Texas have the right to clean air, safe water, and a healthy environment?

Coke County 97/3; Texas 99/1

7. Should everyone in Texas have the right to a life of dignity and respect, free from discrimination and harassment anywhere, including businesses and public facilities, no matter how they identify, the color of their skin, who they love,

socioeconomic status, or from where they come?

Coke County 97/3; Texas 97/3

8. Should everyone in Texas have the right to affordable and accessible housing and modern utilities including high speed internet, free from any form of discrimination?

Coke County 87/13; Texas 92/8

9. Should every eligible Texan have the right to vote, made easier by automatic voter registration, the option to vote by mail, a state election holiday, and no corporate campaign influence, foreign interference, or illegal gerrymandering?

Coke County 94/6; Texas 95/5

10. Should everyone in Texas have the right to a fair criminal justice system that treats people equally and puts an end to the mass incarceration of young people of color for minor offenses?

Coke County 90/10; Texas 97/3

11. Should there be a just and fair comprehensive immigration reform solution that includes an earned path to citizenship for law-abiding immigrants and their children, keeps families together, protects DREAMers, and provides workforce solutions for businesses?

Coke County 87/13; Texas 95/5

12. Should everyone in Texas have the right to a fair tax system, where all interests (business, corporations, and individuals) pay their share, so that state government meets its obligations?

Coke County 94/6; Texas 96/4

...Letter to the Editor

(Continued from front page)

That didn't mean a whole lot to me, so that's why I called Ms. Sisemore and asked her to explain this to me. She said that's an easy one and that the value of your home times 0.001. That equals how much tax I would pay each year for a paid ambulance service. You're asking how much is it? Well, a higher valued home in the county valued at \$187,000 would be $\$187,000 \times 0.001 = \$187/\text{year}$. That's it. I talked with a friend of ours and he said to use his house as an example. His house is valued at \$129,000; so his taxes would be $\$129,000 \times 0.001 = \$129/\text{year}$. Ms. Sisemore did remind me that not many of the houses were valued as these. She said the average \$40,000 home would only pay \$40 per year in ESD tax to have a paid ambulance service!!! If your home was \$15,000, you'd pay \$15/year, so on and so forth. It did not sound nearly as bad when she put it into these simple terms for me.

I am making a plea to everyone to prayerfully consider creating an Emergency Servicing District, or ESD. If you do not think this is "your fight" and you don't want to get involved, imagine what would

happen if (and when) you need an ambulance and the dispatcher on the other end of your phone conversation tells you there is no one to answer your call for help!? It's a very frightening thought. Are you willing to give up just a little money each year to create and maintain a paid ambulance service? Let's work on creating a county ESD.

Thank you,

Lanette Fletcher

...ELD Questions

(Continued from previous page)

A: It might. So, it depends on all of the exemptions and things like that, but generally speaking, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety regulations, which are what the ELD is included in, start when you're operating a vehicle above 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating in interstate commerce. So, most of those larger pickups, Gooseneck trailer combinations are probably going to be around there or a little bit above, so it could be that those are required.

Q: It just depends?

A: Yep.

Q: Why are ELDs now required? Is this about safety?

A: Absolutely, it is. There's really two parts to the answer to that question. The ELD rule came about because of a congressional mandate. Congress decided to require this rule, and the point of it is to improve compliance with the hours of service regulations. There are a few things that we really know for sure and the more hours on the road, fatigue increases and that can lead to more accidents. So, the point of the ELD is to improve compliance with the hours of service regulations and then therefore improve safety.

Q: You know, while we're talking about safety, we've had some livestock owners who have expressed concerns with us on social media about what they'll do with their livestock while they're taking the required break under the ELD. What are some ways that drivers can ensure that

they're still in compliance while still meeting the needs of what their hauling?

A: That's a really good question. I've had some of those same conversations. The first thing I do think we need to point out is that the ELD rule itself didn't change of those underlying hours of service rules that we talked about earlier—the 11 hours driving and the 14 hours working. Those rules have been in place since 2005. So the easy answer is, well, they should be doing now with an ELD whatever they were doing prior when they were operating with a paper log because those allowable hours haven't changed.

So that being said, I also understand that there has been some confusion about that. It's really a question that the transporter has to kind of work out and maybe do some more advanced planning in terms of what their routes are, how many drivers that they're using and when they're going to be able to stop and be able to ensure their own safety, the safety of the folks on the road and also the safety of the animals that they're transporting.

Q: Joe, is there anything else that you guys want us to mention?

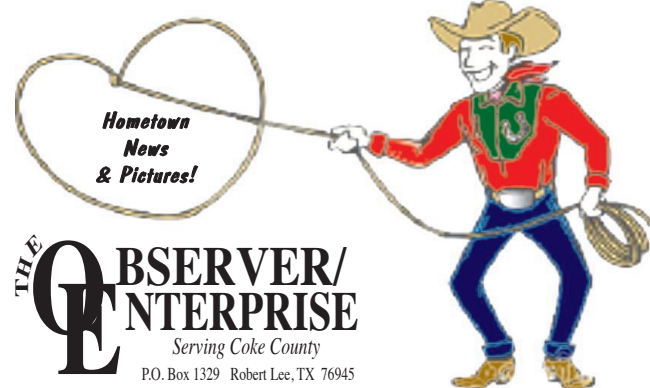
A: To reiterate, I know that it is a little bit complex because of the different layers of exemptions and things that are out there, but the first thing that anybody needs to do is look through that or talk to some folks to figure out whether they are required to have the ELD and any of the questions that come up.

We have a lot of information on our website, lots of frequently asked questions and we also have a mailbox there for folks to email in questions if they have things to the extent that we can kind of help clarify any of those things, we're here for that and happy to do so.

Q: What's that website?

A: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ELD will get you right there and in addition to where the FAQs are, there's also a subscription service so you can get updated emails when other things change on the website and that sort of stuff.

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