

# **State Representative Candidates Questionnaire – 2018**

## **Representing Washington County (Brenham), Texas**

**Name: David Stall**

**Position Sought: State Representative, House District 13**

**1. Why have you decided to run for election at this time?**

Two years ago I announced that I would retire in February 2018. This brings me to the end of 40 years of local government service that began in law enforcement and has ended the last 23 years as city manager. My timely retirement has afforded me the opportunity and time to devote to seeking and holding public office.

**2. What key competencies do you feel you possess to be an elected official?**

I have previously held elected office and served three Texas communities as city manager over a span of 27 years. As city manager I prepared and administered budgets, performed the duties of public funds investment officer, and had direct oversight over all city departments and functions. I have led organizations promoting economic development, tourism, and the film industry. I am a nationally recognized speaker on topics of transportation, public-private partnerships, floodplain management, disaster recovery and coastal resiliency. I have served on the board of numerous local, county, regional and national governmental organizations. As a citizen advocate I worked on legislative issues in Austin for a decade and have forged personal and working relationships with elected officials, state agencies, and their staff. I have been invited to provide expert testimony and appeared before legislative committees in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Kansas.

**3. If you are elected, what do you consider to be the top priorities to work on?**

Lowering property taxes; increasing property owner protections under eminent domain and in land use regulation; and eliminating unnecessary state regulations, especially those that adversely impact small business and agricultural producers.

**4. What do you consider to be the top issue affecting our region's economic growth?**

I don't believe that one issue alone could insure our region's economic growth. We will need a comprehensive approach that seeks to produce low taxes, a friendly regulatory environment, the continued availability of a skilled workforce, good transportation and utility infrastructure, and maintain a high community standard for quality of life.

**5. What could you do as a State Representative to help small businesses in this district?**

Work to ease the regulatory burdens state government places on small businesses.

**6. What is your opinion of offering economic development incentives to lure capital investment and jobs to the state and communities in your district?**

I support economic development incentives that are designed to achieve long-term sustainable development goals; that present minimal financial risk to local government; and that do not create an unfair advantage for new business development over existing businesses.

I particularly favor incentives that create a business friendly environment that not only attracts new business investment, but also encourages reinvestment and expansion of existing businesses.

**7. Do you support the Washington County Chamber's "Government Advocacy Policy Statements"?**

Yes, I agree with all of the policy statements and would be happy to support them as your State Representative.