



Unedited version of Denise B. Bach's responses to the Gaylord Herald Times Candidate Profile questions

Questions submitted by Paul Welitzkin – Gaylord Herald Times (not yet published)

In no more than two paragraphs, please describe your background (educational achievements, work history and how long you have lived in the area etc.) and if you are an incumbent state how long you have held the position?

Denise was born and raised in Michigan. She spent much of her life downstate but purchased a home in Gaylord in 2016 on Otsego Lake, where she, her husband, Dean, and their dog, Sebastian, reside. Denise has 40+ years professional work experience, focusing the last 25 years in the legal industry consulting with attorneys and corporate counsel regarding Digital Forensics, eDiscovery and Data Privacy and Security. Denise has experience balancing multi-million dollar budgets, vendor selection, strategic planning, marketing, business development, personnel and infrastructure management. Denise has a Bachelor's Degree from U of D Mercy and a Master's Degree from Central Michigan University. Denise has served on various industry boards and has held a Chair position on the Association of Certified eDiscovery Specialists Board for the past 11 consecutive years.

Denise believes that her vast professional experience bodes well for her bid for Otsego County Commissioner – District 6. She will bring a commonsense approach to decisions that impact the residents of Otsego County and is committed to an agenda of transparency, fiscal responsibility and America/County First initiatives. More information about Denise's professional experience and campaign priorities can be found on her website at:

<https://www.denisebach.com>

What are the biggest challenges facing the county today and what can county government do better?

Lack of local government transparency and unnecessary spending are two of the biggest challenges facing the citizens of Otsego County. The hard-working citizens of Otsego County deserve to know that their tax dollars are being spent wisely and prudently. Denise is a conservative leader who understands the need for fiscal responsibility and will work to ensure that tax dollars are spent responsibly and for issues that benefit the community. Much of this starts with transparency on the budget and agenda items and would propose to change the time of the Otsego County Commissioners meeting to the evening, at a time when the majority of its residents can attend. She is committed to open communication, keeping taxes low and affordable for families and small businesses, and will vote against any initiative that spends money needlessly.

Does the county need a new jail?

Denise SUPPORTS A NEW JUSTICE COMPLEX for Otsego County. That being said, the efforts in the past have been disastrous. Denise believes that the lack of transparency and open communication about the justice complex initiative have contributed to its millage failure. The data used in support of the new justice complex needs to be verified and communicated to residents so that they have an understanding of its validity and relevance. Specific plans that outline the costs of the building also need to be obtained, in advance of a vote, in order to properly project the overall costs to tax payers. Denise is a hard-working problem-solver that will work with law enforcement, county officials and the citizens to develop a reasonable and attainable plan to build a new justice complex. In fact, Denise has received the endorsement of the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM) which represents the Otsego County Corrections group. She will bring all parties together so that when the initiative appears on a ballot, the citizens can rest-assured that the plan being put-forth is a realistic and competent one.