

COUNTY COMMISSION - DISTRICT 6

CINDY HESTLA



1. Why are you running for this position?

I was asked by the president of Maury County Republican Women, Kathey Grodi. I serve as vice-president & secretary of Republican Women so she & I have been working together all year. She trusts me & knows my position on many issues. She felt the two of us would be a good team. Plus I really want to make a difference! The United States is in the midst of a national emergency, a coup. We HAVE TO TAKE OUR COUNTRY BACK! I am not the type to just sit around & complain. I want to be a part of the solution.

2. What specific experience and qualifications do you have that make you the ideal candidate for this position?

I have served as vice-president & secretary of Maury County Republican Women for the last year, I also attend the monthly Republican Party meetings. When the presidential election was stolen I threw myself into researching conservative news sources & podcasts, devoting myself to being a part of taking our country back. I know who is behind this coup & look forward to the day they are all publicly indicted for their treason & sentenced to the full extent of the law! Also, my father was an attorney & a federally appointed arbitrator. The way he handled conflict between my brother & myself was to hold “court” in the den. We each got to present our “case,” & Dad would hand down the verdict when we were finished. As a result of being raised in a happy household where conflict was not a negative thing but something to be handled in a calm, organized fashion, I am able to stay calm under pressure, keep my emotions under control, & come up with solutions that benefit all parties. As a musician, I have traveled the world performing in front of many, many groups of people & am comfortable speaking (and singing!) before small & large groups. My husband & I host an Airbnb in our home so I am continually meeting new people from around the world & provide a clean, positive atmosphere.

3. What do you see as the top 3 priorities for Maury County and how do you plan to contribute to accomplishing those priorities?

- a. We are one of the top 10 fastest-growing counties in Tennessee. There are people in leadership who feel they must cater to builders & allow them to pack as many places for people to live in as small a space as possible. This has the people who live in those areas upset. County Commission needs to work with the Planning Commission & come to agreements limiting high-density housing & what can be built where.
- b. “Infrastructure first, building second.” Right now it’s the other way around. Builders do what they want, leave town, & the county is left to “clean up the mess” so to speak. In my opinion in anticipation of growth, roads should be widened FIRST, then schools planned & budgeted for, water & environmental issues addressed, all that, BEFORE subdivisions & townhomes are built. I plan to attend City Planning meetings to stay in the loop with what’s on the table regarding land sales, annexing etc. so we’re not the last to know.
- c. Education. I am against “Woke” teaching in our schools such as Critical Race Theory; I will oppose textbooks (funded by Saudi Arabians) that re-write history, intentionally exalting Socialism, Marxism & Islam but denigrating Christianity, Judaism & the godly roots of our country; I am

against inappropriate sex education for elementary-age children & “social/emotional” learning. Hold students accountable for what they are learning/not learning & do not simply pass them so “no child is left behind.” We need to pay teachers more so they will want to teach in our schools. They also need to be able to discipline children & not allow the students to run all over them & disrupt class.

4. How do you plan to work collaboratively with each municipality to ensure the decisions being made are in the best interest of Maury County as a whole?

I plan on going to City Planning meetings, also being out & about setting up meetings with people at utilities companies (water etc) to find out exactly what Maury County is dealing with. Found out last week that we need another water treatment plant. One was underway then halted.

5. Maury County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state and country. This tremendous growth will require new and improved infrastructure (i.e., schools, roads, water, etc.). How do you plan to provide these infrastructure improvements, including any required funding?

I answered this partially in question 2. In addition, it is obvious Maury County needs Impact Fees to be charged to builders. Williamson County was denied impact fees but then sued in order to get them & won the suit. We have been denied as well & I believe we need to follow their example. We cannot wait 6 months until January to bring this issue up again.

6. How do you define thoughtful and sustainable growth in Maury County?

Take all components into consideration BEFORE THE BUILDING PROJECT IS APPROVED – roads & traffic, water & electricity, police & fire nearby, schools that will be needed. I do not agree with high-density & low-density housing being right next to each other. Builders were allowed to do that in the middle of our Spring Hill neighborhood so we moved to Columbia. You don't put townhomes next to single-family homes, then line up a string of businesses in front of all of it right on the main road, without widening the road! If elected, I will push for minimum one-acre lots within subdivisions (in the county), & minimum 3-acre lots outside of subdivisions. Townhomes/apartments on main roads only.

7. Quality education and a diverse workforce are vital for the successful growth of Maury County and its municipalities. If elected, how would you improve these areas?

I am all for offering a diversity of restaurants & businesses to keep our town “up to date.” We increase our revenue when we offer a wide variety of services. But I do want to see Columbia upgraded by allowing businesses that cater to middle/upper middle/upper class, rather than approving businesses that only cater to the lowest class of people. Again, I think by attending City Council/Planning meetings I can have a voice.

8. How do you plan to communicate with, and be available to, your constituents?

I plan to keep my TEAM 6 Facebook page going with Kathey Grodi, creating videos & posts that the citizens of Maury County would be interested in. We also want to schedule Meet & Greet's once per quarter, inviting our constituents to come meet the County Commissioners, school board, & state representatives. I think it's important that we stay in touch with the people we are supposed to be serving. We could also set up an email list & send out a monthly newsletter letting folks know what issues are up for discussion.

9. What does a successful term look like to you?

If I can make a difference in the whole building issue by limiting the number of residences placed on one acre in subdivisions, keeping high-density & low-density housing separated, & prevent what happened in our Spring Hill neighborhood to happen here, I will feel like I have accomplished something worthwhile.

10. If elected, how do you plan to partner with the Maury County Chamber & Economic Alliance to make Maury County the best place to live and work?

Well I don't know what the Economic Alliance is, but I do know what the Chamber of Commerce is, so I will definitely make an appointment to go over there, introduce myself, & see what activities they have planned for the upcoming year. Anything we as commissioners can be involved with I think that's what we need to do. We could ride on a float in a parade, set up a Meet & Greet table with refreshments at activities around town, dress up in costumes & sing Christmas carols in front of downtown businesses during the holidays, all kinds of things. I really don't want this job to be entirely "behind closed doors." I want people to know who we are & what we are voting for because it affects them!

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