

Lenexa Chamber of Commerce
Chair of County Commission Primary Candidate Questionnaire

(Please type or print legibly)

Name: [John Patrick Segale](#)

Street Address/City/State/Zip: [5325 Alden, Shawnee KS 66216](#) Phone: [\(913\) 735-5771](#)

Campaign Chair(s): [Cynthia Larcom-Segale](#)

Campaign Email: john@johnsegale.org

Campaign Website: www.johnsegale.org

Candidate's Occupation: [Healthcare Computer Systems and Software Support](#)

Work History (past 5 years – 15 words or less): [Cerner Corporation \(since 1990\), current title Senior Situation Manager](#)

If you have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list what organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held: [None](#)

Other recent political/community experience (25 words or less)?

[Shawnee City Council, Ward 1 \(3-terms, 1997-2004\)](#)

[County Commissioner, District 2 \(1-term 2005-09\)](#)

[Shawnee Rotary Club \(1997-2009\)](#)

As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues (10 words or less per issue)?

- [1. Cut Commission salaries over 50% saving taxpayers over \\$210,000 annually](#)
- [2. Move Commission meetings to evenings to improve public access](#)
- [3. County-City coordination to save money by eliminating duplication and inefficiency](#)

Johnson County continues to grow dramatically. Recognizing that county government must respond to this growth and the need to invest in services and infrastructure, please describe how you would approach managing the county budget (75 words or less):

[To maintain the opportunity and prosperity of the past 30-years we need solutions different from those of the past 30-years. Growth alone cannot overcome the challenges of a population that is aging and becoming economically diverse and the maintenance of massive and aging public infrastructure. We can first meet the new challenges with the same total resources by coordinating city and county services to eliminate expensive duplication.](#)

There has been much discussion about regionalism, including the idea of a regional tax similar to the bistate cultural sales tax to address transit and other needs in the Kansas City metropolitan area. What are your views on regional efforts (75 words or less)?

[Johnson County, as a community, has been unable to build a positive regional vision. The absence of positive regionalism has occurred because there has been no success in building intra-county consensus on regional issues. As Chairman I will work to create public forums where elected leaders can safely work to build community consensus on countywide and regional issues, as a commissioner I had some success in this area around transportation issues.](#)

Some underlying tension exists between incorporated and unincorporated areas of Johnson County as to whether the burden of paying for services is fairly distributed. What are your views on this issue (75 words or less)?

It is not fair for the 95% of the county population that lives within cities to fully subsidize most of the local services of those not in cities. As a Commissioner I proposed creating a special taxing district for the unincorporated area to collect less than 50% of these costs. The county wide mill levy rate would have been reduced by .6 a mills. All of my opponents opposed the concept of reducing the subsidy.

What do you believe is the most pressing challenge currently facing Johnson County (50 words or less)?

The challenge is leadership supportive of innovation among our local governments to meet our expanding needs with the same resources. We need a Chairman who is not afraid to raise the tough questions challenging our future and support work toward finding and implementing new answers to build prosperity and opportunity.

What do you believe distinguishes you from your opponents, making you best suited to serve as County Chair (50 words or less)?

I am the only candidate who will cut the obscene commission payroll by over 50%.

In 11-years of public service I have faced the tough questions, worked to find innovative and sustainable answers and built consensus for action. In defeat I have not given up and have kept moving forward.

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*Please return completed questionnaire **by July 12th** to asherard@lenexa.org or by fax to (913) 888-3770. Questions? Call (913) 888-1414. Thank you for your time and participation!*