



## Ottawa County Commissioner Candidate Questionnaire

District # 5 (Please insert your district number)

Name: Randy Meppelink

Employer: Ottawa County Commissioner

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*\*Please note this is a fillable word document for your convenience.*

1. Why are you running for office?  
I believe strongly in giving back to the community, to use ones' skills where they can be most effective.
2. Have you ever run for political office before? If yes, please explain.  
Yes I am currently in my second term on the Ottawa County Borad of Commissioners, I have also served as a Trustee and a Township Clerk for Blendon Township
3. What qualifications/experience do you feel you possess that will enable you to fulfill the responsibilities of the elected office you are seeking?  
As a business owner and employer in Holland I feel it makes me uniquely qualified to assist in the Administration of County Business, I have an understanding of employee management, Finance in running a company
4. If elected, what would be your top priorities and why?  
To continue to make Ottawa County a place where you want to live, work, and play.
5. Ottawa is blessed with diverse economic sectors: agriculture, tourism, industrial and commercial. For each of these, what do you think are the issues they will encounter in the next 2 years? . If elected, how will you support each of these sectors?  
Employment, Supply Chain are two of the biggest. I'll continue to work with business to help them meet the goals they need in order to be successful.
6. Safety for all citizens is a protection we expect. If elected, how will you ensure that the Ottawa County Sherriff's Department, Ottawa County Health Department and Ottawa County Court system equally and fairly provides safety to all residents?  
We have 3 great units of government here. I would continue to work with the excellent employees we have in these departments to get them what they need to be effective and excel in the services they provide to the citizens of Ottawa County.
7. Ottawa County is financially more secure than many other Michigan counties. This is due to previous boards and administrations wisely spending and saving revenues. If elected, what will be your spending priorities for county dollars?  
To continue where those before me have left off. Continue to seek out grants whenever possible, receive input from leaders in business and ag in the county to decide how to best spend the dollars we have.

8. Ottawa County is one of the fastest growing counties in Michigan, attracting people from many cultures, ethnicities, and lifestyles to support the growth of businesses throughout the county, if elected, how will you support diversity, inclusion and equity at the county level.

I believe we have a great DE&I office, I am glad we have this department. They have really helped the citizens and especially local business in Ottawa County. The awareness they bring and the welcoming to all has really been helpful.

If you have any endorsements, current or past community or business affiliations that you would like to share, please note below.

1. Past President of Zeeland AMBUCS
2. Member of West Coast Chamber of Commerce
3. Business owner in Holland, MI
4. Currently serving on the Talent and Requirement committee for Ottawa County
5. Retired Fire Fighter Blendon Township (20 years)
6. Current Middle School Football Head coach Zeeland West
7. Member of the Free Trade Zone for Ottawa, Kent, and Muskegon County
8. Past President of West Michigan Bowhunters of Safari Club International
9. Member of Community Reformed Church in Zeeland
10. Veteran of US NAVY
11. Endorsed by Sherriff Steve Kempker
12. Endorsed by my Wife and supporter Bonnie Meppelink