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Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Thursday, July 30, 2020 9:45:31 AM
Last Modified:	Thursday, July 30, 2020 11:44:29 AM
Time Spent:	01:58:58
IP Address:	173.81.187.178

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Q1

Describe your overall philosophy toward the role of state government as it relates to business and industry.

The governments role in business is to protect the consumers, employees and the employers. With that being said the government should refrain from interring with the direct operations of any one company

Q2

What do you bring to the office you seek? Specifically, what have you built, improved, or changed for the benefit of your community or business?

I started my working career in a steel mill in New Haven West Virginia and seen first hand what happens when manufacturing leaves our state. This needs to stop and Over the previous 5 years I have built my small business into a flourishing multi-community real estate operation. We strive to give back to our communities and if elected that is what I want to help bring back to West Virginia. I want to push to bring solid career based jobs back to West Virginia

Q3

Please list any groups, associations, or non-profits in which you are an active member or volunteer such as civic groups, labor organizations, advocacy groups.

American Legion, Marine Corps League, Chairman of the Ohio Valley Bank's Veteran Action Committee.

I also volunteer my time as a youth coach for various sports.

Q4

West Virginia is facing many challenges. What do you consider to be the most important and critical challenge that threatens our state and what is your plan to alleviate this threat?

Our most critical challenge is the exit of our youth to surrounding states. We need to invest in real world education and vocational training and employment opportunities to retain and employ our future in state.

Q5

During the 2020 Legislative Session, SJR 9 and SB 837 moved in the West Virginia Senate, but fell short of the votes needed to move to the House of Delegates. The intent of the effort was to allow West Virginians to vote on a constitutional amendment to phase-out/repeal of manufacturing inventory, machinery, and equipment tax, business inventory, and tax on passenger vehicles while making local governments and schools whole. Please describe your ideas for addressing this issue which requires a change to the West Virginia Constitution.

I do support the phase out and repeal of the business and inventory taxes. I would look to support candidates in the future who have these same beliefs in hopes of obtaining the required number of votes

Q6

What ideas do you have to help build our state's economy and improve West Virginia's position in competing for investment and job growth?

West Virginia has a very unique economy, built in the coal fields of southern West Virginia the economy is a shell of what it used to be. I want to see investment in our infrastructure to allow for better broadband, better roads and comprehensive tax reform for both the business and personal property.

Q7

Use of and addiction to opioids in West Virginia and our region have reached crisis levels. This is a problem being recognized not only at the state level, but at the federal level. What ideas do you have to help stop this devastating trend in our state?

We need to get our citizens back to work. I was always told growing up that the devil plays with idle hands, so lets put those hands to work. Giving our residents an education in the trades and providing employers for those trades are a great start. For the residents struggling now, lets get them the mental and physical healthcare they need, teach them a skill and lets get them to work.

Q8

Racial justice and equity, LGBTQ rights and gender equity are important factors for many current West Virginia employers, companies that consider moving to our State, and employees who may consider relocating to West Virginia. How would you address these issues to recruit and retain companies and employees for whom this is a priority?

Racial justice and equality is at the center or our national conversation. As a state we have battled with this for generations. To address this companies who decide that West Virginia is the ideal place to open a new location will need to have policies in place to address these issues. With that being said we also need to insure the religious freedoms are being maintained as well.

Q9

What are your specific ideas related to developing a diverse and skilled workforce in West Virginia?

As a society we need to get away from pushing 4 year college as the only pathway to success. Vocational schools, trade schools, apprenticeships all work. Lets rethink our education platform and give our children and future a chance at success.

Q10

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection proposed a rule for the 2021 Legislative Session to adopt a portion of US EPA recommended human health criteria which established limits for certain environmental permits. The WVMA is actively involved in ongoing discussions related to these criteria and supports the WV DEPs approach to establish an active work group to further evaluate these important measures. Please describe your position on the proposed rule.

At this time I am not in a position to speak on the proposed rule change. However, I believe that there can and should be open discussions between the agencies in-order to create the best economic and environmental situation for our state.

Q11

Please describe policies that you believe may be helpful in balancing state regulations and environmental rules while maintaining a competitive atmosphere for industrial job growth and investment?

For to long our state has been over regulated. At this moment I do not have any regulation and or deregulation policies. I will if elected insure that we hear from both parties and create a pro-jobs environment in West Virginia.

Q12

What would you like to share with our members that we have not asked?

I appreciated your time and consideration of my survey and look forward to any further questions you may have.

Q13

Would you be available for an interview remotely or in person?

I would be available for both.

Q14

Where may the WVMA follow you on Social Media? Please list social media handles including Facebook, Twitter, and others.

https://www.facebook.com/WamsleyforHouse

Q15

Name

Johnnie Wamsley

Q16

Office Seeking

House of Delegates

Q17

Party Affiliation

Republican

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District	
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Q19	
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wamsleyforhouse@gmail.com	
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State/Province	WV
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