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**COMPLETE**

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**Q1**

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

State government has the opportunity to develop a comprehensive economic development plan that maintains consistency in the markets and fosters growth opportunities for current and new business. That includes building and maintaining first class infrastructure and providing support to make it financially viable to business growth opportunities. It also includes fair and consistent tax and regulation.

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**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?

- 1) 30 year small business owner.
  - 2) Owner & CEO of RSN Sports Network across WV.
  - 3) Real Estate Developer
    - a) 2004 - successful completion of Seneca Valley Estates residential subdivision with 20 homes in the \$280K + market in Sissonville.
    - b). Current VP of Project Development at Ron Lane, Inc. commercial development. Actively developing WV's newest business park in Clarksburg with Northcentral Crossroads mixed-use commercial/industrial/shipping/entertainment 182 acre site.
  - 4) 2004 - Founded Greater Sissonville Development Council.
    - a) Served as President, VP & Secretary
    - b) Currently serving as active member.
    - c) GSDC has overseen multiple community improvement projects.
  - 5) Served on committee to build new Sissonville Middle School and new Sissonville Volunteer Fire Dept.
  - 6) Served on Charleston Sports Committee 2008-2011.
    - a) Spearheaded effort to bring WVSSAC volleyball tourney to Charleston Coliseum.
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**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.

2004-Current Founded Greater Sissonville Development Council (GSDC)

2008-2011 - Charleston Sports Committee

2009-2018 - Thomas Health System Board of Directors

a) Executive Committee

b) Strategic Planning Committee

2017-18 St. Francis Hospital Chairman of Board

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**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?

1) Loss of population. Specifically young people and families. Called the "Brain Drain" it effects our economy, educational test scores and strains our health care. Young people are the spenders and drive economies. They are buying cars, homes and paying for day care.

My intention is to develop a new 10-year economic development vision plan for West Virginia that incorporates attracting this vital demographic to our state. Where young families settle and thrive, new business follows. Innovation follows.

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**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 have been a proponent of this tax change. I am available to discuss the details of the current bills and how they can be adapted to pass in the future.

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**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?

As mentioned in question 4, I will be working to develop a new 10 year economic vision for West Virginia. That will include input from many accomplished individuals and interest groups such as WVMA. It astonishes me that this is not currently done but it's time to move forward. I see a comprehensive statewide plan tied together with separate regional plans that reflect their unique demographics and geopolitics. The plan will be open to regular editing but will be a consistent foundation to our decisions in government.

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**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?

- 1) I am for tough action against sellers and abusers.
  - 2) I want more support/counseling for families that are on the front line of this issue.
  - 3) I want to address how treatment programs transition patients back into society.
  - 4) I am against legalizing entry level drugs such as marijuana.
  - 5) I am for addressing the cultural breakdowns in communities hard hit by the crisis.
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**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?

Understanding this has been a controversial issue, I will counsel with key groups such as WVMA to develop policies that are both fair and pro business growth.

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**Q9**

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

- 1) Support vocational training both in and outside of high schools.
  - 2) Support community college free access with commitment to work in WV.
  - 3) Review public education funding to encourage basic skills as well as electives in skills and business education.
  - 4) Explore opportunities for apprentice work.
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**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.

I will support the WVMA in their efforts on this issue.

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**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?

I am for common sense regulations that protect the environment but understand West Virginia's unique topography challenges to expanding business development. We are a state of hills, valleys and flood plains and can't play the same regulation game as Western Ohio or Eastern Carolinas.

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**Q12**

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

I am an avid study of geopolitical science or how geography and population chemistry weigh heavy on how a region, country or state develop economies. I am confident I can offer valuable insight and direction for West Virginia.

I have a strong proven history in my community of developing a transforming vision and taking direct steps to unite forces and accomplish goals.

The GSDC has transformed Sissonville from a sleepy negative connotation to a vibrant and prospering community that has been named a WalletHub.com "Best Community" for home ownership in West Virginia. We are experiencing business and residential growth while other WV communities struggle.

I am inspired to take the next step for my state.

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**Q13**

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

Absolutely would be available for either.

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**Q14**

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

FB = Dana Ferrell for 39th House

Twitter = @DanaFerrell4WV

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**Q15**

Name

Dana Ferrell

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**Q16**

Office Seeking

39th House of Delegates

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**Q17**

Party Affiliation

Republican

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**Q18**

District

39th

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**Q19**

Email

danaferrell4wv@gmail.com

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**Q20**

Phone

3045434178

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**Q21**

Address

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State/Province	<b>WV</b>
ZIP/Postal Code	<b>25320</b>

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