

#53

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, August 03, 2020 3:19:43 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, August 03, 2020 4:39:42 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:19:59  
**IP Address:** 207.192.236.183

---

Page 1

**Q1**

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

Capitalism is a sound economic system but it does not limit abuses in the system, that make it just, fair and open to all members in the society it supports--and can woefully exploit at times. We need balance and government is the caretaker of that balance for justice.

---

**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 bring hope, optimism, a probing mind, a lifetime of experience in and out of government and community affairs.

---

**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.

Booker T. Washington Memorial Association, Docent for WV State University' s Booker T. Washington Complex in Malden; Kanawha Valley Village People, a seniors social organization; St. Johns Episcopal Church; Author of Virginia Slavery and King Salt in Booker T. Washington's Boyhood Home, an industrial and social history of the Kanawha Valley before the Civil War, the first comprehensive history in over a century.

---

**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?

We need a special plan for federal startup initiatives, fully funded, to create a technology corridor from Charleston to Charlotte, centered in Beckley near WVU Tech in Beckley, with four lanes going west into the coal counties and to Huntington.

First, we need to build broadband highways in every county of the state to encourage remote professionals to move to our state. We must maintain clean air and water and encourage retirees and adventure sports for their grandchildren. We have a bright future and need younger leadership to pull us through the 21st Century. We need their vision.

---

**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.

This is a difficult initiative. We need to keep funding local services and cannot afford to lose them. We should use a different taxation system to offset the inventory tax for many businesses, large and small. Creativity in taxation is needed to balance us competitively against out of state taxation systems which do not require a constitutional amendment to keep their major businesses competitive.

---

**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?

See prior responses to questions 4 and 5

---

**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 better health care, pharmacy controls and jobs. Most of all we need to build hope for people left behind or pushed off the community bus. We need to decriminalize cannabis and reduce our jail and prison populations to only dangerous people. Every two people released from prison saves enough to hire one social worker (Cost per prisoner is about \$26,000 to 28,000 and a social worker can be hired with benefits for \$50,000. With no vision applied to the problem so far, we spend our money on the crisis back end of problems and not on prevention. We could assign a social worker to each elementary school helping children in need and letting teachers teach the skills we need for jobs of the future. A new vision of ourselves is needed.

---

**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?

Yes, diversity and the inclusion of all people in all matters have been absolute priorities of my public career, since 1997. People deserve respect for their personal lives.

---

**Q9**

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

Free college tuition is essential. The success of the community college program has been monumental and now if putting pressure on the four year regional institutions for similar opportunities. It costs \$9 million for one year of free freshman- only tuition at the regional institutions (other than WVU and Marshall which receive the lion's share of Promise scholars). Also, federal health care for persons in the ages between 55 and 65 would open many jobs would enable many state government and private workers to retire and in turn to enable younger workers to step up to good jobs while the talented retirees add much to their communities. (Did I say Medicare for All at age 60 and then age 55?) It would greatly reduce the cost to major employers who are heavily burdened with health care costs. We need visionary leaders on these fronts.

---

**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.

The rule would have updated our standards with some being higher and some lower. The agency scientists took what appeared to be a measured response across the board, but our leadership on the Rules Committee took over the process and shutdown updated standards of any kind contending that further review was needed. That was the same reason used to deny agency updates in two prior review cycles.

Yes. Definitely a work group is welcomed to put us back on track for reasonable regulation where science leads us to clean air and water.

---

**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?

Chemours has adopted a new approach to regulation, that should be emulated, to guarantee that standards are not just met but fully implemented to assure clean air and water for its neighbors--like those in the Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys. Clean air and water are simply givens for the new generations looking to us for leadership. They do not want gamesmanship or belligerency, they want clean air and water. Again, vision is the key ingredient to successful leadership and the pursuit of happiness for all.

---

**Q12**

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

I beg your membership to recruit, train and hire a diverse workforce and be good neighbors, --leaders for change and a better life for all, something like we older folks remember growing up in the 50s and 60s when major corporations held a tangible hope for a better future for all. Vision is needed.

---

**Q13**

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

Yes remotely. I cannot risk a virus, since I and my wife are the primary family care givers for my mom age 94 and my wife's mom who is 97 living beside us.

A phone interview would be welcomed. I think we could share ideas and discuss the vision we need for leadership in West Virginia. Thank you for this opportunity. It has been provocative and helpful to organize some of my thoughts. thank you.

---

**Q14**

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

I do not use social media. I have a law office web site you may find helpful.

---

**Q15**

Name

Larry L. Rowe

---

**Q16**

Office Seeking

House of Delegates District 36

---

**Q17**

Party Affiliation

Democrat

---

**Q18**

District

36th District

---

**Q19**

Email

larryrowe@outlook.com (dont miss the "L" between names)

---

**Q20**

Phone

304 415 5566 cell 304 925 1333 law office

---

**Q21**

Address

Address **202 wayne isaac lane**

Address 2 **4200 malden drive**

City/Town **Charleston**

State/Province **WV**

ZIP/Postal Code **25306**

---