



2022 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Tyler Hardt

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Date: 9/12/2022

1. About you:

a. How old are you?

I am 42 years old.

b. In what part of Collier County do you live?

I live in the Villages of Monterey in North Naples.

c. How long have you lived in Collier County, and where were you living previously?

My family moved to Collier County in 1983 when I was 3 years old. I grew up here and returned in 2018 after living in Atlanta for the last 10 years.

d. What is your educational background and past work experiences?

I graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Maryland. I also earned an MBA with Honors from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. I am currently the founder and Chief Investment Officer of Pelican Bay Capital Management, LLC and institutional investment manager. I spent a decade as an Equity Analyst for a mutual fund company called Artisan Partners. I have also held roles in Corporate Finance and Mergers & Acquisitions for AT&T and American Tire.

e. What qualifies you for this job?

I have an expertise in finance and capital allocation, as well as experience developing multi-billion-dollar budgets for large companies like AT&T and American Tire. I am also a very good problem-solver with extensive leadership experience including several roles as a Strategic Advisor and Board of Director. I am also an alumnus of Associate Leadership Collier.

2. Why are you running for this position?

The North Collier Fire District is facing significant challenges posed by the combination of an accelerated growth in population and higher inflation. The district is also still navigating the financial implications of the merger between the North Naples and Big Corkscrew districts. My financial and budgeting experience will be a significant benefit to the Commission as we navigate these challenging financial issues.

The district has excellent leadership with great commissioners with year of experience in operations management, legal affairs, and working with first responders. My financial expertise

will be a significant benefit to the district that will complement the existing commissioners' strengths.

3. What are three things you want to accomplish if you are elected?

The most important accomplishment would be maintaining high quality service by making sure we have the men and women to deliver that service. Recruitment, training, and retention of our first responders is priority number one. Secondly, we must be prepared for continuing population growth and develop appropriate long-term plans for facilities and equipment needs. For example, we should use population and development forecasts along with strategic planning to select future fire station locations and purchase land before prices jump. Thirdly, we need to resolve open financial issues concerning the merger between North Naples and Big Corkscrew fire districts.

4. Name one past policy decision of the board you are running for that you disagree with that you would like to change if elected. Why?

There are not many past issues that I disagree with. We have excellent commissioners who have done a great job hiring leadership roles and developing the capabilities to deliver high quality fire and emergency services for the county. However, the immediate and pressing challenges facing the Commission and our fire district include the rapid increase in inflation and a population boom that exceeds our historical growth rates. My financial expertise will be a significant benefit to the Commission in putting together the response to meet these new challenges.

5. What is the most important thing voters should know about the issues at stake in this election, before making their decision about who to vote for?

The ability to continue existing service levels from our amazing first responders while keeping the budget in check and taxes low is the biggest issue our citizens will face over the next several years. The citizens deserve a representative on the Commission with strong financial acumen and problem-solving skills, and I will be that Commissioner.

Please email your responses to Sandy Parker, sandy@sparkers-soapbox.com , no later than September 16, 2022.

Thank you!