

Helen A. Schartz
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Tom Kriz, Johnson County Treasurer
Kim Painter, Johnson County Recorder
Tom Slockett, Johnson County Auditor
913 S. Dubuque St. Suite 101
Iowa City, IA 52240

October 13, 2009

Dear Vacancy Committee:

I am honored to write this letter of support for Janelle Rettig to fill the current vacancy on the Johnson County Board of Supervisors. My family and I have lived in Johnson County for over 10 years, and I have known Ms. Rettig for more than 26 years. She has always been devoted to serving her community, whether it was our college community at Knox College, her city on the Iowa City Airport Commission, her county on the county's Compensation Board and the Trails Committee, or her state community by serving on the Natural Resource Commission. She represents broad perspectives and is able to work with a wide range of people. She brings with her both experience in family, business and government. Therefore, I believe that she would be an excellent board member.

I believe that Janelle would be an excellent selection to complete the remainder of Mr. Meyer's term. My family and I were saddened to hear of Mr. Meyer's death. He will be missed, and our condolences go out to his family and friends. This summer, Janelle announced her intent to run for the Johnson County Board of Supervisors. At her kick-off event this fall, my 10 year old daughter asked Janelle to tell her about her platform – a good thing to know when you are deciding whether to support a candidate. Janelle told her that she didn't have a platform yet, that if she were elected she would be representing the residents of Johnson County, and that she needed to know what they wanted her to do. So, my daughter had a few ideas to share. Janelle has already been out doing that - talking with Johnson County residents to find out what issues they think are important, what things they want done and suggestions on how to improve the county. She has gathered lots of ideas and suggestions and is ready to implement some of these.

Appointing Janelle to fill the current vacancy will not change her campaign. She will still need to be selected in the June 2010 primary and the subsequent election in order to continue serving on the board. Selecting her to fulfill the vacancy means that the term will be finished by someone who is ready, willing and able to serve the folks of Johnson County right now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Helen A. Schartz