

George "Jody" Sweeney
Candidate for Levy Court
5th District

Hello, Friends,

Today, I filed to run for the office of Commissioner for the 5th District of Kent County Levy Court. I have been very pleased to serve the constituents of Kent County for these last seven years.

Over that time, I have been part of a team of Commissioners who are committed to maintaining low tax rates and high customer service to the residents and businesses of Kent County. We are a great team, and though I use "I" in this letter, it is only with this team that we are so successful.

The Kent County budget, which was nearly \$30 million in 2008, was reduced to \$22.5 million through expense reduction in my first term, has remained at less than \$24million over the last six years. Although costs continue to rise, Kent County Commissioners have maintained or lowered the tax rate over the last 5 years. I have been and will continue to be an advocate for the State to look within to find cost reductions instead of deflecting them to the County. We have worked very hard to ensure that Kent County residents continue to have one of the lowest tax rates in the country.

During these seven years, I have assisted many residents in navigating Kent County ordinances and obtaining permits, from a resident's wheelchair ramp in Briar Park to a home healthcare business in Woodside. Kent County has great employees who are ready and willing to assist County residents. In these seven years, the other Commissioners and I have improved the ordinances and permitting process to allow permits to be granted with less red tape. We have found and corrected ordinances that were not very clear to make it easier for our residents to understand.

I will continue to advocate for the health of our children by maintaining open space, furthering the development of County parks, and increasing the number of healthy activities offered by the County Parks and Recreation Department. The Kent County Recreation Facility, partnered with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware, will offer many programs designed to keep kids active and healthy. The Kent County Regional Sports Facility, also known as De Turf, will offer a venue for dozens of sports tournaments throughout the year, bringing tens of millions of economic dollars to the County. I supported the Delmarva Boy Scouts Akridge Reservation, which will support scouting for many, many years, and I am a huge advocate of the 4-H program, which teaches children of all ages how to be good citizens, environmentalists, and adults.

I will continue to look at every possible solution to assist developments and homeowners with issues such as Homeowner Association management, dues collection, deed restrictions, snow removal, deteriorating structures, abandoned property, and neighbors who just don't care about their surroundings.

Over my time on Levy Court, I have supported Veterans and members of the military with tax discounts, tributes, and the Kent County Veterans Memorial.

These are my qualifications to work for you. I am your employee to represent you at Kent County Levy Court. I hope you will consider me for the job for another four years by voting for George "Jody" Sweeney in the November elections this year.

I consider it my pleasure to serve the residents of the 5th Levy Court District during these last seven years and hope I am given the opportunity to continue serving.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jody Sweeney". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.