

Statement From Village Administration On May 2024 Elections February 26, 2024

Dear Citizens and Voters,

I wanted to inform you of a decision I recently made regarding the upcoming 2024 elections for the Alderman positions. The Village received candidate applications from two individuals that did not fill in all the blanks on the application.

One candidate's application was determined to be compliant in accordance with a Supreme Court of Texas case, No. 22-0193, In re Linda Anthony, Relator, On Petition for Writ of Mandamus.

The second candidate left an unchecked box and a blank space. Unfortunately, the application was not reviewed in accordance with the state Election Code, Section 141.032(b), which states "the review shall be completed not later than the fifth day after the date the application is received by the authority." The candidate submitted the application timely and if the Village would have reviewed the application, it could have provided time for the candidate to file a new application for the Alderman position. I believe in being fair and equitable in all situations. Since the Village failed to review the application, I have decided that the candidate will stay on the ballot. I recognize that the decision may be challenged or overruled by a court having jurisdiction. I believe that voters should decide a candidate's fate through a democratically held election or a court issue order, rather than be disqualified by an employee.

It is my understanding that applicants for prior Salado Board of Aldermen elections were disqualified. I cannot speak about why that occurred as I am not familiar with the details. However, I understand why some individuals may not agree with my decision. I am committed to protecting the integrity of the election process, and I am committed to building trust in the community. My goal is to protect the interests of all members in our community.

Respectfully, Manny De La Rosa Village Administrator Village of Salado