



CoolSavings.com

Other editions: [Mobile](#) | [News Feeds](#) | [E-Newsletters](#) | [Twitter](#)

Find it: [Advertise with us](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Apartments](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Classifieds](#)



SEARCH ALL  go



HOME NEWS SPORTS WEATHER NEIGHBORHOODS ENTERTAINMENT LIVING CLASSIFIEDS REAL ESTATE VOICES OBITUARIES CUSTOMER SERVICE

Wolf Pack Prep Sports NBA NFL MLB Skiing Outdoors Golf Football Challenge



Comment, blog & share photos  
[Log in](#) | [Become a member](#) | [Search people](#)

POWERED BY YOU AND THE RENO GAZETTE JOURNAL

## Breternitz is best choice for Washoe County panel

OCTOBER 21, 2008

[Post a Comment](#) [Recommend](#) [Print this page](#) [E-mail this article](#) [Share](#)

In these difficult economic times, the Washoe County Commission needs members who have the experience and the willingness to make very tough decisions. In District 1, generally the west Reno area and Incline Village, that person is John Breternitz.

ADVERTISEMENT



[Educators No. 1 Online Graduate School Program](#)



[Avoid Bankruptcy with Credit Card Debt Settlement](#)



[Credit Card Debt Help](#)

Breternitz, a retired construction industry executive (he trained as an architect) and immediate past president of the Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, is facing Toni Harsh, a former member of the Reno City Council, for the office. Both Breternitz and Harsh are Republicans; no Democrats filed for the position.

In his role in RSCVA and at the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada, Breternitz has shown that he is good at consensus-building and working with a wide variety of interests to accomplish important goals for the community.

As so often happens in this area, Breternitz has been painted as a tool of construction and development interests. It is, however, an unfair characterization. Over the years, he has insisted, for instance, that EDAWN raise its standards for the businesses that it targets to ensure they create good jobs and take an active interest in the community. He argues that state and local efforts to attract new businesses bring in far more money in taxes than they cost governments.

Breternitz is particularly concerned about the ongoing dispute between the county and homeowners at Incline Village who have sued over property tax assessments. With the county losing consistently in the courts, he believes it's time to try to negotiate a settlement.

Harsh was one of the originators of a measure that will appear on the Nov. 4 ballot to require planning be tied to "sustainable" water resources. Breternitz opposes it because, he says, it will have little real effect on growth, though he believes it will pass.

Harsh is difficult to pin down on other issues, however, and her term on the Reno City Council was marked by the appearance of indecisiveness. She often voted against important city projects, including the railroad "trench" and the demolition of the Mapes.

The county cannot afford to be indecisive in the face of a declining economy. For District 1, Breternitz is the best choice.

### SNAPSHOT

TOPIC: County Commission, District 1  
OUR VIEW: Voters should pick the candidate with a demonstrated record of a willingness to make tough decisions.

### Latest Headlines

[Charity poker tourney tomorrow to help Nevada Humane Society](#)

[Work continues on \\$26M, 195-foot airport tower](#) (1)

[Billionaire Nevada investor cutting his Ford Motor losses](#)

[Police offering \\$1,500 reward for information on fugitive](#) (6)

[Immigration: Debate over Texas study and cost of illegal immigration](#)

### More Voices Headlines

[Schumacher understands role she'd play on Supreme Court](#)

[Voters should return Adams to the bench in district court](#)

[Larkin should keep Commission seat](#) (3)

[Voters should retain Regent Geddes](#)

[Voters should retain Regent Geddes](#)

### In Your Voice