George Marlin  
Clear Creek County Commissioner, Colorado  
Elected 2018

What would you most like to accomplish as an elected leader?  
I want to help Clear Creek County solve its fiscal problems without overbuilding or embracing industries that cause harm to our health or our environment.

What are the biggest challenges ahead of you and for your community during your term?  
Shrinking mine revenue and population growth in Colorado have combined to apply real growth pressure in Clear Creek County, which sits between Denver and ski country. Almost our entire population of 10,000 people drive past us every day on I-70 where congestion is a fact of life. A beautiful place with narrow valley towns and four fourteeners, there is little flat area to build. Roughly 80 percent of the land is public and the Arapahoe Roosevelt National Forest is one of the most visited in the country. The resultant recreation tourism economy is bursting at the seams while failing to pay sufficient wages for workers to afford housing and meet other basic needs. Clear Creek
needs smart, limited growth that solves these problems without the need for construction in our most precious places (there are a lot of them!), doesn’t exacerbate climate change and creates real opportunity for people who want to treat Clear Creek County like a community.

What advice would you give someone considering running for office for the first time?
Talk to as many people as possible and promise yourself to follow up every expression of support with a request for help. Whether it is volunteering, donating or displaying campaign material, your supporters will carry you through. It is your job to give them the clearest possible path to influencing your election.

Is there a conservation-related rule, policy or idea you’d like to see implemented at the local, state and/or national level?
The Green New Deal. Put Americans to work and pay them well as we build an economy that can survive itself.