

Report On County Commissioners

Austin Morris-Montgomery County

July 29th, 2013

On July 29th, 2013, I interviewed my Montgomery County Commissioner Mr. Jim Matheny. Commissioner Matheny has been on the Montgomery County Commission Board for over 5 years. I asked him what influenced him to run for Commissioner and he told me that when he first moved to Montgomery County he wanted to be a part of the local community and help out in a positive way, so he decided to run for County Commissioner. I asked him if he planned to go for re-election and his answer was that he was undecided.

Our conversation continued and I questioned him about what he would like to change about our county. He said that we needed more industry jobs. I agreed with him on that topic because unemployment is a big issue in my county. Jobs are also the number one issue that people ask him about. Along with jobs, people also ask him about school needs and of course taxes. We moved on to what was one of the hardest decisions he has had to make as a county commissioner. He told me that when he first came into the Commissioner board that some of the hardest decisions that he had to make were the budget and having to raise taxes. Our final conversation was about the 24/27 bypass and how it would affect Montgomery County. This issue concerns me because the bypass is going to cut around my town to a neighboring city. He said that it would lessen traffic in the town I live, Troy, and make it easier to travel from Montgomery County to Raleigh.

I enjoyed my conversation with Mr. Jim Matheny, and I plan on attending the County Commissioner's meeting on August 20th.