

Grace Swain interviewed a County Commissioner, Leroy Spivey.

1. How long have you served on the Board? Will you run for re-election when your current term expires?

Mr. Leroy has served for less than a year. He started in December 2012. He isn't sure at the moment. He said, "when he looks in the mirror he'll see if he's done his job and then he'll probably run again." But, he's on a 2-year term so he isn't concentrating on that right now.

2. What are your local priorities, or what county issues hold the most importance to you?

He said economic, growth, trying to find jobs for people. There is also a drain issue and there is also an issue for recreation in Columbia.

3. Are there long-term concerns you have about our County? What role does the Board of Commissioners play in addressing those concerns?

He said economic growth was the biggest concern. Another issue they are faced with is the need to relocate things. It is the role of the Commissioners to address these concerns. Later in August they will be announcing their new County Manager, which Tyrrell County has never had so they are looking forward to that.

4. What are the biggest issues that citizens ask you about?

The budget, because they had to raise taxes and they wondered where the money was going.

5. What are some of the responsibilities for county governments that you were not aware of when you ran for office?

The issues they have to deal with on a daily basis. He didn't think he would have so much on his plate from day 1.

6. What are the hardest decisions you've faced as a county commissioner?

Working on the budget and balancing it and staying on budget. Also, trying to deal with the fact that people might not get all of the money that they need.