

Interview with Chowan County Manager Kevin Howard on August 12, 2014.

Copy of E-mail sent prior to interview:

Dear Mr. Howard,

Good Morning! My name is Charles Maus and it is my pleasure to be representing Chowan County at the NCACC Youth Summit this weekend in Asheville, NC. Thank you for meeting with me this afternoon at 2pm.

I have three questions that I would like to ask you. They are listed below.

1. What are some of the local priorities and/or what county issues hold the most importance to you?
2. What are some of the most significant decisions that you have had to make since holding office?
3. What are the most common issues about which our local citizens ask you/your office?

Thank You! I look forward to meeting you this afternoon.

Sincerely,
Charles Maus

Transcript of Interview:

What are some of the local priorities and/or what county issues hold the most importance to you?

Answer- One of the most important issues facing our county right now is the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) budget. We would like for them to be self supportive, but as of yet, they haven't shown movement in that direction.

What are some of the most significant decisions that you have had to make since holding office?

Answer- So far, during my short term of service, the most important decision, I believe, has been budget planning for future fiscal years. *(Mr. Howard began his service as Chowan County Manager in March 2014)*

What are the most common issues about which our local citizens ask you/your office?

Answer- We get many questions into my office from the citizens of this county, but a few of the main ones focus on Parks and Recreation facilities for locals. Many citizens would like to see additional services offered through the Parks and Recreation facility. Also, my office and I have been contacted about the recent decrease in property values, which has everyone worried, not only because of their "drop", but because of the effect which the loss in tax revenue is going to have on our county budget.

The interview lasted about an hour. Mr. Howard was very open with his comments and was very generous in giving me his time out of his busy schedule. I enjoyed our conversation as we compared the opportunity that I have had the past 3 years to attend and represent my county at the NCACC Youth Summit. He was very supportive and looked forward to my presentation later after the summit in Asheville, NC.