

Hi, my name is Joey Moore, and I represented Franklin County at the 5th Annual NCACC youth Summit.

I interviewed Commissioner John May of Franklin County. He represents District 3 and serves as the Vice chair of the Board. He was elected in 2012 and said that he hopes to run again when re-election comes. When I asked whether he had intentions of running for the general assembly he recalled the partial term he served on the general assembly when he was appointed to replace one of the elected officials. Commissioner May said that while serving on the General Assembly allows you to help a lot of people. "It's very rewarding being a County Commissioner."

I asked Commissioner May what his biggest responsibility as a County Commissioner was? He answered that it was determining the budget, and deciding what they could spend on services such as EMS, and at what level they could provide the services that they offered. He said that his favorite part of being a county commissioner was being able to help people and that he cared about making sure the necessary services are available to the public, and ensuring their quality of life remains high.

Commissioner May said that the decisions that keep him up at night the most were the budget choices, and cuts. He said that cutting services or lowering their quality were the hardest decisions to make. His top priorities as a commissioner are ensuring that unemployment stays low and that everyone in Franklin County has a job. "If a family can have jobs, and work, and provide for their family in the in the most basic ways that is priority number one." Other priorities are mainlining high quality education, building a satellite library in rural Centerville, and increasing Highway 401 to four lanes to attract economic growth. He said that the biggest danger that faces our county is economic growth / unemployment, which ties hand in hand with his biggest priority as a commissioner.

I enjoyed getting to know Commissioner May. He also went to say that he was in 4-H as a youth, and that his first project was a brooder hog. He spoke about what a good youth organization he thought 4-H was.

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My county manager, Ms. Angela Harris, gave me a tour of our county office in Louisburg. She showed me her office, the office of the clerk, and the various other staff amongst the building, while explaining what they did. She told me that our county office used to be a prison. And while it's been remodeled in most of the halls and offices, you can still tell when you enter the main staircase which is clearly reinforced and was built specially to transport prisoners. She then showed me the meeting room where the Commissioner meetings take place, told me where each Commissioner sits in that room, and how the meetings generally take place.

I really enjoyed getting to talk with one of my commissioners and getting to talk to our manager along with touring the county office. It is very enlightening to talk to our local politicians and learn what they actually have control over in the county. I hope to attend more county commissioner meetings in the future so that I can learn more about what is going on in my county, and talk with more commissioners.

Pictures of the Youth Summit:



NCACC President Elect introducing 4-Hers Grace Swain and Brandon Hartman.

State 4-H Secretary Treasurer Brandon Hartman speaking about what he learned during the Youth Summit.



Playing the Bottom Line budget game designed to simulate what being a county commissioner is like.

