

Report On County Manager

Nathan Powell-Montgomery County

On Monday August 4th 2014, I interviewed Matthew Woodard, the Montgomery County Manager. I went into the interview not knowing what a county manager does. This has been a learning experience on how the county government works. The county government is interesting to learn about.

Matthew Woodard has been our county manager for 3 years. The county commissioners appointed him to this position. He has about 220 employees and 16 departments under his management. He is responsible along with the county commissioners to establish a yearly budget. He meets with the department heads to determine what they need in the yearly budget. The county manager is required to let the department heads know what their budget is for the year. He speaks with the county commissioners weekly and meets with them monthly. He is working with the county commissioners to find ways to increase the county population. Montgomery County is in the center of major cities which would attract more residents who want to live outside of the city and commute to work. With a larger population, it would increase revenue for the county and local businesses. His goal as county manager is to make Montgomery County a better place in which to live, work and play.

On July 15,2014, I attended a county commissioners meeting for the first time. There were interesting topics discussed at the meeting including a highly debated issue of cell phone towers. I have learned a lot by doing this and I look forward to learning more in the future.