

Lauryn Ameri  
July 17, 2014

Woody White has served as commissioner of New Hanover county since December 3rd, 2012; he became a commissioner because he wanted to make a difference and use his experience in business and his community to make good decisions. because he was concerned that good decisions had not been made in a couple of areas. Although he commissioner White, in his personal opinion, believes he has exceeded his expectations, he doesn't know if he will run for reelection because it is more demanding on his time than he originally thought.

The county issues that hold the most importance to Commissioner White include: keeping taxes low, keeping the beaches healthy, helping the economy grow, and doing everything we can as local leaders to encourage local development ensuring job availability out of college, giving them choices with a broad range of jobs.

The biggest issues that the citizens ask change, during his first year as commissioner it was about the problems that another commissioner's personal life had on the issues they were facing. He also had figure out how to deal with the citizens reaction to the Connecticut school shooting, and how much money to allocate to school safety besides what they were already doing. He also deals with ongoing issues of budgets taxes, law enforcement, fire protection, require him to make decisions about how much money to spend where because all counties have immeasurable needs, and to make the best decision with the finite resources understanding that they can't do everything.

Two of the hardest decisions commissioner White has faced since assuming his role v: who to select o fill the empty spot where another commissioner had moved up, and also when and how to deal with another commissioners personal problems that were affecting their jobs.

When assuming the position as commissioner of New Hanover County, Woody White did not expect he would be responsible for: managing people, crises management with events like the school shooting, and the citizens reaction to such events.

Woody White explained to me that there are long term concerns in a few couple areas such as: how we're going to manage our growth, how we're going to manage our taxes, how we're going to manage our debt, what does our county look like physically, in terms of are there going to be new industries here, where to put them, what is it going to look like twenty years from now county commissioners don't have complete control over these issues but they do play a role in the system.