

Interview with Loria Williams
Hertford County County Manger
by Samantha Newsome

My name is Samantha Newsome and I live in Ahoskie, NC. I will be attending the Ninth Grade Success Academy in Murfreesboro, NC for the 2012-2013 school year. I am pleased to have the opportunity to attend the NCACC Annual Meeting and Youth Summit in Raleigh, NC.

I had the pleasure of interviewing Hertford County Manager Ms. Loria Williams. I chose Ms. Williams as my interview candidate after I had the chance to observe her at the Hertford County County Commissioners Meeting on August 6th. Ms. Williams was professional with her style and delivery of information as it related to the topics on the agenda. Ms. Williams has a very important job with the county. She must approve the county budget, settle the tax rate, maintain the upkeep of county roads and request for assistance in cleaning the neighboring property. What I have mentioned is just a portion of what she does. The purpose of my interview with Ms. Williams was to find out what it was like to be a County Manager and some of the challenges she has to face as a result.

Ms. Williams was born in Warren County. She was mostly influenced by her parents and grandparents growing up. In high school, Ms. Williams said she loved English, Physics and she loved learning about the state and federal government. Her favorite High School Teacher was Mr. Russell. After high school, Ms. Williams continued her education at Lewisburg University completing two years of study. Some of the obstacles she faced growing up was being raised on a farm with her parents and grandparents.

Becoming County Manager wasn't Ms. Williams's dream job but it was a stepping stone to other things. Since becoming County Manager, she has seen progress in the county and it continues to grow. Her mission as a County Manager was to make sure the right thing was done with the tax dollars. Some of the positive things she has seen since in office is the upcoming building of the new County Court House. When asked if she would influence other young people to become a County Manager, she said she certainly would because of the fact that young people need to become more involved. The Mission of the Hertford County Government is to demonstrate a good return for tax dollars by delivering services that exceed the performance standards of the citizens that receive them. To this end, we will strive to create and maintain a work environment that, on balance, motivates Hertford County's workforce to consistently excel in the provision those services.

I am very glad that I had the opportunity to meet and interview Ms. Williams. She is a very smart lady and I feel she is doing a good job with her duties as County Manager. Her responsibilities are great and her dedication is even larger. Ms. Williams influenced me to be the best that I can be and to continue to strive to make good grades in school. I will definitely consider local or county government as my career choice.

Samantha Newsome
Hertford County

Hertford County Manager

The County Manager is appointed by the Hertford County Board of Commissioners and serves as the county's chief administrator, as defined in NCGS 153A-81. The County Manager is responsible for the day to day operations of the county and supervises all departments under the Board's control. In addition the County Manager serves as the Budget Officer, who develops and presents the county's operating budget, including revenues and expenditures, each fiscal year for the Board of Commissioners' consideration and adoption. The County Manager is responsible for implementing the ordinances and policies adopted by the Board of Commissioners. In essence, the County Manager's role is to ensure that Administration operates properly at the direction of the Board of Commissioners.

