

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2005

SUBJECT: Resolution Adopting Hancock County, Mississippi as a Sister Community

ATTACHMENTS: Draft Resolution

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

As was discussed during the meeting on November 16, 2005, a resolution establishing a formal relationship between Henderson County and Hancock County, Mississippi has been drafted and is attached. The resolution calls for the following four specific actions:

- Create the Hancock County, Mississippi Donations Fund, the purpose of which will be to collect donations and remit them to Hancock County, Mississippi to be used for Hurricane Katrina relief and recovery efforts.
- Request that the Henderson County, North Carolina Public School System adopt the Hancock County, Mississippi Public School System as a sister system for the purpose of assisting with rebuilding efforts and ensuring the educational welfare of the children of Hancock County, Mississippi.
- Encourage Henderson County, North Carolina's local non-profit agencies to take an active role in this effort through visiting Hancock County, Mississippi to participate in recovery, clean-up, and rebuilding efforts.
- Develop a formal method for employees of Henderson County, North Carolina to assist their counterparts in Hancock County, Mississippi through a program that will allow employees to travel to Hancock County, Mississippi in order to assist with the rebuilding of the governmental infrastructure.

Commissioner Baldwin along with staff will provide additional information during the meeting.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION/ACTION REQUIRED:

Staff recommends the attached resolution be adopted.

**HENDERSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Resolution Adopting Hancock County, Mississippi as a Sister Community

Whereas, the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama experienced and continues to experience the effects of one of the greatest natural disasters in history, Hurricane Katrina; and

Whereas, the human suffering, measured in loss of life, homes, workplaces, and basic community infrastructure, is massive and continues; and

Whereas, Hurricane Katrina has created unprecedented damage and hardship for *Hancock County, Mississippi*; and

Whereas, *Hancock County, Mississippi* and Henderson County, North Carolina share numerous common traits including a rich cultural heritage, the value of family and community ties, and civic commitment; and

Whereas, units of local governments in the United States of America has a rich history and solid tradition of providing mutual aid to one another during times of crisis; and

Whereas, Henderson County, North Carolina desires to assist *Hancock County, Mississippi* with its rebuilding efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Henderson County, North Carolina to adopt *Hancock County, Mississippi* as a sister community and to actively assist *Hancock County, Mississippi* in its recovery efforts. Specifically, the Board of Commissioners of Henderson County, North Carolina resolves that the following actions be taken in relation to this effort:

- 1) Create the Hancock County, Mississippi Donations Fund, the purpose of which will be to collect donations and remit them to Hancock County, Mississippi to be used for Hurricane Katrina relief and recovery efforts.
- 2) Request that the Henderson County, North Carolina Public School System adopt the Hancock County, Mississippi Public School System as a sister system for the purpose of assisting with rebuilding efforts and ensuring the educational welfare of the children of Hancock County, Mississippi.
- 3) Encourage Henderson County, North Carolina's local non-profit agencies to take an active role in this effort through visiting Hancock County, Mississippi to participate in recovery, clean-up, and rebuilding efforts.
- 4) Develop a formal method for employees of Henderson County, North Carolina to assist their counterparts in Hancock County, Mississippi through a program that will allow employees to travel to Hancock County, Mississippi in order to assist with the rebuilding of the governmental infrastructure.

Furthermore, this resolution conveys Henderson County, North Carolina's heartfelt wishes for the future of the *Hancock County, Mississippi* in its rebuilding efforts.

Adopted this the 5th day of December, 2005.

William L. Moyer, Chairman

Charles Messer, Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Larry R. Young, Commissioner

Elizabeth Corn, Clerk to the Board

Shannon Baldwin, Commissioner

Chuck McGrady, Commissioner