**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

The Board of Supervisors of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County, Mississippi took up for consideration the issue of increased funding for emergency telephone services provided by the county, namely legislative amendments to Chapter 5 of Title 19 of the Mississippi Code of 1972. After full discussion of the subject, Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ offered and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (“BOARD”) OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI (“COUNTY”) URGING THE 2016 MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TO AMEND CHAPTER 5 OF TITLE 19 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972 TO INCREASE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE FUNDING FOR MISSISSIPPI COUNTIES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of the County hereby finds, determines and declares as follows:

**I.**

Chapter 5 of Title 19 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 gives Mississippi county governments responsibility for implementing and managing a system of 911 call taking on behalf of the citizens of the State and provides for a funding stream for such services based on telephone subscriber surcharges; and

**II.**

The county 911 system faces significant challenges to meet rapidly changing technology requirements, a funding stream whose failure to keep pace with operational needs requires counties to rely heavily and increasingly on the wireless telephone surcharges and the subsidy of county general funds; and

**III.**

The current 911 statutory scheme keys its planning, administrative and audit functions separately to different communications technologies, inhibiting counties’ ability to manage the system, to incorporate shared services or to implement system efficiencies; and

**IV.**

The current 911 statutory scheme provides for a subscriber fee structure with a monthly surcharge on wireline, wireless, and VoIP subscribers, ranging from $1.00 to $2.00 per subscriber per month for wireline, and sets at $1.00 per subscriber per month the fee for VoIP and $1.00 per subscriber per month for wireless with 28% of that $1.00 being retained by the Commercial Mobile Radio Service Board for wireless carrier cost recovery; and

**V.**

The current statute’s wireline fees have not changed since the law’s original enactment and the wireless and VoIP fees, though adopted later, were keyed to the wireline rates, already out of date; and

**VI**.

Mississippi counties over many years have been forced to adapt and upgrade their 911 systems to meet unanticipated technology changes, including locator systems, and are now actively planning to meet future technology requirements including Next Generation 911 text, video and other social media means of communication; and

**VII.**

This onslaught of technology changes was unforeseen and has dramatically altered the ability of the present funding structure to meet county needs for both operations and capital costs of the 911 systems; and

**VIII.**

The need to address the funding stream for Mississippi counties’ 911 systems is immediate and will reach crisis proportions if action is delayed past April 30, 2016; and

**IX.**

The need to address the restructuring of the current Commercial Mobile Radio Service Board by creating a State 911 Board is immediate in order to put in place a governing body capable of supporting county 911 services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of the County that it join with the Mississippi Association of Supervisors to support legislation in the 2016 Session of the Mississippi Legislature to revise the current 911 statutory scheme as set forth in Chapter 5 of Title 19 of the Mississippi Code of 1972; and

**RESOLVED** that the Board of the County supports a reform bill that is technology neutral, allowing counties to develop systems meeting current and future needs; and

**RESOLVED** that the Board of the County supports a reform bill that combines planning, administrative, funding and audit responsibilities into a single consolidated agency or Board, affording counties the best opportunity to manage effectively, facilitate shared services, incorporate system efficiencies and readily adapt to new technologies; and

**RESOLVED** that a copy of this RESOLUTION by mailed to the County’s state legislative delegation, to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and to the Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives.

Following the reading of the foregoing RESOLUTION, Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion for its adoption. The President of the Board put the question to a vote and the members voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution.

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Supervisors of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County, the President declared the motion carried and the RESOLUTION adopted, on this the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

President, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Clerk, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County