

WORKING TOGETHER

Post Office Box 334  
Leakesville, MS 39451-0334



TRENT ROBERTSON  
Director

TO PROTECT LIFE & PROPERTY

March 22, 2023  
Trent Robertson, Director  
Greene County Emergency Management  
P. O. Box 334  
Leakesville, MS 39451

Dear Congressman Ezell,

It is with great honor that I stand in support of the Greene County Board of Supervisors in seeking funding for a new 911 Telecommunications Center.

Since the implementation of the first 911 system for Greene County in the early 2000's, the system has been located in a 7 x 12 room with the electrical components being housed in a non-climate-controlled room attached to the outside of the building. On several occasions, the system has suffered component damage due to the lack of a climate-controlled atmosphere. The room in which the answering point sits has no HVAC filtration system to prevent dust build up, hence causing potential damage to the computer and phone. The building in which the system is used was constructed in the early 1990's and houses the Sheriff's Office and a 30-bed jail that is obsolete and suffers from leaking roofs and a lack of space. There is also the concern of inadequate security from the outside. I feel very strongly that our 911 Telecommunications Center should be very secure and hardened against natural as well as manmade disasters.

To construct a hardened facility that is up to code as required by the government is well beyond the reach of our small county. Our local leaders have explored many avenues to purchase a new 911 Telecommunications Center but due to the rural nature and low tax base for Greene County, it has proven to be cost prohibitive.

For these reasons, I strongly support the Greene County Board of Supervisors in seeking funding for a new, hardened 911 Center that meets the requirements for Greene County. If you have any further questions about the current 911 building or if you would like to schedule a tour of the current facility, please do not hesitate to let me know. I can be reached at 601-394-9220.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trent Robertson".

Trent Robertson, Director  
Greene County Emergency Management



**GREENE COUNTY**  
**MISSISSIPPI**  
*Office of the Board of Supervisors*

**Dillon McInnis** - District One  
**Elton Clark** - District Two  
**Wayburn Danny Smith** - District Three  
**Wayne Barrow** - District Four  
**Gary F. Fairley** - District Five  
**Paul Walley** - Attorney

March 6, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell  
 443 Cannon House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Ezell:

First, let us congratulate you upon your election to serve Mississippi in the U.S. House of Representatives. You garnered roughly 80 percent of the votes cast in Greene County in November's general election, and we were happy to host you at our Veterans Day program shortly thereafter on November 10. Greene County also congratulates you for your assignment to the Transportation and Infrastructure and Homeland Security Committees. Two committees where we believe you are well prepared to provide very valuable insight.

Greene County is focused on three FY 2024 economic development priorities identified by county leadership where we believe you are well positioned to help us. Below is a brief summary of those priorities.

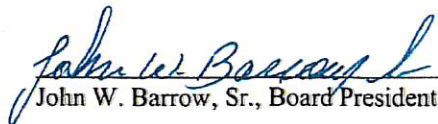
First, after two years working with the United States Forest Service (USFS) attempting to bring additional and improved amenities to Turkey Fork Recreation Area, Greene County believes the only way to add meaningful improvements at Turkey Fork is through a land conveyance/purchase from the USFS to a shared ownership between Greene County and the Pat Harrison Waterway District. Greene County requests legislation in the 2023 Farm Bill like the Lake Okhissa land conveyance to the Scenic Rivers Development Alliance that our Mississippi Federal Delegation secured Farm Bill legislation in 2018.

Second, Greene County requests \$750,000 for a detailed feasibility study and site selection evaluation to advance the proposed Greene/George County regional airport. Via a June 2022 interlocal agreement, George and Greene Counties continue their cooperation and efforts to build an airport. Greene County has agreed to serve as the applicant for the funds through MDOT.

Third, Greene County seeks \$1,000,000 to build a 30' X 30' secure and hardened 911 Dispatch Call Center building. Greene County, in 2022, received state funding to build a new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with regional supply storage capabilities just North of Leakesville. A request for bids for the EOC construction will go out this Spring. Greene County sees great benefit to adding a hardened 911 dispatch call center at the EOC complex.

Congressman Ezell, thank you and your staff for your interest in Greene County's success, and we respectfully ask for your consideration and support for these requests. Greene County recognizes that you are well positioned in Congress to advocate on our behalf for these projects. We plan on visiting you in your Washington office in the near future to discuss these priorities face-to-face.

Respectfully,

  
 John W. Barrow, Sr., Board President

03-08-23  
 Date



## GREENE COUNTY MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Danny Box, PhD,  
Director

To whom it may concern,

During the 2022 session of the Mississippi Legislature, Greene County was awarded 1.2 million dollars for the renovation of a county owned building for conversion to an Emergency Management Agency (EMA) complex. The project will house all employees of the Greene County EMA, and it will provide considerable storage space for equipment and supplies. In addition, the facility will have ample space for hosting training events for volunteer fire department personnel, search and rescue teams, and other professionals engaged in emergency management operations.

When complete, the remodeled complex will provide a modern, state-of-the-art EMA center for Greene County, and it will be available for staging of equipment and supplies during regional emergency weather situations. Greene County's distance from the Mississippi Gulf Coast creates an ideal location for staging of essential supplies prior to landfalling hurricanes. Therefore, Greene County's renovated EMA facility will have positive regional implications for South Mississippi.

During the 2023 Mississippi Legislative session, Greene County received \$705,000 to purchase new, up-to-date 911 call center equipment. These funds make possible the replacement of antiquated 911 equipment that often leaves Greene County citizens dependent upon adjacent counties to receive and process county emergency 911 calls. These funds will remove one vulnerability rural Greene County citizens currently experience.

As part of the EMA complex, Greene County plans to build an adjacent hardened building to serve as the 911 call center. The hardened building will house the new 911 call center staff and equipment providing a secure all-weather location that remains operational even during the most adverse weather conditions.

Upon completion of the hardened 911 call center adjacent to the EMA facility, Greene County will have an all-encompassing emergency complex center. In rural Greene County, the planned facility will certainly be a tremendous asset to the county's citizens. The Greene County Board of Supervisors has invested in basic drawings for the hardened building, and is now searching for funding to construct the building. Greene County is asking our federal delegation to help us secure funding in the amount of **\$1,000,000** for the hardened building through the fiscal year 2024 legislative appropriations process. With federal funding secured, Greene County can boast a state-of-the-art complex made possible through Federal, State, and County cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Danny Box".

Danny Box, PhD, Economic Development Director

04/11/2023

Date

Dillon McInnis- District 1 • Elton Clark- District 2 • Wayburn "Danny" Smith- District 3  
Wayne Barrow- District 4 • Gary F. Fairley - District 5

[dbox@greenecountymiss.gov](mailto:dbox@greenecountymiss.gov) • [www.greenecountyeconomicdevelopment.com](http://www.greenecountyeconomicdevelopment.com)

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