

# FEMA announces public assistance for eligible citizens

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice to the public of its intent to reimburse eligible applicants for eligible costs to repair or replace facilities damaged by Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-Line Winds and Flooding that occurred in the State of Mississippi during the incident period that began on April 30, 2017. This notice applies to the Public Assistance (PA) program and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) implemented under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207.

Under a major disaster declaration (FEMA-4314-DR-MS)

signed by the President on May 22, 2017, the following counties have been designated adversely affected by the disaster and eligible for public assistance: Adams, Calhoun, Carroll, Claiborne, Holmes, Jefferson, Montgomery, Webster, and Yazoo. Additional counties may be designated at a later date without further public notice. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is available statewide.

This public notice concerns activities that may affect historic properties, activities that are located in, or affect, wetland areas or the 100-year floodplain, and critical actions within the 500-year floodplain. Such activities may adversely affect the historic

property and floodplain or wetland, or may result in continuing vulnerability to flood damage.

Presidential Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 require that all federal actions in, or affecting the floodplain or wetlands be reviewed for opportunities to relocate, and evaluated for social, economic, historical, environmental, legal, accessibility, and safety considerations. Where there is no opportunity to relocate, FEMA is required to undertake a detailed review to determine what measures may be taken to minimize future damages. The public is invited to participate in the process of identifying alternatives and analyzing their impacts.

FEMA has determined that for

certain types of facilities there are normally no alternatives to restoration in the floodplain or wetland. These are facilities that meet all of the following criteria: 1) FEMA's estimate of the cost of repairs is less than 50% of the cost to replace the entire facility and is less than \$100,000; 2) the facility is not located in a floodway; 3) the facility has not sustained major structural damage in a previous Presidentially declared flooding disaster or emergency; and 4) the facility is not critical (e.g., the facility is not a hospital, generating plant, emergency operations center, or a facility that contains dangerous materials). FEMA intends to provide assistance for the restoration of these facilities to their pre-disaster conditions, except that certain measures to mitigate the effect of future flooding, other hazards, and accessibility requirements may be included in the work. For example, a bridge or culvert restoration may include a larger waterway opening to decrease the risk of future washouts.

For routine activities, this will be the only public notice provided. Other activities and those involving facilities that

do not meet the four criteria are required to undergo more detailed review, including study of alternate locations. Subsequent public notices regarding such projects will be published if necessary, as more specific information becomes available.

In many cases, an applicant may have started facility restoration before federal involvement. Even if the facility must undergo detailed review and analysis of alternate locations, FEMA will fund eligible restoration at the original location if the facility is functionally dependent on its floodplain location (e.g., bridges and flood control facilities), or the project facilitates an open space use, or the facility is an integral part of a larger network that is impractical or uneconomical to relocate, such as a road. In such cases, FEMA must also examine the possible effects of not restoring the facility, minimizing floodplain or wetland impacts, and determining both that an overriding public need for the facility clearly outweighs the Executive Order requirements to avoid the floodplain or wetland, and that the site is the only practicable alternative. State of Mississippi and local officials

will confirm to FEMA that proposed actions comply with all applicable state and local floodplain management and wetland protection requirements.

FEMA also intends to provide HMGP funding to the State of Mississippi to mitigate future disaster damages. These projects may include construction of new facilities, modification of existing, undamaged facilities, relocation of facilities out of floodplains, demolition of structures, or other types of projects to mitigate future disaster damages. In the course of developing project proposals, subsequent public notices will be published if necessary as more

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## Obituary

### SIDNEY CLARK BURRELL

Sidney Clark Burrell, 34, died Sunday, June 11, 2017 at his residence in Starkville. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., June 14, 2017 at Southern Funeral Home Chapel in Durant. Burial was in North Union Cemetery in West, MS.

Sidney was a member of First Baptist Church in Durant and a member of the U.S. Army Reserves.

Survivors include: Jeffery Guess of Starkville; grandparents, Nell and Willie B. "Buck" Burrell of Durant; sister Britany Thrasher of Wilmer, AL; uncle Pat Burrell of Sallis; and aunt Michele Bates of Weir.

Sidney was preceded in death by his mother, Sarah Burrell McNeer.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED AD VALOREM TAX EFFORT HOLMES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Holmes County School District will hold a public hearing on its proposed school district budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 on June 20, 2017, 10 A.M. at the Office of the Superintendent of Education, 313 Olive Street, Lexington, MS 39095. At this meeting, a proposed ad valorem tax effort will be considered.

The Holmes County School District is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$7,359,979.00. Of that amount, 17.47 percent or \$4,779,770.00 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$4,589,448.00. Of that amount, \$4,970,961.00 percent or 20.22% is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

For the next fiscal year, the proposed increase in ad valorem tax effort by Holmes County School District may result in an increase in the ad valorem tax millage rate.

Ad valorem taxes are paid on homes, automobile tags, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property.

Any citizen of Holmes County School District is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed ad valorem tax effort, and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

/s/ A. L. Meeks

Dr. Angel Meeks

Superintendent of Education

Holmes County School District

Lexington, MS 39095



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