

**RESOLUTION NO. R-19-22**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF GARLAND COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED:**

**“A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF APPROPRIATE CLOSURE PLANS AND REPURPOSING OF THE ARMY-NAVY HOSPITAL FACILITY IN HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS.”**

**WHEREAS**, the Arkansas Department of Rehabilitation Services has announced the closure of the Arkansas Career Training Institute complex, 105 Reserve Street, Hot Springs, Arkansas, (formerly the Army-Navy Hospital) by announcement dated May 28, 2019, which the closure to take effect on October 1, 2019;

**WHEREAS**, the closure of this large facility located adjacent to the downtown tourist district and the Hot Springs National Park will negatively affect these areas;

**WHEREAS**, the closure of this facility will further create public safety risks including but not limited to fire, vandalism, homeless occupancy, and environmental issues, including possible harm to the thermal springs in the national park;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE GARLAND COUNTY QUORUM COURT:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Quorum Court supports the recommendations of the Chamber of Commerce “Future of the Army-Navy Hospital Committee” set forth hereinafter, to wit:

- A. That the Arkansas Department of Rehabilitation Services be asked to immediately develop a comprehensive plan for the closing of the facility;
- B. That Utilities and minimal heat be maintained through June 30, 2020 so as to provide time to market the main hospital building for repurposing;
- C. That the Arkansas Congressional delegation be asked to develop a plan for adequate funding for security and maintenance of the complex by the time of the federal government take over after June 30, 2020 (including, but not limited to construction of a security fence, security patrols etc.);
- D. That upon completion of the Phase 1 environmental study, if warranted, then the complex be made eligible for inclusion in the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Brownfields Program of contaminated properties and an application for federally funded mitigation be submitted;
- E. That most of the approximately thirty (30) smaller buildings behind the main hospital building be demolished as soon as EPA funds are available, since these outbuildings pose an unacceptable risk of fire and occupancy by the homeless;
- F. That the state immediately make the main complex building available for repurposing by an appropriate public agency for public health or educational programs;

G. That the City of Hot Springs and the Chamber of Commerce immediately develop a marketing plan to communicate to state and federal agencies the availability of the complex for repurposing.


ATTEST:

  
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Sarah Smith  
Garland County Clerk

APPROVED:

  
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Darryl Mahoney  
Garland County Judge

SPONSOR:

  
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Matt McKee  
Justice of the Peace

DATE:

11/25/19