

SAVE OUR AREA

April 2, 2019

RE: Request for Your Position No Later than May 1, 2019
Petition, Information, and Presentations
Notice of Publication of Responses

Dear Candidates for Adams County and Legislative Offices:

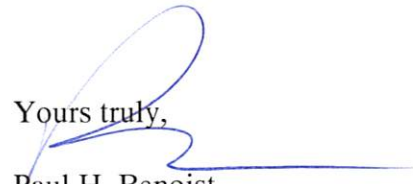
OneBoard requests your position on consolidation of government services in Adams County through dissolution of the City of Natchez government. The name "Natchez" will be retained. All government functions in Adams County will be under the Board of Supervisors and its County Administrator. The Response Form for this purpose is enclosed and should be returned to OneBoard at the address below no later than May 1, 2019. Public responses will be published thereafter. Also enclosed is a "quick tip" sheet.

All candidates for Adams County and legislative offices are receiving this same request. The Response Form is also posted on our website at www.oneboardnatchezadams.com. The question on the Response Form tracks the language of the OneBoard Petition, which is circulating in our community.

OneBoard is a first-step, grassroots effort to save our area. An online Petition and information about this effort can be found at www.oneboardnatchezadams.com. OneBoard also provides individual and group presentations about this effort and is available to meet with you to answer your questions and those of your campaign team and to hear your comments and answer your questions. Call 601.445.4148 to schedule an appointment. Response to this effort has been phenomenal because this effort focuses on benefitting our community as a whole. Supporters recognize that we must make drastic changes to put our area in play for jobs, economic development, and general progress and to turn around the current trend of population decline. We expect to hear that the 2020 census will show a 4,000 or more decrease in population since the 2010 census. Time is of the essence.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours truly,


Paul H. Benoist
OneBoardNatchezAdams

Attached: Response Form
Quick Tip Sheet

329 Market Street • Natchez, MS 39120
601.445.4148
paul@oneboardnatchezadams.com

RESPONSE FORM

OneBoard Question for 2019 Candidates for Adams County and Legislative Offices

*Return no later than May 1, 2019 to:
Paul H. Benoist, OneBoard, 329 Market Street, Natchez, MS 39120
or scan this response form and email to paul@oneboardnatchezadams.com*

Consolidation through Dissolution to End Dual Level Local Government

QUESTION:

Are you **FOR** or **AGAINST** the following:

ABOLISH Natchez municipality and government but **RETAIN** the name "Natchez" to identify the community as the Washington, Cranfield, Sibley, and Kingston communities have done.

ELIMINATE 8 unnecessary elected City positions (Mayor, 6 Aldermen, City Judge).

HAVE ALL government functions currently performed by the Natchez municipal government transferred to the Adams County Board of Supervisors (5 elected supervisors) and County Administrator, thus ending dual level of local government and resulting in single local governing by the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator.

ENACT/ENFORCE/SUPPORT legislation necessary and proper to fully effectuate this mandate.

FOR _____ **AGAINST** _____

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Candidate For: _____

DATE: _____



contact@OneBoardnatchezadams.com

WEB LINK TO SECOND ROUND QUESTIONS

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OneBoardnatchezadamsW5Q2>

BENEFITS:

- All Adams County Property owners on *path to equality in taxation* and force *countywide* planning•End duplicative services•Promote entire area•Posture for future & jobs.
- Unnecessary 8 elected City public officials will be OFF public payroll (immediately eliminates \$300,000-\$500,000 per year)!
- Ends community worries about new and existing City debt and whether City will annex property and burden annexed property owners with existing and new City debt. (Note: Current City property owners would still be responsible for existing City debt until paid off, but once paid off, former “City property owners” and “out-in-the-County property owners” would be on equal footing.)
- Ends City-County fights over basic government functions for Animal Control, Tax Collection and Related, Courts, Correctional Facilities, Emergency & Health Services, General Development, Construction Projects, General Law Enforcement, Hazardous Materials, Narcotics Task Force, Recreational Activities, Recreational Facilities, Parks, Regional Alliances, Schools, Streets, Parking Lot Projects, Tourism.
- Board of Supervisors can establish an economic development area for the bluff/entertainment/Natchez Center area with Deputy County Administrator.
- Path to level playing field for taxes on homes and vehicles. (Real estate developers and agents, as well as motor vehicle dealerships, should also see this as a plus for sales.)
- Determine which of the approximately 200+/- City-owned public properties can be sold and put on the tax rolls.

STAYS SAME:

Community name designations of Natchez, Washington, Kingston, Sibley, Cranfield • Board of Supervisors (residents continue with same supervisor), County Administrator, Chancery Court, Circuit Court, County Court, Justice Court, Youth Court, Clerks for those Courts, Juvenile Detention, District Attorney, County Prosecutor, Coroner, Sheriff, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Board of Supervisors Attorney, Bookkeeping, Purchasing, Elections, Emergency Management, Ambulance, AirEvac, Mental Health, Human Resources, Information Technology, Inventory, Road Department, Solid Waste, Natchez Water Works, Volunteer Fire, Natchez Housing Authority, Natchez Convention Promotion Commission, Utilities • Board of Supervisors authorizes planning and zoning (but not over farms).

WHAT IS OneBoard?

Grassroots call for Natchez-Adams County, MS.

GOALS:

Countywide economic development, regional partnerships, & fiscal responsibility through resulting forced consolidation of government services for law enforcement and fire protection, waste management, parks and recreation•Posture for lower fire ratings•One accounting system for public funds transparency•Lower property taxes (home, vehicles)•Stop City-County turf battles•Support EMS, libraries, technology, residential investment, state of art medical care, recreational complex development, farm-to-market products, managed road, air, rail and port services, waste management•Attract home-buyers and retirees•Bring home native sons/daughters/new friends.

FIRST STEP:

•**ABOLISH** Natchez municipality & government but **RETAIN** name "Natchez" to identify community as Washington, Cranfield, Sibley, and Kingston communities have done.

•**ELIMINATE** all 8 unnecessary elected City positions (Mayor, 6 Aldermen, City Judge).

•**HAVE ALL** government functions currently performed by the Natchez municipality and government transferred to the Adams County Board of Supervisors (5 elected supervisors) and County Administrator, thus ending dual levels of local government and resulting in single local governing by the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

Mississippi legal counsel advises that legislation can provide for tax diversion (so same taxes received now will continue) and other matters.