

RESOLUTION # _____

**Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to execute the
TS Helene Economic Recovery Grants Contract**

Whereas, on September 27, 2024, Tropical Storm Helene devastated portions of Buncombe County damaging many local businesses and the infrastructure necessary to conduct business and retain employees: and

Whereas, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners recognizes that supporting local businesses in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Helene is necessary to restoring Buncombe County's robust service industry and tourism economy and returning local employment to pre-storm levels: and

Whereas, at a special meeting on November 1, 2024, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners reallocated and dedicated Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (FRF) assets established under the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$1,597,053.34 to economic recovery; and

Whereas, Mountain BizWorks, Inc. was selected to administer FRF funds through the issuance and management of economic recovery grants to Buncombe County businesses; and

Whereas, the TS Helene Economic Recovery Grants Agreement authorizes and empowers Mountain BizWorks, Inc. to select local businesses to receive grants, issue the grant funds, and manage the grants;

Whereas, the TS Helene Economic Recovery Grants Agreement includes information about program participants and roles, fund structure and administration, and other operational components for the economic recovery grants program; and

Whereas, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-11, a county may contract and be contracted with.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. The County Manager is authorized to execute the TS Helene Economic Recovery Grants Agreement.

2. The County Manager is authorized to release budgeted funds in full to Mountain BizWorks, Inc. which shall grant those funds to qualified local businesses recovering from the effects of Tropical Storm Helene.
3. That all acts and doings of officers, employees and agents of the County, whether taken prior to, on, or after the date of this Resolution, that are in conformity with and in the furtherance of the purposes and intents of this Resolution as described above shall be, and the same hereby are, in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.
4. This resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

This the 19th day of November, 2024.

ATTEST

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR
THE COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

Sarah Gross, Clerk

By: _____
Brownie Newman, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM

County Attorney