

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: Monday, June 6, 2011

SUBJECT: Resolution in Commemoration of Pfc. Samuel Kelly
Watkins

ATTACHMENTS: Yes – Resolution

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Board is requested to adopt the attached Resolution in Commemoration of Pfc. Samuel Kelly Watkins who was a Korean POW. His remains were recently identified and his family notified of his whereabouts which were unknown for 60 years. His funeral service was held on Thursday, May 26, 2011.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to adopt the resolution as presented.

Suggested Motion:

*I move the Board of Commissioners adopt the Resolution in Commemoration of Pfc.
Samuel
Kelly Watkins.*

**RESOLUTION IN COMMEMORATION OF
PFC. SAMUEL KELLY WATKINS**

WHEREAS, Pfc. Samuel Kelly Watkins, "Kelly", was a Henderson County native who was deployed to Korea in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Pfc. Watkins was taken prisoner in South Korea on February 14, 1951, when approximately 5,000 Chinese soldiers overran his unit; and

WHEREAS, The family of Pfc. Watkins was notified that he was missing in 1951, and he was presumed dead a year later, in keeping with military protocol; and

WHEREAS, In 1993 North Korean officials turned over American Prisoner of War remains; and

WHEREAS, The remains of Pfc. Watkins was identified through DNA testing and his family notified 60 years later; and

WHEREAS, The remains of Pfc. Samuel Kelly Watkins were returned home to his friends and family in order to lay him to rest on Thursday, May 26, 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners on behalf of a grateful nation honor and recognize the years of military service and years of imprisonment that Pfc. Samuel Kelly Watkins endured for the citizens of the United States of America. We further honor and recognize the family of Pfc. Watkins for their sacrifice on behalf of our freedom. May God bless the family of Pfc. Samuel Kelly Watkins, all of our veterans, their families and the United States of America.

Adopted this 6th day of June, 2011.

J. MICHAEL EDNEY, CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

TERESA L. WILSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD