

RESOLUTION NO. 47 of 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION CREATING AN AD HOC PANDEMIC TASKFORCE, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, there is still a national and state level public health declaration in effect regarding COVID19 and a federal moratorium in place; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties continues to convene its weekly Pandemic conference calls to discuss resources and best practices with its membership; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo in partnership with LSU-Health and other community partners has applied to the Office of Minority Health for a \$4million COVID19 Grant for which a pandemic committee or taskforce is encouraged and would play an instrumental role in if successfully awarded; and

WHEREAS, great progress has been made over the last 5 months but there is still work to be done to educate Parish of Caddo and the public on Covid19 Pandemic in order to stay vigilant and prepared for possible seasonal issues; and

WHEREAS, the Pandemic and Natural Disaster Committee had many accomplishments during the first half of 2021, including the coordination of vaccine education with Senior Centers and Churches; Advocacy and education related to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program such as meeting with Shreveport Bossier Real Estate Investment Association (SBREIA) to help them understand how to apply for rental assistance; Hosting meetings with local business groups to introduce them to SBA Representative Susheel Kumar in an effort to help more small businesses navigate the Covid19 business relief programs; helping victims of the Fairfield Oaks Condominiums learn how they can apply for assistance from rental assistance to help move and receive relocation support. They also got to meet the FEMA and SBA representatives who offered additional assistance; and applied for a \$4 million vaccine literacy grant with LSUHSC and Office of Public Health, among other accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish is now home to the at least 2 of the new variant strains of COVID19 which is more transmissible; and

WHEREAS, Vaccinations have allowed life to return to normalcy for some Caddo residents, but Louisiana Department of Health has identified that a disparity among vaccinations in low income communities in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, there is also work that remains to help deploy rental assistance, homeowner assistance, utility assistance, and other resources to help fully recover from pandemic and

WHEREAS, FEMA still has open disaster case related to COVID19 Pandemic for Caddo Parish reimbursement for eligible expenses through September 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESLOVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that an ad hoc Pandemic Taskforce and shall function as follows:

- a) Work with local public health and medical experts on keeping public aware of COVID19 protocols, variants, and all other related matters.
- b) May make recommendations as needed to the Parish Commission as needed on matter related to the Pandemic.
- c) Work with community organizations, faith based organizations, and social groups to encourage vaccination among low income communities.
- d) Shall receive reports and make recommendations on Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- e) Shall receive reports and updates on FEMA reimbursement process to recoup pandemic related expenses for the Parish
- f) Taskforce shall dissolve on January 31, 2022 or after providing an after action review to the Parish Commission and the public on what was learned or whichever comes first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The members of the committee shall be those commissioners who were members of the Ad Hoc Pandemic and Disaster Committee as of May 20, 2021 if they choose to participate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Parish Attorney

Date