

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF  
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION  
HELD ON THE 3rd DAY OF MARCH, 2022

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Atkins, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1).

The invocation was given by Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Chavez led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts *to expand the agenda and add the following items to the Regular Session agenda:*

- *Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 6193 of 2022, an ordinance creating the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana, defining the boundaries thereof from which local sales tax, property tax and hotel occupancy tax increments will be determined and used to finance economic development projects in accordance with and as authorized by Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing*
- *Ordinance No. 6193 of 2022, an ordinance creating the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana, defining the boundaries thereof from which local sales tax, property tax and hotel occupancy tax increments will be determined and used to finance economic development projects in accordance with and as authorized by Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing for final passage*

The President then opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the agenda additions. There being no one to speak, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**VISITORS**

- Christina Anderson  
Passenger Rail/AmTrak Update Christina Anderson

Ms. Anderson, I-20 Corridor Council, came before the Commission and gave an update on the AmTrak Railway. She said that they've been working on this endeavor for about 25 years, and the route would connect Dallas/Ft. Worth to Atlanta. She also explained that the Congress and the President passed into law a bipartisan Infrastructure Investments & Jobs Act (IIJA). Ms. Anderson believes that now is the time to push this passenger rail. By connecting the dots on this route between Marshall, Texas to Meridian, Mississippi on existing track, though northern Louisiana, this will create an East-West passenger rail connection across the South, connecting to the East Coast. This route can provide a variety of new economic development and other benefits for local communities, states, the Southern region, and nation. This could also provide an alternate evacuation route during hurricanes and other disasters. Over the past fifteen years, the I-20 Corridor Council has built a strong, grassroots, collaborative, multi-state coalition in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi in support of this rail route. The Corridor Council secured a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between four councils of governments, representing all 48 counties/parishes from Ft. Worth eastward across northern Louisiana through Mississippi. Throughout this process, Louisiana has played and continues to play a key role in the multi-state coalition efforts.

The Corridor Council obtained \$738,000 in federal funding for the feasibility and capacity studies with the assistance of former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas. The feasibility study was completed in 2015, and it determined that the I-20 Corridor long-distance route is economically viable without an ongoing annual expense. The capacity study was completed in 2017 and showed that additional siding should be installed so as not to impair the movement of freight. The estimated cost for this project is \$80M.

On November 15, 2021, the IIJA was passed into law, and it provide \$66B for passenger

rail and freight. It also provides \$16B for long-distance or National Network routes. With the assistance of Dallas Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, the Corridor Council met with AmTrak President, Stephen Gardner. Congresswoman Johnson then reached out to Surface Transportation Board Chairman Martin Oberman in October with regards to the Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern merger and the need for the I-20 Corridor route to allow for passenger rail service.

The Corridor Council is requesting that the Caddo Commission provide a resolution of support of the merger between the Canadian Pacific (CP) and Kansas City Southern (KCS) be sent to the Surface Transportation Board.

Mrs. Anderson also mentioned that in 2014, the Corridor Council reached out to the Southern Rail Commission (SRC), chaired by Knox Ross, and they signed a resolution of support for the I-20 Corridor passenger rail route. The SRC's major efforts have been focused on the past 15 years on restoring the Gulf Coast route connecting New Orleans to Mobile and eastward to Jacksonville, FL, which was washed out by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Mr. Ross and other representatives met with members of the Louisiana Coalition in late February and said they will be assisting with the ongoing I-20 Corridor efforts.

Mr. Young wanted to know if this would require a new bridge over the Red River. Ms. Anderson said that she will provide that information after it is researched.

- Mr. U.L. Coleman, III  
U.L. Coleman Properties

Mr. Coleman said that it is his understanding that the Caddo Commission has been removed from the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC). He further explained that U.L. Coleman Properties has been involved in planning since 1973. They have also been active members of the Urban Land Institute, which is an international organization that conducts studies for land use and economic development. It is the Brookings Institute equivalent to the land use business. He also explained that they do studies for land use, economic development, and best practices all over the world. The areas that are growing around the country have effective planning, he said. They're more sustainable; they create a better quality of life; and they encourage economic development. The Urban Land Institute have a study where the Caddo Commission was a partner in 2006, along with the City of Shreveport, Bossier City, Bossier Parish, and private stakeholders. He said that study is available. Mr. Coleman also mentioned that in the study, it stated the need for a master plan for the Shreveport-Bossier metropolitan area. Bossier City and Bossier Parish elected to do a separate master plan from the City of Shreveport and Caddo Parish. Mr. Coleman also said that master plans are an ongoing process, not just a matter of a few public hearings. He also mentioned that setting up a planning commission is an expensive process, and services that are already created by another agency that could be supplied to the community and to the entire parish on a more cost-effective basis by joining in the joint use of those services should be considered.

Mr. Epperson thanked Mr. Coleman for coming to today's meeting and providing some valuable insight regarding planning and master plans.

Mr. Chavez asked for the name of the report from 2006. Mr. Coleman said that it is Project SP and a copy of it has been attached to the letter that he sent.

#### **ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Regular Session Minutes February 17, 2022* be adopted. Motion carried.

#### **SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and adopt the following special resolutions:*

- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Dr. Lena Leviston*

Dr. Leviston thanked the Commission for honoring her today and appreciates all of the "good things" that were said about her.

Mr. Burrell said that Dr. Leviston is a "special treasure" to this community, and she has been teaching for 56 years. He thanked her for all of her work with the youth throughout her many years in the school system.

Mr. Jackson commended Dr. Leviston, and said that her "humility and humbleness speaks to everything in the resolution". We have to start lifting up and recognizing the true roses and gems in our communities doing the work, he said.

Mr. Epperson appreciates Dr. Leviston's tenacity, persistence, and all of the good she has done throughout the community.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that it is an honor and privilege to have Dr. Leviston here today. She thanked her for all she has providing in this community.

- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Dr. Bruce Wilson for his service with the United Way of Northwest Louisiana*
- *Special Resolution Recognizing March as Women's History Month and declaring March 8th as International Women's Day*

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that there is not enough paper for the Commission to recognize all of the accomplishments that women contribute to this society. She is elated that the Commission is adopting this resolution to recognize and support women all over.

Mr. Epperson gave the following statement:

March is Women's History Month. It is an annual celebration of women's contributions to history, culture, and society. The United States has an abundance of women trailblazers and pioneers that have contributed to our history. These women fought for their rights, fought to be treated equally, and to be able to participate in all that our society has to offer.

In the United States, women were estimated to be more than half of the population in 2020. (166.24 million) Also, women in the United States were considerably more likely to be registered to vote and go to the polls than men.

I respect and support all of the strides that our women have made in the past, are presently working on, and their future plans for more inclusion in every level of our society.

As James Brown stated in his hit song, "*The world would be nothing without a woman or a girl.*" No words have every rang so true!

In my middle school typing class, our timed speed drill sentence was: Now is the time for all **MEN** of goodwill to come to the aid of their country. I stand ready to say: Now is the time for all **WOMEN** of goodwill to come to the aid of their country. Our women have and will continue to make our United States and the world a better place. May God continue to bless and keep our women.

Mr. Burrell said that women are the first teachers. He commended all women for their strides and work throughout history.

- *Special Resolution of support for Ukraine and the defense of their sovereignty*

Mr. Burrell said that the Commission should continue to support Ukraine and all democracies throughout the world. He also thanked Mrs. Gage-Watts for providing the blue and yellow ribbons to show support of Ukraine.

Mr. Johnson requested that the courthouse be lit up in support of Ukraine.

Mrs. Gage-Watts thanked Administration for providing the ribbons.

Mr. Epperson mentioned that Ukraine support the United States in Afghanistan and Iraq. He also said that the death toll of the Russians has already surpassed the American soldiers who lost their lives during the 20 years in Afghanistan.

- *Special Resolution to the Eden Garden's Class of 1970*

Mr. Jack Johnson, Vice-President of the Class of 1970 Captain Shreve/Eden Garden, came before the Commission and thanked the Commission for honoring them today. He said that the Class of 1970 went through some hard times, but by the grace of God, those times made them better people.

Mr. Burrell agreed and said that 1970 was the year that they integrated, and he was not even invited to his graduation banquet nor did he get a scholarship even though he had a 4.0 average. Mr. Burrell said that he was blessed because he learned how to deal with the world.

Mr. Chavez thanked the Class of 1970 for coming to today's Commission meeting.

Mr. Jones also thanked the Class of 1970 for showing grace and a positive attitude

through their hard times. He thanked them for being a great example for his generation and the generations that follow.

Mr. Jackson said that he didn't even know about this story until recently. He suggested crafting an oral history project capturing the Class of 1970, as well as other stories, such as Valencia. Mr. Jackson does not want this history to be lost.

Mr. Epperson also congratulated the Class of 1970 for all of the hard work in the community. He also commended Dr. Leviston for teaching and molding these young minds.

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed and thanked the Class of 1970 for their tenacity through these hard times.

Mr. Young thanked the Class of 1970 for leading such valuable lives in this community. He also mentioned that his mother went to Captain Shreve during that time and often told him about how hard it was for those students to be transferred into the school. He said that their suffering did not go unnoticed by many of the other students in the school.

At this time, Mr. Burrell's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**SPECIAL PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION  
DR. LENA LEVISTON**

**WHEREAS**, the Caddo Parish Commission is always pleased to recognize and honor those members of our community who have dedicated themselves to the education and inspiration of our Caddo Parish sons and daughters; and

**WHEREAS, DR. LENA BLACKWELL LEVISTON**, is such a person who recently received the honor of receiving the 2022 Change Maker Award at Caddo Middle Magnet during their 2022 Black History Program which included a celebration of her 50 year career as an educator in Caddo Parish in various roles from Captain Shreve High School, to Caddo Middle Magnet School, the Caddo Parish Administration and her community involvement, particularly her role with the Inner City Entrepreneur Institute's BizCamp program; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Leviston was born on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1942 and has been recognized many times during her career as an educator, including being named the Caddo Association of Educator's Educator of the Year during her time at Captain Shreve as the Clerical Office Education teacher, and deservingly so. She would go on to have a career that would see her perform many roles including the Supervisor for Vocational Education for Caddo Parish Schools. Leviston's passion for her community and service isn't limited to the halls of academia, she currently serves as the Secretary for the Galilee Family Enrichment Center, Inc. and is a longtime, devoted member of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, she has also served as the Secretary for the Caddo Council on Aging; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Leviston's skill and ability to educate have combined with her passion to serve her community on many instances, perhaps most recognizable through her more than 20 years supporting the BizCamp program which has graduated nearly 800 students who came from disadvantaged communities to learn how to run a small business, develop and market products and services, budget and account for their resources and to dream of the possibilities that exist beyond the often limited opportunities they are otherwise exposed to; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby declare and recognize and proclaim March 5th, 2022 to be:

**'DR. LENA LEVISTON DAY'**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in recognition and admiration of his notable achievements and contributions to the Caddo Parish Community and the Caddo Parish Commission invites all Caddo residents to join in the celebration of Dr. Leviston's 50 years of creating a legacy in education, using her professionalism to inspire and enrich young people's lives, encouraging them to believe in and foster their entrepreneurial spirit and professional talents.

**SPECIAL PROCLAMATION  
DR. BRUCE WILSON**

**WHEREAS**, the Caddo Parish Commission is always pleased to recognize and honor those members of our community who have dedicated themselves to improving and inspiring Caddo Parish to unite in supporting causes and initiatives that benefit our citizens in need and improve the overall strength of our community; and

**WHEREAS, DR. BRUCE WILSON** is such a person who has spent the past 14 years of his career at the helm of The United Way of Northwest Louisiana as the President & CEO, and recently

announced his retirement, leaving behind a rich legacy of contributions while helping to refine the agency's mission and strategy through initiatives such as the return of 2-1-1 services to Caddo Parish in 2017, which have taken more than 46,000 calls for assistance; the creation of the Shreveport Financial Empowerment Center, which has helped clients to save more than a million dollars and to reduce debts more than a half a million dollars in less than 2 years; partnering with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library which has provided 200,000 books to our community's youngest readers since 2012. Dr. Wilson has brought light to the struggles, needs and realities of those in our community through his support and promotion of the local ALICE Report and he seems perhaps most proud of his role in recruiting and cultivating a dynamic, successful team of diverse individuals to help carry on the work of the United Way even after his retirement; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Wilson's contributions to the community extend beyond his role at the United Way to include his membership with the Association of Fundraising Professionals and as a nearly 30-year Rotarian, he has served as President of the Nacogdoches, Texas Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Ruston as well as the Past District Governor of Rotary District 6190 and a current member of the Rotary Club of Shreveport. Wilson previously served as the Assistant Dean for Development for Louisiana Tech's College of Engineering and Science and he is a Certified Fund Raising Professional, as well as holding a Bachelor's of Science in Education from Louisiana Tech, a Master of Theology in Hebrew and Old Testament Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Wilson was born into a United States Air Force family as the son of a pilot stationed in Paris, France and spent his formative years growing up in locations that include Brazil, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana. He is married to KK, who he met in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and they are the proud parents of three children and three grandchildren; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby declare and recognize and proclaim March 5th, 2022 to be:

**'DR. BRUCE WILSON DAY'**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in recognition and admiration of his notable achievements and contributions to the Caddo Parish Community and the Caddo Parish Commission invites all Caddo residents to join in the celebration of Dr. Wilson's retirement and the legacy he has created for our community.

**PROCLAMATION  
NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside the home; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these contributions, the role of the American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history:

**WHEREAS**, women across the globe face similar obstacles and biases and have come together to encourage a diverse, equitable and inclusive world by celebrating the achievements of women, raising awareness of bias, and taking action for equality; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2022 that it does hereby proclaim March, 2022 as:

**'NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH'**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby proclaim March 8th, 2022 as:

**'INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY'**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish to celebrate the recognition of these important occasions.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT  
FOR UKRAINE AND THE DEFENSE OF THEIR SOVEREIGNTY**

**WHEREAS**, late on Wednesday, February 23rd, Russian President Vladimir Putin

announced a military invasion of the sovereign nation of Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, in the first days of the invasion, the Russian military has conducted multiple bombings and attacks across Ukraine, killing and injuring soldiers and civilians. As we enter the second week of this invasion, verified Ukrainian casualties include more than 15 children, and estimates of casualties range from 250 to 2,000 Ukrainian civilians; and

**WHEREAS**, the attacks have been strongly condemned by President Biden and other global leaders both of government and industry who have stood in solidarity with Ukraine to provide humanitarian aid, private resources, arms, and the imposition of unprecedented economic sanctions on Russia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Russian invasion of Ukraine is unprovoked and unprecedented in a time of relative peace across Europe and the world has watched as President Zelensky and the Ukrainian people defend their sovereignty with honor; and

**WHEREAS**, some members of the Ukrainian community call Caddo Parish home while maintaining family, traditions and history in Ukraine, and some Ukrainians are temporary members of our community as they study or work among us; and

**WHEREAS**, our Ukrainian neighbors are undergoing a period of significant hardship and grief during this time and many Caddo citizens have risen to show support and solidarity, from displaying the colors of the Ukrainian flag on the Caddo Parish Courthouse and the City of Shreveport's Bakowski Bridge of Lights, to houses of worship hosting services and prayer sessions, to local stores removing their stocks of Russian products, to businesses limiting their trade with Russian owned companies and even traditionally Ukrainian food being sold by local food vendors with proceeds going to Ukrainian relief.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT**, the Caddo Parish Commission stands in solidarity with our Ukrainian neighbors; and **THAT**, the Caddo Parish Commission sends thoughts and prayers for peace in Ukraine; and **THAT**, the Caddo Parish Commission stands ready to welcome and support refugees which may arrive in our community as a result of this or similar conflicts in other nations, and **THAT** the Caddo Parish Commission applauds our citizens who have exhibited support for Ukraine. WE invite Caddo residents to consider standing with Ukraine however may be appropriate for them.

#### **SPECIAL PROCLAMATION of RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION THE 1970 CLASS OF EDEN GARDEN'S HIGH SCHOOL**

**WHEREAS**, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the importance of acknowledging those Caddo Parish citizens who preserved through difficult times and suffered tremendous personal sacrifice in order to improve the lives of those who would come after them and right the wrongs of those who came before them; and

**WHEREAS, THE EDEN GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1970** is an excellent example of one such group of young people whose stories of sacrifice cannot be lost to time for the wrongs that caused their sacrifice continue to require correction and refining to heal mistakes of the past and avoid making them in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, This class of students who were preparing to graduate were unceremoniously transitioned to Captain Shreve High School in an effort to correct segregation by integrating Caddo Schools, however due to resistance and difficulties agreeing to a transitional plan, these students were transitioned to their new school with less than 2 months to go before they graduated, essentially losing their ability to celebrate their matriculation and time that they had spent together as a class, to the extent that they were not allowed to print their yearbook and not included in the yearbook of their new school, though this brave class of students crafted a memory book out of index cards and have maintained a bond that can only be formed by perseverance; and

**WHEREAS**, students at Eden Gardens supported the integration of schools, but acknowledged the unnecessarily tremendous burden that it placed on them during the transition and grieved the loss of documentation of this very important moment in their lives and the history of our Parish, even inspiring a protest that featured a march from the Cedar Grove neighborhood all the way to Downtown Shreveport. While the protest was not able to prevent the timing of the transition, it did further illustrate the need for integration as the bus ride back to Cedar Grove was the first occasion that many of the participants had been allowed to ride the city bus; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby declare and recognize and proclaim March 10th, 2022 to be:

#### **'REMEMBERING THE FORGOTTEN 1970 CLASS OF EDEN GARDENS DAY'**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in recognition and admiration the tremendous sacrifice made by these young people and the lasting and important benefit that it has had on our community. As we transition out of Black History Month, the Caddo Parish Commission asks citizens to continue to remember and be aware of the many sacrifices made by people like the 1970 class of Eden Garden's High School and to honor their perseverance and contributions to our community.

## **COMMUNIQES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Mr. Chavez thanked Administration for providing the information for the railroads. He also extended an invitation to all for the ribbon cutting for the new dog park in Southern Hills. Mr. Chavez also invited everyone to attend the Southern Hills Cleanup that will be held on Saturday at 8:00 a.m.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts announced that Ochsner LSU will be hosting a drive and collecting essential items the citizens of Ukraine. She will provide a list to the Clerk tomorrow.

She also asked for an update on the Ring Doorbell Program. Mrs. Bryant said that they have a draft application and working out the logistics of the program. She also explained that Ring estimated at least three weeks to get those doorbells scheduled and installed.

- Mr. Johnson offered condolences to the 17-year-old who was shot and killed today in Queensborough. This young man had a bright future, he said. Mr. Johnson said that he has a teenage son, and this shooting was senseless. He would like to set up a taskforce to get the gang leaders together to talk and stop this violence. Mr. Johnson said that the senseless violence is “retaliation after retaliation”. He would like a truce between the gangs. Russia is in war over there with Ukraine; we got a war here in Shreveport that we need to put an end to, he said. Mr. Atkins said that he will support Mr. Johnson’s leadership on his efforts for this taskforce. Mr. Young agreed.

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed and said that the Commissioners are obligated to do something more than just talk about it. She said that the people who are missing from the conversations are the people who are responsible for the blood on the streets. She called for a Juvenile Justice Committee Meeting for March 18, 2022.

Mr. Jones continued the sentiments of Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Gage-Watts regarding the young man who was killed today. He hopes that “we would turn over every stone; that we would not get any rest knowing that we have mothers and fathers out here who are losing rest because they have to bury their children”. Mr. Jones said that it is not fair to put the blame on the law enforcement officers, nor the single parents who are working more than one job to provide for their children. Mr. Jones said that he is over the prayer vigils and rallies; he wants solutions.

Mr. Jackson suggested hosting a rap session at Juvenile Detention Center, with no cameras, no pictures, or press. I don’t expect anybody who’s pulling these triggers or who were involved in crime or who’s in this sort of underground movement to come to us, he said. Mr. Jackson said that the Commission needs to go to the people, and sometimes in the worse areas.

Mr. Clay Walker, Juvenile Services Director, said that these shootings and killings started around 2017. He also mentioned that he had lunch with a 15-year-old who is accused of murder to have a conversation. Mr. Walker also suggested having an Executive Session to talk about what Juvenile Services has done. He said that he cannot share these things publicly. Mr. Walker also said that there are huge collaborative efforts with the police and school board on crime prevention.

Mr. Jackson appreciates the work of the Juvenile Services staff who are working with the youth of the community.

Mr. Burrell said that he supports the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and grew up with guns in every corner of the house. He also agreed that guns do not kill, people do, but something needs to be done with these senseless acts of violence.

Mr. Johnson would like to have small non-quorum meetings with Mr. Walker starting tomorrow. Mr. Walker said that he is amenable to meet today or tomorrow.

Attorney Frazier explained that this is not an appropriate for an executive session, but suggested that if the information is needed, then the Commissioner can reach out to Mr. Walker to get that information.

- Mr. Young thanked the Commissioners for their vote on animal control reform last year. He said that he was attacked by a pitbull today while he was walking his dog and hopes that this new law will help bring the stray dog population under control.
- Mr. Epperson announced that he will be presenting his Student’s Oath of Commitment to Education to the middle school students at AMI. He invited anyone who wanted to attend to join him.

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- Tax Millage Propositions

Dr. Wilson provided a one-page report explaining each proposition to the Commissioners. Mr. Epperson thanked Administration for this information and explained that these are parish wide propositions; the Parish did not put these propositions on the ballot.

Mrs. Bryant reiterated that these are not parish millages, but Sheriff's millages. She also explained that if there is a millage after reassessment, you can renew at the rate of the original value. She said that it is still a continuation of a millage. In this case, these are millages that were already in place and can be used for any law enforcement expenses that the Sheriff may have. The sales tax is being used for the Correctional Center. She also suggested that a representative from the Sheriff's Office be present to further explain their millages.

Mr. Jackson requested a breakdown of expenses that the Sheriff is using the mills for. Mrs. Bryant said that they can ask for their financial records.

Mr. Jackson said that inside the city limits, the Sheriff's Office is collecting approximately \$11M annually and outside the city limits, the Sheriff's Office is collecting approximately \$6M. He said that the Sheriff's Office is also collecting a sales tax of \$17M. Mrs. Bryant said that was correct. Mr. Jackson then mentioned that there have been some calls about the Sheriff's Office patrolling inside the city limits of Shreveport with significant pushback. Mr. Jackson said that the bulk of the Sheriff's property taxes are inside the city limits of Shreveport.

Mr. Jackson also requested a breakdown on the expenses for the property tax millages and the sales taxes.

Mr. Jackson also said that historically, the Parish has rolled back taxes if an increase is anticipated. Mrs. Bryant explained that when you have an election prior to the next reassessment, you have to determine which rate you're going to use because that rate becomes your new rate permanently. Mr. Jackson then wanted to know if one person can determine if they are going to raise taxes for everyone in Caddo Parish. Mrs. Bryant explained that they cannot say that this is an increase. Dr. Wilson said that the Sheriff does have a board.

Mr. Jackson suggested that the citizens need to be educated on what they are voting on during the Spring election.

- Pulse of the Parish

Dr. Wilson announced that the Pulse of the Parish will be airing tomorrow at noon, featuring Commissioner Stormy Gage-Watts.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES**

The President of the Commission opened the public hearing for the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6193 of 2022, an ordinance creating the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana, defining the boundaries thereof from which local sales tax, property tax and hotel occupancy tax increments will be determined and used to finance economic development projects in accordance with and as authorized by Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing for final passage*
- *Ordinance No. 6194 of 2022, an ordinance to accept the streets in Old Towne Subdivision Unit 1 into the Parish of Caddo Road System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Ordinance No. 6195 of 2022, an ordinance to accept the streets in Blanchard Lake Estates Unit 4 into the Parish of Caddo Road System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6196 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Juvenile Center in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6197 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to appropriate funds for the Caddo Parks Grab & Go Feeding Program, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6198 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 to provide an additional appropriation of \$15,000 for Robinson's Rescue, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6199 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated*

*Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation to provide ballistic vests for Shreveport and Caddo Parish Fire Districts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6200 of 2022, an ordinance to establish a temporary Parish Planning & Zoning Commission, to provide for its membership, to provide for an effective date, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6202 of 2022, an ordinance to authorize the Administrator to execute a predial servitude of passage and right-to-use over parish property located in the southwestern quarter of Section 28, Township 22 North, Range 16 West, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6203 of 2022, an ordinance to authorize the Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with Caddeaux Gathering, LLC regarding a pipeline through and under parish property located in Section 7, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no one to speak in favor or against these ordinances, the President closed the public hearings.

#### **ORDINANCES (for final passage)**

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, to englobe and adopt the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6193 of 2022, an ordinance creating the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana, defining the boundaries thereof from which local sales tax, property tax and hotel occupancy tax increments will be determined and used to finance economic development projects in accordance with and as authorized by Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing for final passage*
- *Ordinance No. 6194 of 2022, an ordinance to accept the streets in Old Towne Subdivision Unit 1 into the Parish of Caddo Road System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Ordinance No. 6195 of 2022, an ordinance to accept the streets in Blanchard Lake Estates Unit 4 into the Parish of Caddo Road System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6196 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Juvenile Center in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6197 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to appropriate funds for the Caddo Parks Grab & Go Feeding Program, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6198 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 to provide an additional appropriation of \$15,000 for Robinson's Rescue, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6199 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation to provide ballistic vests for Shreveport and Caddo Parish Fire Districts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6200 of 2022, an ordinance to establish a temporary Parish Planning & Zoning Commission, to provide for its membership, to provide for an effective date, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6202 of 2022, an ordinance to authorize the Administrator to execute a predial servitude of passage and right-to-use over parish property located in the southwestern quarter of Section 28, Township 22 North, Range 16 West, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6203 of 2022, an ordinance to authorize the Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with Caddeaux Gathering, LLC regarding a pipeline through and under parish property located in Section 7, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

**Amendment to Ordinance No. 6196 of 2022 by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that the organizations involved would need to participate with the Coordinated Care System as well as Caddo Community Action Agency. Amendment carried as a friendly amendment.*

**Amendment to Ordinance No. 6200 of 2022 by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that the ordinance would automatically renew if the issues have not been resolved by June 30, 2022. Amendment carried as a friendly amendment.*

Mr. Epperson said that Administration provided three options to the Commission body regarding the planning and zoning in the Parish. He read aloud Option 2:

*The Caddo Parish Commission could choose to contract this entire operation to an independent source or with the City of Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Commission. The rationale for this option is that the Caddo Parish Commission can complete this revision of the current UDC zoning rules and have an agency to enforce the provisions of the UDC ordinance. There are some advantages in contracting out the Parish's MPC operation with Shreveport's MPC. The cost savings would be based on the fact that the Shreveport MPC is already established and has the necessary personnel, equipment and knowledge to perform the task. The Administration would negotiate the service fee on an MOU, or some other type of service contract. The volume of planning permits that we receive in the Parish is very low, and most of the zoning for the Parish would be on the enforcement side. The Caddo Parish Commission would fund the Shreveport MPC at a level of \$280,000, but this cost would more than likely be considerably costs more due to the increased parish-wide coverage. If a consensus cannot be reached with the Shreveport MPC, we would have to issue an RFP by contractual service. If we enter into contract with the Shreveport MPC, we would not have to create a ZBA process.*

Dr. Wilson said that he still stands by his recommendation. He also mentioned that the Commission has already created a Rural Planning & Zoning Committee.

At this time, Mr. Young's motion carried as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Hopkins (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**ORDINANCE NO. 6193 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE I-49 NORTH CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, STATE OF LOUISIANA;" DEFINING THE BOUNDARIES THEREOF FROM WHICH AREA LOCAL SALES TAX, PROPERTY TAX AND HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX INCREMENTS WILL BE DETERMINED AND USED TO FINANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND AS AUTHORIZED BY PART II OF CHAPTER 27 OF TITLE 33 OF THE LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES OF 1950, AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING.

WHEREAS, Part II, Chapter 27, Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R S. 33:9038.31, et seq.) (the "EDD Act") authorizes municipalities, parishes and certain other local governmental subdivisions to create economic development districts to carry out the purposes of the Act, which economic development districts are political subdivisions of the State of Louisiana and possess such power and authority and have such duties as provided by the Act and other law; and

WHEREAS, La. R S. 33:9038.39 further permits such economic development districts tolevy sales and use taxes and hotel occupancy taxes at a rate up to two percent (2%) for authorized purposes subsequent to the creation and establishment of the District; and

WHEREAS, La. R S. 33:9038.34(O) provides that this governing authority may create a special trust fund for the furtherance of economic development projects, as defined in the EDD Act, into which the incremental increases in such sales taxes, property taxes and hotel occupancy taxes shall be deposited and loaned, granted, donated, or pledged in furtherance of economic development projects as defined in the EDD Act; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), acting through this Parish Commission as its governing authority, desires to avail itself of the EDD Act to create an economic development district to be called The "I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, S t a t e o f L o

u i s i a n a " (the "District"), in accordance with La. R S. 33:9038.32, from which District local and State sales tax increments and local property and hotel occupancy tax increments are expected to be determined and used to fund the Parish of Caddo Economic Development District Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Act, particularly La. R S. 33:9038.32(8) and La. R S. 33:9038.39, and Resolution No. ? adopted on ?, 2021, the Parish has given notice of its intention to create the District, and notice that it will hold a public hearing relative to the proposed creation of the District, including a description of the boundaries of the District and containing a map showing the boundaries of the District, which notice has been published two times in the Parish's official journal; and

WHEREAS, on this date, prior to the adoption of this ordinance, this governing authority did hold a public hearing pursuant to the aforesaid notice of intention, at which public hearing no objections were received with respect to the creation of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION FOR THE PARISH OF CADDO HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. All of the above "Whereas" clauses are adopted as a part of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. Creation of District. Under the authority of La. R S. 33:9038.32 there is hereby created an economic development district within the Parish, to be named the "I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, S t a t e o f L o u i s i a n a , " having the geographical boundaries set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, which Exhibit A is hereby incorporated in and made a part of this Ordinance, all pursuant to the EDD Act. As provided by the EDD Act, the governing body of the District shall be this Parish Commission. As provided by the EDD Act, the District shall be a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana and shall possess such powers and authority and have such duties as provided in the EDD Act and other law.

SECTION 3. Creation of Trust Fund. Under the authority of La. RS. 33:9038.34(O), there is hereby created a special trust fund, to be named the "Parish of Caddo Economic Development District Trust Fund" (the "Trust Fund") the purpose of which will be to fund economic development projects selected by the District in the manner provided by the EDD Act. The Trust Fund shall be established by the Director of Finance of the Parish and maintained as a separate (fund, apart from other funds and accounts of the Parish or other entities, and shall be used strictly for the purposes set forth herein and in the EDD Act.

SECTION 4. Authorization of Officers. The Parish Administrator is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to do any and all things necessary and incidental to carry out the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this ordinance, but this ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this ordinance which validates or makes legal any provision of this ordinance which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance, shall become effective ten (10) days after publication.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**EXHIBIT A  
to Creation Ordinance**

BOUNDARIES AND MAP OF PROPOSED I-49 NORTH CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, STATE OF LOUISIANA A CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN CADDO, PARISH, LOUISIANA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

7.498 acres to be defined as from: That part of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of Section Thirteen (13), Township Twenty-two (22) North, Range Fifteen (15) West, lying South of the North right of way line of the Hosston-Miller's Bluff Road and East of the West Bank of Kelly Bayou Canal and all of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter (S1/2 of SW1/4) of Section Thirteen (13), Township Twenty- two (22) North, Range Fifteen (15) West, lying East of the West bank of Kelly Bayou Canal

**ORDINANCE NO. 6194 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE STREETS IN OLD TOWNE SUBDIVISION UNIT 1 INTO THE PARISH OF CADDO ROAD SYSTEM,

AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a request to accept the streets in Old Towne Subdivision Unit 1, into the Parish of Caddo road system;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received and reviewed the subdivision plats showing a dedication to the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo finds that the acceptance of the subdivisions into the Parish of Caddo system is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Parish of Caddo hereby accepts into the Parish of Caddo road system all of the streets in Old Towne Subdivision Unit 1, Caddo Parish, Louisiana as shown on the attached subdivision plat marked as "Exhibit A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a copy of this ordinance, with a subdivision plat of the Old Towne Subdivision Unit 1 attached thereto as "Exhibit A", shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall be effective ten days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6195 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE STREETS IN BLANCHARD LAKE ESTATES UNIT 4 INTO THE PARISH OF CADDO ROAD SYSTEM, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a request to accept the streets in Blanchard Lake Estates Unit 4, into the Parish of Caddo road system;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received and reviewed the subdivision plats showing a dedication to the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo finds that the acceptance of the subdivisions into the Parish of Caddo system is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Parish of Caddo hereby accepts into the Parish of Caddo road system all of the streets in Blanchard Lake Estates Unit 4, Caddo Parish, Louisiana as shown on the attached subdivision plat marked as "Exhibit A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a copy of this ordinance, with a subdivision plat of the Blanchard Lake Estates Unit 4 attached thereto as "Exhibit A", shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall be effective ten days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6196 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR JUVENILE CENTER IN CADDO

PARISH AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) became law on March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish Commission would like to appropriate a \$150,000 in 2022 and \$150,000 in 2023 to provide for funds to establish a Juvenile Center; and

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Center would provide a single point of entry for troubled youth and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Center would provide timely and comprehensive assessments that link youth and families to the most appropriate community services; and

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Center would allow for the development and implementation of an integrated case management system or referral system for all clients by using a case management process that outlines intervention needs and plans, makes referrals to the indicated service, and monitors the service delivery and adjusting as needed; and

WHEREAS, the organizations involved would need to participate with the Coordinated Care System as well as Caddo Community Action Agency; and

WHEREAS, the “one stop shop” approach allows the community partners to provide assessable, blended and comprehensive services to meet the needs of citizens and families. The model addresses the leading barriers to children and youth succeeding in the educational environment, while utilizing a team-based collaborative problem-solving approach among the agencies; and

WHEREAS, the appropriation was recommended by the American Rescue Plan Committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2022 be amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
American Rescue Plan Fund:	
Expenditures:	
Federal Grant Expenditures	\$150,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6197 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE CADDO PARKS GRAB AND GO FEEDING PROGRAM AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish Parks and Recreation received the No Kid Hungry Grant for \$49,925 in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation department had huge success with feeding the youth that participated in the Parks and Recreation summer programs; and

WHEREAS, the No Kid Hungry Grant was not available in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Parks and Recreations department would like to continue the feeding program; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish Parks and Recreation would use these funds to provide pre-packaged summer/snacks and meals to participating youth during summer programming; and

WHEREAS, the NGO Committee recommended the appropriation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Riverboat Fund	
Expenditures:	
Summer Grab and Go Feeding Program	\$50,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6198 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF \$15,000 FOR ROBINSON'S RESCUE AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee of the Caddo Parish Commission recommended the Commission provide an appropriation of an additional \$15,000 for Robinson's Rescue; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Robinson's Rescue is to eliminate euthanasia of dogs and cats in Northwest Louisiana via an aggressive, comprehensive spay and neuter program; and

WHEREAS, Robinson's Rescue, since its inception, has partnered with the Caddo Parish Commission to provide low cost, high quality spay and neuter surgeries for pets belonging to citizens of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Robinson's Rescue's 2022 appropriation is \$35,000, a reduction of \$15,000 from the 2020 appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the NGO Committee recommends increasing Robinson's Rescue's 2022 appropriation from \$35,000 to \$50,000; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2022 Budget to provide an additional appropriation of \$15,000 for Robinson's Rescue; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Riverboat Fund	
NGO Appropriations – Robinson's Rescue	\$15,000
Fund Balance	(\$15,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6199 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE BALLISTIC VESTS FOR SHREVEPORT AND CADDO PARISH FIRE DISTRICTS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the local fire departments are called to most all emergencies in the community many of which that do not involve a fire; and

WHEREAS, many of these emergencies are to rescue or assist victims or violence, including shootings; and

WHEREAS, local police officers are equipped ballistic vest; and WHEREAS, local fire fighters are not equipped with ballistic vest; and

WHEREAS, many of the fire districts do not have the funds to pay for this type equipment and the Fire Districts are seeking assistance from the Caddo Parish Commission to purchase ballistic vest; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission originally appropriated funds for the ballistic vest with Ordinance 6109 of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the original appropriation lapsed and needs to be re-appropriated; and WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to appropriate funds to purchase ballistic vest for our local Shreveport and Caddo Fire Districts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Riverboat Fund	
Allocations to Other Entities	
Fire Districts—Ballistic Vests	\$130,700
Fund Balance`	\$(130,700)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6200 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A TEMPORARY PARISH PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, TO PROVIDE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP, TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Act 294 of 2020 removed Caddo Parish from the Shreveport Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission effective January 1, 2022;

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 17 authorizes local governments to adopt regulations for land use and zoning;

WHEREAS, that section also authorizes creation of commissions to implement those regulations;

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 5 provides for the adoption of home rule charters by local governments and the exercise by such home rule charter governments of all powers and functions not denied them by the constitution or by general state law and of all powers and functions granted to local governmental subdivisions by other provisions of the Constitution;

WHEREAS, the state statutes regarding planning and zoning by local governments provide for the establishment of a planning and zoning commission with between five and nine members;

WHEREAS, populating the planning and zoning commission established by the Caddo Parish Commission via Ordinance 6071 of 2022 has stalled pending a requested Attorney General's opinion on the matter;

WHEREAS, not having a parish planning and zoning commission has resulted in delays in all forms of development which require planning and zoning recommendation and approval;

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to provide a temporary process wherein development can proceed until it makes a permanent decision on populating the planning and zoning commission created via Ordinance 6071 of 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that a temporary Caddo Parish Planning and Zoning Commission is hereby created as provided herein.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Planning Commission shall consist of five members selected from the names that have been submitted to the Caddo Parish Commission as of February 14, 2022. The Parish Commission may only remove any member of the temporary commission, after public hearing, for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. The Temporary Caddo Parish Planning Commission may by rule or bylaw provide for such officers and establish such rules and procedures as it deems appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Temporary Caddo Parish Planning and Zoning Commission shall be created and be in existence as of March 3, 2022 and shall exist until June 30, 2022; if zoning issues have not been resolved by June 20, 2022, this ordinance will renew automatically until such issues are resolved. The Temporary Commission shall hear all planning and zoning matters and make recommendations to the Caddo Parish Commission as all current zoning ordinances require, and shall assume all duties and authority as provided by state law of a planning and zoning commission.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 6202 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN PREDIAL SERVITUDE OF PASSAGE AND RIGHT TO USE OVER PARISH PROPERTY LOCATED IN SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 22 NORTH RANGE 16 WEST AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a request to grant to Philip Blakeman as the owner of landlocked property adjacent to parish property a right of way on the western edge of the Old Vivian Landfill property.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request and determined it is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo to approve said request.

WHEREAS, Philip Blakeman has agreed to pay the Parish for the granting of the servitude of passage as depicted on the plat attached as Exhibit "A"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Parish Administrator or his designated representative shall be and is hereby, authorized to execute an predial servitude of passage and right to use over a portion of the Old Vivian Landfill property as depicted in Exhibit "A" for the purposes of ingress and egress to landlocked property adjacent to parish property.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 6203 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT WITH CADDEAUX GATHERING, LLC REGARDING A PIPELINE THROUGH AND UNDER PARISH PROPERTY LOCATED IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 15 WEST, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo had received a request to grant to Caddeaux Gathering, LLC a permanent easement and right-of-way (as depicted on Exhibit "A") in Section 7, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana to install a pipeline for the transportation of oil, natural gas, other gases, liquids, hydrocarbons or mixtures of the foregoing;

WHEREAS, the pipeline will be installed entirely by subsurface boring which means that the surface of the property will remain undisturbed;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request and determined it is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo to approve said request;

WHEREAS, Caddeaux Gathering, LLC has agreed to pay the Parish for the easement and right of way; and

WHEREAS, Caddeaux Gathering, LLC has provided the Parish with a plat showing the final location of the easement and right-of-way which is attached as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Parish Administrator or his designated representative shall be and is hereby, authorized to execute an easement and right-of-way for the installation of a pipeline as depicted on Exhibit "A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance 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 ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)**

- *Ordinance No. 6204 of 2022, an ordinance proposing an amendment to the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter relative to Section 3-07. Commission Meetings & Rules for presentation to the electorate, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6205 of 2022, an ordinance proposing an amendment to the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter relative to Section 3-07. Commission Meetings & Rules for presentation to the electorate, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6206 of 2022, an ordinance proposing an amendment to the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter deleting Section 5-05.2. Department of Fleet Services for presentation to the electorate, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6207 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation for Friends In Unity and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6208 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation for a water line extension in Blanchard, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6209 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$20,000 for Louisiana Urban Gardening and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Work Session Minutes February 28, 2022* be ratified.

### **RESOLUTIONS & NEW BUSINESS**

**Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and adopt the following items:*

- *Work Session Minutes February 28, 2022*
- *Resolution No. 21 of 2022, a resolution of support for Inferno Manufacturing's continued participation in the ITEP program, otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 22 of 2022, a resolution, to support the development of passenger rail service From Fort Worth, Texas through the City of Shreveport, Louisiana to Atlanta, Georgia along the I-20 Corridor and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Appoint Roderick T. Casey to the Caddo Parish Fire District No. 1 Board to fill the unexpired term of Ed Angel. Term to expire January 1, 2024*
- *Appoint James Carstensen to the Caddo Parish Broadband Committee*

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Hopkins (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **RESOLUTION NO. 21 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR INFERNO MANUFACTURING'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE ITEP PROGRAM, OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish has been notified that Inferno Manufacturing is not in compliance with its ITEP agreement for Project Year 2020 due to untimely reporting and failure to meet the job and payroll requirements; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic created widespread economic damage which created challenges in maintaining staffing levels; and

WHEREAS, the failure to meet job and payroll requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic is understandable; and

WHEREAS, Inferno Manufacturing has played a pivotal role in helping Caddo Parish citizens during the pandemic, including providing \$125,000 in funding for COVID testing; and

WHEREAS, as the Caddo Parish Commission appreciates Inferno Manufacturing's contributions as a whole to Caddo Parish's economy and wishes the company to continue those contributions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission fully endorses Inferno Manufacturing's continued participation in the ITEP program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry to be received by that board no later than March 7, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

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

### **RESOLUTION NO. 22 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION, TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE FROM FORT WORTH, TEXAS

THROUGH THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA TO ATLANTA, GEORGIA ALONG THE I-20 CORRIDOR AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Congress has recently passed a major infrastructure bill, which includes some sixty-six billion dollar allocation for passenger rail and Amtrak; and

WHEREAS, connecting Fort Worth, Texas and Atlanta, Georgia, with points along the Interstate 20 Corridor including Shreveport, Louisiana, would establish a passenger rail connection joining more than 14,000,000 residents throughout Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, and connecting these states with the East Coast and onward north to New York; and

WHEREAS, the existing Interstate 20 was constructed almost sixty years ago, and there has been no material increase in capacity, despite the population growth throughout these states of two to three times during the last two generations, and there appear to be no present plans to materially expand the existing four lanes of Interstate 20 for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, the I-20 Corridor Council, representing many cities and councils of governments along the proposed route obtained federal funding and has completed two important studies, including

- (1) a 2015 Amtrak feasibility study which determined that a long-distance passenger rail connection could operate profitably over the existing railroad infrastructure and would require no annual governmental subsidy, and
- (2) a 2017 capacity study suggested that a capital expenditure investment of less than \$80 million in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. This would represent a fraction of the cost of conventional highway construction and would enable new passenger rail service on the route without adversely affecting freight traffic along the host railroad; and

WHEREAS, the I-20 Rail Corridor service would provide an east-west connection consisting of two daily passenger trains for the regions of Dallas, Fort Worth and Atlanta and would run through the City of Shreveport; and the proposed railway service will connect surrounding regions and result in increased economic viability for cities along the railway route for tourism and increased mobility by providing an alternative means of transportation; and;

WHEREAS, grassroots, multi-state coalitions including mayors, local, state and federal officials, business and economic leaders and many other stakeholders have shown great support for this opportunity along the I-20 corridor, and creating an economical and environmentally attractive addition to highway travel; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition of the Kansas City Southern Railway ("KCS") by Canadian Pacific Railway ("CP") is pending before the United States Surface Transportation Board, and Canadian Pacific and Amtrak have announced plans to conduct a study to finalize a cooperative agreement to operate the passenger train for the I 20 Corridor along the trackage being acquired by Canadian Pacific.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby recognize and support the efforts to construct and operate a long-distance passenger rail connection along the I-20 corridor, also supports the approval of the Surface Transportation Board of the merger between Kansas City Southern and Canadian Pacific Railways, and further supports the efforts to improve on-time performance of Amtrak passenger trains with the host railroad carriers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 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.

#### **COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS**

- Mr. Jackson said that the light at Airport Drive and Market Street stays on red.

Mr. Jackson also suggested broadcasting the Pulse of the Parish on the public access channel. Ms. Krystle Beauchamp, Communications Manager, explained that this is being discussed at the next Joint Government Plaza meeting.

Mr. Kevin Lawrence, F&M Director, said that this meeting is being broadcasted to the

public access channel.

- Mr. Atkins recognized former Commission Louis Johnson who was in attendance today.
- Mr. Chavez announced that former Councilman James Flurry passed today.
- Mr. Jones thanked Animal Services for handling the issues he was having in his district. He also talked about the street racing operation. He said that there will be food trucks and gambling going on during these races.
- Mr. Epperson announced that Timberline and Deer Creek Estates will hold their annual cleanup on April 8<sup>th</sup> through April 9<sup>th</sup>.

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

  
Michelle Nations  
Assistant Commission Clerk

  
John E. Atkins  
President