

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 19th DAY OF MAY, 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, Hopkins, Jones, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jackson (2).

The invocation was given by Mrs. Gage-Watts, and Mr. Johnson led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to expand the agenda and add the following special resolutions to the agenda under Special Resolutions.*

- *Special Resolution commemorating the Rock Out All Star Game in honor of the late Devin Meyers*
- *Special Resolution commemorating the Veteran's Affairs Asian & Pacific Islander American Heritage Celebration*
- *Special Resolution commemorating Memorial Day*

At this time, the President of the Commission opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the agenda addition. There being no one to speak in favor or against the agenda additions, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Breon Dennis came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

My name is Breon Dennis. I'm with the Frisco Roughriders Baseball Team. I'm originally from Shreveport, Louisiana. 3228 Stonewall Street is my mother and father's address. So, basically, I'm coming home. For 222 miles it took me to get from Dallas, Texas to here. I'm here in support of YMCA, their request for a multipurpose field that they are looking to build. But with that being said, I will use my time wisely. So, I am a graduate of C.E. Byrd High School. Want to make sure you knew that. Also went to elementary Queensboro, Lakeshore and Jazz Park Middle School. And, part of the reason why I say that is the Frisco Roughriders used to be your Shreveport Captain's. So, here I am now coming home. 23 years removed from being here in the city, had asked to come out here by the South YMCA to talk about this. And what's amazing is I live in a city that has a metropolitan area, which is North Texas. And what I can tell you right now is anytime people say 'hey, are you from Texas?' I tell them all the time Shreveport, Louisiana is home. I live in Texas for tax purposes, but Shreveport is home. But I want to make sure as I support the agenda for the YMCA I want to make it very clear. My support is for my nieces and nephews. For them who are still living in Shreveport, you have the opportunity to utilize that field for our community as a whole. In the last five words of community is unity. So as we have this field, potentially being built, let's keep in mind that we want to make it very inclusive to all involved from the cradle to the grave. So, I'm not here just to lend my name as well as my stature in the community. But I want to simply say. Had it not been for my time here in Shreveport I probably never been a kid who was now the vice president of a professional baseball team. So, as I look here, Mr. Burrell want to tell you thank you for what you're doing in our community as well. My mom is still living there, but I want to make it very clear yet again. With the opportunity that's put in front of this Parish, as well as the City, we hear about crime time and time again. The deal is the kids need options and I believe that we're gonna have an opportunity for our parents to get a chance to live their dreams as well as the kids. A lot of times as a kid we usually hear about MLK, I Have a Dream speech. I'm here to make sure that the adults dream. Keep that in mind the adults dream. So, I get a chance to come here and it really stood out to me. Because I think about it. Somebody was at this podium 23 years ago speaking on my behalf. So, I want to make sure that I may not be here to see everything get develop. But I can tell you right now that if there's anything I can do to come back to lend that insight to Shreveport please keep in mind. You ever seen the movie "Man of Honor", one of the best parts about that movie was a son never forgets. And as a son of a black man and a black female, I came back home. So, by me coming back home, taking time to lend a hand in Caddo Parish, it lets you know no matter what you hear about people who may not support the city. Guess what, folks? I came home. So please don't make me look embarrassed when I go back in North Texas, because I don't like the Cowboys. But I will tell you yet again. Anytime I could come here to Shreveport. Thank you again to the YMCA. Thank you again to my dear friend Patrick Wesley. And I got a chance to meet on the plane. That's how he and I connected anytime I could

do stuff for Shreveport. Seven seconds? I want to say thank you. So, that's all I got to say.

Brandon Mars came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Good afternoon. My name is Brandon Mars. I'm president of Shreveport Little League. And I'm here also on behalf of the YMCA to talk about the potential new fields being developed. Mr. Dennis did a great job. You know I'm heading out to a little league right after this. Go coach a baseball game. We've got 650 Kids registered with us this year. We've done a great job of building up this program. I think they told talk to y'all before about the travel options and what's going on right now with baseball nationally. The recreational league is such an important factor. It brings people together and builds community. It creates friendships, and allows people the opportunity to play the game of baseball. Allows people to play the game of baseball without spending an exorbitant amount of money. These people are traveling out of town they're having to spend a lot of dollars on hotels every night. They've got to eat out for dinner three nights a week or three times a day. And it just gets expensive. Gas prices are outrageous. We need to be able to provide an opportunity for our kids here locally and I think we're doing that and we need help. You know our facilities are outdated and I don't think much has changed since I was there playing baseball 30 years ago. It's a challenge every day with our weather, you know, April, March, pretty wet months for us. It's hard to get those fields drained. So, a lot of work to reschedule and get the kids out there to play, and that's just what we're trying to do. You know there's so much opportunity now bringing in outside teams, tournaments, whatever. We know the financial and the economical impact that it would bring. You look at complexes in small towns, like Ruston and Sterlington, Louisiana. Broussard, they've got a beautiful place. I think Shreveport is a little bit behind the time and I think we can get there and I hope that we can. It would just-it brings so much community together. This recreational league is for everybody. You know travel teams, oftentimes, they go out and try to make a team. It's like an all-star process. It's not for everybody. So, those people that don't make the team, don't get to play. And, if we don't do anything to try to support our rec division, it's going to miss out or prevent a lot of kids from being able to play baseball. And that's what we do not want to happen. Again, there's a lot of friendships that are made out there. I've got three boys and their best friends are all out there and they learned to play sports with. Gives kids an opportunity. It teaches them about teamwork and responsibility. So I think just going out there and helping us to develop this with the YMCA is a great opportunity for the City. So I'm gonna cut mine short. 36 seconds left. Thank you very much.

Shelton Harville, Sr. came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Yes, sir. I'm Shelton Harville, Sr. I live on the 5327 La shoe place in Keithville. So, I'm not an original native of Caddo Parish. I'm from Red River, Parish God's country, but I've been here for 22 years and I've been on Shreveport Fire Department. And I'm just going to piggyback on what they said. I am one of those parents that we're always traveling, because my son, and I'm proud to say it, he is a top rated pitcher in Louisiana for the 2025 class. And the different is now he committed to Louisiana Tech and he had offers from like 20 schools before he even played first ending of the high school ball. So, what I mean by that is in Caddo Parish, y'all, were missing out. We're missing out on helping the kids and not just at the economic impact. Last summer, we traveled to Hoover, Alabama, which Hoover and Birmingham are like Shreveport and Bossier, and there were I think it was 227 teams in that one tournament. So, not only did they have the Hoover Metropolitan Center field, all the high school fields. I think one game we traveled like an hour 15 minutes. So, with that being said, I wish we had a facility like that here to hold something to where even if it's one kid that gets an opportunity, but, you know, for some eyes be on the scene or maybe three or four. But we just don't have the facilities now. I mean, you know, I'm traveling. I've made friends with a bunch of the guys from a perfect game and PBR. So, if we had a nice facility, I could ask Alex Armand, the head PBR director for Louisiana, to come up here and have a showcase. He may even donate it free and you get some kid that didn't get the exposure and numbers are good. Then, college coaches, or maybe even like the gentleman here, maybe a pro scout could pick up on somebody. So, that's the main thing. I think that facility is a great idea. I mean, obviously this is outdated job. I'm sorry. I mean, like we were in Hoover and we had a torrential rain. So, I mean a thunderstorm, and when it stopped 15 minutes later we were playing. So, we're in dire need. I mean, I'll give you an example. We were there, and this in Atlanta this year, so we're there for eight days. You think of eight days of hotel. Every hotel was filled and I think we had to stay outside the city. So, when you think of we're missing out on the tax from the gas. Every restaurant was full. Everywhere you went it was full. And I love Shreveport. Hoover, Alabama, and Birmingham, and these other places are no better than us. Actually, we've got more to do. More to do. Ruston's got a nice facility, but what can you do at Ruston? There's plenty to do here in Shreveport. So, I think we're missing out. I think that is warranted. I think. I mean it's been needed, but now's the time. So, thank you all and I'm gonna cut my cut my time short.

Ken Krefft came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Thank you, Mr. Atkins. Members of commission, Dr. Wilson. Kenneth Krefft 157 Archer Avenue and I echo the comments of the three prior speakers. Having raised three boys who played baseball, the youngest opponent tried out at LSU for second base. Had trouble making the first team gentleman named Todd Walker in the way. I want to thank Commissioners Young and Taliaferro and Atkins for attending our Broadmoor neighborhood meeting night before last on the 17th. Triple J. They did a good job. In summary, John Paul gave us information about his interest. Very well presented. Mr. Taliaferro gave a nice handout about achievements for 2021 and Mr. Atkins summarized on a Parish-wide basis some of the things you all do. It might have mentioned triple A bond rating, but you didn't put something on which

we should be very proud. I want to encourage this Commission to move as quickly as possible on tornado warning sirens. 37 days ago, April 12th, a Tuesday, sirens went off in Benton, Minden, Homer, Haynesville, other cities. They're very helpful. Jim had mentioned smartphone notification. Well, that has merit and drawbacks. On June 11, 2010 in Albert Pike State Park in Arkansas where the flash flood warnings came, where the Caddo and Little Missouri Rivers converge, 20 people drowned because they were notified in the middle of the night by text and by email. Conversely, a year or so later, in Texas at Guadalupe River State Park in the middle of the night the campers were notified by sirens. Nobody drowned. Some camping gear was ruined. You blast them awake. It doesn't-an email and a text-won't wake somebody up who's sound asleep. Let's do what we can to move that along. Another topic the juvenile justice committee is moving along. We've had some good progress and some meetings many more to go. I am concerned as a citizen that Senate Bill 418 passed the full Senate. It undoes it makes the 17 year olds adults again. The critical dangerous 17 year olds are already treated as adults but this this bill if passed would I guess the only advantage it would save the juvenile justice fund a few bucks because 17 year olds would be paid by the adult system. And finally, I just want to thank Mr. Samuels. I have a suggestion I made it's tongue in cheek but it's sort of neat. If we have a drone next month flying spraying larvicide, I suggested we name it mosquito hawk.

Kenny Gordon came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Thank you very much for having me. My name is Kenny Gordon, and I am a member of the England Association. And I'm here to talk about the rash of shootings in the neighborhoods. I look at you all a lot on Facebook. Now I looked at a lot of you who have come up with the ideas of trying to stop these shootings and the ideas that you've come up with are relatively good. The thing that perturbs me is this agenda that you're trying to put to it, which I see is to allow AKs in a vehicle and it's not loaded. That to me is ludicrous, because it only takes a few seconds to load an AK47. Just like it does a nine or a eight. That's not going to do anything. The remit-the original idea that you have is to ban it completely. Because I've heard a lot of you saying that with the AK47, they can come. They can carry it, because they might go to a range or hunting. No one hunts with an AK47 and no one goes to the gun range with an AK47. I also noticed that you said that this is not to prevent anyone from carrying a weapon, and I agree with you. Because like a lot of you, I carry a weapon too but it's not an AK47. I don't need an AK47 to protect me. A nine millimeter is just as good. A 35 or 22. All of those are good. An AK47 That's a war weapon. It's for war. Not to come out and do drive-bys and shoot people. That's what an AK47 for. So, I'm here to try and appease you to disregard that agenda and put it in there saying that okay, we'll let them carry it as long as it's not loaded. You need to put it in there that it's outlawed. You're not supposed to have that weapon in your car. Most of the people that have that weapon, they're young and they're stupid, and they want to shoot people. That's what it's for is to shoot people and everybody's tired of their kids and their mother and their fathers and their grandfathers getting killed. All because you got these fools riding, running around here and want to shoot each other. So my thing is, and I'm going to be looking and I'm going to post it on Facebook, those who vote for that agenda. And I'm gonna let him know that if these people vote for that agenda to let them still carry those weapons, you need to remove them because they are for the enemy. They are not for the victims. Because again, I reiterate that AK47 is to kill you. It is not for hunting. It is not for going to the range. It's to blast people and I'm gonna tell you this one point and then I'll be through. I think the reason that they use of AK47s because they can't shoot. Because a lot of you have mentioned that. Commissioner Johnson have mentioned. Commissioner Jones have mentioned. They can't shoot. Because they don't go to the ranges. So, they need a barrage of bullets in order to try and get who it is they trying to hit, and guess what, they never hit it. They always hit the innocent. So again, I would appease to you. I would ask you to not vote for that. That addendum of letting them carry that AK47 in their cars unloaded that's ridiculous. I believe that it should be outlawed. And I know I said one thing, but I'm going to say one more. The reason that those people. Okay, just give me one more minute. I just want to say that I have a lot of people following me. If you vote forward, they're going to know it. If you vote against it, they're going to know it. And I'm going to advise that they remove those individuals, vote against them that's going to vote for that. Because letting them carry that AK in their car, talking about it being unloaded, you know, it takes a second to load and then they can shoot whoever it is they want to shoot. So, if you do and I thank you Commissioner Jackson, for championing me and give me that time to express what I want to express, because I'm really passionate about the fact that these people are getting killed. I don't have any children. In my neighborhood, I try and make sure that nobody is shot. Because I have a direct link with the Chief. So, I care about people. I care about others, and I don't want to happen to anyone else. Thank you very much.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that the Regular Session Minutes from May 5, 2022* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Jones, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Special Resolution proclaiming May as Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month* be adopted.

Mr. Chavez applauded Ms. Ava for all of her strength and determination, despite some

limitations. He said that she is an inspiration to her peers.

Ms. Ava read aloud the following quote from Linda Thompson, "Our uniqueness, our individuality, and our life experience molds us into fascinating beings. I hope we can embrace that. I pray we may all challenge ourselves to delve into the deepest resources our hearts to cultivate an atmosphere of understanding, acceptance, tolerance, and compassion. We are all in this life together."

Mrs. Gage-Watts commended Ms. Ava for her tenacity about raising awareness regarding pediatric strokes. She thanked her coming down today.

Mr. Burrell applauded Ms. Ava and told her to keep up the good work.

At this time, Mr. Chavez'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 RESOLUTION PEDIATRIC STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, pediatric stroke is a relatively rare condition, affecting 1 in 4,000 infants and an additional 2,000 children each year, it is also a top ten cause of death among U.S. children between infancy and age 19; and

WHEREAS, 60% of children who survive a stroke will have permanent neurological difficulties that can include cerebral palsy, epilepsy, impaired cognitive function, impaired movement, and lost or damaged vision, hearing and speech; and

WHEREAS pediatric stroke effects each child differently and it is known that early detection and awareness can improve outcomes and increased awareness eases the social burden on survivors as they adjust to the impacts of pediatric stroke; and

WHEREAS Caddo Parish is fortunate to have a local survivor and advocate for pediatric stroke awareness in Ava Sophia Candler, who suffered a stroke in utero, leading to a premature birth and many challenges in her infancy, culminating in a diagnosis of cerebral palsy spastic hemiplegia. Candler has undergone a decade of occupational and physical therapy, and numerous medical procedures and surgeries, even as recently as a tendon surgery a month ago. Despite this, Candler lacks fine and gross motor function of her left side and must often work twice as hard as her peers;

WHEREAS, Candler has chosen to work twice as hard and has become a flourishing, successful 5th grader in advanced classes who serves on student council, participates in choir, cheer squad and Girl Scouts. Candler's hard work deserves recognition in itself, and even more admirable is her desire to use her experience to increase awareness of pediatric stroke amongst teachers, parents, children and the community at large where she would like it known that pediatric stroke survivors and their families want to be accepted, understood, and treated equally by peers and adults, even when being treated equally includes needed accommodations in school and other areas of their lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Caddo Parish Commission, does hereby proclaim the month of May 2022 as PEDIATRIC STROKE AWARENESS MONTH in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to thank Ava Candler for her advocacy and ability to raise awareness about this important subject, commends her for her accomplishments and asks the citizens of Caddo Parish to practice acceptance and understanding of those who face challenges.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to englobo and adopt the following special resolutions:*

- *Special Resolution proclaiming May 22nd as National Maritime Day*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for William Samuel Davis*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Martha Carter on her retirement*
- *Special Resolution commemorating the Rock Out All Star Game in honor of the late Devin Meyers*
- *Special Resolution commemorating the Veteran's Affairs Asian & Pacific Islander American Heritage Celebration*
- *Special Resolution commemorating Memorial Day*

Mr. Epperson talked about the Special Resolution commemorating Memorial Day. He said that the reason for Memorial Day is to recognize and honor those who have served in the military. Let's not ever forget the significance of Memorial Day, he said.

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, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

SPECIAL RESOLUTION NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

WHEREAS, on May 22, 1819, the steamship The Savannah set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first successful transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, thus making a material contribution to the advancement of ocean transportation, and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 1933, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled and approved that May 22 of each year shall be designated and known as National Maritime Day, and

WHEREAS, during WW II in what became the world's largest sealift operation, more than 250,000 members of the American Merchant Marine served their country, with more than 6,700 giving their lives, hundreds being detained as prisoners of war and more than 800 ships being sunk or damaged, and

WHEREAS, waterways have enabled much of the commerce that has expanded America's economy, sprouted cities near waterways and facilitated vast domestic and international commerce crucial to our economy today, and

WHEREAS, merchant mariners have served America with distinction throughout our history, but especially at critical moments of war and natural disaster, and

WHEREAS, the United States Merchant Marine and thousands of other workers in our Nation's maritime industry continue to make immeasurable contributions to our economic strength and our ongoing efforts to build a more peaceful world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Merchant Marine also shepherds the safe passage of American goods, move exports to customers around the world, support the flow of domestic commerce on our maritime highways, strengthen our Nation's economy, bolster job creation and, along with the transportation industry, employ Americans on ships and tugs, and in ports, like our Port of Caddo Bossier, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission to increase the awareness of the maritime industry within Caddo and Bossier Parishes and the State of Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Caddo Parish Commission joins the President of the United States of America in proclaiming May 22, 2022, as NATIONAL MARITIME DAY and calls upon the citizens of to celebrate this observance.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION WILLIAM SAMUEL DAVIS

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is always pleased to recognize and honor those sons and daughters of Caddo Parish who have gone forth to gain singular and outstanding personal achievements, and in so doing, reflect favorably and positively upon their home community; and

WHEREAS, **MR. WILLIAM SAMUEL DAVIS**, of Shreveport is a graduating Senior at Caddo Parish Magnet High School whose academic achievement, character and leadership recently earned him the 2022 Caddo Sherriff's Scholarship awarded by Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator and the Louisiana Sheriffs' Honorary Membership Program; and

WHEREAS, Davis' 3.5 GPA; participation in National Junior Honor Society, Interact Club, Guitar Club, Black Student Alliance, the Ambassadors of Caddo Magnet, the Regional Autonomous Robotics Circuit Competition, and the Ernest Gaines Literary Symposium; awards from the Caddo Magnet High School Music Festival, Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy, and the Greater Shreveport Music Teachers Association Festival begin to illustrate what an exceptional and multifaceted young student and leader he is; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer experiences with Overton Brooks VA Medical Center and several hospice centers led Davis to establish Sam's Super Boxes of Hope, an organization that combines Davis' love of storytelling, super heroes, music and creative arts to provide engaging, positive surprises for those who have terminal medical conditions, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic when many care facilities restricted personal visitation; and

WHEREAS, Davis will attend Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge this coming fall and his participation in the Ochsner LSU Day with the Docs Program, the LSU Hospital's Area Health Education Center's AHEC of a Summer program, the Medical Application of Science for Health Program, and his experience as a registered hospice volunteer will prepare him well for his studies as he pursues a career as a physician's assistant; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in legal and regular session this 19th day of May, 2022, that it does hereby extend its most sincere and heartfelt expressions of congratulation and appreciation to Mr. **William Samuel Davis** for his praiseworthy achievements and for representing the talent, compassion and ingenuity that can be found in Caddo Parish.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
MARTHA CARTER**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission ruefully acknowledges that the passage of time brings forth regrettable inevitabilities, among those being the necessity of saying goodbye to cherished friends who have chosen to walk the paths and live the dreams of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Martha Carter, the beloved and respected Executive Director of Caddo Parish Communications District #1, has now made that choice, ending a career of public service that has spanned 34 years and will culminate on May 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, through the years, Martha's leadership has ensured that hundreds of thousands of Caddo citizens and visitors had access to the very best 9-1-1 emergency communications systems and team and her service has endeared her to untold numbers of citizens and colleagues not only by the many attributes of warmth, leadership, loyalty, dependability—but also by those traits she does not possess: arrogance, intimidation or callousness; and

WHEREAS, her extensive knowledge of emergency communications combined with her desire to help her community, made her an invaluable counselor, advisor, mentor and friend to many colleagues and employees not only in Caddo Parish Communications District No 1, but throughout the region and the first responder community; and

WHEREAS, now that her retirement is upon us, we pray the days are plentifully filled with family, fun, relaxation and all the joys of unconstrained time following a career of remarkable service; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commissioners, who have served during her tenure, acknowledge the legacy of her work and affirm the commitment she has given to Caddo Parish's Communication District No. 1, its staff and the Parish's citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby express its deep and sincere appreciation to Ms. Martha Carter for her invaluable contributions rendered on behalf of his service and declare, May 24th, 2022 as:

MARTHA CARTER DAY

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, calling upon all citizens to note this occasion with a sense of appreciation and gratitude.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
ROCK OUT ALL STAR GAME IN HONOR OF
DEVIN MEYERS**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission desire to give special recognition to those events and organizations of special interest and significance that occur in the community and exist to better the lives of those living in Caddo Parish communities; and

WHEREAS, The Rock Out All Star Game, is such an event that not only exists to encourage healthy, nonviolent activities, but also to remember the life and continue the legacy of Devin Myers whose young life was tragically cut short by gun violence in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Devin Myers was 17 years old in March of 2022 when his life was tragically cut short by gun violence, leaving a community in grief who knew Myers as a son, a friend, a leader, a classmate and a star on the Huntington Raiders' team where he was named 2nd Team All District for the 2021-2022 season and was poised to support his team in the 3rd round of state playoffs, where they would have to go on to play without him; and

WHEREAS, the Raiders rallied and went on to honor Myers' memory as they made it to the semi-final round of the playoffs. Myers' legacy continues to motivate his community to pursue excellence and, in that spirit, the Rock Out All-Star Game will be played on May 20th with an epic matchup between All Chalked Up coached by Huntington Raiders Coach and Louisiana Sports Writer's Association's Coach of the Year Mack Jones and Steal 4 Real coached by Loyola Flyers and AAU Gators Coach Kevin Hoskey starting at 7pm in the Huntington High School Gym; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 19th day of May, 2022, that it does hereby acknowledge the significance of The Rock Out All Star Game, extends condolences to the family and friends of Devin Myers, honors Myers' legacy, commends the organizers and participants and does hereby proclaim May 20, 2022 as

DEVIN MYERS DAY

in Caddo Parish and invites all Caddo citizens to join in the recognition of this day by participating in activities that encourage the positive development of skills, healthy competition, physical health, the celebration of talent, or the demonstration of support for one's community.

PROCLAMATION ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN HERITAGE

WHEREAS, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, recognizes the innumerable contributions, vibrant cultures, and rich heritage of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NHPs); and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders are some of the fastest-growing racial and ethnic groups in the Nation, and represent a multitude of ethnicities, languages, and experiences that enrich Caddo Parish and our nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, including over 3,000 in Caddo Parish, embody the best of our American values, including commitment to faith, family, and community; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders contribute in so many ways from protecting this nation through service in our military to tremendous economic contributions of talent, ingenuity and skill to their enrichment of the American experience as Asian, Hawaiian & Pacific Island cultures, food, music, history and traditions are shared and celebrated. The Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders communities has left indelible marks on our government, culture, and economy; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders lay claim to an undeniably important role in our country's great years to come, and the Caddo Parish Commission proudly stands to honor them and their innumerable contributions to Caddo Parish's prosperity, culture and way of life; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission meeting in legal and regular session convened on May 19th, 2022 does hereby proclaim May, 2022 as

'Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Caddo Parish Commission to celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month and honor the contributions and service of AA's and NHP's to our Parish and our Nation.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION MEMORIAL DAY

WHEREAS, since our nation's inception, brave men and women have given their lives to protect our freedoms in service to our great nation, and we have strived to honor their sacrifice through historic burial grounds and battlefields, memorials, and other tributes that recognize the fallen; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, federal law declared that the last Monday in May is designated as Memorial Day, beginning in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance and celebration in honor of the heroism and valor of the members of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, and National Guard; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo pays tribute to the fallen, our veterans; and

WHEREAS, on this day, in our communities across the united states of America will remember loved ones who have given the ultimate sacrifice as part of ongoing conflicts, as well as those who fell during previous conflicts and war; and

WHEREAS, on this day, and throughout the year, the Parish of Caddo, joins citizens in their sorrow and pride for the fallen and in giving thanks to those who made the ultimate sacrifice to keep our nation free.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due and

legal session, that it does hereby proclaim the 30th day of May, 2022 as

Memorial Day

in Caddo Parish and commend its observance to all citizens.

COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson said that he has received some concerns regarding signs littering the public right-of-ways. He asked that they be removed.
- Mr. Jackson wanted to know if there were any summer job positions set aside for non-violent juveniles at the Detention Center. Dr. Wilson said that he will look into it and provide Mr. Jackson with the information at a later time. Mr. Jackson then wanted to ensure that all provisions have been met prior to cutting the check for the Juvenile Services One Stop Shop. Dr. Wilson said that he will provide that information at a later time.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts asked for an update on the tornado sirens. Dr. Wilson said that they had a plan to work with the City's Crime Center and integrate the sirens with the poles they are installing for the cameras. He said that he will check back with the City's IT Department and provide additional details as they are received.

She also thanked everyone for keeping her family in her prayers. She said that her son is doing much better, and is asking for continued prayers.

Mrs. Gage-Watts announced that the 5th Annual Sickle Cell Motorcycle Ride will be held this Saturday at Morningstar Baptist Church. The ride will begin at 10:15 a.m., and she will provide additional details to the Clerk.

- Mr. Burrell requested a copy of the 2022 Disparity Study. Dr. Wilson said that Administration plans to provide an update at the June 6 Work Session.
- Mr. Taliaferro thanked Mr. Young, Director Wesley, and Director Samuel for attending the Broadmoor Neighborhood Association's meeting. He commended them for all of their hard work in Team Caddo.
- Mr. Epperson announced that the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery will be hosting their annual Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 30. Legion Post #450 will host their Memorial Day Ceremony on May 26 beginning at 10:00 a.m.
- Mr. Young responded to the Citizens Comment regarding guns and magazine capacity. Mr. Young explained that while the Commissioners are sympathetic and moved by the tragedies that result from these types of weapons, the Caddo Parish Commission may not have the legal authority to regulate assault weapons or any guns. That authority is strictly confined to state government and state law. Mr. Young said that he is not sure if the Commission has the authority to disengage a magazine while they're in the car. He suggested asking the State Legislature to pass different rules about guns.
- Mr. Jones announced that Compassion for Lives will be hosting another crime prevention symposium at Bilberry Park on May 28 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
- Mr. Jackson announced that Mt. Canaan will host a food distribution event beginning at 9:00 a.m. this Saturday. He also said that there will be a Lupus Walk on May 21 from 9:00 a.m. until noon at Colombia Park.

He said that there will be an event to honor Valencia Vikings on June 25, and he asked if Administration could reach out to support them in some way.

Mr. Jackson also requested that the Commission Clerk schedule a meeting for the Amazon TIF District. He also asked that Administration provide a letter to the IDB regarding planning grant funds.

He also talked about a situation involving a young man at CCC. Mr. Jackson said that the community is outraged about crime and juvenile crime, but on the other hand, there are parents making statements that the Commission is setting the bonds too high. He explained that the Caddo Parish Commission does not set bonds. Mr. Jackson said that he will not get in front of something without doing proper research. He said that he was not against the concept of 17 year olds at the Juvenile Detention Center, if the space could be managed. Mr. Jackson said that he will not support parents coming down to the Commission saying that they are too tough on the teenagers who are committing these crimes and wreaking havoc on the community. He is offended at receiving calls saying juvenile bonds are too high. Mr. Jackson wanted to know what are they doing in the first place to be at CCC. How can we justify going to the judge and telling them to reduce a bond on somebody who raped somebody? So they can walk around on the street and recruit more teenagers to be a part of this, he said. Mr. Jackson said that a family

conversation needs to be had about this foolishness. When you're right, you're right, but when you're wrong, you're going to get this chastising, Mr. Jackson said.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Atkins announced that there will be a street dedication honoring Pastor Calvin Austin this Sunday at 3:00 p.m. He also said that Martha Carter Retirement Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 24 at 11:30 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

The President of the Commission opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the following ordinance:

- *Ordinance No. 6229 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund and the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation for the construction of the YMCA Baseball Complex and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

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

ORDINANCES (For Final Passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Ordinance No. 6224 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$6,000 to provide an appropriation for the Greater Shreveport Chamber Foundation and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Jackson said that this came out of the Appropriations Committee favorably. He said that the vast majority of the funding will come from the City of Shreveport and through private donations.

Mr. Epperson would like to see more projects that are community and business specific. He said that the Shreveport Chamber should be doing projects such as studying economic development, etc. Mr. Epperson also said that this type of project is geared more towards the Shreveport Regional Arts Council.

Mr. Jackson said that this leadership class does have a session with the Parish. He too suggested that the local elected officials participate in that class.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Epperson (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Chavez (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6224 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE GREATER SHREVEPORT CHAMBER FOUNDATION AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to appropriate \$6,000 in its 2022 budget for Greater Shreveport Chamber Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Greater Shreveport Chamber Foundation sponsors the Greater Shreveport Leadership Program; and

WHEREAS, the participants of the Greater Shreveport Leadership Program work collectively to select and complete a community service project; and

WHEREAS, the 44th Greater Shreveport Chamber Class Leadership Project will be the implementation of a public art project installed at one of Shreveport downtown gateways, the intersection of Marshall and I-20; and

WHEREAS, the public art project will be a mural painted on 26 pillars; 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>
<u>Riverboat Fund</u>	
NGO Appropriations	
Greater Shreveport Chamber Foundation	\$6,000
Fund Balance	(\$6,000)

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.

It was **moved by Mr. Jones**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6229 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund and the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation for the construction of the YMCA Baseball Complex and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Substitute motion by Mr. Burrell, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *to allocate \$500,000 to the Stewart Belle Stadium with the balance being allocated to the YMCA.*

Mr. Burrell said that he is supportive of the YMCA and what they are trying to do, but he was concerned with constructing a venue outside of the central portion of the City. He said that this was tough for children to get to the facility. Mr. Burrell also said that this is an expensive sport, and there are several children who are talented; they just need access to these types of facilities.

Mr. Burrell also mentioned that the Stewart Belle Stadium is behind the Galilee Baptist Church in Shreveport. He said that the stadium is a historical building and was named after baseball stars Riley Stewart and Albert Belle.

Mr. Epperson said that he is against the initial motion and the substitute motion. He submitted several questions to the YMCA, as well as a follow up:

1. How long was the plan in process? *Since April of 2015.*
2. Who was involved? Was school coaches involved? *Y Staff, High School and Youth Baseball Coaches.*

What high schools, youth baseball coaches; please list schools, teams and names.
3. Is the location in unincorporated areas of the Parish? Or is the location in the City of Shreveport? *The YMCA of Northwest Louisiana was incorporated in 1923, and this youth sports complex is in the City of Shreveport.*
4. Why was Caddo Parish chosen first to seek funding? *The State Capital Outlay was first, corporations were 2nd and private donors were 3rd.*
5. How much funding are you requesting from the City of Shreveport and Caddo Parish School Board? *We have not established that yet.*
6. When was the decision made to build a new Y in Forbing? Who was involved in that planning? Who administers the final decision? *April of 2015. The YMCA staff and Gro development. YMCA Board.*

Who/What is Gro development?

List all Y board members and contact information from 2015 to present.

Were any funds requested from SCTB? If so, how much?

Any funding from the Casinos? How much?
7. What was the final cost of the Forbing Y to be built? *The final cost is still being determined.*
8. Why was the Y closed in Broadmoor? *We had the opportunity to update and*

expand in a different location.

9. Why was the Y closed on Hearne Avenue? *A financial decision.*
10. How much private funding has been secured for the proposed sports complex? If any, please name donors and amounts. *\$900,000.00 in private/corporate funding and \$1,445,701.37 in state funding.*
11. It appears as though Patrick Wesley is a strong advocate for this property. While he was employed as Assistant Director of SPAR, was he a strong advocate of the Y Sports Complex while he was working for the City of Shreveport to secure funding? *We never met with Patrick about the complex while he was an employee at SPAR. Patrick has been outspoken for a long time that Shreveport needs to begin capitalizing on the booming travel sports industry.*
12. Were any entities or individuals, government or private citizens, informed of the proposal or invited to participate in discussions relative to the idea of the Sports Complex from West Shreveport or West Caddo Parish? *Yes.*

List the entities, government agencies, private citizens and persons from West Shreveport/ West Caddo parish that participated in discussions of Sport Complex proposal. What time periods were they at the table?

Mr. Epperson said that he has not receive answers to the follow up questions. He is not against the project, but he is against the process of how it was brought to the table. Mr. Epperson also mentioned that there are several RV parks with amenities along the I-20 Corridor by Cargill Park. He suggested that this be taken back to the drawing board.

Mr. Chavez said that this is comparing “apples to oranges”. He also mentioned that this proposal came out of the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Chavez also said that the gyms that Mr. Epperson spoke of are part of the management arm of the YMCA, and their target client is hyperlocal. Mr. Chavez said that is not what is being discussed with this ordinance. He said that this is speaking to a proposed sports complex from a \$15B industry that Caddo Parish is missing out on every single weekend when families go to other complexes to play baseball. Mr. Chavez further stated that the YMCA has procured the land and obtained funds from the state and private donors. They are only requesting that the Caddo Parish Commission also partner with them on this endeavor.

Amendment by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to stipulate that funding must be secured and matched from the City of Shreveport and private donors.*

Mr. Jackson said that his amendment is nothing different than what was required for the Caddo Common Park, Medical School funding, and some of the ARP funding (i.e. Universal Basic Income, Galilee project, etc.). Mr. Jackson said that this project has not gone before the City of Shreveport. He said that the City is moving forward with the sports complex at Stage Works. Mr. Jackson said that his amendment is standard for what has been done in the past.

Mr. Jackson also mentioned that the Commission normally requests name recognition on large investments such as this. He shares the same concerns as Mr. Epperson and Mr. Burrell. Mr. Jackson is also concerned with “building in the peripheral”. He also said that there should be consistency in the process of introducing projects such as this.

Mr. Jones said that he is a new Commissioner and does not have the luxury of having the experience as the other Commissioners. He also mentioned that his son plays baseball. Travel ball and AAU Youth has taken away the scouts from coming into the African American community, he said. Mr. Jones said that this is an opportunity for the children to get to the scouts. He feels that this project could spark more interest within the African American community with regards to baseball. Mr. Jones also understands that baseball is an expensive sport, but this is an opportunity for the Parish to expand economic development in this area.

Mr. Johnson said that this is an opportunity for Shreveport/Caddo Parish to finally have an identity. He said that the City of Shreveport is working on a sports complex at Stage Works for basketball courts, tennis courts, and indoor soccer. The Y’s proposed project is a sports complex for baseball. He said that this is an investment in the youth to deter them away from crime. He said that the next thing the Commission should be discussing is where there could be 7 on 7 football fields because that is the next biggest sport when it comes to youth. Mr. Johnson said that Caddo Parish is about twenty years behind when it comes to sports facilities. He suggested building something that will “become a jewel for this community”. Mr. Johnson said that Shreveport/Caddo Parish could be a youth sports mega center.

Call for the Question by Mr. Lazarus, seconded by Mr. Hopkins. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Jackson (4). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jackson's amendment failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Jackson (4). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Jackson said that the motion was not call for the question on all matters. Parliamentarian Young said that it has been the habit of the Commissioners to "call for the question on all motions".

Mr. Jackson said that his amendment is "not try to kill anything, but let's be consistent on what we have always done on large capital projects".

Point of Order by Mr. Chavez. He stated that the question has been called, so there is no more debate. Mr. Johnson pointed out that no one asked the maker of the motion for clarification on their motion. Mr. Atkins said that the floor is back open.

Mr. Burrell said that there is no investment in the urban centers, but development happens outside of the urban areas. Mr. Burrell said that there needs to be investment in the urban areas. He also said that there needs to be development along the bus route, so the children can get to the facilities. Mr. Burrell said that the Stewart Belle Stadium is a historical facility and should be invested in.

Mr. Epperson said that everyone needs to come to the table and discuss a comprehensive program.

Call for the Question by Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *on all remaining motions.* Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioner Burrell, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Jones (5). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that no one has made a motion to send this project to committee. She understands that the majority of the body is in support of this project. She also believes that the Commission does have an obligation to the inner city, and she understands that the Parish cannot "not" do anything. She said that this more than economic development; it is community development, but this is not a rush today because this has been an initiative since 2015. She suggested that this be vetted further before a final decision is made. Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed that the Commission has always included another entity for matching funds. She feels that this should go to committee.

Mr. Johnson pointed out that this did come out of committee, and was discussed at great length. He also said that the matching piece is already done. He said that the State is providing \$1M in funding, and they've secured \$900,000 in private funds. He also pointed out that the project is estimated to cost \$9M. Mr. Johnson said that this project has been in the works for a while. He also said that the Commission shouldn't get bogged down on this project, but start thinking about the next big project.

Mr. Jones said that he is not being stereotypical, but the majority of the youth in the African American community play basketball. He reiterated that his son plays soccer and baseball. Mr. Jones said that baseball used to be America's pastime, but now its basketball and football. He said that it is about where the interests are. Mr. Jones also mentioned that baseball is a year-round sport, and it will bring people into this community. Mr. Jones also said that there has to be interest in the sport before the Commission spends funds at Stewart Belle Stadium.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to acquire matching funds from the City of Shreveport.*

Mr. Jackson said that his substitute motion is to be consistent across the board. He said that the Caddo Parish Commission has never approved an expenditures of this amount doing capital improvements or capital projects without asking for a match. He pointed out that the application is only requesting \$1.4M, but the ordinance is for \$2M. Mr. Jackson then wanted to know if the Commission is "on the hook for programming" because it isn't stipulated in the ordinance. Dr. Wilson said that they will not be setting the events at the park.

Mr. Chavez said that the City of Shreveport is investing \$6M in Stage Works for the indoor volleyball, wrestling, indoor basketball, etc. He also pointed out that the complex will be called the Caddo Sports Complex. Mr. Chavez explained that this, along with Stage Works, will become a youth sports corridor. He would like the Commission to support the \$2M request.

Mr. Epperson reiterated that this should be brought back to the table for further vetting.

Mr. Burrell said that he is in support of any economic development initiative, but there needs to be more investment in the urban centers.

Friendly Amendment by Mr. Hopkins, *that CEA includes proof of \$2M matching funds*

from private, corporate, or governmental agencies beyond what's already been raised. Mr. Jackson accepted.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if this amendment will achieve their goal and not restrain it. Mr. Atkins explained that this is a \$7M-\$9M project, so there will need to be additional funds raised.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's amendment as amended carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: Commissioners Chavez, Epperson, and Lazarus (3). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Burrell's substitute motion as amended failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Jackson (4). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jones' original motion as amended carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell and Epperson (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6229 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND AND THE OIL AND GAS FUND FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE YMCA BASEBALL COMPLEX AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the YMCA purchased the property currently leased by the Shreveport Little League in 2020 with funds derived from the Louisiana Capital Outlay Bill; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA and the Little League are now moving forward with plans to improve the complex that has remained virtually unchanged since the 1980s; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA youth baseball complex's prime location and area accommodations make it the premier baseball complex in the region while allowing families and money to stay local; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA baseball complex is projected to host a total of 20 tournaments in a year bringing 220,000 visitors from tournament players and guest, in addition to over 480 Little League baseball and softball games; in year one; and

WHEREAS, the economic study for the YMCA baseball complex projects an economic- impacts of \$5 million in year one; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission Economic Development Committee recommends an appropriation of \$2 million for the YMCA Baseball Complex not to exceed \$500,000 per year for four years, 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 Capital Outlay Fund and the Oil and Gas Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Capital Outlay Fund	
YMCA Baseball Complex	\$500,000
Transfer from Oil and Gas Fund	\$500,000
Oil and Gas Fund	
Transfer to Capital Outlay Fund	\$500,000
Fund Balance	(\$500,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Caddo Parish and the YMCA shall require the YMCA to match Caddo Parish's funds with funds from private, corporate, or governmental agencies beyond what's already been raised.

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. 6230 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund and the Oil & Gas Fund in the amount of \$6,500 to provide an appropriation for Wildlife Education & Rehabilitation of Louisiana and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6231 of 2022, an ordinance setting the Parish millage for the purpose of paying principal and interest, due in 2022 on outstanding Parish bond issues and to instruct the Assessor to include said millage on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2022, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6232 of 2022, an ordinance to set the General Purpose and Special Purpose Millages for millage rate adjustments, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2022 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6233 of 2022, an ordinance to adopt the values fixed, or to be fixed, by the Louisiana Tax Commission on all assessments for railways and other public service corporations, and to instruct the Assessor to extend such assessments and values on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2022, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6234 of 2022, an ordinance setting the assessment of property classified as timberlands and to instruct the Assessor to include said assessment on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2022, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6235 of 2022, an ordinance to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6236 of 2022, an ordinance requiring that all Parish employees hired, appointed or promoted to Parish Attorney, Assistant Parish Administrator, Parish Administrator/CEO, Department Director, or Commission Clerk must be residents of Caddo Parish, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6238 of 2022, an ordinance adopting Section 32-62 of the Code of Ordinances prohibiting possession or carriage in a motor vehicle on public roads of firearms with a magazine capable of holding more than twenty rounds of ammunition, to provide for penalties for violation of the ordinance, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Young, that Work Session Minutes from May 16, 2022 be ratified. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, that Resolution No. 31 of 2022, a resolution regarding a joint project with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, for extension of LA 3276 to LA 1, to commit the parish to fulfillment of certain obligations regarding transfer of parish roads and state highways in connection with that joint project, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if Administration has reached out to LADOTD. Dr. Wilson said that they are awaiting a response. He also explained that it is rural undeveloped land. Mr. Jackson then wanted to know if this falls outside of the five-mile zoning area. Dr. Wilson said that it does. He also explained that this resolution allows the grant process to move forward. Dr. Wilson also mentioned that this will be a joint venture with the Port.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to englobo and adopt Resolution No. 31 of 2022 and Resolution No. 32 of 2022. Motion failed*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, and Jackson (3). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jackson's original motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Chavez, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 31 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION REGARDING A JOINT PROJECT WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT, FOR EXTENSION OF LA 3276 TO LA. 1, TO COMMIT THE PARISH TO FULFILLMENT OF CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS REGARDING TRANSFER OF PARISH ROADS AND STATE HIGHWAYS IN CONNECTION WITH THAT JOINT PROJECT, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, The Parish of Caddo is agreeable to accept ownership, by a separate ordinance, of whatever rights the State of Louisiana, through the Department of Transportation and Development ("Department"), may own in and to the following described properties and may accept, by a separate ordinance, all duties, obligations, and responsibilities for the operation, maintenance, and future liabilities associated therewith, for its operation and maintenance as a parish route:

Segment I: The portion of LA 530, beginning at the junction with US 71 and proceeding east approximately 0.73 miles to its junction with LA 3049.

Segment II: The portion of Box Rd, beginning at the junction with Mount Zion Rd and proceeding south approximately 0.39 miles to the end of DOTD maintenance at Brookwood Church Way.

Segment III: The portion of Barron Road Cutoff, beginning at the junction with US 171 and proceeding southeasterly approximately 0.20 miles to the junction with Barron Rd.

Segment IV: The portion of former LA 169, beginning at the Dead-End Installation at LA 1 and proceeding east approximately 0.34 miles to its junction with relocated LA 169.

Segment V: The portion of LA 173, beginning at the junction with US 71 and proceeding northeasterly approximately 0.70 miles to its junction with LA 3049.

Segment VI: The portion of LA 530, beginning at the junction with LA 1 and proceeding east approximately 0.40 miles to its junction with LA 538.

Segment VII: The portion of LA 3049, beginning at the junction with US 71 and proceeding east and then southerly approximately 0.89 miles to its junction with Douglas Rd.

WHEREAS, The Department, in exchange for the acceptance by the Parish of Caddo of the aforesaid described property, agrees to accept ownership of whatever rights the Parish of Caddo may own in and to the following described property, and agrees to accept all duties, obligations, and responsibilities for the operation and maintenance and liabilities associated therewith, for its operation and maintenance as a state route:

Segment VIII: Any portion(s) of existing Parish routes chosen under the selected alternative route for S.P. No. H.014056, beginning at or near Ellerbe Rd and proceeding east to its junction with LA 1 and further shown in Exhibit "A".

WHEREAS, The Parish of Caddo and The Department are agreeable to exchange routes and accept ownership of whatever rights they may own in and to the aforesaid portions of identified routes upon the project's final layout and design, prior to construction or as specific conditions below are met.

WHEREAS, The Parish of Caddo is agreeable to accept ownership, by a separate ordinance, of whatever rights the Department may own in and to the aforesaid portion of the state routes, if and only when, the conditions specified herein are met:

CONDITION I: Provide necessary repairs, including a thin asphaltic concrete application, to the portion of Segment I, LA 530, to be transferred to the Parish of Caddo.

CONDITION II: Provide necessary repairs, including a medium asphaltic concrete application, to the portion of Segment V, LA 173, to be transferred to the Parish of Caddo.

CONDITION III: Provide necessary repairs, including a medium asphaltic concrete application, to the portion of Segment VII, LA 530, to be transferred to the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby agree to accept ownership, by a separate ordinance, of whatever rights the Department may own in and to the aforesaid portion of the state routes described herein as a binding agreement between the State of Louisiana and the Parish of Caddo provided the Department of Transportation and Development accepts the transfer of property described herein and complies with the conditions described herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission will expeditiously consider the necessary ordinance to authorize the transfers to legally authorize the transfers and adopt the stipulations as outlined in this resolution.

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.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

MEMBERS:	YEAS:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAIN:
Todd Hopkins	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lyndon B. Johnson	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Steven Jackson	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
John-Paul Young	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Roy A. Burrell	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Steffon Jones	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Stormy Gage-Watts	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Jim Taliaferro	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
John E. Atkins	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mario Chavez	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ed Lazarus	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Ken Epperson, Sr.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

And this resolution was declared adopted on this, the 19th day of May, 2022

/s/Jeff Everson
Clerk

/s/John E. Atkins
President

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 32 of 2022, a resolution to call upon the federal government to urgently address the student loan crisis and enact a plan to cancel student loan debt and begin the transition to education as a public good, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, and Jackson (3). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS

- Mr. Burrell said that there is a need for economic development in the urban centers. He said that there are several communities that aren't being invested in.
- Mr. Taliaferro played aloud a rendition of Paul Harvey's poem "Policeman" in honor of Law Enforcement Officer Week.

- Mr. Jackson said that the decorum of the Chambers needs to be followed by all people who come into the Chambers.

He also commended the Finance Department and all of Administration for the ERAP program. He suggested expanding upon the eviction situation with the funding that could be on the way.

Mr. Jackson also asked that there be consistency across the board when bringing items to the full body.

- Mr. Chavez announced that Fit For Life will be held this weekend. He encouraged all to attend.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


John E. Atkins
President