

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S  
NGO APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THE 9th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021

The Caddo Parish NGO Appropriations Committee met in legal session on the above date, at 1:30 p.m., via Zoom teleconference, with Mr. Johnson, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). ABSENT: None (0).

Mr. Johnson gave the invocation, and Mr. Epperson led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CERTIFICATE OF TELECONFERENCE**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana has declared a statewide Public Health emergency, inclusive of Caddo Parish, in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020;

WHEREAS, the Governor, has further extended that declaration via Proclamations Number 158JBE 2020 and Number 159 JBE 2020; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 42:17.1 allows members of political subdivisions to participate in its meeting electronically under certain limited circumstances.

THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 42:17.1, the presiding officer of the Caddo Parish Commission hereby certifies that this meeting is to address matters that are:

- (a) directly related to the public Commission's response to the Coronavirus Pandemic and are critical to the health, safety, or welfare of the public.
- (b) that if they are delayed will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship.
- (c) critical to continuation of the business of the Commission and that are not able to be postponed to a meeting held in accordance with the other provisions of Open Meetings Law due to a legal requirement or other deadline that cannot be postponed or delayed by the public body.
- (d) critical or time-sensitive and have been determined by the undersigned should not be delayed;\*

\* Consideration of matters under Paragraph (d) will initially require a two-thirds vote of those members present. (This does not affect the vote necessary for adoption or any motion).

Date: September 7, 2021

/s/Lyndon B. Johnson  
Commission President

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair moved to the New Business item, *Discuss appropriation process and funding for NGO's regarding the 2022 Budget Cycle.*

Mrs. Barnett mentioned that the targeted budget for the NGO requests is \$550,000. At this time, the Committee reviewed the organizations' requests:

**A Quiet Place In The Woods**

Mr. Johnson said that this organization did not apply for funding this year.

**American Millennium Project**

The Committee did not make a recommendation at this time.

**Basic Necessities**

Mr. Hopkins said that he has a concern with the application being for the Ark-La-Texas Region. He said this funding is supposed to be for Caddo Parish only. At this time, the Committee did not make a recommendation.

### **Bernstein Development**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 to Bernstein Development. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Boy Scouts—NORWELA Council**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 for the Boy Scouts NORWELA Council.*

**Substitute motion by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (5). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Cawthorne (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Caddo Council on Aging**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Caddo Council on Aging. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Catholic Charities**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for Catholic Charities. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Cedar Grove CDC**

Mr. Johnson said that this organization did not make a request for 2021. He also explained that the Commission allocated \$5,000 to them in 2020, but they did not receive the funding. Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know why they did not receive funding in 2020. Mrs. Barnett said that the organization did not have their camps in 2020 due to the pandemic. Attorney Frazier also explained that they have outstanding reports due to the changes in leadership.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts** *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 to the Cedar Grove CDC contingent upon appropriate documentation is received by the Finance Department. Motion died to the lack of a second.*

No other recommendations were made by the Committee.

### **Christian Services**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$25,000 to Christian Services. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Community Foundation**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$12,500 to Community Foundation. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Lazarus (4). NAYS: Commissioner Hopkins (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Cawthorne (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Common Ground Community**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts** *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 to Common Ground Community. Motion died due the lack of a second.*

**Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$3,500 for Common Ground Community. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Expanding Young Minds**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$4,000 to Expanding Young Minds. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Extensions of Excellence, Inc.**

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if this was their first time requesting funds from the Commission. Mr. Johnson stated that it was.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for Extension of Excellence, Inc. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Girl Scouts of Louisiana—Pines to the Gulf**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 to Girl Scouts of Louisiana—Pines to the Gulf. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$7,500 to Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Grace Community Outreach Ministries**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 to Grace Community Outreach Ministries. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Holy Angels**

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000 to Holy Angels. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **HOPE Connections**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000 to HOPE Connections. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Image Changers**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 to Image Changers. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Inner City Entrepreneur Institute**

Mr. Burrell said that this organization is still "playing catch up from COVID". He explained that they did not have their normal program, but still had a smaller program. Mr. Johnson said that they did also receive some ARP funding. Mr. Burrell explained that they may not receive that funding based on the guidelines.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$30,000 to Inner City Entrepreneurship.*

**Substitute motion by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000 to Inner City Entrepreneurship.* Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Hopkins and Lazarus (2). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (3). ABSENT: Commissioner Cawthorne (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Epperson's original Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Ivy Crown Community Services**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 to Ivy Crown Community Services.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Jag Family Resources**

No recommendations were made by the Committee at this time.

#### **Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative**

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 to Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Martin Luther King Community Development Corporation**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 for Martin Luther King Community Development Corporation.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Martin Luther King Health Center**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 for Martin Luther King Health Center.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Mooretown Community Reunion**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$2,000 for Mooretown Community Reunion.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Beta Alpha Chapter**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 for National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Beta Alpha Chapter.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 for Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Northwest Louisiana Youth Golf**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$3,000 for the Northwest Louisiana Youth Golf.*

Mr. Cawthorne said that this organization has been around for quite some time. He would like to keep their funding at \$7,500.

**Substitute motion by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$7,500 for the Northwest Louisiana Youth Golf. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). NAYS: Commissioners Hopkins and Lazarus (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Oasis of Hope Louisiana**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$7,500 for Oasis of Hope Louisiana*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, and Johnson (5). NAYS: Commissioners Lazarus (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Pamoja Art Society**

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne** *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for Pamoja Art Society*. Motion died to the lack of a second.

**Substitute motion by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 for Pamoja Art Society*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Providence House**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 for Providence House*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Red River Cleanup**

Mr. Johnson said that they are located in Bossier, so they do not qualify.

#### **RISE Shreveport**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$3,000 for RISE Shreveport*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Robinson's Rescue**

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$35,000 for Robinson's Rescue*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Salvation Army—Boys & Girls Club**

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$25,000 for the Salvation Army—Boys & Girls Club*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Salvation Army—Merkle Center for Hope**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$25,000 for the Salvation Army—Merkle Center for Hope*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **Setting Children on the Road to Excellence (SCORE)**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$7,500 for Setting Children on the Road to Excellence (SCORE)*. Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Shady Grove Baptist Church #2**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for Shady Grove Baptist Church #2. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Shreveport Opera**

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$4,000 for the Shreveport Opera. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). NAYS: Commissioners Hopkins and Lazarus (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Shreveport Regional Arts Council**

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 to the Shreveport Regional Arts Council.*

**Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 to the Shreveport Regional Arts Council. Motion failed*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (3). NAYS: Commissioners Cawthorne, Hopkins, and Lazarus (3). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**Substitute motion by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000 to the Shreveport Regional Arts Council. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Hopkins, Gage-Watts, and Lazarus (4). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson and Johnson (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Shreveport Youth Boxing**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 for Shreveport Youth Boxing. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **SISTERS International, Inc.—Restoration Crisis Center**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000 for SISTERS International, Inc.—Restoration Crisis Center. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Social Justice Civic League, Inc.**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$15,000 for Social Justice Civic League, Inc. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$6,000 for St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Steeple Success, LLC**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$2,000 for Steeple Success, LLC. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **T.E.A.M.S.**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for T.E.A.M.S. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Theater of the Performing Arts of Shreveport**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for the Theater of the Performing Arts of Shreveport. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **United Way of Northwest Louisiana**

Mr. Johnson wanted to know how much was allocated to United Way to stand up 2-1-1. Mrs. Barnett said that it was \$120,000, and it was paid out of the Oil & Gas Fund. Mr. Johnson said that it was a standalone ordinance, instead of putting it in the NGO budget.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to remove United Way's request for funding and put as a standalone ordinance with the Oil & Gas Fund as its funding source.*

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if the funding request of \$100,000 was to run the 2-1-1 center. He also said that they have a strong fundraising effort and capability.

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion passed by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Urban Support Agency, Inc.**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 to Urban Support Agency, Inc.*

**Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 to Urban Support Agency, Inc. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Johnson, and Lazarus (4). NAYS: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Hopkins (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Volunteers for Youth Justice**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$20,000 for the Volunteers for Youth Justice. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **WEBDuBois Child Enrichment Center**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$7,500 for WEBDuBois Child Enrichment Center. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **Woody's Home for Veterans**

There was no recommendation made by the Committee at this time.

### **Youth Outreach Services**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$10,000 for Youth Outreach Services. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **YWCA Northwest Louisiana**

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend to the full body an appropriation of \$5,000 for YWCA Northwest Louisiana. Motion carried by acclamation*, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

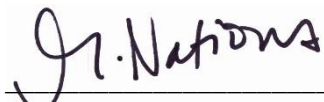
Mrs. Barnett said that the NGO request amount is \$781,500. She said that they will have to go into the fund balance about \$230,000.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if the budget was based off the projected revenues for the Riverboat Fund. Mrs. Barnett said that it is the projection following the trend, but the revenues could differ. She also mentioned that there is a \$900,000 fund balance.

Mr. Johnson commended the Committee on their excellent work in reducing the amount of requests and not dipping too far into the fund balance. Mr. Epperson agreed.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to forward to the full body the recommendations made by the NGO Appropriations Committee.* Motion carried by acclamation, as shown by the following members in attendance: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Lazarus (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

There be no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned  
2:45 p.m.



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Michelle Nations  
Assistant Commission Clerk