

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF  
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION  
HELD ON THE 19<sup>th</sup> 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, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Jones, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

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

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Brian White came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Sir, thank you want to bring to your attention, if I may, the fact that responsibility is the keystone of freedom. I'm here today for that fact for addressing two things with y'all. First off, the proposed magazine limitation by Mr. Johnson and the five-mile land use limitation surrounding Shreveport. Infringement simply meaning to act as to limit or undermine something and encroach upon it. The magazine ban limits little more other than the law-abiding citizen. Those of you that are voting for it, you're likely addressing little more than a what will be followed already by a law-abiding citizen. I do want to note on the way here that the billboard from the State of Louisiana that basically said, dangerous weapons are the only thing that exists, not dangerous-or dangerous weapons do not exist only dangerous people. And I think for the most part, they're right. Restricting those who will comply is wrong. I think that it is worth noting that if this measure were to pass, you would effectively eliminate basically every weapon that I carry in my vehicle right now as a citizen in good standing and would require an expense on my part to comply with a new regulation. This is not only unnecessary, but an invalid proposed infringement and nothing else. I wish this Commission had data on how many crimes are prevented by weapon ownership, by the local constituents of those that are law abiding citizens. To that note, I also want to bring up my second point. Inside the five-mile boundary of Shreveport, I have noticed and learned recently that it is against Section 3248 for me to hunt or shoot on the roughly 200 conjoined acres that I have a stake in. This is deeply saddened my son myself, has limited our recreational activities, and is otherwise reduced what we have used our property for, for our enjoyment. And while following the for-safety gun law guidelines for the last four decades without incident. This has infringed on my use of the property and I asked you to consider a proposal removing or appropriately modifying section 3248 to allow me to have that right. Again, given my ownership of outside city limits property. I asked you to please consider giving back rights to the people instead of focusing on infringement or removal of their privileges, especially in something like their vehicle, which the courts and the law have shown is an extension of your home.

**VISITORS**

- The Juneteenth Coalition (Jackson)

Ms. Pam Atchison, SPAR, said that this year's Juneteenth celebration is a collaborative effort between diverse groups in Shreveport and Caddo Parish. She said that there will be a Juneteenth Parade, Envision, Art-ish, a Juneteenth Mural, Let the Good Times Roll, and several other events throughout the Juneteenth Weekend.

Mr. Jackson thanked Ms. Atchison for bringing all of the organizations together in making this a successful event. He also pointed out that Caddo Parish was the first parish in the State of Louisiana to make Juneteenth a holiday.

Ms. Shelly Raigle, SPAR, is excited to be a part of this collaboration and thanked the different organizations for working together to make this event a huge event.

- Ms. Mayquie Jackson, Humanity 2020

Ms. Jackson said that Humanity 2020 is powered by Operation Neighborhood Reinforcement Initiative. She said that the Appropriations Committee appropriated funds last year for this organization. She also explained that they are a nonprofit service provider and collaborate with 2-1-1, LA Crisis Response System, and LA Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health Sciences. Humanity 2020 provides counseling services as well as mental health services for people in need. They have a combined experience of over 30 years in the field and are dedicated to every crisis they take on. Humanity 2020 would like to be dispatched to crisis calls that do not require a police presence, such as mental health, addiction, homelessness, behavior health, crisis and substance abuse. She said that these non-emergency calls for services will be more effectively addressed by Humanity 2020 given their training and professional background.

Ms. Jackson further explained that 988 has been federally mandated as a crisis health hotline. She said that these types of calls can be routed to her office where they can deploy and de-escalate the situation. Operation Neighborhood Reinforcement Initiative program manages and minimize risk of crisis by testing their theory of crisis management using a matrix. Their objective is to provide the best practices regarding crisis management.

Ms. Jackson said that the homicides in Shreveport/Caddo Parish is at an all-time high, and she believes her program would alleviate these murders. Ms. Jackson then went through the crime reporting incidents for each Commission district. She asked that the Commissioners vote yes to deploy her pilot program.

### **ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Regular Session Minutes May 19, 2022* be adopted. 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 RESOLUTIONS**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Special Resolution of Recognition of Appreciation for Rho Omega & Friends* be adopted.

Mr. Johnson presented Rho Omega & Friends with the proclamation and a key to the Parish. He commended the organization for being a leading light in celebrating Juneteenth before it became a holiday.

Mr. Vencil thanked the Commission for all of their support in making this event a successful event.

Mr. Burrell also congratulated Rho Omega & Friends and Let the Good Times Roll Festival for putting on such a successful event. He is looking forward to a great festival.

Mrs. Gage-Watts also commended Rho Omega & Friends for all of their hard work in making Let the Good Times Roll a successful event. She also thanked the organization for being good mentors for young men in this community.

Mr. Jackson thanked Rho Omega & Friends for all of their hard work within the community, i.e. scholarships, Paint Your Heart Out, etc. He said that this festival is “not just a local thing”, but it a regional and national festival. Mr. Jackson applauded everything that Rho Omega & Friends does.

Mr. Burrell said that fireworks can be displayed on Juneteenth now due to his legislation with the State.

Mrs. Gage-Watts would like to be added to the proclamation. The Assistant Commission Clerk stated that the additional sponsors will be added and a new proclamation will be presented to Rho Omega & Friends.

At this time, Mr. Johnson’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 OF APPRECIATION RHO OMEGA & FRIENDS**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is pleased to acknowledge events of significance that occur in the community, and to recognize the organizations who are now and for a long time have been in the forefront of positive and worthy activities and deeds that accrue to the benefit of all; and

WHEREAS, such an organization is Rho Omega & Friends, comprised of Omega Psi Phi’s Rho Omega Chapter and extended community, whose Let the Good Times Roll Festival debuted in 1987 and over its 35 years, it has grown into Louisiana’s largest Juneteenth celebration; and

WHEREAS, The Caddo Parish Commission proudly sponsors the Let The Good Times Roll (LTGTR) Festival recognizing its significance as a celebration of African American freedom, culture, & unity as expressed through fellowship, food, art, fashion & music; the important economic impact of the 25,000 patrons who attend LTGTR each year; and the charitable benefit of the funds that are raised to support youth mentoring through the Omega Lamplighters; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi, Incorporated was founded at Howard University in 1911, making it the first fraternal organization founded at a Historically Black University and its Rho Omega chapter, founded 99 years ago, stands as the oldest Alumni chapter in the Omega Psi Phi’s 9th District which includes Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, & Texas- and this rich legacy and deep community ties make Rho Omega & Friends an ideal host; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Let the Good Times Roll Festival will take place June 17th through June 19th at Festival Plaza in Downtown Shreveport and will feature artist ranging from Louisiana musicians like Chris Ardion & Nustep Zydeko to Shreveport native & national celebrated fashion designer Pink Lucy, to national recording artists like Slick Rick and SWV among many great artists over 3 days;

and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in legal session convened, that it does hereby recognize June 18th, 2022, the eve of the 2022 Juneteenth Holiday, as:

**“Let the Good Times Roll Day”**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, urging all citizens to join with the Caddo Parish Commission to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Let the Good Times Roll Festival and to join in its celebration of Black Culture and the Juneteenth holiday.

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

- *Special Resolution proclaiming and celebrating the Juneteenth Holiday*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for Valencia High School*
- *Special Resolution proclaiming June as Pride Month*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition of Appreciation for C.A.R.E. Inc. for celebrating the Juneteenth Holiday*

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

**PROCLAMATION  
JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY**

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation ending slavery in the Confederacy effective January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, the news that slavery had officially ended and that the slaves were free throughout the land now known as the United States was neither announced nor enforced in the western former Confederate states such as Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas in particular, until two and a half years after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation due to a low presence of the Union Army in those areas; and

WHEREAS, when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to establish the Union Army’s command over Texas, he announced to the people of Texas on June 19, 1865, the end of slavery and the freedom of the slaves; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as an extremely significant day of remembrance and acknowledgment of the history, freedom, culture, strength, perseverance, and achievement of the past, present, and future generations of the African American community; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth holds an important place not only in African American history, but in United States history for all Americans to reflect on, learn about, and appreciate the struggles, triumphs, and continued growth of our nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, local communities throughout the United States, such as our home parish of Caddo Parish, support the significance of Juneteenth and all that it symbolizes in the history, memory, and culture of African American people, and the resulting societal impact that has reverberated to all people in our community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission adopted Resolution 44 of 2020 to commit that Juneteenth Independence Day would be recognized and celebrated in perpetuity, followed by the 2021 passage and signing into law by President Joe Biden of a bill officially proclaiming Juneteenth as a national holiday in 2021; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in legal session convened, that it does hereby recognize June 19th, 2022, as:

**“Juneteenth”**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, urging all citizens to join with the Caddo Parish Commission to celebrate the Juneteenth holiday.

**PROCLAMATION  
VALENCIA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, THE FORMER STUDENTS OF VALENCIA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL are an excellent example of one such group of young people whose stories of sacrifice cannot be lost to time for the wrongs that caused their sacrifice continue to require correction and refining to heal mistakes of the past and lead our community unto a better future for all; and

WHEREAS, The Stoner Hill, Valencia, Westside and surrounding communities in Caddo Parish were positively impacted by the opening of Valencia Junior-Senior High School in 1964, which was built specifically for Black students despite the US Supreme Court ruling in 1954 banning segregation in public schools; and

WHEREAS, the mighty Vikings donned green & orange and competed in academics & sports as part of the Louisiana Interscholastic Athletic and Literary Organization (LIALO), which was the governing body for Louisiana's Black High Schools. Valencia Junior-Senior High School was the only school in Caddo Parish that offered industrial career training programs in mechanical drawing, small motors, welding, and medical/nursing careers. Valencia's first seniors graduated in 1965. The last class to graduate from Valencia graduated in the spring of 1970; and

WHEREAS, As part of a school desegregation plan Valencia Junior- Senior High School transitioned to a middle school in 1970, transferring many of the students to Byrd High School, and Valencia remained a middle school until 1980 when it closed and reopened soon after as Caddo Parish Magnet High School, a transition that provided the Parish's first magnet high school and benefitted the parish as a whole, but at the expense of the community and culture of the surrounding community; and

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

**'VALENCIA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS SCHOOL DAY'**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in recognition and admiration the tremendous sacrifice made by these young people and the lasting and important benefit that it has had on our community. The Caddo Parish Commission asks citizens to continue to remember and be aware of the many sacrifices made by people like those who attended Valencia Junior Senior High School and to honor their perseverance and contributions to our community.

**PROCLAMATION  
PRIDE MONTH IN CADDO PARISH**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is pleased to extend appropriate recognition to organizations which strive to make a positive impact on our community; and

WHEREAS, equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination are among the basic, inalienable rights of every person, necessary for the development and exercise of our most vital capacities and preconditions of human flourishing; and

WHEREAS, our nation was founded upon and is guided by a set of principles that includes every person has been created equal and that they have the right to the pursuit of happiness and that each shall be accorded the full recognition and protection of law; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish has become stronger by the rich diversity of ethnic, cultural, racial, gender and sexual identities of its residents, all of which contribute to the vibrant character of our parish; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish is home to PACE, People Acting for Change and Equality, an organization of individuals working to ensure the full and equal recognition and protection of the fundamental rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people and their families; and

WHEREAS, PACE was instrumental in crafting and passage of Shreveport's Fairness Ordinances in 2014 banning discrimination based on race, sex, disability, age, ancestry, national origin, political or religious identification, gender identity and sexual orientation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 9th day of June, 2022 that it did hereby proclaim June 2022 as:

**'PRIDE MONTH'**

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, extending to all appreciation and gratitude for their service to this country, state and parish for its efforts to focus the attention of the community to their cause, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all residents are encouraged to celebrate justice & equality for all persons.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION  
C.A.R.E. INC. FOR JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY**

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Special Resolution of Recognition for Reigning Mrs. Shreveport, Jessica Latin* be adopted.

Mr. Chavez said that Mrs. Latin is so admirable for all that she does for Caddo Parish. He congratulated her for achieving the title of Mrs. Shreveport.

Mr. Jackson appreciates all that Mrs. Latin's work in the community. He said that she is a beacon in this community, and is involved in the positivity of Shreveport/Caddo Parish.

Mr. Jones applauded Mrs. Latin's dedication to serving others. He wished her and her family much success on her future endeavors.

Mrs. Gage-Watts also congratulated Mrs. Latin's success. She appreciates all of her passion that she pours back into this community. She thanked Mrs. Latin on behalf of all of the women in Caddo Parish.

Mr. Burrell shared the same sentiments of his co-workers and congratulated Mrs. Latin on her title as Mrs. Shreveport.

Mr. Epperson thanked Mrs. Latin for representing a positive light in Shreveport and Caddo Parish. We are so proud of you, he said.

Mr. Taliaferro echoed the same sentiments as all of the Commissioners. He is inspired and in awe of all of Mrs. Latin's accomplishments. He thanked her for all of her contributions to this community.

Mrs. Jessica Latin thanked the Commission for this honor. She hopes to bring home the Mrs. Louisiana title in March of 2023.

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 OF RECOGNITION  
MRS. SHREVEPORT, JESSICA LATIN**

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, MRS. JESSICA LATIN, a professional counselor, entrepreneur, wife and mother participated in the Mrs. Louisiana America Pageant as Mrs. Shreveport on May 21st, 2022 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where Latin rose to the top of the illustrious group and was proudly named 1st Runner Up as well as being selected as Most Photogenic; and

WHEREAS, in addition to representing our community proudly as Mrs. Shreveport, Latin's other titles have included Mrs. Black Louisiana US and her pageant participation reflects the same commitment to excellence and service that she exhibits in her personal life as a wife & mother and her professional role as owner of JL Counseling, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Latin's commitment to bettering the world around her is evident in every aspect of her life: her decade of volunteerism and advocacy for organizations assisting victims of domestic violence, to her education she includes a Bachelor's in Psychology, Master's in Counseling and graduate certificate in the Dynamics of Domestic & Family Violence from Louisiana Tech, her licensing in Louisiana, Texas & Georgia, national certification as a counselor, international certification in perinatal mental health; the clinical supervision she provides for those seeking licensure in Louisiana; her service as a Gratis Assistant Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine at LSU Health Shreveport; authoring the self-confidence journal *Crowned in Confidence*, hosting the podcast *The Counselor's Complex*, serving as an ambassador for non-profit 2020 Mom, and;

WHEREAS, her obvious charms are complimented by the depth of her substance; she stands as an intelligent and beautiful role model who is community minded, encouraging towards others and a talented, confident and compassionate young woman;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in legal and regular session this 9th day of June, 2022, that it does hereby extend its most sincere and heartfelt expressions of congratulation and appreciation to the reigning Mrs. Shreveport and 1st Runner Up Mrs. Louisiana America, JESSICA LATIN, for her praiseworthy achievements and for representing Caddo Parish so elegantly and admirably.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

- Larry Little, Origin Bank

Mr. Larry Little, Louisiana State President for Origin Bank, said that Origin Bank is a Louisiana headquartered bank and serves as the Caddo Parish Commission's banking agent. He talked about their CRA activities, Community Reinvestment Act. He said that it is a mandate placed on all federally insured bank, and is directed to those activities that might be beneficial to low to moderate income or majority-minority census tracts. CRA investments and loans are benchmarks that are measured by CRA investments fall into one of three categories: municipal bonds, low income housing tax credits, and deposits that banks place with credit union that accept the designation as serving a low-income population. Roughly 40% of their loans are to borrowers in low to moderate income tracts.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if those loans are approved loans. Mr. Little said that they are outstanding loans.

Mr. Little then talked about the Paycheck Protection Program that was part of the CARES Act. He said that Origin Bank was the number one PPP lender in terms of volume in North Louisiana. In 2019, Origin Bank originated approximately 5,000 commercial loans. In the first tow months of 2020, following the implementation of PPP, Origin Bank originated approximately 3,000 commercial loans. By the time the program was over, Origin Bank originated almost 5,000 PPP loans totaling approximately \$762M.

Mr. Little also said that digital, non-physical located banks made loans to borrowers in North Louisiana totaling almost \$321M. Their inspection indicates massive fraud ever perpetrated on the U.S. taxpayer. He said that as much as 80% of those loans were fraudulently obtained.

Mr. Little also talked about the Welcome Home Loan Program, where they will be issuing 30-year fixed rate mortgages for the purchase of primary residences. They are going to do advance rates ranging from 97%-100% of the purchase price of the home, with no PMI. He also said that they will be helping towards closing costs of up to \$3,000 per borrower. Mr. Little also explained that the target borrowers are low-to-moderate income and are located in Caddo and Bossier parishes.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know how many branches are in Shreveport. Mr. Little said that there are two locations in Shreveport, and one in Bossier Parish.

Mr. Johnson then wanted to know how Origin Bank will be advertising their Welcome Home Loan Program. Mr. Little explained that there will be a robust social media and advertising program.

He then wanted to know if there are any community sponsorships that Origin Bank does. Mr. Little said that there are several organizations, and he will provide a list to the Commissioners. He also said that one of their pillars of their organization is community involvement. He said that every employee is provided with twenty hours of paid time off to engage in some type of nonprofit philanthropic community involvement.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know the top five zip codes that were awarded PPP loans. Mr. Little said that he will provide that information to Mr. Chavez at a later time. He also mentioned that the PPP loans is public data.

He then wanted to know the lowest credit score to qualify for the PPP loan. Mr. Little said that he will provide that information to the Commissioners.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know how much oversight is given for the CRA reports. Mr. Little said that there are fair lending exams that banks are periodically put through that measures the redlining and how well they do at lending.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if there were any plans to expand their branches in other areas. Mr. Little said that brick and mortar is "a thing of the past". He said that it is a balancing act because people lean more towards electronic banking.

- Disparity Study

Dr. Wilson provided the Commissioners with a copy of the disparity study. He also said that the study is available online.

Ms. Valarie Jamison said that in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, the Parish has adapted the economic inclusion initiative for small and emerging businesses to comply with the parishes policy providing and assuring contracting purchasing opportunities to level the playing field for these businesses that we have here in the Caddo Parish. The ultimate goal is to enhance economic development opportunities within our community through the growth and development of these businesses. The initiative has a 25% percent goal for small and emerging businesses on all parish funding contracts authorized funding under existing law. The parishes initiative is race neutral, and is based on the net worth of a company which must be less than \$1.5M and 51% of the business is owned by individuals with a personal net worth of \$400,000 or less. Our five-year average percentage has been 14% with 59 active certified businesses. It is the policy of the Parish to ensure every opportunity is made available to include small and emerging businesses in awarding Public Works contracts and purchasing

materials and supplies pursuant to the guidelines established under the Louisiana Public Bid Law, which governs contracts of Public Works and the purchases of materials and supplies by public entities that meet certain threshold requirements. Competitive field bids are required for purchases in excess of \$30,000 for materials and supplies, and public works contracts in excess of \$250,000. Based on the results of this study, the following conclusions and recommendations were suggested. They are to establish new certification criteria and pursue joint certification with others in the region; strengthen measures to encourage participation of disadvantaged companies, including targeted outreach, preference points and contract goals for parish contracts; take other measures that specifically assists vendors, consultants, prime contractors and others directly bidding on parishes procurements; trace and regularly report participation of certified firms in WBEs and MBEs in parish contracts; collaborate and regional efforts to increase start up growth and success of economically disadvantaged businesses; and allocate sufficient resources for program's success.

The Finance Department, Administration, and Legal have met to discuss our strategy to strengthen our current program in phases by the following: meeting with the City of Shreveport and the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission to establish a centralized certification process; the Legal Department will review our existing purchasing policies and protect and potential and to potentially incorporate provisions within our contracts to encourage prime contractors and or subcontractors to utilize the parishes small and emerging businesses in our purchases of materials and supplies, professional services, and construction projects; work with department directors to concentrate their efforts on seeking quotes and are bids from small and emerging businesses for purchases of materials and supplies and public works projects which fall below the contract limit under the Louisiana Public Bid Law; update our vendor packet to collect detailed data on company structure, information and commodity code to be included in our vendor database; and continue to work with our local chambers, participate in local and state round up table discussions, trade shows and radio shows to promote, encourage and educate businesses of the contracting opportunities with the Parish of Caddo.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if the Parish of Caddo works with the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce and the African-American Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Jamison said that they work with all of the Chambers and send them notification when they have a public bid. The statement that referenced the Port Commission and the City is for some sort of collaboration to find a better way to certify vendors and maybe to have one centralized location, because currently businesses go to each governmental entity to become certified.

Mr. Atkins asked about the term "certified". He wanted to know if that is women and minority owned businesses. Ms. Jamison said that the Parish's certified means small and emerging business.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the 25% goal set for specific products or services. Ms. Jamison said that it is the overall goal, not commodity based. He then wanted to know if there were specific areas where minority business cannot participate. Ms. Jamison explained that minority businesses can participate in any type of bidding process. She also explained that they are not limiting anyone from participating in submitting bids or quotes to the Parish.

- **Early Voting Location**

Dr. Wilson said that he spoke with Registrar Sibley with regards to an additional early voting location. As far as he knows, they are on schedule for the second location. Dr. Wilson also said that he saw the equipment list that the Registrar order with regards to the early voting location.

Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know if all of the equipment has been purchased for the additional early voting location. Dr. Wilson said that it has. Mrs. Gage-Watts then wanted to know if the line has been ordered. Dr. Wilson said that they have been and are on the verge of them being installed.

Mr. Epperson requested that something be put in writing and distributed to all of the Commissioners.

### **COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Mr. Young wanted to know if a resolution is needed for an Attorney General's Opinion regarding the magazine size. Attorney Frazier said that she will send a copy of the minutes and the vote to the Attorney General's Office.

- Mr. Epperson asked for an update on Testament LLC's appeal to the Parish Planning & Zoning Commission. Attorney Frazier said that the vote was tied, so then a motion was made to postpone it to the next meeting, which is June 22. Mr. Epperson wanted to know why the Parish can't file a cease and desist order on this property. He also requested that Legal provide him a brief summary with regards to the status of this appeal.

Mr. Epperson also recognized Monday, June 6 as D-Day. He said that this should never be forgotten.

He also requested that Dr. Martha Whyte be invited to the next Regular Session meeting.

Mr. Epperson suggested going to the gun range with anyone who has a high capacity rifle. He said that the rifles are extremely loud.

- Mr. Burrell talked about high capacity rifles. He said that law enforcement is reluctant to get into situations because their lives are on the line due to these high capacity rifles. He also said that the National Rifle Association, NRA, "holds the kahunas of all the political legislators in the State". Mr. Burrell said that he is tired of the deaths every single day, especially children deaths. He said that the young people came today, and they are tired as well. It is time for us to actually step forward and address some of the things these young people are coming down here for, he said.

### ***PRESIDENT'S REPORT***

Mr. Atkins spoke with Registrar Dale Sibley, and he assured him that he and his staff are preparing the secondary location in due time for the Fall election. He also said that a change in location would make it virtually impossible to have a location open for the Fall election.

### ***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. 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

Ms. Kyrsten Thompson came to speak in favor of Ordinance No. 6238 of 2022 and gave the following comment:

Oh, good afternoon. My name is Kyrsten Thompson and I'm with the People's Promise Youth Division, a local organization creating more educated, engaged and more passionate youth, and I'd like to speak more on this ordinance that Commissioner Johnson has proposed. And I know this gentleman here expressed his concerns of law-abiding gun owners here in Shreveport concerning this ordinance. And I want to address the issue that Shreveport knows all too well. Over the past months, we have seen senseless killings of our youth here in the Shreveport area. An eighth grader shot inside of their grandparents' house in Fairfield. A Huntington High School basketball star shot in front of his home in Queensboro. It is all too often we see another face on the news, another face on a t-shirt and another



mother crying. It has become so frequent that the citizens of Shreveport had become desensitized to this violence. It has become so frequent that when you think of Shreveport, you think of this. The youth should be the most precious thing in the hearts of you all and the rest of our city officials and whether Ordinance No. 6238 gets pulled or pushed forward, we need legislation. We need ordinances. We need something to keep our youth in Shreveport safe. Keep guns out of malicious hands. Keep guns out of irresponsible hands. Parents should not have to bury their children anymore, and when will enough be enough? When will our officials step up to do the job they were assigned to do, which is advocate for the people? How many more innocent lives have to be taken in order for enough to be enough? So, please, listen to us and listen to the crying parents of this city. Use your power to end the senseless violence that has been plaguing our city for far too long. Thank you.

Ms. Autumn Summers came to speak in favor of Ordinance No. 6238 of 2022 and gave the following comment:

Thank you. My name is Autumn Sommers. I am not a legal expert or lawyer, but it doesn't take either to know that Caddo's gun violence is outrageous. It doesn't take a lawyer to understand that children are being shot and killed by stray bullets simply because they live in the wrong part of town. And actually, it doesn't take a lawyer to understand that even living in the right part of town doesn't keep you or your children safe from being shot by a stray bullet. My name is Autumn Summers. I'm the chair of the People's Promise Youth Division, and I'm not here to simply show my support for this ordinance. But I am here to show my support for the people of Shreveport. I'm here to show my support for their safety. The people of Shreveport—they have a population that has been far too long, traumatized and frightened by the gun violence in Shreveport and in Caddo Parish as a whole. That even walking outside, in their own neighborhoods, it makes them think that might that might be the time that might be the last thing that they do. There's not a single reason to hold more than 20 rounds in a firearm, unless you are carrying to kill. There is no reason that this should be allowed. There is no reason that we should do nothing about this. There are understand that this ordinance might conflict with some of the state statutes. I do understand as well, that this is not the only proposed solution that we can have. A recent report shows that out of all Caddo Parish gun related deaths, 20% of them were adolescents. 20% of them were under the age of 20, and out of those, 15% of those were under the age of 18. 15% of all gun related deaths are children. Children are being killed in Shreveport just for staying in their homes, because they're not even safe there. So, let's ask ourselves something. How long are people need to get shot in a shootout before we make a change? How long are people in need to die in gun related deaths? Before we make a choice to change something? How many more children need to be shot and murdered in our homes before we make a choice to end the violence? Continuing to allow for this violence is a choice. It is a choice, and you can choose to allow us to continue or you can choose to help the people of Caddo Parish. A change needs to happen and it needs to happen now. So, I urge all of you. So, even if this ordinance does not go through, propose another solution, and then another one after that, and another one after that, until the gun violence in Caddo Parish is over. Thank you.

Davesh Sarde came to speak in favor of Ordinance No. 6238 of 2022 and gave the following comment:

I'm here on behalf of the people's promise to speak on this ordinance, and I implore you all to pass this ordinance or to keep moving in this direction, to keep moving in this direction of gun control. Because the wildlands that we're seeing on the streets, in the schools, in the city is something that we have never seen. And even if we have seen this while and we have done nothing. We have just sat there and waited. Waited for the people to fix themselves, or waited for citizens to learn how to protect themselves. We cannot continue waiting for some kind of gun control law to just come around and show that it can have good effects. We must make a decision. We must move on this. We must move to control the guns and to stop the violence that's going on in our Parish and in the jurisdictions inside of the Parish. You must move in a decision and we must move to for gun control, because this is going to be one way to stop the problem. If not to stop the problem, but to make that problem weaker. To make a solution and to keep pushing that solution. I implore you all to pass this bill or to keep making decisions that will force gun control, because we cannot let old legislation, old parts of our Constitution left over and keep coming back. This round is not prohibitive. This does not prohibit guns. It's just a step into the future. It's a step to make our city safe. To make our Parish safe. To make the people available and to make sure that people are not scared to walk anywhere. Because currently we're seeing that people are scared to step out of their house and to walk. We're seeing that people are scared to walk in the streets of Shreveport. The same streets that we live on. The same streets that we grew up on. Yet, we still don't walk on the streets. This is a step to make sure we keep the streets, the streets safe. This is a step to make sure and to show other jurisdictions that we can do this, and that gun control is going to be the future. Thank you.

Mr. Brian White came to speak in opposition of Ordinance No. 6238 of 2022 and gave the following comment:

First, I want to say I do appreciate the concern of those that have just spoke. I've helped personally to bury two siblings, multiple compatriots, and kindred over the years. It's not easy, it never will be. For those of you who know what a prison shank is, I'll simply say that even in the most controlled region possible, which is prison, evil, people will still find ways to hurt and maim each other, regardless of the methodology. Pooling our privileges, and rights as responsible citizens is not the fix action as has already been proven. I do want to also note that restrictions don't fix the issue at hand. I do not deny that Shreveport, and parts of the Caddo Parish at large, and human nature in and of itself in today's environment, have issues. What you're being asked to vote on, addresses every road in the Parish. It doesn't involve the City of Shreveport and their own homes. If that is what they wish to address then I

asked the Shreveport commission to accomplish that and not for you to restrict the Parish at large. They're admitted admittedly problems. There is a there is an education problem. There is a family problem, and I would argue that there are technological distractions by parents that have contributed to this problem and their focused on their family and the cohesion thereof. The number of occasions where we have shootings by law abiding citizens, according to the Department of Justice, is less than 2%. It has nothing to do with the fact of people will still find ways to disobey the laws that you put into place. You must address the fact that removing privileges and rights for those of us who are at large is not the fix action. And to those that have already spoken, I would say be very careful to wield away your privileges. Be very careful to wield away what you see is the issue in front of you. Those will not come back easily. I've never seen an entity where a law was passed to return those rights and privileges to you, and as I've gotten older, I've never seen that go well. I've never carried my weapon either in my vehicle or on my person with the intent to do anything other than to fulfill the protection of my family. But I admit that I wish to remain admittedly able to do so to the maximum extent of the law.

There being no one else 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. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that 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* be adopted.

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

- *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*

At this time, Mr. Johnson's 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).

### **ORDINANCE NO. 6230 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND AND THE OIL AND GAS FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,500 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR WILDLIFE EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION OF LOUISIANA AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation of Louisiana (WERLA) was established in 2013 as a non-profit organization whose mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife back into their natural habitat, and to educate our community about the conservation and preservation of Louisiana wildlife; and

WHEREAS, WERLA maintains relationship with Parish animal control agencies, city agencies and LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, WERLA has provided support to Caddo Parish Animal Services by caring for an average of 137 wildlife cases per year over the past 2 years; and

WHEREAS, the appropriation was recommended by the Animal Services Committee; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2022 Riverboat Fund and Oil and Gas Fund Budget to provide an appropriation of \$6,500 for WERLA; 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>
<b><u>Riverboat Fund</u></b>	
NGO Appropriations	
WERLA	\$6,500
Transfer from Oil and Gas	\$6,500
<b><u>Oil and Gas Fund</u></b>	
Transfer to Oil and Gas	\$6,500

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

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

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 6231 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2007, the Parish of Caddo issued general obligation bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2008, the Parish of Caddo issued general obligation bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2009, the Parish of Caddo issued general obligation bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2015, the Parish of Caddo sold Refunding Bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$6,850,000; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2015 the Parish of Caddo sold Refunding Bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$6,345,000; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2016 the Parish of Caddo sold Refunding Bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$7,250,000; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to levy a millage tax for the year 2022 in order to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, which will fall due in the year 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal, and regular session convened, that a special tax of 1.5 mills on the dollar on assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation within the whole of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be and the same is hereby levied for the year 2022, for the purpose of paying principal and interest which will become due in the year 2022 on the aforesaid public improvement bonds and refunding bonds.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess each tax as set forth herein for the year 2022.

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 ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 6232 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MILLAGES PROVIDING 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

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Caddo Parish Commission (the "Commission") acting as the governing authority of Caddo Parish, Louisiana (the "Parish"), to levy various taxes for the year 2022; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to adjust the Parish millages as a result of the quadrennial reappraisal and valuation of the property subject to taxation within the Parish, in proportion to the increase in the 2022 taxable assessed valuation of the Parish;

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the Commission on the subject of the proposed millage adjustment in accordance with the open meetings law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705(B).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the following general purpose and special millages (that is, fractional mills on the dollar) on the assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation in the whole of Caddo Parish, Louisiana be and the same are hereby levied at the following adjusted rates for the year 2022, in accordance with Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705, as applicable:

<b>General:</b>	<b><u>2022 Levy Rate</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum Authorize Rate</u></b>
<b>General Alimony</b> - For all property lying outside of cities and towns, as described below	6.13 mills	6.13 mills
<b>Exempted Municipalities</b> - For all property lying within the confines of incorporated cities and towns having a population in excess of 1,000 and which maintain a system of street paving and those being Shreveport, Vivian and Bossier City	3.06 mills	3.06 mills
<b>Special Purpose:</b>		
<b>Public Health:</b>		
For the creation and support of public health centers in the parish	.87 mills	.87 mills

For the maintenance and operation of public health centers in the Parish and portion rededicated for payment of mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	1.29 mills	1.29 mills
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**Shreve Memorial Library:**

For the acquiring, equipping, construction, improving, maintaining and operating the public library system	4.71 mills	4.71 mills
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For the maintenance and operation of parish library facilities and portion rededicated to payment of mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	4.63 mills	4.63 mills
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**Juvenile Court:**

For the maintenance and operation for the juvenile court, and juvenile detention home facilities	2.00 mills	2.00 mills
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**Detention Facilities:**

For the maintenance and operation of detention facilities and portion rededicated for payment of mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	5.48 mills	5.48 mills
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**Courthouse Maintenance:**

For the maintenance and operation of parish courthouse and other building facilities	2.76 mills	2.76 mills
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**Public Works:**

For the maintenance and operation of road, bridge, drainage, garbage collection, and mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	5.92 mills	5.92 mills
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**Public Facilities:**

For the maintenance and operation of public facilities, specifically road and bridge, parks and recreation, garbage collection and drainage	.84 mills	.84 mills
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**Biomedical Research:**

For the promotion of economic development through the Biomedical Research Foundation of Northwest Louisiana and portion rededicated to mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	1.73 mills	1.73 mills
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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess each tax as set forth herein for the year 2022, and the tax collector of Caddo Parish, Louisiana shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

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 ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 6233 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission hereby adopts any and all assessments covering property owned by railways, tank car lines, and other public service corporations, and that the values named, fixed and reported be accepted and adopted as the values for all Parish purposes.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess each applicable tax millage upon these values as set forth herein for the year 2022.

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 ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 6234 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that the Tax Assessor of Caddo Parish be authorized and instructed to assess property in Caddo Parish, classified as timberlands at eight cents (\$.08) per acre for the year 2022.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that, the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess the applicable tax, at the above stated rate, upon these values as set forth herein for the year 2022.

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 ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 6235 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo owns equipment that is no longer being used; WHEREAS, that equipment is enumerated in the attached Exhibit A;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo no longer needs the above equipment, and said equipment should be deemed surplus, obsolete or unused for present and future parish needs;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is authorized to dispose of certain supplies, materials,

and equipment determined to be surplus;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo desires to dispose of the above-listed equipment by public auction; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission concurs in the finding that the items described above are surplus and are no longer needed for public purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened that the property itemized in Exhibit A is no longer needed for parish public purposes and is declared surplus property which is to be disposed of by public auction.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the items described above are being offered on an "as is" basis, without warranty of title or recourse whatsoever.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Administrator or his designee shall be authorized to do any and all things and to sign any and all contracts and other documents in a form acceptable to the Caddo Parish Attorney necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth herein.

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 become effective upon adoption.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that 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* be adopted.

Mr. Johnson said that this ordinance "cleans up the ordinance" that was passed in 2021. He said that the grandfather clause was only meant to be for the directors, not everyone.

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins and Lazarus (2). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 6236 OF 2021**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo seeks to ensure that the broadest pool of potential candidates for public employment are invested in the community in which they live and with the government which employs them; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo seeks to also extend opportunities for advancement to persons who may reside in another parish but are best qualified for the open position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, enacts Section 2-60 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances as follows, to wit:

#### 2-60 Residency Requirement for Certain Positions

- a. Employees permanently hired, appointed, or promoted to any of the following listed positions shall be residents of Caddo Parish within one year from the date of commencement of employment, appointment, or promotion and throughout the course of their employment with the Parish: Parish Administrator/CEO, Assistant Parish Administrator, Parish Attorney, Department Director, Commission Clerk.

- b. As a condition of hiring, appointment, or promotion to the positions listed in subsection (a), parish employees will be required to show proof of residency within the guidelines established by the Human Resources Department. Falsifying, materially misrepresenting, or submitting misleading proof of residency could be cause for disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
- c. All external and internal employment applications for the positions listed in subsection (a) shall require a statement thereon indicating that residency is a required condition.
- d. Persons employed by Caddo Parish as of October 21, 2021 and promoted to the position of Department Director are not subject to the requirements of this ordinance.

The Commission then moved onto Ordinance No. 6238 of 2022.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that 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 be postponed until an Attorney General's Opinion is rendered.*

Johnson: So as a law-abiding citizen, one why would you need a magazine of over twenty rounds loaded in the hand gun on a public road. If you're going to a gun range, before going into the gun range, that gun has to be unloaded. If you going hunting, then you gotta have that gun unloaded while you go hunting and then load it when you get to your spot. These are things that are happening at other locations. So why can't happen on our public roads. They get laws in place to protect Bambi, but we don't want to have nothing to protect our kids. Our kids to be of higher interest to us, other than hunting animals--there's a law already in place saying that it has to be unloaded to do that. We have to stop sitting around on our hands and come up with something to save our kids. Just Monday, a fifteen-year-old was shot with 100 rounds on the ground. Tuesday, there was a shooting in MLK neighborhood-- a BMW riddled with bullets. Nobody's going out with a six shooter. It's magazines that are high capacity, and we talking somewhere between 50 and 100 rounds. To protect yourself--if you go to the gun range, you don't need twenty rounds...if you know how to shoot a gun. So, let's put something in place to protect those that are innocent. I've seen footage of kids jumping out of cars and in cars shooting AR-15s...and just shooting. Bullets are going everywhere. Our church was hit with thirteen bullets, because they didn't know how to shoot. They tried to shoot a whole block over and missing everything that they tried to hit, but hit our church and hit a transform. Makes no sense. Drive by right next to the people that they will driving by. Two people shooting out the car one--missed everybody in parking lot. But we'll allow those high capacity magazines to be loaded in cars on public roads. We need to stop that. Looking across the United States, people using these high capacity magazines to kill innocent people. Let's do something. Let's be the leader for a change and say we're putting something in place to protect our youth. Our youth came down here today pleading for help. I mean, what else does it take? I know a lot of y'all don't like to have gun control, but the Second Amendment was written a long, long time ago. Technology has changed so much since then, and we got to change with it. I mean, are we still sticking to everything that was originally part of the Constitution? If so, are you trying to say that I'm not a man, I'm property. That has changed. So, let's look at this with an open mind and basically say, let's just keep it moving forward; let's get an opinion to see if this is restriction. Because I don't believe it is, but I was told that it was. So, I just want to see from the highest official that will make that kind of decision if it is or not. Thank you.

Chavez: Thank you President. I wanted to applaud our youth for coming down here. I know they're hurting just as much as the people around this horseshoe, and they're demanding answers. I applaud Commissioner Johnson for trying to think of solutions. I didn't want the youth to leave here without knowing that this very body passed about three weeks ago, a resolution asking the State of Louisiana, which we will see next year on the legislation because they're past the session. But we requested a five-year mandatory sentence for anybody involved in a drive by shooting, whether they're driving, whether they're shooting, whether they're passenger. If you get in a car, and you see people with a bunch of weapons, you know what time it is. And you know that you need to distance yourself from those individuals. Unfortunately, this legislation, and why I couldn't be a part of it is its jurisdiction resides in the Parish. All these drive by shootings are taking place within the City. And I understand we have to figure out something, I just think placing another law on the books, in this scenario, murderers already illegal. The people that are killing people, they're already breaking the law. So, I think if we try to place a law on those criminals that are already committing crimes, it won't help this situation. I think having a five-year mandatory sentence to make somebody think for one second. Currently on the books, they could do a drive by shooting, they could, I hate to say get lucky and not kill somebody, but just wound them and get charged with aggravated



battery. That aggravated battery could carry a 12-month sentence, and then because of Justice Reinvestment Act, they could be out in eight and a half months. Which means they could do a drive by, they could shoot somebody, that person could not die, but could be wounded. That person could sit in jail for eight and a half months and get out and be back on the streets. We need to send a clear message to the criminals that are obviously not abiding by the laws period and already-- that if they take part in operations like this, and activities like this, that they are going to be sitting behind bars for a minimum of five years. And that is my hope that those criminals at least think for one second that maybe I'm just going to waste five years of my life if I've participated in this activity. And I'm proud to say that this body passed this, and we'll be seeing it at the legislature next year. Hopefully they pass it down in Baton Rouge. Thank you, President.

Gage-Watts: Thank you, Mr. President. This year alone, we've had more children to die from gun violence than car accidents. We're obligated to do everything that we can to save our future. As much a major catastrophe as it was for nineteen children who were dropped off at school by their parents that had to be later identified and never returned home again is something, as the young lady stated, that we have normalized. That is not right. It's not acceptable. And it should not have to be personal to us to make the right decision for this Parish, that happens to be in Shreveport, Louisiana. Sometimes we look for so many loopholes not to support what is necessary for such a time as this? And it's disheartening is that it should not change our personal convictions of doing the right thing? How many more times do we have to have this conversation? Should we wait until they happen at our home? And then, try to make it make a difference for everyone then? I remember in 2015, one of the things I said that was happening very prominently in District 7 is not happening all around this horseshoe yet, but it's coming. And that has held very true in areas that we did not expect for a child to be in their bedroom and be killed by a stray bullet. It's been enough; it's been enough for Shreveport. I am tired of hearing mothers crying out for their children because of assault rifles. They're used in the military, you do not need them. And if this was my legislation, it would be to prohibit them. And that is my opinion. But to sit here and not do anything, is definitely not an option. I am looking forward to what this opinion says what we legally can do and moving forward, and I hope that it is expedited because we don't have any more time to waste. Thank you.

**Substitute motion by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that 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 be removed.*

Hopkins: We might need to start over but when we have our attorney tell us that this doesn't cut the mustard. I've talked to a retired judge, and he says it's contrary to Louisiana law and we're not even looking at the right area. This violence is taking place inside city limits of Shreveport. If the City of Shreveport wants to do something on it, that is their choice. But we're not having those problems in rural Caddo Parish. We're going to create--I believe we're going to create problems with people coming through. They're not criminals, but they get in the right spot and get in the right situation. They're going to all of a sudden, the criminals. I do not like creating criminals out of regular people. So, I'm asking you to remove this from the agenda. And if Mr. Johnson wants to come back with something else, that's his prerogative.

Gage-Watts: Tell my people in District 7 that Shreveport is not in Caddo Parish.

Hopkins: We have no authority, but in Caddo Parish, with our ordinance that's all I'm saying. We have no authority inside the city limits of Oil City or Greenwood or Vivian. Any of those. This ordinance is only for rural Caddo Parish. Our problem is not there. Thank you.

Jones: Mr. President, when we originally introduced this, Commissioner Johnson rather or originally introduced this legislation, I think I made it clear what my stance was as far as being a responsible gun owner. And I know that really shocks people a lot of times. You know, Pastor got a gun. Yes, I do. For some people, it's a sport for some people is not. But when we get down to the root cause of what's going on within our Parish, Shreveport is our largest municipality. And so, what I'm thinking in my mind is, something has to be done. Whether we agree with this particular legislation or not, we can't--none of us can disagree that something has to be done, and something has to be done right away. And that's the truth of the matter. Thank you to the young people who came down and spoke your hearts today. And thank you for Mr. White for coming as well. The beauty of the nation in which we live in, is it's a democracy. Everybody has a choice to pick which side of the aisle they want to be on. And so, the opinions that you are brought are to be commended. What Mr. White has to say, has to be commended. And the truth of the matter is, we're not going to all agree on how to get to certain places, and we're not going to agree on every piece of legislation. But we have to agree that our children are dying at a rapid rate; we have to agree that something has to be done. What I don't want to see is for us to remove legislation or postpone legislation, and in the meantime, none of us come up with solutions as to how we can fix a problem. I don't believe that we should

remove guns out of the hands of responsible gun owners. That's how you feel, but you have to feel some type of comparison for mothers and fathers who are crying out and having to bury their children. A lot of these children who are leaving y'all are not troublemakers, because that's what I've been hearing a whole lot. Well, if you live by the gun, you die by the gun. The children who are being killed and not living by the gun but they're dying by it. That's not the way they lived their lives. They're innocent children. Devin wasn't running in the streets. He wasn't a gangster. He was a high school basketball player. And he lost his life foolishly. Landry was visiting her grandparents. Was the same thing live by the gun die by the gun when it came to her? And I'm not saying that the case, that's for every child that we've lost this year, but the majority of the children that we have lost, have been in the wrong place at the wrong time. Simply put. And so, something has to be done to make sure that we have a safer place to live, not just for our children, I say this all the time for the seniors in our community, who want to enjoy the communities that they have retired. They don't want to have to move out of the homes that they had to pull all that money together and work hard to build from scratch. And so, what I like to see us do is to come up with some solutions. Our attorney has given us her legal opinion on this. And I'll be honest, I've said to a couple of my colleagues, I am concerned that we pass legislation that's going to stand on something. That's all I care about. When we first introduced this, I support it moving forward, because I want to see something happen with our gun laws. I want to see something happen with our legislation, but I also want it to be ironclad. And I want to be something we can actually pass, and we won't have any restrictions with that's important. I don't want to get the spinning in circles, y'all. Nobody wants to deal with it anymore. People are tired of that type of governance. People are over that. And if we think we can just keep coming up here and passing the buck, and people are not going to say anything anymore...we're living in a false reality. Just like times have changed as far as laws are concerned. People are becoming more and more engaged when it comes to government. And they're starting to ask questions that they weren't asking before. And they're starting to hold us to a certain expectation that they were not holding us to. And so, what we have to do is make sure that we all come to the drawing table. Let's find out what we can do to have a safer Parish. We cannot ask people to move here and live here, and it's not a safe place to live. So whichever side you are on today, everybody around this horseshoe needs to be thinking of a solution or some solutions that we can bring to the table. And we can all come together and say Hey, I think this works for the Parish. And no, do we have any authority within Shreveport? We don't. But we can certainly use our legislation as an influence for them to do something on their end. That's all I'm asking. Thank you, Mr. President.

Johnson: This is in rebuttal to Commissioner Hopkins. A few months ago, we had a situation where he was talking about the MPC for the Parish. The attorney made an opinion. We asked for an Attorney's General Opinion. She made an opinion, but we still asked for an opinion. Everybody supported that. I'm asking you today to support this one. This is not nothing unusual. I'm just asking you to support it. Secondly, District 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 all touch the city limits of Shreveport. All of them. Okay, so we all represent people who stay in Shreveport. Whether we don't have the jurisdiction to say it's going to happen on Shreveport streets or not--we all represent people who stay in Shreveport. All of us. Okay, this ordinance, the City is going to follow this same ordinance. They're gonna come in and pass the same ordinance. Sometimes, I don't think we should be always sitting in the back waiting for the City to do this where we can lead some time, and then let the City follow behind us. You say it's not happening in the Parish, but how long do you think that's gonna last that long? It's summertime. I heard on the TV and the radio, Gilliam track is trying to get geared up and start having races out there. You that's going to be immune to it? The Sheriff already said he's short on deputies. So, guess what, big crowd, some pop off. They're not worried about it because you're short on deputies. Same thing with the City of Shreveport, they keep saying they're short on police officers. So those kids know they got the advantage because y'all are short. We got to do something to put something in place to level the playing field. This particular ordinance will help with surveillance. If there is surveillance, what's going on? If you ever just take the time to look at social media and see what those kids are saying on social media. They're giving themselves away. But there's nothing that the police can do until they go after something has happened. Because before then, they can say I was just playing. But by putting something like this in place, and they see that car on the street, they can pull that car over for Just Cause. Gun is loaded--confiscate the gun, you can save the life. That's all I'm asking, save a life. But we want to sit here and sit back and say, well, that's not in my area. I don't care about it doesn't bother. It's about all of us. Every last one of us. If this was happening up in the northern part of the Parish, we should still be supporting you. But this is happening in all our areas. Nobody is immune to it. Nobody. When something happened in Highland area, we had people come down demanding something to happen. But we've been having killings in the inner part of the city for years. A death is a death. There's no one that's better or less. They all mean something to somebody in somebody's family. And for us to sit here and say well, that's inside the city of Shreveport, we can't do that. We can't influence City Council people to do things? I mean, I got relationship with some. I'm quite sure the ones who are inside the city limits also have relationship. We can make that happen. All I'm saying is we got to do something. We can't just sit here and say we're gonna vote on the Juneteenth

festival activities. We're gonna vote on where we're gonna put oil wells. We're gonna vote on passing millages. We're gonna vote on property taxes. We got to do more than that. I know this is a touchy situation. There are still things they bring people down here. If I say I'm gonna ban guns, or have some kind of gun control this whole thing will be filled. Or, we talk about dogs and cats. That's the two times that this place is full. The only two times. We got to do better. And we wonder why businesses don't want to come here. Or why they're hesitant to come is because we got stuff backwards. Human life should come before animals. I'm sorry. That's how I feel, and I hope everybody else feels that way. If you don't, I'm sorry. That's all.

**Call for the Question by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

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

At this time, Mr. Johnson's original 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).

#### **ORDINANCES (For Introduction By Title)**

- *Ordinance No. 6237 of 2022, an ordinance regarding an exchange of roadways with the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development in connection with extending LA. 3276 to LA. 1, to authorize the exchange of certain portions of Parish roads in return for certain portions of State highways, to authorize the Parish Administration to execute agreements as necessary to accomplish that exchange, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6239 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund an appropriation for Charles Johnson Ministries, Inc., and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

#### **WORK SESSION MINUTES**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Work Session Minutes from June 9, 2022 be ratified.* Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Resolution No. 33 Of 2022, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to consent to the assignment of State Agency Leases 22029 and 22030, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be adopted.* 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).

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 33 OF 2022**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO CONSENT TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF STATE AGENCY LEASES 22029 AND 22030, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is a Lessor in those certain oil, gas and mineral leases described as State Agency Leases 22029 and 22030 recorded under various Registry Numbers in the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request seeking consent from the Parish of Caddo of an assignment of State Agency Leases 22029 and 22030.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Administrator is hereby authorized to consent to the assignment of State Agency Leases 22029 and 22030.

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.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to confirm the Caddo Citizen/Shreveport Sun as the Official Journal for the year July 1, 2022 to June 23, 2023.*

For the record, the Assistant Commission Clerk stated that the Commission Clerk's Office only received one proposal for the Official Journal.

At this time, Mr. Burrell's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (9). NAYS: Commissioner Young (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *the authorization of Administration to fund community Juneteenth Celebration with ARPA Funds* be adopted.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if this has been vetted to ARP guidelines. Mrs. Bryant said that they have not had a chance to vet any of the expenses for any of the organizations, but they will vet the organizations prior to the funds being distributed.

At this time, Mr. Jackson'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).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to englobo and confirm the following appointments:*

- *Reappoint Robert Fowler to the Lakeview Waterworks Board. Term to expire March 17, 2027.*
- *Appoint Susannah Poljak as the District 10 Representative for the Juvenile Justice Committee's Citizens Advisory Board*
- *Appoint Jennifer Fant to the North Caddo Hospital Service District Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term currently held by Helen Godfrey-Smith. Term to expire July 18, 2024.*

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

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

  
Michelle Nations  
Assistant Commission Clerk

  
John E. Atkins  
President