

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 19th DAY OF JANUARY, 2021

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., via Zoom teleconference, with Mr. Johnson, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS

- It was moved by **Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to expand the agenda and add Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation proclaiming Sunday, January 31, 2021 as Louisiana National Guard Day in Caddo Parish* under New Business.

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

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

- It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to expand the agenda and add Resolution No. 19 of 2021, a resolution to place patriotic music at the start of Commission meetings in February and March of 2021, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* under New Business.

Mr. Cawthorne said that this resolution is “a mechanism to reinvigorate our local community, in the spirit of patriotism, and our love of democracy”. He also mentioned that this would only be for the months of February and March this year.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the whole song would play, or would it be limited to a certain number of stanzas. Mr. Cawthorne said that they could limit it to one stanza. **Mr. Burrell offered this as a friendly amendment to the resolution. Mr. Cawthorne accepted.**

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

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

TELECONFERENCE REQUIREMENTS

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to approve consideration of items under La.R.S. 42:17.1. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

CERTIFICATE FOR 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 158 JBE 2020 and Number 159 JBE 2020; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 42:17.1 allows members of political subdivisions to participate in its meetings 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; *

Date: January 15, 2021

/s/Lyndon B. Johnson
Caddo Parish Commission President

- * *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).*

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Greg Landry submitted the following comment:

Commissioner Jackson informed me that the Commission may have interest in the status of eviction defense work being done by Legal Aid of North Louisiana. I will be on the Commission's video call or available later by phone or email (Greg@LA-Law.org) to answer any questions the Commission members may have.

William Porter submitted the following comment:

My comments are in regards to agenda item: 14.III. - Ordinance 6023 Of 2021 In Relation To Zoning Case 20-16-P. I encourage you to vote no for the rezoning of the property located on Greenwood Springridge Rd. As you can tell from the neighborhood petition there has been a strong negative reaction from all the surrounding neighbors. Each of you has a vote, and each of you gets to go home after this meeting. Would you want to go home to a disruption negating the main reason you purchased your home where you did or have your property devalued by no fault of your own? Consider how you would feel and how you would want someone else to vote to protect your property and way of life.

Please follow Commissioner Epperson's lead and help us maintain the character of the neighborhood by keeping this property zoned as rural agricultural. Vote no to the zoning change.

Kay Proby-Waller submitted the following comment:

Dear Director Alan Clarke, I am writing this letter to express my strong opposition to the rezoning request (Case #20-11-P) I am asking the Metropolitan Planning Commission to REJECT this zoning change request because this change will reduce homeowner's property value. There were too many questions that the applicant could not provide residents answers when we met on December 10, 2020. The applicant could not articulate what type of businesses these lots would be sold to, what hours of operation, noise pollution, and what type of signage and lighting will be required just to name a few. Should not all the above questions be fully vetted out BEFORE making a proposal??? This proposal seems in direct conflict with homeowner's mission statement ... to ensure environmental protection, public safety, and a rich quality of life. Property owners of Timberline, Deer Creek, Western Hills Estate, Colonial Heights and surrounding areas have been ignored and left out of the loop regarding how WE can enhance the place WE call home.

I am asking that the current zoning remain as is, and not be modified because rezoning would forever alter the character of our neighborhoods to the negative. Thank you.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael submitted the following comment:

To Whom It May Concern: Taking into account the abundance of people expressing their views, we wish to convey our hopes that consideration is not being given to remarks made by those not directly affected by the PUD designation. We are weary of public opinions (occasionally vitriolic, posted on social media, or published in the newspaper) being expressed by people who do not live in our area. Their lives will not be impacted by this; ours will. We view these actions as thinly veiled attempts to garner public sentiment and apply public pressure to the decision makers. We also, politely, wish to disagree with anyone's perception that a commercial activity in or near a restricted neighborhood that is not zoned as commercial property, will bean improvement or is compatible with the surrounding area. A water system for our area would be an improvement, and planting a few bushes and flowering crepe myrtles would not mitigate our concerns. Commercial activity brings traffic and other commercial activity. As we have said before, we have enjoyed the quiet solitude of what we deem idyllic surroundings for thirty-eight years. Our children grew up enjoying skating, riding their bikes, and skateboarding on the street, crawfishing in the ditches, fishing in the creeks and ponds, and exploring nature. They gained first-hand knowledge about snakes, rabbits, hawks, owls, foxes, deer, wild boar, coyotes, and other animals, an exciting education in itself. They did so under our watchful eyes all of those years with little fear of being run-over by inattentive or speeding drivers. There is very little traffic in our neighborhood, and nine out

often of the cars traveling our street are neighbors acquainted with neighborhood activities. Now our grandchildren are enjoying these same experiences. How many neighborhoods are left that can boast of such privileges? Commercial activities bring traffic. More traffic brings more risks to our safety. It also brings noise and pollution. These are not compatible with our surroundings. If our desire had been to live near commerce, we would have bought land and built in a commercial area. With cordial and professional intent, we have turned to the commissioners to express our concerns, ask questions for better understanding, and contemplate interpretations, sometimes finding common ground. We are not without empathy. However, two facts remain that cannot be debated. Commercial activity brings traffic and more commercial activity, creating an unending cycle. Can the MPC guarantee otherwise? Please do not allow it. In closing, we want to thank Mr. Clarke for his observation that better communication would have been desirable. We also would have liked better communication, particularly prior to the application being referred to the commissioners. Everyone within cone-mile radius of the property in question, not just the immediate neighbors, should have received notification that an application had been filed for a PUD designation, along with information about the subsequent meeting. We also want to thank the commissioners for graciously listening to our views. We sincerely appreciate your considerations.

James & Karen Small submitted the following comment:

Mr. Everson—We write in SUPPORT of the proposed zoning legislation for the ALL DOGS UNLEASHED facility to train and board dogs. Franchise owner, Troy Phillips boarded and trained 2 of our rescue dogs, and helped them to become happy, content members of our home. He is a truly compassionate teacher whose goal is to improve the relationship between dogs and people. Troy has a talent to rehabilitate dogs with behavior issues, as well as to start positive training with healthy puppies. Safety is paramount at ALL DOGS UNLEASHED. Multiple mechanisms are in place at doors and fences to ensure all dogs remain with trainers for their learning sessions. Every dog is supervised, and often with multiple trainers. Barking would be a behavior that the trainers reduce, and would NOT be an issue for neighbors. Dog owners make appointments at ALL DOGS UNLEASHED, where they settle in their dog for 2 weeks of boarding. At the end of the training period, the owners come in for a half-day appointment to receive training on what their dog has learned. Any additional vehicles would be negligible, and traffic would NOT be an issue. We are incredibly fortunate to have someone of Troy's expertise in our area. Losing ALL DOGS UNLEASHED would mean dog owners would have to travel as far as Dallas or New Orleans for this caliber of training. Our family entrusted our dogs to his care, knowing that they would remain safely in the facility and on the grounds. Troy Phillips is an asset to our community. The compassionate work at ALL DOGS UNLEASHED increases the number of well-trained dogs in our area, and ultimately creates a safer community for our children and pets.

Cody McKellar submitted the following comment:

I write you not only in support of Troy Phillips and All Dogs Unleashed, but also to pose a couple of questions to ponder. Can Troy legally own multiple dogs, up to 50, where he lives? Yes. Can Troy decide to volunteer to house multiple rescue dogs on his property? Yes. Can Troy leave multiple dogs outside to bark as long as it's not after 10pm? Yes. Isn't it plausible that the majority of the concerns the neighbors have can and probably will happen even if he isn't able to run his business at this location? Wouldn't it make sense to bind Troy to certain rules and items to mitigate these issues? If this exception is granted wouldn't this property revert back to the current zoning if Mr. Phillips sold it? As a current resident of Shreveport, I understand the concerns, but denying this request will not resolve them. Please grant this exception and bind Mr. Phillips to an agreement to mitigate these issues.

Troy Phillips submitted the following comment:

My name is Troy Phillips owner of All Dogs Unleashed and property owner of the area trying to be rezoned, Thank you for everyone time while working through the rezoning process. I know it has been a lot of work for everyone involved. Not only the Commission and myself but also for my fellow neighbors. I would like to start by addressing noise in regards to my personal dogs barking to date. I am currently away from my property for long period's of time and may dogs may bark occasionally while I am gone. Without me being at my property I cannot keep my dogs confined inside all day and being confined. I have already done some small things to help with the noise and being able to see my personal dogs. Understand I need to make improvements before I can even open my business on my property that will help mitigate the noise and seeing the animals. When I am home my dogs are with me and may bark occasionally. There is another property owner nearby that has barking dogs as well both day and night that I also have video of. I'd like to address that current neighbors have been coming by my current location also. Some have even driven into my parking lot several time in a short amount of time and parked in a lot across from me and watched my facility and had a lap top in use. It was a blue F-150. The owner of this vehicle also lives on Hwy 169. If you would like to see the place feel free to give me a call and set up an appoint. I'd be happy to show you. I ask that everyone take into consideration of what is expected from me and the plans that were drawn up that are also required. I bought the property knowing I do have an opportunity to rezone and should be given a fair chance as well. I also want to mention that Caddo Parish already has zoning changes set for our district for January 2022. The exact changes have not been set yet but will be worked on this year which may make it easier for me to run the business out of my property then. This information can be found on line and is public. Once again thank you for your time. Again, I would like each of my neighbors know this is not personal. Please stop by, give me a call or a wave no matter what the outcome. I moved here as well to enjoy the country and my neighbors as you all did.

VISITORS

- Master Plan Update

Mr. Clarke asked that this be postponed until Thursday's Regular Session.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Confederate Monument Update

Dr. Wilson stated that the RFP is proposed to be issued on January 28, 2021 with responses due back on March 25, 2021. They are estimating the approval of a signed contract in May of 2021.

- Disparity Study Update

Dr. Wilson said that all parish parties have signed the CEA. The draft RFP has been sent to Legal for review. They are hoping to have it issued by February 2021 and awarded by April 2021.

- I-49 Welcome Sign Update

Dr. Wilson provided a rendering of the proposed I-49 Welcome Signs. He said that they are working with architectural firm and DOTD to get authorization to install the sign on the State's right-of-way.

- Wording to be added to the sides of the box covering the Confederate Monument

Dr. Wilson said that they have received an estimate of \$980 for the wording on the sides of the box. The temperature must be at least 65 degrees for the process. It will take approximately two days to complete it. They are hoping this can be done in the next couple of weeks.

- Additional Early Voting Locations Update

Dr. Wilson stated that they have reached out to the Registrar of Voters, who is in the process of researching and evaluating the proposed location. It is his hope to have this completed by March of 2021. He also said that they are currently assembling the legal requirements for the other proposed early voting locations. Registrar Sibley's goal is to have the report ready within the next 45-60 days outlining the parameters and logistics of the additional location as well as the impact on pending legislation changes to the election process.

- Attorney Donna Frazier, Parish Attorney
Recognition for being Shreveport Bar Association's new President

Dr. Wilson announced that Attorney Frazier has been selected to be the Shreveport Bar Association's President.

Mr. Jackson, Mr. Atkins, and Mrs. Gage-Watts congratulated Attorney Frazier for being appointed to her new role.

- Mr. Kelvin Samuel, Assistant Director, Animal Services
Selected as a participant for Best Friend Society Yearlong Leadership Academy

Dr. Wilson also announced that Kelvin Samuel has been selected as a participant for Best Friend Society Yearlong Leadership Academy.

- Introduction of new Assistant Director of Juvenile Services
Mr. Andrew Randall

Dr. Wilson introduced Mr. Andrew Randall as the new Assistant Director of Juvenile Services. Mr. Randall will be taking Ms. Muriel Burns position as she retired after thirty-five years of service to the Parish.

Mr. Burrell, Mr. Chavez, Mr. Cawthorne, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Atkins welcomed and congratulated Mr. Randall for his new role as Assistant Director of Juvenile Services.

- December 2020 Monthly Financials

Dr. Wilson informed the Commissioners that the December 2020 Monthly Financials are attached to the agenda. He also stated that they have been mailed to each of the Commissioners.

Mr. Jackson asked for more clarification regarding the monthly financials. Mrs. Barnett said that the financials look good as they currently stand. She also explained that the property taxes have started coming in this month. For sales tax, the Parish came in about 6% less than last year, so that is not

as bad as they anticipated. Expenditures have also been under budget. She also mentioned that they do have some expenditures that were not reimbursable from the CARES Act funding. Mrs. Barnett also said this is not a financial look at the year, but where the Parish is on that day.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if there were any deficits in any categories. Mrs. Barnett explained that she does not foresee any deficits, but she is projecting that they will go into fund balances.

- **Legislative Priorities**

Dr. Wilson also provided the Commissioners with a worksheet so the Commissioners can provide to Administration their legislative priorities for 2021. He reminded the Commissioners that the session begins on April 12, 2021 and adjourns June 10, 2021. Dr. Wilson asked that the Commissioners submit their worksheets as soon as possible so they can compile a list for the legislature.

Mr. Johnson suggested hosting a Zoom meeting with the legislators. Dr. Wilson said that they will work to set that meeting up. Mr. Jackson agreed with Mr. Johnson.

- **Requests from Commissioners**

Mr. Burrell asked that Dr. Wilson provide an update on the Inner City I-49 Corridor.

Mr. Burrell also asked for a written copy of the Administrator Report from Dr. Wilson.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Hopkins wanted to know if the agenda that is posted on Friday the official agenda. Attorney Frazier said that it is the one that is posted on Friday. The Clerk of the Commission acknowledged that there were some agenda additions that were attached to the agenda this afternoon, but they are proposed additions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Johnson advised that he will send out a copy of the 2021 Committees to all of the Commissioners. He also informed the Commissioners that there is an additional ad hoc committee, Pandemic & Natural Disaster.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Zoning Case 20-11-P, in regards to Ordinance No. 6024 of 2021, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the south side of Greenwood Road at Calderwood Drive, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural-Agricultural Zoning District to C-1, Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District, C-3, General Commercial Zoning District, and I-MU, Industrial Mixed Use Zoning District and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Zoning Case 20-14-P, in regards to Ordinance No. 6025 of 2021, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the west end of Newburn Lane, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-1-12, Single Family Residential District to R-1-7, Single Family Residential District and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 6026 of 2021, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, to establish R-1-10 Single-Family Residential Zoning District by amending Article 3, Zoning Districts & Zoning Map, by amending Article 4, Zoning Districts; by amending Article 5, Uses; by amending Article 7, regarding the on-site development standards; by amending Article 9, Sign Regulations; by amending Article 10, Landscape & Tree Preservation and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction and remand to the Long Range Planning Committee. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Johnson (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Jackson, *Ordinance No. 6027 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund for the*

year 2021 to provide an appropriation to the One Hundred Men of Shreveport for funds remaining at December 31, 2020, to provide COVID-19 testing and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Cawthorne explained that the Commission appropriated these funds in October of 2020 with the expectation of having all funds exhausted by end of year. There is a small portion of the funds that have not been spent, so this ordinance is to move those funds to 2021 to be spent.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if the work has already been done. Mr. Cawthorne stated that is not the case. He said that the monies were not expended in 2020, so this would carry the funds over into 2021.

Mr. Jackson suggested that the Commission review the policies for dollars that have already gone out and are budget neutral and carrying them into the next fiscal year.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know if this service is still needed due to the increase in testing sites through other organizations. Mr. Cawthorne said that there still is a need in the community.

Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know if the One Hundred Men of Shreveport has provided a blueprint of services going into 2021. He also wanted to know if there was still a need for these services. Mr. Cawthorne reiterated that there still is a need for testing.

Mr. Jackson encouraged the Commission to look for dollars in the stimulus bills that are being approved. He said that there is still a need for testing in the community. Mr. Jackson said that the incoming Surgeon General is predicting 500,000 deaths nationally by February.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that the new stimulus package from President-Elect Biden will provide several activities that will be rolled out in several parishes and counties, such as testing, vaccines, helping food banks, and daycare centers.

Mrs. Gage-Watts informed the Commissioners that she will be abstaining from this ordinance due to her employment with Oschner.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Ordinance No. 6028 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$21,000 for the Salvation Army's Merkle Center of Hope for funds remaining at December 31, 2019 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that this ordinance is similar to the one prior. These are funds that need to be rolled over into 2021.

Mr. Lazarus informed the Commissioners that he will be abstaining from this vote due to a family member sitting on the Salvation Army Board.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Ordinance No. 6029 of 2021, an ordinance to amend and re-enact Article III of Chapter 19 relative to Dr. E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund, to provide for the inclusion of grants within funding sources, to provide for applications and award of grants to appropriate recipients, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson explained that the Housing Trust Fund was set up in 2017. He also explained that there are several companies who wanted to do philanthropic efforts to invest in low-income communities and affordable housing. There has to be a mechanism with the Parish to receive those dollars. Mr. Atkins thanked Mr. Jackson for bringing this to the Commission.

Mr. Cawthorne wanted to know who would be playing the role of dispersing the loans. Mr. Jackson said that it is his hope that Administration will move forward with issuing an RFP. He also mentioned that this is the first year that the Housing Trust Fund is now at \$1M.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson,

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

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Resolution No. 7 of 2021, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Leases 20131, 20133, and 20134 to Enpower Resources, Inc., and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Resolution No. 8 of 2021, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to request and authorize the Louisiana State Mineral & Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to accept nominations and advertise for oil, gas, and mineral leases, accept bids, and award and execute oil, gas, and mineral leases on certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Resolution No. 9 of 2021, a resolution authorizing entities to administer the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program for the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Jackson mentioned that there are opportunities at the federal government for the Parish to administer COVID-19 relief. He said that this is one of them. Mr. Jackson also mentioned that Caddo Parish did not receive their fair share of CARES Act funding. The form was adjusted to lower the threshold to 200,000 with Caddo Parish being at 240,000. This gives the Parish an opportunity to not have to fight with other priorities at the state level to administer funds. He also explained that there are several organizations within the community who have experience in dealing with this and are ready to go. He said that the need for relief is urgent. Those organizations will work with the Housing Authority to make sure they are in compliance. The House Authority is also going to conduct the inspections on the residents.

Mr. Lazarus wanted to know if this puts an undue burden or infringe on the Parish's day-to-day operations. Attorney Frazier said that this would be handled by Administration.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know how the Housing Authority fit in with organizations that are listed in the resolution. Mr. Jackson explained that the Housing Authority will ensure that the reporting and records are in compliance. They will also conduct the inspections for quality assurance and that landlords are complying with minimum living standards.

Mr. Atkins then asked Administration if they would be able to manage this. Dr. Wilson explained that they would need to work out the details of how they would have some oversights and to ensure compliance, but he feels that they are up to the task.

Mr. Hopkins asked Mr. Jackson if he would be willing to add one of the housing authorities in North Caddo Parish. Mr. Jackson explained that the Parish is already split, but he would like to have a discussion with Mr. Hopkins to see what they can work out. Mr. Hopkins said in principle, he supports this 100%, but he wants to ensure that the Parish has their safeguards.

Mr. Taliaferro appreciates Mr. Jackson's thoroughness regarding this resolution. He wanted to know how were the organizations chosen to disseminate the funds. Mr. Jackson said that they had to look at what organizations did not own real estate and are set up and ready to go.

Mr. Taliaferro also wanted to know if there will be any guidance from the Treasury Department. Mr. Jackson explained that it is attached to the agenda, but these guideline could change weekly.

Dr. Wilson mentioned that they will come up with a marketing plan for this. Mr. Jackson agreed and said that this plan will ensure that the message is the same across the board. He also said that United Way would act as a triage where a person can call their number, and they will connect the with the organization that has been assigned for that zip code.

Mr. Jackson asked that a presentation be ready for Thursday's meeting.

Mr. Burrell is concerned with the red tape associated with rental assistance. Mr. Jackson explained that the Department of Treasury does not normally have a housing program; normally those types of programs are issued by Health & Human Services. The goal was to be able to address some of the upper incomes and have more flexibility of who can be served and how to get those dollars out. Mr. Jackson also pointed out that low-income persons can also utilize this program.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know United Way's role in the program. Mr. Jackson explained that they have a two-part role. One being that they will triage the calls with their 211 service.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if Administration would require additional personnel for this program. Mr. Jackson explained that the Parish would provide oversight and guidance for the programs who are administering the program. Dr. Wilson agreed. He also explained that the Parish would be the organization who will audited.

Mr. Hopkins clarification that this is a grant. Those monies will come to the Parish and those approved agencies will submit invoices to the Parish. Dr. Wilson said that they will have to draft a streamlined process to ensure the Parish is in compliance.

Mr. Jackson said that would cause more red tape. He also mentioned that the Head Start Program is a flow-through program who is responsible with administering their dollars. Mrs. Bryant pointed out that the Parish pays CCAA periodically. Mr. Jackson also said that he will not be in favor of the Parish putting in any additional steps in place beyond flow through dollars that the organizations can administer the program seamlessly.

Mrs. Gage-Watts pointed out that this was similar legislation that she put forward regarding \$500 for 500 families. She also wanted to know how these funds can be allocated prior to receiving the funding from the federal government. Dr. Wilson said that they still need to get that question answered because it is not the Parish's practice to upfront money to organizations. He further explained that they have not received the details of how the funds will flow to the Parish.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that this legislation authorizes the organizations to administer the program. Its tasks Administration to designate these organizations to administer the funds. He also pointed out that no dollars have come in, so no dollars will go out. The Treasury is expecting those dollars to be available on January 27. He also said that this is not a reimbursement program.

Mr. Jackson also explained that the difference between this program and the legislation that was put forth before is that no individual will receive monies. The only time an individual will receive a check is if their landlord refuses to participate in the program. Mr. Jackson also explained that this would be similar to the Rental Assistance Program that the Providence House implemented in August of 2020.

Substitute motion by Mr. Epperson, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 9 of 2021 be remanded to committee.*

Mr. Epperson suggested that this go to Committee to be vetted further and receive all the answers that the Commissioners have. Mr. Jackson said that he has answered all the questions that the Commissioners had for him.

Mr. Jackson reiterated that this is a program with the federal government to provide relief to the citizens of Caddo Parish. He mentioned that there is a deadline for this program.

Mr. Hopkins asked Mr. Jackson if he was willing to move this forward to the first meeting in February and remand it to Committee in the meantime for further vetting. Mr. Jackson does not understand the delay. He said that he is willing to talk and answer any questions regarding this. He would like this to move to Thursday's agenda for approval.

Mr. Cawthorne understands Mr. Epperson's concern, but the urgency is now. Mr. Cawthorne said that he is comfortable with this legislation.

Call for the Question by Mr. Burrell, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (7). NAYS: Commissioners Hopkins, Jackson, Taliaferro, and Young (4). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Resolution No. 9 of 2021 be postponed to a Special Session scheduled for January 27 at 3:30 p.m. and the discussion be remanded to the Pandemic & Natural Disaster Committee on January 22 at 11:00 a.m.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Resolution No. 10 of 2021, a resolution urging NACo to adopt a policy resolution requesting the 117th Congress to amend Social Security Act to reinstate federal health care benefits for non-convicted justice involvement individuals, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know the definition of a "non-convicted justice involvement individuals". Mr. Johnson explained that the person has been charged, but not convicted of a crime.

Mr. Chavez asked if he could co-sponsor this legislation. Mr. Jackson agreed.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 11 of 2021, a resolution of the Parish of Caddo urging and requesting the Shreveport/Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission to conduct public meetings via teleconference and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Epperson said that he has information that will be disseminated to all of the Commissioners prior to Thursday's meeting.

Mr. Hopkins explained that the MPC will have a difficult time conducting their meetings via teleconference and having people call in and be able to speak during the meeting.

Mr. Taliaferro believes that Mr. Clarke has the authority to decide the best methods to conduct his meetings. He said that he will vote to forward this to Thursday's meeting since Mr. Epperson will be providing additional information.

Mr. Atkins said that on the surface, he sees the MPC as an independent body who should be able to set their own schedule and work processes.

Mr. Jackson wanted to point out the double-standard. He said that the Commissioners are voting to move this to Thursday's agenda without all of the information. Mr. Jackson wanted to know the difference between his legislation and Mr. Epperson's legislation. Mr. Lazarus mentioned that the difference is \$7.5M.

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

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Resolution No. 12 of 2021, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana State Legislature to authorize the use of ballot boxes and to extend the early voting period and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that this legislation has been introduced before. During this unprecedented time, we are obligated to provide safe options through technology, equipment, and services for our citizens, she said. Extending early voting days and using ballot boxes are detrimental in providing equal access to votes, could eliminate citizens going to the wrong precincts, waiting in long lines, etc. She asked that the Commissioners support this resolution.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, and Taliaferro (6). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 13 of 2021, a resolution of the Parish of Caddo urging and requesting the Louisiana Legislature to adopt legislation to increase the minimum wage and to tie future increases to the cost of living standards, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be removed from the agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (1). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Resolution No. 14 of 2021, a resolution condemning the January 6, 2021 attack on the United States Capitol, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Substitute motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to removed Paragraphs 7 and 8, and replace it with the following paragraph: the assertions election impropriety inspired a group of protestors to attach the U.S. Capitol building on January 6, 2021, during the certification of the Presidential election.*

Hopkins: What this does it combines 6 and 7 paragraphs in the original, but it takes out the finger pointing. You know, we were pointing the finger at particular group and we been real by doing that would be president, congress, or governor or legislature. And I think stays with the spirit of this resolution to condemn those that attacked and breached the Capitol, but I think it keeps it from pointing fingers at particular politicians this time. Thank you.

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- Atkins: Reiterate my second.
- Johnson: Been moved by Commissioner Hopkins. I didn't follow all of that I know you said remove certain sections and add some verbiage.
- Hopkins: Remove paragraph 6 and 7, sir.
- Johnson: And you added?
- Hopkins: And I added- want me to read it to you, sir?
- Johnson: The short version so the clerk can.
- Hopkins: Ok, just, just I'm combining the two sections 6 and 7, but taking out where it says "
- Commission
Clerk: What I heard the first time was removing 7 and 8 and replacing with, I believe you had a phrase that began with "assertions of election impropriety".
- Hopkins: It was 6 and 7 actually.
- Commission
Clerk: Okay, 6 and 7?
- Hopkins: Yeah.
- Epperson: Mr. Chairman, while their pondering may I ask for a parliamentary incorrect?
- Johnson: Okay.
- Epperson: I would like to suggest to Mr. Hopkins, since he doesn't have his verbiage together, that I would reverse my motion to move my version as written and then forward him an opportunity to get his second, his version as written, to Thursday's agenda. That way we'll have some verbiage that we can look at.
- Hopkins: [inaudible] paragraph 6 and 7. Was that the motion mister? Was it a motion by Mr. Epperson at that time?
- Epperson: I was making a suggestion.
- Hopkins: Okay, okay. Let me read my paragraphs. I'm removing 6 and 7 and [inaudible] with this. "Whereas, assertions of election impropriety inspired a group of protestors to attack U.S. Capitol building on January 6, 2021, during a certification of presidential election."
- Johnson: I think he froze up again. Commissioner Burrell. Okay
- Burrell: Mr. President that was even more confusing than before. I understand you're eliminating 6 and 7 and he started to read something which was only a portion of the of the of the statement. It needs-it needs to be where it has consistent. Where we can understand exactly what it is saying. Unless you understand it and maybe your Ebonics may be better than mine.
- Hopkins: What it does it takes. What it basically does is take out pointing of fingers where it says "amplified by political groups and politicians", ex that out. Where it combines 6 and 7.
- Burrell: But that's the truth isn't it? Or you saying it's not?
- Hopkins: I'm just saying we can [inaudible] Congress and the Governor and the legislature. This change stays with the spirit of the resolution to condemn those that breached capitol and attack.
- Burrell: Mr. president clarification. Point of clarification.
- Johnson: You got the floor.
- Burrell: Okay, maybe I should ask Todd. Is he saying in his statement that that the cause of problem were the citizens themselves and no one else was involved in them launching this attack? Is that what I am understanding you saying? That your correction will allow that understanding to be there? It was the citizens themselves that undertook it and there was no one else involved in it? Am I understanding that correctly? I'm just trying to get a point of clarification. That's not how I saw in the reports that were given on your conservative station as well as your non-conservative stations.

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- Hopkins: Yeah, I what I'm saying is the individuals breached the Capitol [inaudible] made their own [inaudible] to do that and that's what needs to be condemned.
- Burrell: So, you don't consider them terrorists then? When they shoot people and people are killed. You're saying that it was inappropriate to call individuals who undertook that terrorist and they were the ones, only ones, that were involved in this insurrection. Am I understanding that correctly?
- Hopkins: Think those [inaudible] that they need to be condemned. You know, I look it like this. I make my own choices. No one's ever told me, except maybe my father when I was young, that I can or can't do something or you have to do something. Choose [inaudible]. Those people that breached the capitol chose to do that. They were wrong for it. And that's what this resolution should be about. Not pointing fingers at political parties or certain individuals. Cause what we done. We do that quite often here, Commissioner. We talk about governor and legislature and we don't always say nice things or the congress. Let's stick to the point. We're saying we condemn those that attacked the Capitol and leave it at that. That was my-that's what I was trying to do. And we can vote and whatever happens, happens.
- Burrell: But as patriotic citizens ourselves, who happen to be public officials, then I dare say that there is some reason why it was instigated you're taking that out of it. Unless you assuming these people woke up one day and decided to break into the Capitol. Am I understanding that correctly?
- Hopkins: [inaudible] effort [inaudible].
- Burrell: I'm through Mr. President.
- Jackson: Todd try turning your camera off sometimes that helps with your reception.
- Taliaferro: Time for me, Mr. President?
- Johnson: Yes.
- Taliaferro: Okay. I'm not quite sure exactly. I mean I do understand Commissioner Hopkins' motion to replace some of the verbiage. I would like to see that verbiage as well. So there is no confusion, but I do find it troubling that-I don't think that anyone, any one of us, or any American doesn't consider the events of January 6 tragic for our country resulting in death or injury. And, but if we're going to be chastising violence, we're going to be calling domestic terrorism, then we should pick a broader platform and say we do not support any kind of domestic terrorism any kind of violence across the United States in any form or fashion from any group. You know, which undermines the sanctity and the very fabric of our America. I'm all about speaking out, but I want to make sure we speak out on violence as a whole and not just one specific incident that has just ruffled our feathers in the nature in which it occurred. I don't see the Commission, nor do I think it's the Commission's business, you know, to actually make such broad statements. But I'm all for standing up for what is right. But If we going to stand up for what is right, then we stand up across the board for all and condemn all violence regardless of who commits it. Thank you, Mr. President.
- Johnson: Commissioner Atkins
- Atkins: Thank you, Mr. President. With respect to this particular resolution, I think the goal here is to get some lines where we can all agree with. I respect the fact that different people look at that situation that occurred on January 6th and see differently to some degree or another but I think that we can all agree that we condemn the violence and we condemn the breaching of the capitol and so I think that's what Commissioner Hopkins is trying to do here. Trying to find some language that we can all agree on, all get behind, and all move forward with. I understand that some of you all view it as a broader than just a breach and the violence that I think we can all agree that the breach and the violence is what we want to condemn. Thank you.
- Johnson: Commissioner Epperson
- Epperson: Yes, sir. This isn't just about violence. This is an attack upon our democracy. This is an attack upon our Capitol. This isn't just a little violent insurrection. This was a planned deal. It was perpetrated by everyone that was spelled out in the resolutions and to take anything from it would be as though you are trying to provide cover for someone. We must realize that there are consequences of our actions. We as elected leaders, as a Commissioner, all the way up to the President of United States, our words have meanings. Consequences must be dealt with. It must be dealt with harshly, swiftly, and severely. Irrespected to whomever it is. We're searching the atrocity that's happening on

january6, 2021 in our nation and it should not ever happen again.

Johnson: Commissioner Burrell

Burrell: My final say, Mr. Chairman. I never been this upset this patriotic ever in my life. Although I was, you know, at one time a looking to going to the military until the Vietnam war ended just as I graduated. But this was something that really-it really took me for a loop. This is not breaking into a store. This is not threatening a store keeper. We're talking about the overthrowing of our government. And if that is not a serious situation where you just appreciated building. This is almost like holy ground, but I wouldn't want to use that term. The White House has already being desecrated by doing things that we have never, I know in my 68 years, known to be done. And then on top of that, go to the White House, break in, bring weapons causing people to die and looking to lynch people in the white house. How serious can that be? And to say that we, as public officials who represent people who are also upset because of the possibility. Some of them don't even understand about overthrowing the government, but they know something very bad happened to our system of government and against the constitution that we grew up learning about. So, this is more than just breaching a wall. We didn't just break a window. We almost broke our Democratic Republic. And now we are trying to justify, sugar coat it, and cover it. In addition to that, you had law enforcement, in which I support 100%, good law enforcement, that were undermanned. Many participated, unfortunately, and created a situation that was even worse because they couldn't control it. So now we're just putting forth a resolution saying that we as patriotic citizens, we as public officials, hold our citizens responsible, as well as other public officials that we vote for, responsible. And something is wrong with that. So, I just, I just have a different position as Commissioner Atkins says and Commissioner Hopkins said. Their fuse because it is involving people that just happen to be associated with their party, you know. That happens sometime. But we have to point them out, if it was Democrats, hell we should point that out too. If they were there. If that's what was put forth to us as citizens. I don't have a problem with that. But we shouldn't sit silent and allow our nation and our laws to be undermined and then sit silently by as if somebody just broke into a store, a candy store. No. that can't happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

At this time, Mr. Hopkins' motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (6). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Epperson's original motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to englobo and move the following items to Thursday's agenda:*

- *Resolution No. 15 of 2021, a resolution of recognition and appreciation for COVID-19 frontline workers in Caddo Parish*
- *Resolution No. 16 of 2021, a resolution proclaiming January as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in Caddo Parish*
- *Resolution No. 17 of 2021, a resolution proclaiming January as "Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention Month" in Caddo Parish*
- *Resolution No. 18 of 2021, a resolution proclaiming and supporting January as National Stalking Awareness Month in Caddo Parish*
- *Resolution No. 19 of 2021, a resolution to place patriotic music at the start of Commission meetings in February and March of 2021, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for the Calvary Baptist Cavaliers*
- *Special Resolution acknowledging the winners of the Domestic Violence Trey*

Hutchison Award for 2020

- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Mrs. Bessie Smit*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for Louisianan of the Year Bob Thames*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance Whayland Harvel "W.H." greene*
- *Special Resolution of Appreciation & Recognition for Timmy Lane*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation proclaiming Sunday, January 31, 2021 as Louisiana National Guard Day in Caddo Parish*

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

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to reconsider Resolution No. 9 of 2021 and Resolution No. 12 of 2021. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Resolution No. 9 of 2021, a resolution authorizing entities to administer the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program for the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 12 of 2021, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana State Legislature to authorize the use of ballot boxes and to extend the early voting period and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (5). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that appointment of Roy Murry to the Shreveport Memorial Library Board to fill the unexpired term of Tom Tebbe, who has resigned effective December 31, 2021 (term to expire December 31, 2024)* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Hopkins said that Mr. Tebbe is resigning after serving many years. He recommended, along with the Shreve Memorial Library Board, Mr. Murry to complete his unexpired term. He asked that the Commissioners support this recommendation.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if this is a rural appointment. Mr. Hopkins states that it was.

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

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Jackson gave the following statement: Yes, Thank you Mr. President. Thank you everybody for their time tonight. It's been a long meeting but that's typically how it works throughout the year. Let me address something and clear the air very quickly. I've never been one to do anything under table or nefarious. I make myself available, readily available. I reach out, not because I'm trying to get a commitment from anybody. I try to get an understanding. I try to get an understand before we come to this meeting and they always wondered when I was on the UL Board of Supervisors why they always calling me ahead of the meeting. I was young. I was in college at the time. And now I sit on this board with the LA Housing Corporation and before we have a board meeting the Executive Director will call the week before the meeting and he'll ask all the board members, 'do y'all have any questions? Can I address these concerns?' It's not so much that he's trying to get a commitment out of you. He's trying to get understanding. He's trying to get you the answers that you say you may have. Because the reality is these positions are part time. I work a full-time job. I own a business and trying to build a family and a lifestyle outside of this. And so being consumed out here we-I love being on the Parish Commission. Don't get me wrong I love the work. I spend my entire weekend in this community. Saturday did a food distribution. I don't think it was quite as big as President Johnson had in the MLK area. But the need was so great, when we got done there were 50 more cars that came up. 50, we counted them. 50 more cars and all we had were sacs of onions left. And nobody turned. Think about that. When we gave away 20-30 items per car and all we were left with were sacks of onions. And nobody said, "oh well, you don't have everything else? I just don't-" They took the sacks of onions. That sent a message to me that the need out

there is so great that people wont even turn down a sack of onions. That's where we are right now. So, I want to let folks know that I-the folks who seem to think that there are some people down here that are down here to funnel money or siphon money from the Parish. You are wrong. You are wrong. I work with everybody down here. I talk to everybody down here. I don't always agree with what goes on, but nobody down here is inherently a criminal. Nobody down here is trying to find something to enrich themselves and it needs to stop. It needs to stop. And I'm calling on the people on this body to make sure things like that stop. Because as Dr. King said, we have to be responsible, not for the actions and words of the people who do bad things, but we also we have to be responsible and call out the people who sit silently. When the 16th chapel-16th Street Chapel Church was bombed he didn't ask the question, who killed this poor, little girl? He asked the question, what? By saying many of us will realize who sit quietly will realize that we played just as much a role-just as much a role in those things that take place. Nobody down here that I have met with the Parish Commission is a criminal. John Paul Young went and got Shreveport Green to do a fantastic program for community gardens. Nobody has questioned his integrity. Commissioner Todd Hopkins brought us a water sewer up-line, up-sizing project and they already had engineers and design all laid out. Nobody questioned his integrity on that. There are only certain individuals down here when we have an idea our integrity is called into question. And she doesn't have her camera on and I believe I said this to Bernie Howard. I said she makes-she frustrates the hell out of me, but the one thing Attorney Frazier is going to make sure she does is dot every "i" and cross every "t". To the point to where, we have some all-out conversations. We have safeguards in place. We have staff in place that are doing things. I knew-I probably have better success going to put a 5 mm or AK-47 up to Dr. Wilson's head and just saying go open the vault and give me your money. I probably have better success doing that trying to steal some Parish money. Nobody down here, no member down here, deserves to be treated like that. And I am asking us to stop it, because this is where it starts. Then, it festers and it grows. I would never question anybody integrity down here. Never. The issue that we just debated about the Capitol riots it started by people sowing doubt. It starts with people sowing doubt and then those things fester. We have to cut it off when we have the opportunity to. And if somebody speaking ill or suggesting ill about anybody down here, I cut it off. I don't let anybody talk y'all down. I don't do it because it's not right. And I am just as blasphemous if I sit and entertain it. So, I'm calling on all of us to do what we have to do. Because the reality is I went to school, got a whole lot of student loan debt, and all I want to do is come home to Shreveport, Caddo Parish and put my skillset and my knowledge to work for this community and make this community a better place for us to stay. And we have to stop tearing folks down who are trying to do good in this community. That concludes my comments. Thank you, Mr. President.

- Mr. Burrell gave the following statement: Mr. President, let me apologize to some of my commissioners for my emotion as it relates to the January 6th incident. A lot of times I cannot hold my emotions because I was taught from a kid to, you know, respect my country and to understand and learn what the constitution is all about. Although, much of it did not cover people who look like me for a long time. But yet and still I dealt with it. I didn't choose to go and overthrow my government because of it. I work with my government to make a change. And to sit back and be silent to me is to be complicit. And I can assure you over the 20 years that I've been in the political arena and being a public servant, you will hardly ever find me silent if I find something that is very, very disturbing because of who does it or what party. I-it gets to the very core of who I am and going to something that Commissioner Jackson just said, yes. When people get angry at you they will come at you and they will accuse you of everything under the sun. That's what created this problem on January 6th. The lies that has been out there, that has been perpetuated and people have been complicit because they knew they were lies, but they never said anything about it. As far as I'm concerned, they are just as guilty. But whenever you desecrate the White House and I just got a text saying that nobody broke into the White House. I didn't say that anybody broke into the White House. I said that the White House was desecrated, because political activity is not supposed to be done on our public facilities like that. I was against the fact that they wanted to use government money, public money, being a State Representative, you learn that down there as part of state law you can't use public funds for campaign. But yet and still, the mayor got chastised, the mayor got criticized because he didn't want to use public funds to fund a political campaign. Just happened to be the President of the United States. That's wrong. I was taught that that was wrong. I was taught that that was illegal. Now if there is a caveat to it, I don't know it. According to all of the laws that I know, you cannot do that. So, when I see these things happening and we made a pledge, we gave an oath, that we will respect the constitution I don't feel any less responsible to respect the constitution that anybody-any public official. I don't care if they're local or if they're national. So, I just happen to have a problem with that. The second thing, Mr. President, and I'm going to end it. I just so happen to, have a chance to take a few days' vacation with my wife after a bout 3 years and I happen to Wyoming in a place I sure wasn't comfortable with being from the south, being in temperature in 9 to minus 12. While I was there, I check back here to find out that our Sherriff made some statements that I did not quite support. We have been friends a long time. We go back over 20 years, back to the City-no City Government. But I really think that he mistook our vote on supporting National Law Day because of things that are taking place on national level. Based upon many reports there have been veterans, military, and otherwise and law enforcement that was-that has been a part of this insurrection that has taken place. And in most group, you will have people, everybody's not going to be the same. You're going to have bad apples. That's what we been saying. But our position was that, yes, we support our local law enforcement. We've given a lot of money to do that. So, I don't think it was right, personally, for our Sherriff to take that position. But I understand how it could offend him because he takes a lot of pride in his department and in his people, but so do we. But we do have the right as public officials and as citizens to complain also when some time our constituents complain to us. I am going to send a letter to my friend, Chair President and I consider hm a

friend. But I also disagree with my friends. So again, that is my comment. And I appreciate you giving me that opportunity. Thank you.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance 6021 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case 20-15-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the east corner of Ellerbe Road and Stewart Drive, Caddo Parish, La., from R-1-7, Single-Family Residential District to C-1, Neighborhood Commercial District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance 6022 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case 20-12-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the north side of N. Market Street approximately one thousand one hundred sixty five feet northwest of Roy Road Extension, Caddo Parish, La., from R-A, Rural Agriculture District to C-1, Neighborhood Commercial District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance 6023 Of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case 20-16-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the east side of Greenwood Springridge Road, approximately seven hundred feet north of Meadow Creek Drive, Caddo Parish, La., from R-A, Rural Agriculture District to R-A (PUD), Rural Agriculture Planned Unit Development District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, there was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the Commission adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

/s/Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk