

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 22ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021
3:30 PM

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Special Session—Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., via Zoom teleconference, with Mr. Atkins, Vice-President, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Jackson (3).

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to approve consideration of items under La.R.S. 42:17.1. Motion failed*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell and Cawthorne (2). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (5). ABSENT: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Taliaferro (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to recess the meeting until 4:15 p.m. for the Presiding Officer, Commission Clerk, and Parish Attorney to determine which items can be heard under La. R.S. 42:17.1. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell and Cawthorne (2). ABSENT: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, the Commission recessed until 4:15 p.m. When the Commission reconvened, Mr. Atkins explained that the items on the agenda did not meet the requirements as stated in La.R.S. 42:17.1.

Attorney Frazier explained that the items on the agenda went through the following criteria:

1. Is it directly related to the Caddo Parish Commission's response to COVID 19? If yes, go to #2. If not, go to #3.
2. Is it critical to the health safety and welfare of the public? If yes, place on the electronic agenda. If no, go to #3.
3. Will delay of the matter cause curtailment of a vital public service provided by the parish? If yes, place on the electronic agenda, if not, go to #4.
4. Will delay of the matter cause severe economic hardship and dislocation? If yes, place on the electronic agenda. If not, go to #5.
5. Is it critical to the continuation of the business of the public body? If yes, go to #6. If not, it does not meet the requirements of 42:17.1.
6. Will postponing the matter to an in-person meeting cause the parish to miss a legal or other deadline that the Caddo Parish Commission cannot postpone or delay? If yes, it meets the requirements of 42:17.1. If no, it does not meet the requirements of 42:17.1.

Checking these items off in the recommended order should lead to an agenda with items that meet the requirements of 42:17.1. Terms should be given their plain meanings other than those terms which are defined by the law:

- D. For the purposes of this Section, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:
 - (1) "Meeting via electronic means" shall mean a meeting occurring via teleconference or video conference.
 - (2) "Teleconference" shall mean a method of communication which enables persons in different locations to participate in a meeting and to hear and otherwise communicate with each other.
 - (3) "Video conference" shall mean a method of communication which enables persons in different locations to participate in a meeting and to see, hear, and otherwise communicate with each other.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Atkins entertained a motion to adjourn.

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Taliaferro, *to adjourn*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Jackson (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, the Commission's Special Session Work Session adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk



John E. Atkins
Vice-President