

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 7th DAY OF MAY, 2020

The Caddo Parish Commission met in legal and regular session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., via Zoom teleconference, with President Chavez, 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 Mrs. Gage-Watts, and Mr. Lazarus led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jon Glover sent in the following statement:

Good evening Commissioners . . . in your last work session there was mention that names associated with NGO's would be changed; first what were those NGOs that being considered for such and secondly, why?

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that the Regular Session Minutes from April 23, 2020* be adopted. Motion carried.

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- NOTE: Certificate for Teleconference

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana has issued Proclamation Number 33 JBE 2020, stating that, due to the current Public Health emergency declared in the Governor's Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020, and citing the provisions of La. R.S. 29:721, et seq., granting him the authority to control the "ingress and egress to and from a disaster, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor, in Proclamation Number 33 JBE 2020, has limited all gatherings of 10 or more people, for public safety purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Governor has issued a general stay at home order "unless performing an essential activity," 33 JBE 2020, Section 3; and,

WHEREAS, attendance at a Caddo Parish Commission Regular Session meeting is not stated in the list of essential activities, listed in 33 JBE 2020, Section 3; and,

WHEREAS, the usual conduct of the meeting would require travel and the presence of a number of persons in excess of ten (10); and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State, in Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020, Section 4, issued on March 16, 2020, has invoked the aforementioned statutes authorizing him to allow attendance at essential governmental meetings via teleconference or video conference during the pendency of this emergency; and,

THEREFORE, the Caddo Parish Commission hereby certifies that it will not be able to obtain a quorum and convene a meeting in a public forum on April 20, 2020 due to the Governor's proclamations, and will be required to meet by video conference, and, if necessary teleconference, on that date as allowed by law and the Proclamations of the Governor listed above. Date: April 22, 2020

/s/Mario

Chavez
Caddo Parish Commission President

- Mr. Epperson reminded the Commissioners that March was recognized and observed at Women's Month. He recognized the following women: Clara Farley, Josie Harris, Barbara Norton, Gwen Phelps, Joyce Rogers, Kay Proby-Waller, Cloyse Simmons, Maggie Martin, and Erica Bryant. He commended these outstanding women for all of their hard work for this Parish.

He also announced that Saturday, May 16 is Armed Forces Day.

Mr. Epperson stated that there have been some errors on the pandemic recovery checks that citizens have received. He suggested that those citizens who received erroneous checks to follow the correct procedures for handling those checks.

- Mr. Burrell talked about absentee ballots and mail-in ballots. He said that there has been a recent push on mail-in ballots because of COVID-19. He feels that the Commission should reconsider the mail-in ballots.

He also wished his wife and the other mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Chavez reminded everyone that this Sunday is Mother's Day. He also thanked all of the nurses for all of their tireless hours on the frontlines in combatting the coronavirus.

He also reminded the citizens to complete the census to ensure that everyone in Caddo Parish counts.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

Mr. Chavez asked if there was anyone in favor or against the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 5950 of 2020, an ordinance to establish the salary of the Commission Clerk pursuant to Section 3-10 of the Home Rule Charter for Caddo Parish, to adopt a compensation schedule for that position, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5951 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to provide an appropriation for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5952 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$8,489 to provide an appropriation for the Safe Summer program for funds remaining at December 31, 2019 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5953 of 2020, an ordinance to donate surplus property under Chapter 19, Article II, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances relative to Donation of Adjudicated of Property to Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation for a public purpose, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5954 of 2020, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no one to speak for or against these ordinances, the President closed the public hearings on ordinances.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Ordinance No. 5950 of 2020, an ordinance to establish the salary of the Commission Clerk pursuant to Section 3-10 of the Home Rule Charter for Caddo Parish, to adopt a compensation schedule for that position, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Johnson: Setting the salary of the Clerk, what does that truly mean? Does that mean we have a Clerk that is ready to be hired, or is that just meaning that we're descending a salary range for the next Clerk, whomever that might be?

Attorney
Frazier: Commissioner, you have a Clerk that is ready to be hired, so you need to set that Clerk's salary. You set every incoming Clerk's salary at the time of hire via ordinance.

Atkins: We have a very capable perspective Clerk, who has been waiting in the wings for several months. He's gone through all of the vetting processes. He's been vetted both by our Commission and by the state authorities. He's been very patient with us. He's had his career on hold for several months now. I think its time to set his salary and put him to work. Thank you, Mr. President.

Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to follow Administration's process on the hiring freeze and freeze the hiring of the Commission Clerk and allow the Deputy Clerk to continue as the Commission Clerk.*

Johnson: So when we started the process for the Commission Clerk, there was a potential conflict of interest that was shown by the Board of Ethics. At the time, most of the Commissioners were in denial of the conflict. To me, at that point in time, that process had really should have stopped, but the majority voted to allow the Clerk to get an appeal, pretty much, and to try and straighten out what was the potential conflict of interest. In reading the letter from the ethics attorney—and its 2020-15, I looked at the last paragraph. Basically what it says, and they went through a process of separating community property. I don't really quite understand how you separate community property and you're still married and stay in the same house, even though you separate your bank accounts. More or less, that's kind of hard to say that you got a separation of property when you just say you're separating your bank accounts. Second point is, it says in the statement from the attorney that she does not have ownership in the Robinson's Rescue, and she is not a member of the leadership structure. Mrs. Everson holds the position of—in one place I saw she was president, and another place I saw she was CEO of Robinson's Rescue, which means that is top management in any organization that I know of. To me that still in not straightened out. There still is a doubt because that does not satisfy it because she is still a part of top management. So I would ask that we do a freeze, and if y'all need to investigate it even more. Look at the letter, maybe come back. That's fine. But right now, I think we should do the freeze, keep Mrs. Nations. She has been doing an excellent job. She's been doing this job since the end of November...mid-November until now. I think it would actually be a slap in her face to bring someone in that she would have to train to be her boss from this point on.

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

Johnson: I thought, in an earlier meeting, we said that we would not call for the question if the majority of the people on the board has not spoken for the first time. So you had at least two or three Commissioners on the board that hadn't even talked for the first time, but we call for the question. I know we talked about this in a meeting early on. I know it failed, but I mean we talked about it, and now we're trying to slide that one in.

Burrell: I just want to caution us too that if you're using that as a tactic to keep from having any deliberation, that's a dangerous precedent to set. We are all elected, and I recognize the rules that we do have, but when you start using it as a weapon rather than allowing this discussion on very important issues, then I can just only caution you about that because I know how to use it and use it very well, but I don't do it because I have respect for others and recognize that we have certain issues that really need to be discussed regardless of whether they are those that may have their own motives for calling. I'm not saying that's what this situation is, but we've witnessed that quite a bit since I've been here, and I haven't seen that done that way before. This is a very important issue. There are some underlying things that I have not heard us discuss because it was done without many of us who were actually—we weren't on the Commission when this hiring proposal came through. There's a lot of questions—I still have questions about the process. The process from the beginning didn't seem that fair to me, but I wasn't on the Commission so I couldn't voice it, but now that I am, I would like to have my questions answered before we vote on something like this.

Chavez: Commissioner Burrell, your sentiments are definitely heard. I'll let you know that Robert's Rules of Order, as you know, states that if we make a motion and call for the question, all debate ceases. It can be a nasty tactic that politicians can use to cease all debate, and it can also be something to expedite a situation, which one is being used in this situation. I'm not going to give my opinion on which, but let's go ahead and move one. Maybe we can collectively talk about this later and come up with a situation, as Vice President stated, perhaps if there's people on the board, we can adopt a different type of scenario, but we have to follow rule of law as it's given today.

Burrell: I'm not sure what your rules are because Commissioner Johnson just said—and I remember too, that we agreed that if there are people who have not spoken at all, then we would reconsider this thing, but now we are going past this. I don't have a dog in the fight, either one is fine with me, but I'm just saying that we're setting a precedence. I don't think we want to go there, and if we do, then I'm going to call for us to put it in writing and a policy of some sort.

Attorney
Frazier: I wanted to point out that your By-Laws states that unless you have a specific rule in your By-Laws, that you're governed by Robert's Rules of Order, which does state that a motion to call the questions ceases all debate, must pass by a two-thirds vote. If you are

wanting something different, then I suggest that you have the Policies & Procedures Committee look at adding a provision for that in your By-Laws.

Epperson: Point of Clarification, Mr. President. It was 7-5, wasn't it? Two-thirds would be 8-4. So that did not pass. It failed, so we can resume debate.

Burrell: I just wanted to have a Point of Clarification because I'm not clear on this. when you all went through this process of hiring and reviewing the candidates—as I remember sitting in the audience because I wasn't allowed to sit on the dais—there was something that came about in this discussion that there were some added restrictions placed on this job? This job position of you having a degree or something like that? Did we ever resolve that? Because in a meeting that we had before, it was my understanding that we were going to go back and do a redress on that because it was one of the things that was excluding one of the candidates that we had in question—or you all had in question, I was just following along. Has that been resolved? Because I know that we've had clerk before that did not have a degrees, and I think there was something that I understood was placed in there as a caveat this go around. I know there was important discussion about it, but I'm not sure whether or not that was ever resolved.

Chavez: I'll go ahead and clarify that really quick. There was an added caveat that restricted Deputy Nations from applying because she did not have her degree at the time. I believe she's either completed it or right there at completing. However, the motion that I made about two months prior allowed us to either move forward with the appointment of Mr. Everson, or allowed us to pick Deputy Nations to move into that spot if he was deemed not qualified. That motion superseded the prerequisite of the additional graduation requirement, so that's how we came to this point. We didn't change the requirement in regards to the college degree. We put the stipulation in place that if Mr. Everson was deemed qualified by the State Board, then we can move him into that position; however, if he was deemed not to be qualified due to the Ethics Board, in that opinion, then Deputy Nations—who I agree is doing an amazing job—could roll right into that position. So that's where we're sitting today.

Burrell: So that passed. Is that what you're saying?

Chavez: Yes, Commissioner.

Burrell: All right. Well, that's what I needed to know because I never knew that we ever resolved it.

Epperson: Just for a point of information—of course, I was off for about two and half years. We used to—I know when we evaluate the Clerk, we would send that to the Personnel Policies Committee, as far as you whether they got a raise, their evaluation, then we recommend that to the full body. But you know, here we are now with a lot of discussion on something that should have been, you know, should have came out in committee and then brought to the full body. A lot of these questions would have been answered. So with that, I'm just stating, you know I hear a lot of us saying well there's certain things on the agenda by certain people. How are you getting so many comments about it? Well, I've got numerous comments about filling this position, and they aren't good. I came on this body in 1992, and that was one of the first issues that came about. We had a qualified female, had been in the position for seven years, could do the job, and they hired a male over her and wanted her to train the male. I think this—you know this just leaves a bad taste in our mouths and our minds. It sets a bad precedent for our young women and our women. Most of the women are college educated; most of the women are articulate in the job they do, but when it comes down to the big prom and the big choice for the big salaries—Boom! Here comes a man, and they create a situation for him, it appears to me. That just does not look well. I could not in good conscience, come into a position—probably they're going to put my salary up above and beyond an individual that has been there. That individual is going to have to carry me. That's just unconscionable to me. Unconscionable. It appears in the political arena, certain people when they're in elected positions. Once they get out of the elected position, they milk that as far as they can go, then they get out and all of a sudden, a big, beautiful, nice juicy job that you created for them. And if you don't believe me, go back the last 15 years. Look at all the positions that's created and the boards that's created where you're being compensated and see who has those positions. That's all I have.

Taliaferro: It has been quite a while since the beginning of this issues, and quite frankly, I don't know what Mr. Everson has to do any more than he has already done or his wife has already done based on the Louisiana Board of Ethics' findings. If anybody can refresh my memory, since I was not on the Commission at the time—I was watching the proceedings from the galley, so obviously I want to be fair to everybody. I know that may be a sore thought to some degree, but I have no issues with revisiting any issue that may be

preventing a roadblock from us going forward in either selecting Mr. Everson or Mrs. Nations. Of course I want to take everybody's opportunities and abilities into account, but I think that, again, based on what I remember is that this was pushed forward based on the Commission at the time, provided that Mr. Everson do everything that the Board of Ethics required him and his wife to do is separate any issues of impropriety so to speak or not, maybe not impropriety but I can't remember—I can't think of the word—

Epperson: Cronyism.

Taliaferro: Yeah, well I wouldn't say yeah ok cronyism.

Atkins: I'd like to take issue with some of the statements made by some of my colleagues. I think there's some revisionist history going on here. Remember that we all sat together, we drew up the criteria that were required for our candidates. We took twenty-something people through the process. Mr. Everson came out as the most qualified candidate or was believed to be the most qualified candidate by the majority of the Commissioners. He then wanted to clarify that he didn't have an ethics conflict and he submitted a letter to the Board of Ethics just to make sure everything was good and clean and up front. He took that proactive step to do that. Now the Board of Ethics has approved him and said he is cleared. There should be no more question of his moral standing or his abilities or his relationships with other members of the Commission or his gender, or his race, or any implication that's being made by my colleagues. We as a majority of Commissioners voted him as the most qualified candidate. There's a certain implied commitment associated with that vote. He's fulfilled all obligations that he's been required to fulfill, and now it's only appropriate for us to move forward with our initial agreement by which he moved forward. So, I respect everything Mrs. Nations has done; she's done a wonderful job, but certain wheels were put into motion and certain commitments were made. I don't think it's appropriate to be looking back and reevaluating and making accusations about decisions that were made based on our best abilities and their best information at the time. So, I vote that we move forward with Mr. Everson.

Gage-Watts: I'm grateful that you all are having this discussion that we started some time ago, and it did happen to fall on the most qualified person at that time. Well, I know that we are revisiting this item, based on the information that we have had in the past. Due to us not going back and having a special call meeting is why we're here today. There were many members who were in support of our current Deputy Clerk, and wanted to bring this back to the body, but the members did not show up for the meeting. I do not ever say anything about a woman or the gender of anyone who is seeking employment for anything. I always say that whoever is the most qualified, and if it happens to be a woman, then so be it. I don't want us to turn this into, gender, or you know race or anything like that because this is definitely, for me, what it's not about. It is about giving current respect and courtesy to the person who has served very well and earned her way through this position. So, I will not be in support of this. I do believe that there are still some errors, and I do believe that there are some things that we need to look at before going forward. I can say, personally, a few months ago I was in the same predicament. No discussion came forward about, we're going to fight all the way and make sure that you know we go through the Ethics Board to find out if it was even possible. It was an open and shut case for a lot of you. So I just want to say before we just close the door, there's the options there. We are in the middle of a pandemic. On one hand, you don't want to make any decisions about spending funds, and then on another, you want to. So I think we should have the same reference or in preference, about moving forward for the Commission and what's the best interest for the people right now because we don't know what we're going to have to do. We don't know what we're going to have to do for people who are struggling through this pandemic. We're going to be called in a lot of different areas. So let's consider that. What is the rush now? We've been waiting. And we've been operating just fine. So I just want you all to think about that.

Johnson: I guess I want to say one thing, first and foremost, I have nothing against Jeff Everson. But initially, I saw that there was a potential conflict of interest. The majority of my colleagues at the time thought that it was not a conflict of interest. Jeff entailed turned in a letter. I then said that our administration should turn in a letter based upon a non-biased approach because if I'm writing a letter for myself for employment, I'm going to write to the best of my interests to be hired. By doing so with the Parish Attorney turning in a letter too, there appeared to be a potential conflict of interest. It has nothing to do with him. It just has to do with that was a fact that they found. We at this same time came back and said, well we'll give him a chance to get that straightened out. If cannot get that straightened out, we will then look at Ms. Nations being the Clerk. I'm reading from the letter, and everyone should have already seen the letter—before you take a vote, see what the letter says. If that is not true, then I'm for it. Let's vote and get him in there. But if she holds that position as CEO or president, we still have a problem, and it is that simple. I'm not trying to stretch this out or anything. I just want to make sure that when we do

something, we do it right and we do it consistently. If this was another person that maybe did not come from the same circles that you guys operate in, then you know it would already been thrown out a long time ago on the first time because he was not eligible on the first time around because they saw that it was a potential conflict of interest. My point was, it should have stopped then. That process should have stopped at that point, but the majority said, let's continue with this process and give them an opportunity to clear that out. If can't clear it out, then we look at Ms. Nations. So all I'm saying is still is not cleared out because she does hold that position as CEO of Robinson's Rescue. I have nothing against Jeff Everson. We have been friends ever since I got into politics and even before, so it's not anything about him. It's about this process that we're doing that I think has many curves to it, instead of being straight. We pick and choose the things we want to interrogate, and ask for additional information additional information, and then some things we just go in and say okay, that's what we want. We have a circle of let's talk this out, let's do it this way. Y'all agree? Y'all agree? And when you get seven votes, that's it. But let's be consistent. That's all I'm saying. I don't care about his gender, his race, none of that. I don't care about it. All I want to make sure is we do it the right way, and what we're doing is not the right way because once we had that first letter come back and says that there was a potential conflict of interest, it should have stopped right then. We should have came up with another process.

Burrell: It's not a personality thing with me. Mr. Everson and I go back a long way, probably, in some ways, probably more so than some of you. That's not the issue. I don't know Ms. Nations that well other than the work I've seen her do. Let me tell you a good person in that position is a lifeline and person who will sacrifice at any time is total invaluable. My issues, Mr. President, is there two things in the years that I've been in politics that I've been very sensitive about. That is budget and personnel. Those are two most important thing that I've ever seen in government. Nearly 50% of this Commission was not involved in this process from the beginning. I think that it is very unfair to some of us, that we did not stop and start the process over again. Not to mention, whoever was involved in it because I don't have a dog in this fight, but I do understand the process—sitting out in the galley with Mr. Taliaferro, which we spent a lot of time out there in the galley not having any voice, but getting ready to come onto the Commission for the next four years. Some of the most important issues were set before we even got there and could have possibly have had some input and should have had some input. I've never been on a government agencies where I am a public official elect, and was not invited into the process to get—I may have not been able to vote, but at least provide some input. The Commission did not provide that for us, although I mentioned it a number of times before I became a Commissioner. I know these issues were very important as a Caddo Commissioner and gotten sworn-in, this issue of personnel was an issue then. There were about it—it really stunk that I did not particularly care about. That's why I brought up the issue as to whether or not we ever gotten certain things cleared up because these are no caveats in there that I don't feel comfortable being a part of and voting on but I do recognize too that you know once an agenda is set, then we can go back and sometimes and throw it out or modify it. But just remember 50% of this Commission was not involved in this. It was very controversial from the beginning. So, you know, the last thing I like to say about it, I think we should have done things that we did not do. You just said that you pushed an amendment to say if the issues got cleared up, his name will go forward and the other person would be knocked out. To me that was kind of an artificial thing to place in a personnel policy to exclude certain people. I didn't particularly like that and still got that stuck in my craw, but at the same time I'm willing to go along with the rest of you, but very reluctantly.

Epperson: In my nearly twenty-three years of being here, I've seen many Attorney General's opinions, as well as ethics opinions. For those of you who may have been awhile, you know the Police Jury Association sends them to us. So those are some things that we can be mindful of; we can emulate; or we can try to avoid. Secondly, and during all of those opinions, I've never seen anything like this. Mr. Johnson or Ms. Frazier, on the letter that was sent back, did it state the vote, and the names of the ethics board members and how they voted? I thought it showed one vote, but it didn't show all of the names. Do you have the letter before you?

Attorney
Frazier: I do not have the letter before me, Commissioner. I would have to retrieve a copy and take a look.

Epperson: Mr. Johnson, do you have it before you? I have never seen anything like this on my 23 years of being on the Commission. It appears as though they customized this position. I thought it was strange when we got the letter that the letter only stated—I forget what it was, that the yeas or the nays—

- Johnson: Commissioner Epperson, I have it in front of me. The Board concluded by a vote of seven to four, that Section 111C2D, there's no issue with your request provided the separate property agreement is approved by the court and remains in effect while you are employed by the Commission. Board members Lavista, Meredith, Robert, and Smith objected. So it only mentions the ones who objected, and not to mention.
- Epperson: It only mentioned the nays. I thought that was strange. In fact, I've called to try and get some information about that. Plus, all the while I've been on, I've never heard of anyone—if we wanted an Attorney General's opinion or an Ethics Board opinion, we always went through Legal.
- Jackson: We've been talking about this since January. Here we are going to the fifth month. It's as I said on Monday, we're not going to agree on everything. I think, you know, I applaud the individuals who are looking to make this into an issue but I don't understand why it is. I've known Ms. Nations for a long time, so you know, I find it funny that, on one hand we say that it shouldn't be about personality but we continue to make it about Ms. Nations or Ms. Nations being skipped over, but then we turn over and say, it shouldn't be about personality or gender deal, but then we turn it around and make it about a personality or gender deal. I just think that, you know, we went through a process. If I recall, if my memory serves me correct, it was Commissioner Johnson who actually called out the processes, and I second, every single one of them. In an effort to move that process along. There were opportunities to change it. Commissioner Chavez sought to make the change; Commissioner Louis Johnson sought to make the change; and a special meeting that was called by the then President Gage-Watts to make that to the process. All three of those times, it fell flat. It didn't go forward to make a change in the process. So to say that the process was flawed—to get in January to say that the process was flawed by some folks who objected to make any changes in December, it doesn't seem consistent to me. We have voted, and I agree, Commissioner Burrell, 50% of the body was not here when we chose Mr. Everson, but neither was 50% of the body here when we voted to adopt a budget. I get it but that's the nature of public policy.
- Burrell: I didn't like that either.
- Jackson: Commissioner Burrell, I'm not going to argue with you, what I'm going to say is there is a process in place, and if you want to change it, change it. That's the cards we have been dealt. You know, the governor when he's elected out all the boards and appointments—because state law says that they have to serve it to their term is finished. Then that governor, whoever that governor is, get to appoint those folks of his or her choosing. We're dealing with the cards that we have been dealt, with the decision that has been made. We've been moving that process forward. There as a motion that was carried forward, back in February, where they gave us a specific date to get a Board of Ethics decision. The Board of Ethics has rendered their decision, which came back favorable. It doesn't matter who voted for or against, it came back favorable. I'm just asking that we not drag this out any further and let's move on down the road. I want to end my comments by applauding Ms. Nations for her work. I know her as Bootz from her bartending days. I want to let you know that I don't think this is any reflection upon her, but at the time, all the individuals who met the criteria were allowed to apply and so nobody was arbitrary or capricious in leaving anybody out. I don't want people to think that we went forward with some malicious intent. The decision has been made. Let's move forward. Let's set the salary, and let's go on down the road. At some point, let's vote and move on.
- Taliaferro: Yes, I was in the galley along with a lot of the future Commissioners. You know, the question is did or did we not develop the process to select the Commission Clerk? And did we did we not vote on the results of that process? To my knowledge, Mr. Everson and his wife have been cleared and doesn't need to do anything else but file the proper disclosure forms. And from what I understand is that she's just the same as a W-2 employee with no voting rights within Robinson's Rescue. I believe the Ethics Board cleared them both. I believe Attorney Frazier could corroborate that. At this point, I'm just asked her to give us an opinion on what she believes all this has culminated to.
- Attorney
Frazier: Commissioner, there is no legal or ethical impediment that I am aware of to proceeding with this hire.
- Chavez: Before we vote, I want to inject my opinion on this, because I know a lot of people are watching this. My hats off to Ms. Nations. From the get go, I thought she was the most qualified person for the job. It may not have been that she had the right documentation to show that she has a college degree, however, she had the on-the-job training and the know how to accomplish the task at hand. However, back in December, when one of my colleagues placed a stipulation, it excluded her from being part of the qualified

candidates, which was disheartening to myself. However, as Commissioner Atkins eloquently stated, the process in which we picked the most qualified candidate at that time was Jeff Everson. I know a lot of people they look at it like this is either a Jeff or Michelle thing, but that's not the case. It was truly the most qualified candidate for the restrictions that we put on ourselves was Jeff Everson. I do understand and can relate that yes there was some things in place in regards to ethics opinions that Jeff did bring forward himself, just to question and make sure that he was the most qualified person for the job, not from our qualifications, but from his own ethics opinion that I want to make sure that I'm doing the best for Caddo Parish. I applaud him for doing that. After it was deemed that he is fully qualified both from our own stipulations and from the state board. He is truly the best qualified person for the job. Now, of course, we're five months down the road, and there's a lot of he-said-she-said stuff, but the facts still remain the same that he made it through our process. To say that it's unfair for Ms. Nations that a) she's a female or that she's doing the job. She was disqualified by the formal qualification requirements that were placed on the docket back in December. Now, I'm glad that my colleagues agreed with me that if Jeff Everson was not the qualified person via the ethics opinion that Ms. Nations would get to serve because I was excited to see her in the position. It has nothing to do with gender roles merely whose the most qualified person, and in my opinion, could do the job. Now I'm fairly certain that both Jeff Everson and Ms. Nations could do that job. To say that it's unfair to Ms. Nations, likewise, I believe it's unfair to Mr. Everson, who has been waiting diligently for almost six months trying to figure out what's going to happen with his own life. I'm with Commissioner Jackson that we're to the point now that it's time to follow through with the process that we deemed on ourselves on our own board that picked this back in December of 2019. Let's pick his salary and move one. I think if we have a win of both Ms. Nations and Mr. Everson, that's going to be a powerhouse team that we have working for Caddo Parish. I'm looking forward to that.

Burrell: What I want to know is, given where we are now and if I'm there for four years, unlike Councilman Bradford and got off after two—and I have given that some thought. But at the same time, issues like this would be addressed in the Personnel Committee because I see a couple of things coming into the commission form of government coming from the city and from the state that I would like to, not necessarily to challenge but to at least discuss. These types of issues, I assume would fall under your Personnel Committee. Okay, since you only assigned me finally one, being the NGO. I'm trying to think if I'm on anything else, but I'm pretty much at most of them, but I'll wait and sit in on this one where I may not be a member, but I can still have input.

Jackson: I will just say to Commissioner Burrell, I'm on that committee if you got some ideas, I'd be glad to get with you, bring them forward to the committee. I think, you know, you see some things that I've been seeing for four or five years now. It would be interesting once we put them into committee and put them before the body and how who votes where and how the chips fall.

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 5950 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE SALARY OF THE COMMISSION CLERK PURSUANT TO SECTION 3-10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER FOR CADDO PARISH, TO ADOPT A COMPENSATION SCHEDULE FOR THAT POSITION, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Section 3.10(B) of the Home Rule Charter provides that the Commission shall set the salary of the Clerk by ordinance.

WHEREAS, the Commission has appointed a new clerk by vote of the Commission on December 21, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Commission sought applicants for the position of Commission Clerk advertising that the compensation for the position was \$47.94 to \$77.60 per hour:

WHEREAS, there is a compensation schedule (Grade U09) for the position of Commission Clerk attached as Exhibit A;

WHEREAS, the Commission must, under Section 3.10(B) set the salary of the Commission Clerk;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the salary of the Commission Clerk be set at \$47.94 per hour;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission that the compensation schedule for the Commission Clerk's position be adopted in the form attached as Exhibit A;

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

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

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

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 5951 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to provide an appropriation for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be tabled.

Mr. Atkins said that this came out of the Economic Development Committee, but the event was cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if it was proper to table or remove this from the agenda.

Answering a question from Mr. Burrell regarding the event, Mr. Jackson said that they were working with the health fair for them, and it was cancelled. Mr. Cawthorne further explained that it has been postponed, not cancelled. He said that he will forward further details as they become available.

Answering a question from Mr. Chavez regarding the funding for this event in case it does not happen this year, Mrs. Barnett said that it would go back into the fund balance if the monies are not spent.

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked that this not be tabled, but removed from the agenda. Attorney Frazier explained that if it tabled, then it would need a two-thirds vote to take it off the table and bring it back before the body. If the Commission just removes it from the agenda, they could just add it to the agenda at the appropriate time. Mr. Taliaferro agreed.

Mr. Cawthorne said that the organization is looking to hold a conference in September, but all of the details have not been sketched out.

Mr. Atkins withdrew his motion.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Ordinance No. 5951 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to provide an appropriation for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., 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, 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 Ordinance No. 5952 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$8,489 to provide an appropriation for the Safe Summer program for funds remaining at December 31, 2019 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be postponed. 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. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 5953 of 2020, an ordinance to donate surplus property under Chapter 19, Article II, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances relative to Donation of Adjudicated Property acquired by the Parish under LA.R.S. 47:2236 et seq., to authorize the donation of property to Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation for a public purpose, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. 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).

ORDINANCE NO. 5953 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO DONATE SURPLUS PROPERTY UNDER CHAPTER 19, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 3 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO DONATION OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE PARISH UNDER LA.R.S. 47:2236 ET SEQ., TO AUTHORIZE THE DONATION OF PROPERTY TO NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO ADDRESS SUBSTANDARD HOUSING AND PROVIDE A BENEFIT TO LOW AND MODERATE INCOME RESIDENTS OF DISTRESSED AREAS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation applied under Section 19-51 of the Code of Ordinances to acquire certain property adjudicated to the Parish for unpaid property taxes;

WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation met the requirements to acquire those properties by donation;

WHEREAS, those properties had previously been adjudicated to the Parish for unpaid property taxes;

WHEREAS, pursuant to La.R.S. 47:2236, the Parish took full ownership interest in those properties;

WHEREAS, under Section 19-51, those properties are deemed surplus and not needed for a public purpose;

WHEREAS, Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation will use those properties to assist low and moderate income residents of distressed areas and specifically work to reduce or eliminate substandard and blighted structures in those areas which is an appropriate basis to donate public property; and

WHEREAS, the Parish is now ready to donate those properties to Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that, pursuant to La.R.S. 47:2236 and 2237, it does hereby donate, for the public purpose stated above to Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation the following property:

- a) The Northeasterly 95.0 feet of Lots 1 & 2, Doll & Jones Subdivision, TAL 24, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana (Geo. No. 181437-062-0020);
- b) The Southwesterly 30.0 feet of Lots 1 & 2, Doll & Jones Subdivision, TAL 24, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana (Geo. No. 181437-062-0019);
- c) A Lot in TAL 34, Corner of Sprague and Lawrence Streets being Tract 2 in City Plat 884, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana (Geo. No. 181437-092-0002); and
- d) Lots 24 & 25, Land Subdivision, TAL 24, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana (Geo. No. 181437-064-0024)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Parish Administrator or his designee is authorized to take all necessary actions to comply with the requirements of La.R.S. 47:2236-37 and this donation, subject to approval of the Parish Attorney of any documents or transactions.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications

which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

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

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

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 5954 of 2020, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. 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).

ORDINANCE NO. 5954 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF THE DEDICATION OF BEL-MAR DRIVE, IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, a request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive has been received by the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive and finds that portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive is no longer needed for Parish of Caddo public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive and finds that the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive in the Parish of Caddo be, and the same is hereby, closed and abandoned, and only to the extent, that said dedication was used as a public road; said portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive more specifically described as follows:

All that portion of the dedication for Bel-Mar Drive lying between Lots 4 through 22, inclusive, McCain Ridge Subdivision, a subdivision of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 700, Page 223 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as shown in hash marks on the attached plat marked Exhibit "A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance and plat marked Exhibit "A", displaying the portion of the dedication of Bel-Mar Drive to be closed and abandoned, shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the property described hereinabove shall revert to the adjoining property owners or their successors, heirs or assigns subject to the reservation of rights of passage for other property owners, or to their successors, heirs or assigns having property contiguous to the property described hereinabove, said reservation of rights running with the land.

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 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.

ORDINANCES (introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 5956 of 2020, an ordinance authorizing an expenditure for the Reserve Trust Fund for the year 2020 to provide LSUHSC an appropriation of up to \$175,000 to perform COVID-19 testing and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5957 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund to provide an appropriation for Project Grace and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5958 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund to provide an appropriation for Southern University and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *to \$175,000 to perform COVID 19 testing and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that the Work Session Minutes from May 4, 2020 be approved.* Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

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

- *Resolution No. 29 of 2020, a resolution proclaiming April 25, 2020 as Abdul Diabetes Walk Day in Caddo Parish*
- *Resolution No. 30 of 2020, a resolution proclaiming June 3, 2020 as Prince Hall Jubilee Day in Caddo Parish*

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).

RESOLUTION NO. 29 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 25, 2020 AS ABDUHL
DIABETES WALK DAY IN CADDO PARISH

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 is the local Prince Hall Shriners organization; and

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 is very active within Caddo Parish and the Shreveport community, partnering with the National Diabetes Institution, among other organizations, to serve the citizens of the area.

WHEREAS, diabetes, types 1 and 2 as well as gestational diabetes, affects over 26 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is a devastating disease of which Type 2 diabetes accounts for 90% of all diabetes diagnoses and can be prevented or delayed; and

WHEREAS, early detection and disease management can help prevent complications of diabetes, including cardiovascular disease, blindness, nervous system damage and kidney failure, and

WHEREAS, improving awareness about diabetes, including its prevention, detection, and treatment can greatly improve the lives of all citizens while improving the lives of those affected by diabetes; and

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 hosts an Annual Diabetes Walk to promote awareness and raise funds for the fight against diabetes; and

WHEREAS, this walk was scheduled to take place on April 25, 2020 but will need to be rescheduled due to the COVID19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 7th day of May, 2020 that it does hereby proclaim April 25, 2020 as:

'ABDUHL DIABETES WALK DAY'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION NO. 30 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JUNE 3, 2020 AS PRINCE HALL
JUBILEE DAY IN CADDO PARISH

WHEREAS, June 3rd of each year is designated as Prince Hall Shriners' Jubilee Day, and marks the anniversary of the date that the U.S. Supreme Court granted Shriners of color the right to practice their ritualistic activities; and

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 is the local Prince Hall Shriners organization; and

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 is very active within Caddo Parish and the Shreveport community, partnering with the National Diabetes Institution, 81st Street ECE Center, Providence House and other organizations to serve the citizens of the area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 7th day of May 2020 that it does hereby proclaim June 3, 2020 as:

'PRINCE HALL JUBILEE DAY'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

OLD BUSINESS

The Commission then moved onto the next Old Business item, *to confirm appointment to the Quadrennial Charter Review Committee (1 to be selected):*

1. Ken Krefft
2. Rudy Morton
3. Joyce W. Rogers
4. Dr. Melva Kristi Turner-Williams
5. Ryan Williams

Ken Krefft received six AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6).

Rudy Morton received two AYES: Commissioners Burrell and Jackson (2).

Joyce W. Rogers received two AYES: Commissioners Epperson and Gage-Watts (2).

Dr. Melva Kristi Turner-Williams received one AYE: Commissioner Johnson (1).

Ryan Williams received one AYE: Commissioner Cawthorne (1).

The Deputy Clerk announced that no one candidate received seven ayes. Attorney Frazier explained that the Commission sets their own rules regarding appointing people. She did not hear the Commission state that the candidate had to receive seven votes to be appointed to the Committee. Mr. Johnson pointed out that six ayes is not the majority of votes because they would need 50% plus one, which would be seven.

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that another round of votes be taken, and if there is a tie, the candidate who received the most votes in the prior round receives the appointment.*

Mr. Burrell pointed out that would seem like an automatic reassurance. Mr. Johnson agreed with Mr. Burrell.

Mr. Young suggested incorporating a coin toss by the Deputy Clerk at this time.

Mr. Hopkins explained that the Commission is only required by a seven vote for ordinances and resolutions. He also said that the majority has been found.

At this time, Mr. Ken Krefft was appointed to the Quadrennial Charter Review Committee.

At this time, the Commission moved onto the next Old Business item, *Confirm Appointments to the Complete Count Census Committee.*

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to confirm Pat Harwell, Omari Ho-Sang, Jacqueline Paul, Sheila Rynders, Debra Seamster, Clifton Starks, Cammie Wright, and Jean Woods to the Complete Count Census Committee. 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).

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that the confirmation of the Zoning Board of Appeals appointment be postponed to the next Regular Session.*

Friendly amendment by Mr. Young *to include Mr. Alan Berry and Mr. Huey Horn for consideration for the ZBA appointment. Mr. Johnson accepted.*

Mr. Atkins pointed out that Mr. Berry has been on the board for twelve year and was chair for two. He suggested that maybe it's time for fresh blood on the board.

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried as amended, 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).

COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mrs. Gage-Watts asked that Administration look into the email that she sent regarding the potholes in the street.

She asked that Administration provide a link on the website regarding resources available for their children being out of school.

She also reminded everyone that this month is Mental Health Awareness Month. She also offered prayers to Councilman Flurry and his family during this time. She also thanked the nurses and teachers for all of their hard work during this time.

Mrs. Gage-Watts reminded the public that "we are not out of the woods yet". She asked that everyone practice social distancing and wear their masks when they are out in public.

She also wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

- Mr. Hopkins announced that the Personnel Policies & Procedures will meet on Monday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m.
- Mr. Burrell also offered prayers and support for Councilman Flurry during his battle with cancer.

He also said that the coronavirus is not over, and he would like to get a mobile testing site in his district that is centrally located.

- Mr. Taliaferro thanked City Councilman Boucher and Nickleson for providing him with information on where to send surplus masks.
- Mr. Jackson thanked Administration, Tim Weaver, Krystle Beauchamp, and all who were involved in making the mobile testing sites successful. He also said that there is another site scheduled for the MLK area this Saturday. Mr. Jackson also said that there was a meeting today for additional sites. He also mentioned that he is not the point person to schedule those testing sites, but asked that Administration provide the Commissioners with the contact information to who does. He pointed out that there is only one van for the entire Parish.

Mr. Jackson also requested that Administration prepare a document regarding the parish-wide costs due to COVID-19. He mentioned that the State is expected to split \$810M. He believes that it will be all expenses being reimbursed. He pointed out that there is a FEMA pot of money that can be reimbursed up to 90% as well as this pot of money. He encouraged Administration to track every penny and every dollar.

He also wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

- Mr. Burrell requested data regarding the success of the mobile testing. Mr. Jackson explained that it may be too early to provide that report. He also explained that initially, there will be more negatives than positives. He also said that a Super Shedder has been discovered. He said that those individuals are asymptomatic and have the ability to infect people at a very high rate. Mr. Jackson also said that the testing sites for the Cedar Grove, MLK, and other areas have been well attended. Mr. Jackson advised Mr. Burrell that will talk with him more offline to discuss this further.
- Mr. Epperson thanked Attorney Frazier for the reminder of the financial disclosure statements, which were due May 15. He also complimented the Commission for their decorum during the zoom meetings.

There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Mario Chavez
President

Michelle Nations
Deputy Commission Clerk