

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 20th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 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, Taliaferro, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Lazarus (1).

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

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *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, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Epperson (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Lazarus (1). 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 158JBE 2020 and Number 159 JBE 2020; and

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

THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 42:17.1, the presiding officer of the CaddoParish 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 arecritical to the health, safety, or welfare of the public.
- (b) that if they are delayed will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economicdislocation 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 shouldnot be delayed;*

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

Date: September 17, 2021

/s/Lyndon B. Johnson
Commission President

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Ordinance No. 6112 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Caddo Parish Juvenile Court, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to englobo and move the following ordinances to Thursday's agenda for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. 6112 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Caddo Parish Juvenile Court, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6113 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for*

Volunteers for Youth Justice for truancy, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 6114 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation of up to \$30,000 for Red G Enterprises, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, Mr. Johnson's substitute 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: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 6115 of 2021, an ordinance to enact Sections 32-115—32-118 of the Code of Ordinances of Caddo Parish relative to Curfews, to provide for a curfew for persons under 18 years of age, to provide for penalties for violation of said curfew, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Hopkins wanted to know what the penalties are. Mr. Johnson said that the first offense is \$250 fine, and any offense after that would be up to \$500, and the curfew is set for 11:00 PM.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know where the juveniles will be held. Mr. Johnson said that the City normally takes them to the Rutherford House. If the Parish would like to take them there, then an agreement would need to be drafted.

Mr. Young wanted to know what happens to the parents if they cannot afford the fines. Mr. Johnson said that there are alternate scenarios, such as community service or jail time for the parents. Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know if there would be any provisions for the minors who are gainfully employed. Mr. Johnson said that is one of the exceptions.

At this time, Mr. Johnson'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: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Resolution No. 69 of 2021, a resolution to provide an annual certification to the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development in accordance with the Off-System Bridge Replacement Program, 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, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (11).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Resolution No. 70 of 2021, a resolution urging and requesting law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction in Caddo Parish to enforce laws regarding teen curfews, including, but not limited to LA.R.S. 32:416.1, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Atkins asked for clarification for this resolution. Mr. Johnson explained that this is a state statute and prohibits juveniles from driving from 11:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. He also said that there are exceptions, such as employment, being in the car with an adult/guardian, etc.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if this was a mandate or a requirement. Attorney Frazier said that this resolution is to encourage law enforcement to enforce the statute. She also explained that the officer has the discretion to whether or not they want to enforce it. Mr. Jackson wanted to know if this is in the name of public safety. Mr. Johnson said that it is.

Mr. Chavez requested that local law enforcement be present at Thursday's Regular Session to get their input on this resolution. Dr. Wilson said that they will attempt to ask any questions and inform the Commission. He also pointed out that there is a shortage with law enforcement officers, both with the Sheriff's Office and Shreveport Police Department.

Mr. Hopkins said that he supports both the ordinance and resolution, but would like to have a further discussion on where to bring the juveniles who are in violation. He gave an example of deputy picking up a juvenile in Ida or Keithville and bringing them all the way to Shreveport, especially since there is a shortage with the deputies right now.

Mr. Young agreed that every law that is passed can be phrased as a mandate. He also said that this resolution requests a high level of service, especially since the law enforcement offices are understaffed. He also suggested re-examining property taxes or increasing taxes to get those staff levels higher.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that the public is begging for the Commission's help with regards to the recent events in the community. She further explained that this is asking law enforcement officers to enforce a law that is already on the books.

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if the City has a curfew law. Attorney Frazier said that they do. Mr. Epperson said that the majority of the juvenile problems are coming from the urban areas.

Mr. Johnson explained that he put this resolution on the agenda because there is already a driving curfew on the books, and this resolution is asking law enforcement to enforce this law.

At this time, Mr. Johnson'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: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that the following recommendations from the September 7, 2021 Alcoholic Beverage Committee be moved to Thursday's Regular Session:*

Daiquiri Express	Second Offense	\$500 fine	(District 2)
General Store	Second Offense	\$500 fine	(District 11)
Stonewall Beverage Company	Third Offense	\$1,000 fine	(District 11)
Lickskillet Liquor	First Offense	\$250 fine	(District 12)
Lickskillet Liquor	Second Offense	\$250 fine	(District 12)
Lickskillet Liquor	Third Offense	\$1,000 fine	(District 12)

At this time, Mr. Hopkins' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Epperson (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Dr. Wilson said that 7,892 applicants have been served under this program. He also mentioned that there is no waiting period for any of the assistance, as long as all the documentation is completed properly. He also said that over \$15M have been dispensed through this program.

Dr. Wilson also said NACo mentioned that Caddo Parish is one of four counties to dispense over 90% of ERAP funds. Mr. Jackson pointed out that NACo is facilitating this, but it is the USDA who is one of the largest departments to administer housing and rental assistance.

Mr. Young commended Finance and Administration for their hard work on the ERAP program. Mr. Jackson agreed and applauded the collaborative efforts with Mrs. Barnett, Mrs. Bryant, and Dr. Wilson.

- Juvenile Detention Center

Dr. Wilson said there are currently seventeen juveniles in the detention center, three of which are OJJ and six seventeen-year olds. There are also ten juveniles at Caddo Correctional Center.

- August Financials

Dr. Wilson said that the August Financials are attached to the agenda, as well as a hard copy in each Commissioner's box.

- COVID Cases

Dr. Wilson said there were no positive COVID cases in Administration. There were 3 positive cases and 3 exposures in Animal Services. There was 1 positive case in the Commission Clerk's Office. There were 8 positive cases and 1 exposure in Facilities & Maintenance, with 1 death. There were 2 positive cases and 1 exposure in Finance. There were no positive cases in HR. There were 3 positive cases and 4 exposures in Juvenile Services. There were no positive cases in Parks & Recreation. There were 3 positive cases and 4 exposures in Public Works. There were 2 exposures with the Summer Work Program.

COMMUNIQES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Jackson wanted to know if there was a timeline to meet in person. Mr. Johnson said that it depends on the number of COVID cases. He said that there are still COVID cases in the organization. Mr. Jackson agreed on the safety aspects, but feels that it is hurting their ability to address some items on the agenda, especially those items with deadlines.

Mr. Jackson then talked about today's Economic Development Committee meeting regarding the Amazon TIF. He said that there were very little questions regarding the TIF. He asked that the Commissioners work together and have discussions on all issues.

He also wanted to know if the information for the ARP has been submitted. Mrs. Bryant

said that the reporting requirement was adjusted due to the census, but that information has been provided to the U.S. Treasury. Mr. Jackson asked for a copy of this.

- Mr. Young also asked that the Commissioners to appoint a representative to the Juvenile Services Citizens Advisory Board. He also asked that the Commissioners review how to raise the Juvenile Services millage to provide more services to the juveniles.

- Mr. Cawthorne also congratulated the staff on the ERAP program. He would like to see this in as many periodicals as possible.

He also talked about the Economic Development Committee. He said that it was a productive conversation and many concerns and questions were answered to help move the process down the road.

- Mr. Atkins also talked about the Economic Development Committee. He said that it is important to get input from a number of people when working through an important decision.

- Mrs. Gage-Watts said that the recommended appointments for the Juvenile Justice Citizens Advisory Board are on hold due to the requirements of the teleconference agenda.

She also asked Mrs. Bryant how much would the millage need to be increased to bring the Parish up to date. Mrs. Bryant said there is a \$4M deficit in the Juvenile Services Fund. Ideally, they would like to pass a millage of 4 or 5 mills, but not more than 5 mills. She said that could bring in \$6M-\$7M. It would not eliminate the deficit, but would help out tremendously. Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know how much that would cost a citizen who has a \$200k home. Mrs. Bryant said that it would be approximately \$60 per year.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance No. 6083 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case No. 21-13-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 Flournoy Lucas Road, approximately five hundred fifteen feet west of Winderweedle Road, 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*
- *Ordinance No. 6102 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case 21-27-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 Ellerbe Road at the end of Redrick 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 No. 6103 of 2021, an ordinance creating the "Amazon TIF District, State of Louisiana"; defining the boundaries thereof from which area local sales tax, property tax, and hotel & occupancy tax increments will be determined and used to finance economic development projects in accordance with and as authorized by Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing*
- *Ordinance No. 6104 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budgets of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Building Maintenance Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, General Fund, Parks & Recreation Fund, Oil & Gas Fund, Public Works Fund, Detention Facilities Fund, Juvenile Justice Fund, Riverboat Fund, and the Solid Waste Fund for the year 2021 to terminate completed or lapsed capital projects, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6105 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund for the year 2021 to appropriate Emergency Rental Assistance Program from the State of Louisiana, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6106 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust fund for the year 2021 to reduce the budget for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program 2, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6107 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation of up to \$30,000 for the Martin Luther King Homeowners Association, and to otherwise*

provide with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 6108 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Parks & Recreation Fund to appropriate No Kid Hungry Grant proceeds in the amount of \$49,925, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6110 of 2021, an ordinance amending Sections 8-8 to expand training opportunities for Animal Control Officers*
- *Resolution No. 64 of 2021, a resolution requesting the Registrar of Voters and Caddo Parish Administrator to take all necessary action to add an early voting location at the Shreve Memorial Hamilton Library, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

At this time, there was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the Commission adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

/s/Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk