

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION  
HELD ON THE 17th DAY OF APRIL, 2023

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:32 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Burrell, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1).

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

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Public comment by Jon Glover came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

**VISITORS**

- 4-H Presentation- Students and Katherine Pace, 4-H Youth Development and Caddo Parish Chair

Student Aubrey Everett, Louisiana 4-H Citizenship Board, discussed the 4-H service line focus and its activities. Student Ava Richardson, LA 4-H Parliamentarian and Co-President Caddo Magnet High 4-H Club, discussed 4-H activities. Student Noah Trinkle, Caddo 4-H Secretary and Vice President Caddo Magnet High 4-H Club, discussed the growth of 4-H Club and activities of the 4-H Club. Mrs. Katherine Pace discussed the grade range of 4-H Club membership, the growth of 4-H Clubs in local schools. Mrs. Pace invited the Commission to contact her for the Caddo Tech Changemakers teens to teach underserved populations job readiness and technology skills. Student Elijah introduced his participation in 4-H as a homeschooled student. Mr. Epperson introduced Student Commissioner for A Day event. Student Aubrey Everett announced that the 4-H has an Earth Day event at Caddo Magnet High School on Saturday from 4 pm to 6 pm.

- Visit from Shreveport Citizens United to Talk About Their Crime Prevention Mission

Mr. Jerome Cox and Mr. Mike Britton discussed the concept and mission of Shreveport Citizens United Mission. Mr. Cox and Mr. Britton discussed their collaboration approaches in the Shreveport community. Mr. Britton indicated how their personal experiences brought them to their crime prevention mission. Mr. Cox asked the Commission to support their mission by endorsement. Mr. Britton invited the Commission to visit [shrevecu.org](http://shrevecu.org) to register as an endorser of the Shreveport Citizens United Mission. Mr. Britton discussed unifying Shreveport. Mr. Britton invited the Commission to their next an open forum meeting located at Byrd High School on Tuesday at 6 pm.

**REPORTS**

- Dr. Wilson reported that one of the two Gumbo Grant recipients had to reschedule. Mr. Ronnie Colvin, Comcast Senior Director External Affairs, discussed the GUMBO grant award, progress on the service project in the Parish, and Comcast's community outreach activities. Mr. Hopkins requested a service map of the project. Mr. Burrell requested that a copy of the service map be provided to Administration and the Commission Clerk. Mr. Chavez requested that a digital map of the service locations be provided. Mr. Colvin acknowledged that there are digital and paper maps available to be provided. Mr. Colvin indicated that there would be additional rounds of the Gumbo Grant.
- Dr. Wilson reported on the juvenile population, recent covid cases, the march financial report, and the Student Commissioner for A Day program. Mr. Johnson, Dr. Wilson, and Juvenile Services Director Clay Walker further reviewed the population of juveniles and the location that juveniles are held. There was some discussion about the juveniles at the CCC and the issues with staffing, space and fight mitigation between juveniles. There was some discussion on the causes of the issues with juveniles at the CCC. Mrs. Gage-Watts indicated that she would send her NACo Committee notes regarding juveniles to Dr. Wilson.

**COMMISSION REMARKS**

- Mr. Burrell suggested that Communications provide a warning about end of school year violence, which Dr. Wilson suggested that the Pulse of the Parish could include juveniles' issues and seasonal juvenile crime.

**NEW BUSINESS**

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and advance the following items:*

- *Introduction of Ordinance 6322 Of 2023 Related To PZC/MPC Case # 23-1-CTAP, an ordinance to amend volume II of the code of ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, relative to wireless telecommunications, with all their provisions included herein, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Introduction of Ordinance No 6323 Of 2023, Related To PZC/MPC Case #23-2-CTAP, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, relative to data centers, with all their provisions included herein, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Introduction of Ordinance No 6324 Of 2023, Related To PZC/MPC Case #23-3-CTAP, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, relative to surfacing requirements for parking lots, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Introduction of Ordinance 6325 Of 2023 Related To PZC/MPC Case # 23-5-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 western corner of Colquitt Road and Jersey Gold Road, Caddo Parish, LA., from R-A Rural-Agricultural Zoning District to C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*

Mr. Jackson requested MPC Director Mr. Alan Clark to provide a brief summary about the zoning cases.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 6326 of 2023, an ordinance amending the 2023 Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Oil and Gas Fund and the Riverboat Fund to appropriate funds for Safe Summer* be advanced to Thursday.

Mr. Burrell and Mrs. Gage-Watts requested to be listed as sponsors for Ordinance No. 6326 of 2023.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Resolution No. 20 of 2023, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Legislature, Governor, and Secretary of State to implement hand-marked paper ballots, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Epperson suggested that Resolution No. 20 of 2023 be discussed with the Secretary of State and the Registrar of Voters. Mr. Johnson indicated that ballot boxes were paper votes which the Commission had voted down. Mrs. Gage-Watts suggested that the Parish support the purchase of new machines. Mr. Atkins indicated that the Clerk of Court Mr. Mike Spence had recommended using both voting systems with paper as a back-up system to the Louisiana Secretary of State. Mr. Jackson requested that the resolution be amended towards inclusiveness.

**Substitute motion by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to remand Resolution No. 20 of 2023 to the Long Range Planning Committee.*

Mr. Epperson indicated that the resolution should have been sent through a committee first. Mr. Hopkins suggested remanding the resolution to a different committee.

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

At this time, Mr. Chavez's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Johnson (5). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, to englobe and advance the following items, and that *Visit from Winnifred Jackson Day* be removed from the agenda:

- *Advance Resolution No. 21 of 2023, a resolution to authorize the acceptance of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire*
- *Advance Special Resolution Recognizing May as Asian American, Native Hawaiian And Pacific Island Heritage Month*
- *Advance A Special Resolution Recognizing April As Fair Housing Month*
- *Advance Special Resolution for Public Service Recognition Week*
- *Advance Special Resolution Recognizing Christopher Coe*
- *Advance Special Resolution Recognizing The 75th Anniversary of The Air Force Reserve*
- *Advance Special Resolution Proclaiming Geneva Moore Day*
- *Advance the Appointment of Mrs. Erica R. Bryant As Caddo Parish Administrator Effective Immediately Upon the Retirement of Dr. Woodrow Wilson, Jr., Salary to Be Determined by July 14, 202*
- *Advance County Government Month and Student Commissioner for A Day*

Mr. Atkins indicated that the Special Resolution Recognizing The 75th Anniversary of The Air Force Reserve would be presented in June. Mr. Epperson requested to be a sponsor for the special resolution.

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

#### **CITIZENS COMMENTS (late arrivals)**

Public comment by Candy Peavey regarding voting systems.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- *Ordinance No. 6318 of 2023, an ordinance to amend Chapter 6 and enact 6-1 ET, Seq. regarding temporary uses, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6319 of 2023, ordinance amending the 2023 Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to appropriate \$60,000 to a Grab and Go Feeding Program through Caddo Parks and Recreation*
- *Ordinance No. 6320 of 2023, an ordinance to authorize and levy a fee for each service or transaction of the Shreveport Field Office of the Office Of Motor Vehicles (OMV) – Department Of Public Safety And Corrections in the amount of \$4.50 per service or transaction, except for the procurement or renewal of motor vehicle registration; authorizing the Caddo Parish Administrator, to enter into an agreement with the Department Of Public Safety And Corrections; and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Ordinance No. 6321 of 2023, an ordinance amending Ordinance 6014 of 2020 which provided an appropriation of \$750,000 for the construction and improvement of Greenwood water lines, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

/s/ Linda J. Montgomery  
Linda J. Montgomery  
Administrative Specialist I