

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 15th DAY OF APRIL, 2024

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. John Paul Young, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

Mr. Jones gave the invocation, and Mr. G. Young led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no Agenda Additions, so the Commission moved onto Citizens Comments.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

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

As I walked through your Work Session agenda these past couple of days, I did indeed have some concerns—some things that I wanted and did reach out to some of you all to address. I'm asking that you indeed will address. You know, each time I come before any venue, sharing my perspective on legislation and asking for clarity—I am apprehensive sometimes—I don't know how I will be received, but can almost tell how I will be received because I can look at that—you know, the bases. You know, it's not easy trying to do where you never had an opportunity to do, which was to be that citizen that became aware of what was going on in their Parish, in their City, even their school system, but I took it upon myself to do just that. So when I read the legislation, and I read 10.2. I remember the passion that District 2 member share with all of us as to how he felt about this piece of legislation. Even when I went beyond that, I saw the legislation that talked about advancing consideration for resolutions 22 and 23. I was so elated. I was so elated because at the last meeting I was here, I sat for almost two hours and we didn't do any business of the Parish. We just went through, but we didn't do any business. It was after I left that the business was done, but you can imagine if me sitting here for a particular purpose, you know, not the resolutions or whatever, but just to hear the business of the Parish—that's what I want to hear. That's what I want to be met with. You know, when I looked at the legislation that talked about Vision Zero, and I'm thinking what is Vision Zero, but I read that legislation and I looked at what Sweden did in 1997. But what will that legislation do to impact us here in Caddo Parish? See, those are the things I look at when I look at your legislation, I began to ponder and wonder why this particular legislation, even the legislation that's asking the State to declare a State of Emergency for gun violence—I'm asking why because the Parish is not in peril; it's the City of Shreveport that's in peril. Yes, it is part of the parish, but it's not the Parish, so we have to be cognizant of what we're doing—how we're doing what we do, and then making sure that whatever our decisions are that they are indeed about those citizens of the Parish of Caddo. Thank you.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Intergovernmental Meeting—June 21, 2024

Mrs. Bryant announced that the Intergovernmental meeting will be held on June 21, 2024.

- Juvenile Detention

Mrs. Bryant said that there are nineteen children in the Detention Center; eight of which are OJJ. There are two 17-year olds, and fourteen children at CCC. There are 585 children on probation.

Mr. Cothran asked about the children adjudicated to OJJ. Mr. Andrew Randall, Director of Juvenile Services, mentioned that the judges have ordered officials from OJJ to appear in court tomorrow and give an explanation as to why these children have not moved.

- Dr. Ken Ward

Mrs. Bryant announced that Assistant Public Works Director, Dr. Ken Ward, has accepted a position as Bossier Parish Assistant Administrator and will be leaving in May. She thanked him for all his service to Caddo Parish.

- Ronnie Colvin—Comcast

Mr. Colvin introduced himself to the Commission and gave an update on the Gumbeaux Grant. He said that it is about 300 miles of infrastructure that they are building to provide internet to rural areas. They are about 25% of the way done and should be complete by Fall of 2025. The communities that this project will be reaching is Mooringsport, Oil City, Vivian, Rodessa, Ida, Belcher, Blanchard, and Gilliam.

Mr. Atkins thanked Mr. Colvin for his update and appreciates everything they are doing to provide internet to the rural areas.

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if Xfinity was under Comcast. Mr. Colvin said that it is. Mr. Epperson then wanted to know if Comcast was still going to participate in the subsidized internet. Mr. Colvin

said that Comcast will still off the \$9.95 monthly internet for low-to-moderate income households.

Mr. J. Young thanked Mr. Colvin for coming today and providing an update and asked that he provide a summary to the Clerk of the Commission.

- March, 2024 Financial Statements

Mrs. Bryant advised that the March 2024 financial statements are attached to the agenda, as well as being placed at each Commissioner's desk.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mrs. Gage-Watts pointed out that the meeting in July is set later in the month and may conflict with those persons who are attending NACo. The Clerk of the Commission explained that is because the earlier available date for the Regular Session is a holiday. He also mentioned that the meeting could be rescheduled via a resolution.

- Mr. Epperson gave the news of the passing of Harry W. Thomas who was laid to rest this past Saturday. Mr. Thomas was the first African-American journalist at the Shreveport Times.

Mr. Epperson announced that April 18 is National Line Workers Appreciation Day. He also said that Veterans Celebration Committee will meet on April 17 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Epperson has also received several complaints regarding emails being kicked back. He wanted to know if they were using .gov or .org. Mrs. Bryant said that people can email either address, and he should receive those emails.

- Mr. Thomas invited everyone to visit the Caddo Common Park on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. for the plant swap.

- Mr. J. Young said that the Economic Development Committee met today and will be forwarding a resolution to the full body to set a minimum wage for \$15 per hour for Parish employees. The estimated cost annually would be about \$85,000 and would take effect in 2025.

The Economic Development Committee also voted to send to the full body an ordinance to appropriate \$15,000 to the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, who is hosting a conference at the Convention Center with several different initiatives, such as reading to children, mentoring children, mental health initiative, etc. The economic impact is about \$26,000 of tax revenue.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. J. Young addressed Ms. Glover's comments. He explained that Vision Zero is an international mission that sets a goal for the communities to reduce their traffic injuries and fatalities to zero, specifically pedestrian injuries.

Mr. J. Young said that he and Mr. Thomas share a street that is a boundary between the two districts, which is the southern edge of Centenary College. He said that this street is dangerous for pedestrians and the college students walking about campus.

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 6403 of 2024, 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 the creation of a new use to allow storage facility structures in residential district, as well as identifying how certain nonconforming lots can exist without the need for a variance, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Cothran**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Ordinance No. 6417 of 2024, 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 east side of David Raines Road of Audrey Lane, approximately 530' north of 7th Street, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A, Rural Agricultural Zoning District to R-1-7, Single-Family Residential Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. G. Young explained that this is on the agenda to move this item forward for consideration. Mr. Cothran asked if he supported it. Mr. G. Young said that he is in support of moving it further for consideration.

At this time, Mr. Cothran's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Ordinance No. 6425 of 2024, 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 short-term rentals, with all their provisions included herein, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. J. Young explained that the Parish has a permitting scheme for short-term rentals. They are allowed with permission, not by right. Mr. J. Young then talked about an incident involving tenants at an Airbnb who opened fire on the house and stray bullets went into a neighbor's house. He feels that the short-term permit should have been suspended or revoked in this instance. Mr. J. Young said that the Parish has a permitting scheme for short-term rentals, but not enforcement capacity of any kind.

Mr. Kracman asked what does a shooter look like? What does a target look like? Unless we can define that, I don't like it as written, he said. Mr. Kracman said that this resolution will open the Parish up for a discrimination lawsuit.

Mr. Jones understands Mr. Kracman's concerns, but he has to send a headshot of what he looks like when he rents Airbnb's. He said that this resolution is asking people to take more accountability for their property. He also pointed out that there is a rating process on Airbnb's where the guests can rate the property owners, and the property owners can rate the guests.

Substitute motion by Mr. Kracman, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that Ordinance No. 6425 of 2024, 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 short-term rentals, with all their provisions included herein, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be remanded to the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. Kracman reiterated that the resolution as written would open the Parish up for a discrimination lawsuit. He feels that this needs to be vetted further.

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed that this should go to committee for further discussions.

Mrs. Blake wanted to know why this was denied by the PZC. Mr. Alan Clarke said that the PZC went into a long discussion about whether or not they want to be involved in this. He feels that this is government imposing itself on just one entity and not the whole scheme of short-term/transient type facilities. Mr. Clarke also said that the Airbnb hosts cannot predict how people are going to act, whether lawful or lawless. Mrs. Blake understood and said that there is already an ordinance in place for no parties after 10:00 p.m. Mr. Clarke agreed and said that this particular situation is still currently under investigation.

Mr. J. Young stated that Mr. Clarke asked the Commission to pass the rule allowing short-term rentals last year. Mr. Clarke agreed. Mr. J. Young then wanted to know if Mr. Clarke felt that it was "government overreach" for the City to pass an ordinance regarding short-term rentals. Mr. Clarke said that it was not. Mr. J. Young then wanted to know if Mr. Clarke considered it government overreach to grant permission of a short-term rental to operate as a business in a residential area. Mr. Clarke explained that it is allowed, but has to go through a process.

Mr. J. Young then said that Mr. Clarke requested the Commission to pass a permitting scheme for short-term rentals because there might be something like loud parties. He wanted to know what would the MPC do if there was a loud party. Mr. Clarke said that they would cite the owner. Mr. J. Young then wanted to know if they cited the owner in this particular incident. Mr. Clarke said that they did not because they did not break any rules.

Attorney Frazier pointed out that the Commission has 90 days to act on this legislation.

Call for the Question by Mr. Cothran, seconded by Mrs. Blake. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Kracman's substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Cothran**, seconded by Mr. Kracman, *that Ordinance No. 6426 of 2024, 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 1,000' east of Linwood Avenue and McCarey Street Intersection, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A, Rural Agricultural Zoning District to I-2, Heavy Industrial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Cothran wanted to know the difference between I-1 and I-2. Mr. Clarke explained that part of this property is in the City, and part is in the Parish. The City's recommendation is to change the zoning to heavy commercial, C-4, not heavy industrial.

Amendment by Mr. J. Young, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that the ordinance be amended to reflect the zoning change to change to C-4 to mirror the City of Shreveport's ordinance.*

At this time, Mr. Cothran's amendment carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Blake and Burrell (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 6427 of 2024, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of Quail Lane and to release the utility servitudes in Tract 1 of the Grawood Estates, Unit No. 4 Subdivision, located in Section 23, Township 16 North Range 15 West, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell and Epperson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 6428 of 2024, an ordinance declaring the intent of the Parish under LA.R.S. 47:2236 to acquire full ownership interest in four parcels of property identified by Caddo Parish Tax Assessor's geographic numbers 171306-073-0098-00, 171306-090-0018-00, 171423-024-0039-00, and 181426-058-0007-00 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Cothran**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Resolution No. 20 of 2024, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Lease #22192 from Cypress Energy Partners, LLC, to Exco Operating Company, LP, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for consideration. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell and Epperson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Kracman**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Resolution No. 21 of 2024, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administration to consent to the annexation by the Town of Blanchard of a certain right-of-way within the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for consideration. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Giles, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Kracman**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Resolution No. 22 of 2024, a resolution amending the Rules & By-laws of the Caddo Parish Commission regarding the submission of Special Resolutions by Commissioners, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for consideration.

Mr. Kracman explained that this resolution is not taking away Special Resolutions, but adding it to the bottom of the agenda.

Mr. Thomas gave the following comment regarding Resolution No. 22 of 2024:

Dear Colleagues, Parish Staff, and Citizens,

I write to express my firm opposition to Resolutions 22 and 23 of 2024. These resolutions, seemingly addressing procedural adjustments within the Caddo Parish Commission, warrant careful consideration due to their potential impact on our community's values of representation, accountability, and advocacy.

While I value the importance of efficient governance and the need for periodic review of our processes, I believe these resolutions, as currently proposed, sets a dangerous precedent and erodes the principles of accountability and democratic representation upon which our commission operates and raises concerns about potential loopholes and ambiguity that could be exploited in the future.

Furthermore, these resolutions hold considerable significance in recognizing and honoring the contributions and achievements of many people of color within our parish. Historically marginalized, the acknowledgment of their experiences is pivotal to rectifying past injustices and ensuring equitable representation within our public records, which is integral to the very essence of our parish's identity and progress.

The dismissal of these resolutions as irrelevant to our "real business" is concerning and underscores a misunderstanding of our role as public servants. The people we serve are at the core of our responsibilities, and their voices, experiences, and contributions shape the essence of our work.

Additionally, these resolutions, threaten to constrict and censor our ability to bring vital awareness to issues facing our community and pose a threat to our ability as commissioners to effectively advocate for those concerns and issues that profoundly impact the lives of our citizens. By imposing restrictive measures on the submission of special resolutions, they hinder our capacity to address urgent matters and advocate for meaningful change. These resolutions not only inhibit our ability to fulfill our duties effectively but also undermine the principles of democracy and citizen engagement upon which our commission is founded.

In conclusion, I urge my fellow commissioners to reject Resolutions 22 and 23 of 2024 and to recognize the importance of preserving our ability to advocate on behalf of our constituents. Let us reaffirm our commitment to fostering an open and inclusive environment where all voices are valued and respected. We cannot hold the ordinances of which this body reviews to be more important the lives and contributions of the people who are affected by them.

Please, remember that the PEOPLE OF CADDO PARISH ARE THE BUSINESS OF THE PARISH

Mr. G. Young has had several conversations with the Commissioners regarding Special Resolutions. He said that this resolution would allow for the public to participate more in the meeting because it would be on the tail-end of the meeting.

Mrs. Blake said that if each Commissioner brought forth resolutions, then they could be there all night. She said that there are numerous special resolutions at each meeting. She would like to see the Commission reduce the amount of special resolutions at the meetings.

Substitute motion by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Resolution No. 22 of 2024 and Resolution No. 23 of 2024 be tabled.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed with Mr. Thomas. She added that this is not a dictatorship, and this is the people's chamber. Mrs. Gage-Watts that each Commissioner was elected by the citizens, not each other. Mrs. Gage-Watts then wanted to know if this resolution would prohibit a Commissioner from adding more special resolutions. Attorney Frazier said it would have to be an Agenda Addition if it exceeds the number allowed per the By-Laws.

Mr. Thomas suggested moving the meeting times to later times, so there could be more participation in the meetings.

Mr. Epperson said that the Commissioners are here on behalf o the Commissioners. He reiterated that the is the people's house and people should be recognized, if their Commissioner sees fit.

Mr. Kracman explained that this has nothing to do with "being in a hurry of getting out of here, but in a hurry of getting down to the business of the Parish". He also pointed out that one of his Democratic colleagues came to him with this suggestion. Mr. Kracman would still like the Special Resolutions to be moved to the end of the agenda.

Mrs. Blake said that she wants everyone to have the opportunity to recognize special people, but feels that it should be limited to two per Commissioner. She agreed with Mr. Kracman and would like to get to the business of the Parish first.

Call for the Question by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Epperson. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES Commissioners Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Atkins (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES Commissioners Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Thomas, and J. Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Kracman, Lazarus, and G. Young (5). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Resolution No. 24 of 2024, a resolution requesting the Registrar of Voters and Caddo Parish Administrator to take all necessary action to add an early voting location at the Shreveport Office of Motor Vehicles, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be moved to Thursday's agenda for consideration.*

Mr. Epperson would like to add an early voting location at the Shreveport Office of Motor Vehicles located in West Caddo Parish.

Mr. Atkins supports Mr. Epperson's motion and feels that it is an easily accessible location for the Parish.

Mr. Thomas encouraged Mr. Kracman to do some research for District 1 and get an early voting location for the northern part of the Parish.

Mrs. Gage-Watts believes that the Commission is moving in the right direction of adding early voting locations to the north, south, east, and west parts of the Parish.

Mr. Kracman thanked Mr. Thomas for the encouragement and is working to get an early voting location in the northern part of the Parish.

Mr. Cothran agreed with Mr. Thomas and Mr. Kracman and would like to get an early voting location in the northern part of the Parish. He also feels that the new OMV office is a great location for an early voting location.

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Kracman, *that Resolution No. 25 of 2024, a resolution waiving permit, inspection, and other related fees for the construction of the Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Nature Center, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for consideration. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that Resolution No. 26 of 2024, a resolution of support for Vision Zero strategies intended to eliminate fatality and severe injury caused by the American Transportation System, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Thomas supports this resolution. Mr. Jones agreed and said that a senior citizen in his community was hit by a car. He feels that there could be more safety measures taken to protect pedestrians.

Mr. Cothran agreed and said that there are several City roads that are dangerous for pedestrians.

Mr. Epperson suggested reaching out to the City Councilpersons for their districts. He said that relationships with the City can help improve the lives of the citizens, especially with matters such as this.

Mr. Atkins wanted to clarify that this is just a resolution with no funding. Mr. J. Young said that it was.

Mr. Jones said that there are five City Councilpersons in his district.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobe the following items and move them to Thursday's agenda for consideration:*

- *Resolution No. 27 of 2024, a resolution of support for House Bill 869 and House Bill 883 regarding treatment of Sickle Cell Disease, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 28 of 2024, a resolution of support for the Youth Council established by the City of Shreveport, comprised of local high school students, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 29 of 2024, a resolution opposing Louisiana HB 886 of the Regular Legislative Session and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Proclamation National Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month*
- *Special Resolution for Winners of the Community Christian Service Award*
- *Special Resolution honoring Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson*
- *Proclamation Black Maternal Health Week*
- *Volunteers of America's Lighthouse Students*
- *Action item related to Ordinance No. 6417 of 2024*

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

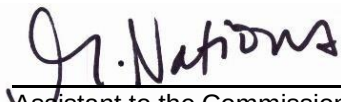
COMMUNIQUE & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson asked about a bill in the legislature regarding their proportionate portion of the oil and gas revenue. Mrs. Bryant said that the Parish receives about \$1.2M per year.
- Mrs. Blake reminded everyone that the Broadmoor 100th Year Celebration will be held this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.
- Mr. Cothran asked about the press conference this Thursday. Mr. J. Young said that they are planning to move the meeting to a Special Meeting at 11:00 a.m.
- Mr. G. Young admires the courage of Mr. Kracman. He said that he was the Democratic Commissioner who suggested this By-Law change.
- Mr. Thomas is supportive of moving the meeting to earlier in the day because he would like to attend the press conference for 50 Cent.
- Mr. Epperson pointed out that the Commission has had their meeting schedule set by Charter since 1984. He is not in favor of moving the meeting.
- Mr. Jones thanked his colleagues for welcoming him back to the Commission. He invited everyone to attend Redi Inc. for their Earth Day celebration this Saturday.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Resolution No. 15 of 2024, a resolution recognizing the detriment of gun violence in Caddo Parish, requesting Parish stakeholders to gather and promulgate a plan to combat gun violence within Caddo Parish, requesting the State to consider declaring gun violence to be a public health emergency within Caddo Parish, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Special Resolution of Appreciation for Estelle Brown*

At this time, there was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the Commission adjourned at 5:45 p.m.


Assistant to the Commission Clerk