

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 5th DAY OF JANUARY, 2023

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:32 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Atkins, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (10). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1).

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

SELECTION OF 2023 CADDO COMMISSION OFFICERS

Mr. Atkins opened the floor for nominations for the 2023 Caddo Commission officers of the Caddo Parish Commission.

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *to nominate Mr. Burrell for the 2023 Caddo Parish Commission President.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (9). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Burrell (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to nominate Mr. Epperson for the 2023 Caddo Parish Commission Vice-President.* Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson and Jones, (5). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (5).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to nominate Mr. Young for the 2023 Caddo Parish Commission Vice-President.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson, and Johnson (2). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Jones (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Young, *to nominate Mrs. Gage-Watts for the 2023 Caddo Parish Commission Parliamentarian.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to a brief recess.* Motion carried by acclamation.

Mr. Burrell, Commission President, presided the rest of the meeting.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *to return to regular order.* Motion carried by acclamation.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Lenny Kopowski, Director of Government Affairs with the Louisiana Manufactured Housing Association, discussed manufactured homes in Shreveport.

Donnie Brewer discussed manufactured home issues.

Connie Williamson discussed concerns about oil well fracking near their home and the exposure hazards.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Regular Session Minutes December 8, 2022 be adopted.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to englobe and adopt the following resolutions to be presented next regular session:*

- *Adopt Special Resolution Of Recognition For Dr. James Hobley*
- *Adopt Special Resolution Proclaiming Roy's Kids Day*

Amendment by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to englobo and adopt the following resolutions:*

- *Adopt Special Resolution of Recognition for Dr. James Hobley*
- *Adopt Special Resolution Proclaiming Roy's Kids Day*
- *Adopt Special Resolution of Recognition for Stage Center*

Amendment withdrawn by Mrs. Gage-Watts.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to englobo and adopt the following resolutions:*

- *Adopt Special Resolution of Recognition for Dr. James Hobley*
- *Adopt Special Resolution Proclaiming Roy's Kids Day*
- *Adopt Special Resolution of Recognition for Stage Center*
- *Adopt Special Resolution of Recognition Zhailon Levingston*

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

COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Burrell presented outgoing president, Mr. Atkins, with a plaque honoring his year as President of the Commission.
- Mr. Epperson updated the Commission on the Col. Steven D. dePyssler postage stamp.
- Mr. Epperson addressed the Public Works Department for their work during inclement weather, the Parish's ordinances relative to the Hustler Hollywood issue, and Parish ordinances relative to the Waskom Road incident. Mr. Epperson requested the young citizen commenter from the Work Session be his student Commissioner for a day.
- Mr. Jones discussed updates on the Greenbrook Park and interest for a Parish fine arts program. Mr. Patrick Wesley, Parks and Rec Director, updated Mr. Jones about the park and that he would research fine arts programs. Mr. Jones discussed citizens receiving the call around on their issues and his determination to get things done for citizens. Mr. Jones further discussed trash and dumping.
- Mr. Hopkins discussed litter issue in the Parish and requested Administration to apply for funding to fight the litter problem.
- Mr. Young received an update on the Parish's noise ordinance and enforcement of the noise ordinance and that the Public Works Director is looking into enforcement of the noise ordinance.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts discussed programs targeting trash and litter issue and addressed the noise ordinance and that the laws the Commission drafts be enforced.
- Mr. Atkins received an update on the Brookshires new construction on Norris Ferry Road from Dr. Ward, Assistant Director of Public Works.
- Mr. Epperson discussed abandoned advertising signs contributing to the litter issue.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts and Mr. Epperson requested technical help with her Parish equipment.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

The President of the Commission opened the public hearing for the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6297 of 2022, an ordinance amending the 2022 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Section 8 Fund*

There being no one to speak in favor or against these ordinances, the President closed the public hearing on ordinances.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Ordinance No. 6297 of 2022, an ordinance amending the 2022 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Section 8 Fund* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ZONING ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- Ordinance 6299 Of 2023 In Relation to Case 22-28-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 east side of Mansfield Road, approximately 2,100 feet south of Keithville-Kingston Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A Rural-Agricultural Zoning District to I-1 Light Industrial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- Ordinance No. 6300 of 2023, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for RING Doorbell Program in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Work Session Minutes from January 3, 2023* be ratified. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Jones**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Resolution 1 Of 2023 a resolution approving the Amended 2022 and Proposed 2023 Budgets of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Johnson asked that a joint Parish meeting about the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission's budget be scheduled during the March 2023 PJAL convention in Shreveport, LA.

At this time, Mr. Jones' motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Epperson, Johnson (3). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson and Chavez (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Resolution 52 Of 2022 a Resolution to Request the Parish Planning and Zoning Commission to create a R-1-43 district/zone* be adopted.

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Resolution 52 Of 2022 a Resolution to Request the Parish Planning and Zoning Commission to create a R-1-43 district/zone* be remanded to the Long-Range Planning Committee. Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jones, Lazarus, and (6). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Young (4). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

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

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to approve authorization of Caddo Administration to use Reserve Trust Fund Allocations to assist Caddo Parish citizens impacted by recent natural disasters, tornadoes and weather events*.

It was **moved by Mr. Jones**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to englobe and adopt the following resolutions*:

- Approve authorization of Caddo Administration to use Reserve Trust Fund Allocations to help Caddo Parish citizens affected by recent natural disasters, tornadoes and weather events.

- Appoint Deborah Yarborough to the Shreve Memorial Library Board

- Appoint Tiffany Hyde to Lakeview Water Board

Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Roy Burrell
President