

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION  
HELD ON THE 2nd DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:34 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Burrell, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (10). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Jones (2).

The Chair extended the invocation and pledge of allegiance from the Property Standards Committee.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

• It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to expand the agenda and include the following agenda additions:*

- *Potential Agenda Addition: Ordinance No. 6256 Of 2022, 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 North Lakeshore Drive, Approximately One Thousand And Seven Hundred Feet East Of Pine Island Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, From R-1-7 Single Family Residential Zoning District To R-A Rural Agricultural Zoning District, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*
- *Potential Agenda Addition Advance Resolution No. 50 Of 2023, A Resolution To Authorize The Caddo Parish Administrator To Request And Authorize The Louisiana State Mineral And Energy Board And The Office Of Mineral Resources To Accept Nominations And Advertise For Oil, Gas And Mineral Leases, Accept Bids, And Award And Execute Oil, Gas And Mineral Leases On Certain Mineral Interests Owned By The Parish Of Caddo, And Otherwise Providing With Respect Thereto*

The Chair opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or opposition to the agenda addition. There being no one to speak in favor or against the agenda addition, the Chair closed the public hearing.

Mr. Johnson discussed the purpose of Ordinance No. 6256 of 2022.

Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that the Presentation Of Special Resolution Recognizing Dr. Majed Jeroudi be considered.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to return to regular order.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Public comment by Jon Glover regarding the veteran's cemetery sign and speaking directly with the Commissioner that authors legislations.

Public comment by John Milkovich regarding crime rates, the effects of juvenile alternative sentencing, and juvenile detention.

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- Mrs. Bryant reported on the population of the juvenile detention center and the current case load for juvenile probation. Mrs. Bryant announced the I-49 public meeting is scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Shreveport Convention Center, which she emailed a flyer of the meeting to all commissioners. Mrs. Bryant confirmed that the Parish would receive revenue from sports betting and that the amount was not known at the time. Mrs. Bryant announced early voting ends October 7<sup>th</sup> and that the Administration is working diligently to provide information of the Parish's ballot item related to criminal justice. Mrs. Bryant announced that the budget books have been sent to print and reminded the Commission that the budget presentation is scheduled on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm.

- Mr. Chavez discussed administration speaking on the radio regarding the Parish's ballot item. Mr. Chavez mentioned that the Parish was already working on litter abatement and blight.

#### **COMMISSION REMARKS**

- Mr. Johnson explained that the purpose of the work session was to discuss agenda items to inform the public and that citizens would find out about an agenda item in question if they remained through the meeting. Mr. Johnson explained how he responds to emails.
- Mr. Young discussed the Administration and Animal Services' work to apprehend two animals at Spring Lake.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts discussed loose pit bulls in the Parish. Mrs. Gage-Watts discussed early vote deadline and that the two early voting locations are Downtown and at the Hamilton/South Caddo Library branch. Mrs. Gage-Watts announced National Night Out at Morning Star 5340 Jewella Avenue from 5pm-8pm to meet elected officials and first responders, and that there would be refreshments, giveaways and entertainment.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Burrell indicated that National Night Out as an opportunity to push the millage and to inform the public about the millage. Mr. Burrell requested that the Administration address spraying for mosquitos at the National Night Out location, which he received an indication that the mosquito spray was done already. Mr. Burrell announced that the commission would attend the NOBCO conference in North Carolina. Mr. Burrell discussed the importance of the I-49 meeting to him and his work on I-49 project for several years. Mr. Burrell advised that he and Mr. Jackson appeared on the "Keeping It Real" radio show to discuss the Parish millage and that he appeared on a televised interview with the Parish to put millage information out to the public.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *to englobo and advance to Thursday's agenda the following items:*

- *Advance A Special Resolution Of Appreciation For Captain Thomas F. Murphy*
- *Advance Special Resolution For Breast Cancer Awareness Month*
- *Advance A Special Resolution Proclaiming Disability Employment Awareness Month*
- *Advance A Special Resolution Recognizing Filipino American Awareness Month*
- *Advance Special Resolution Of Recognition For Cindy Dyer, The 1st Woman To Be President Of The Louisiana REALTORS Association*
- *Advance Special Resolution Of Recognition For The Centenary Football Team*
- *Advance Authorization Of A Reduction In The American Rescue Plan's 'TruFund - Business Resiliency Project' Allocation By \$200,000 And Add An Allocation For Visit Shreveport – Shreveport Sports Commission For Revenue Replacement Allocation Of \$200,000.*
- *Advance The Appointment To The Caddo-Bossier Port Commission*
- *Advance The Recommendations Of The Property Standards Hearing Committee*

Mr. Burrell requested to be added as a sponsor to agenda items 11.1 through 11.6. Mr. Atkins requested to be added as a sponsor for agenda item 11.6 and for an explanation from Mr. Johnson on Advance Authorization Of A Reduction In The American Rescue Plan's 'TruFund -Business Resiliency Project' Allocation By \$200,000 And Add An Allocation For Visit Shreveport – Shreveport Sports Commission For Revenue Replacement Allocation Of \$200,000. Mr. Young requested to be added as a sponsor on agenda item 11.7. Mr. Johnson discussed transferring funds from True Fund to the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission to help the Sports Commission recoup \$1.3 billion revenue loss from covid. The Administration addressed that the Commission could provide appropriation for revenue losses under ARPA and that the calculation must be based on 2019-2020 revenue losses. The Administration explained that they were unaware of any entity was fully reimbursed for their revenue losses.

Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- *Ordinance No. 6355 of 2023, An Ordinance Amending The Budget Of Estimated Revenues And Expenditures For The Oil And Gas Fund In The Amount Of \$12,000*

*To Provide An Appropriation For The Veteran Cemetery Sign And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6356 Of 2023, An Ordinance Amending The Budgets Of Estimated Revenues And Expenditures For The Building Maintenance Fund, Capital Improvement Fund I, Capital Improvement Fund II, Oil And Gas Fund, Public Works Fund, Detention Facilities Fund And The Capital Outlay Fund For The Year 2023 To Terminate Completed Or Lapsed Capital Projects, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.



Linda J. Montgomery  
Office Specialist I

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Roy Burrell  
President