

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S  
PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDING AD HOC COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THE 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

The Caddo Parish Public Safety Funding Ad Hoc Committee met in legal session on the above date, at 2:02 p.m., in the Government Plaza First Floor Conference Room, with Mr. Epperson, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, and Young (5). ABSENT: Commissioners Atkins, Gage-Watts, and Jackson (3).

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were conducted in the previous Juvenile Justice Committee meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Overview and Goals of Committee

The Chair reviewed the goals of the Committee.

- Discuss Crime Lab Budgets

The Committee discussed the Crime Lab's use of space, budget and funding resources, and the purpose of a Crime Lab. Mr. Young enquired about LSU's dedicated space in the Crime Lab, LSU's vision for the space in the Crime Lab facility, why LSU reserved it and what LSU could use the space for. Mr. Epperson requested that the Clerk ask the Crime Lab leadership for reasons that funding requests have decreased. Mr. Chavez enquired about all Caddo Parish crime forensics being sent to the local Crime Lab and discussed a forensics school as an extension of a medical education program. Mr. Cothran enquired about the activities of the Crime Lab and that the Commission needs to clarify what the Crime Lab is doing.

- Discuss Crime Stoppers Funding

The Chair discussed Crime Stoppers' request for funding from the Parish of Caddo, but Crime Stoppers is not a responsibility of the Parish of Caddo. Mr. Chavez discussed crime affecting the business community and that crime is a qualification for ARPA funding. Mrs. Barnett explained that the ARPA final rule is specific to gun violence only and, due to the downward trend in gun violence, ARPA funds would not qualify for Crime Stoppers.

The Chair called the next Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Burrell  
President