

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 21st DAY OF APRIL, 2022

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Atkins, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4).

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

CITIZENS COMMENTS

RIPE came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Good evening everybody. My name is Benny Walters. I'm the next era youth of RIPE. RIPE stands for Retooling Individuals to Pursue Excellence, promotes the wellbeing youth of their families with the primary focus on those impacted in socioeconomic risk and lack of affordable housing. We seek to restore, restoring the self esteem and dignity of life for individuals who face barriers to success through innovating STEAM programs, entrepreneurial developments, job-driven training job seeker and community driven aid. RIPE is located at 2100 E. 70th Street Shreveport LA. The number for RIPE is 318-828-1098. The Louisiana campaign for tobacco free living (TFL) community advocacy grant program has awarded RIPE as a next heir group for 2021-2022 physical year. The purpose of this grant is to train and engage Louisiana influence of the tobacco industry and in foreign policy, the campaign to complete an opinion survey before you leave. Thank you for having RIPE.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that the Regular Session Minutes from April 7, 2022* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Taliaferro, *to englobo and take the following action to the Special Resolutions:*

- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Robert J. Wright be adopted*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Zeta Phi Beta on the occasion of their 60th Anniversary be adopted*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation for Pastor Calvin Austin III be adopted*
- *Special Resolution of Appreciation & Recognition for Louisiana 4A Coach of the Year, Huntington's Mack Jones postponed to the May 5 Regular Session Minutes*

At this time, Mr. Chavez's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION
ROBERT J. WRIGHT**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission acknowledges that the passage of time brings forth regrettable inevitabilities, among those being the necessity of saying goodbye to cherished friends who have chosen to walk the paths and live the dreams of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Robert J. Wright, the beloved and respected icon of on-air radio talent in Northwest Louisiana, has now made that choice, ending a career of over 50 years, including 25 years with his with on air partner Erin McCarty with whom he created such a popular and beloved morning show in 1996, that their audience followed the team from K94.5 to KVKI in 2003 to KEEL, where their show has been running since 2014. Wright's career started in Shreveport while he was still a student at LSUS and grew to feature stints with radio stations in Cleveland, Philadelphia and Orlando before returning him back to Shreveport in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Wright's ability to bring balance and critical thinking to stories, while tempering any conversation with sincere goodwill and good humor has earned him and indelible place in the hearts of those who are fortunate enough to have made the Morning show with Robert and Erin a part of their morning routine. Whether he is framing a story, lightening the mood or digging deeper and asking

the tough questions- he does so with a commitment to his community that shines through and makes the listener relate and realize that in this world of fast rotating reporters, there is tremendous value in a trusted voice who is truly invested in the area they report about, someone who recalls the beginning of stories that take years to unfold and cares to see it through to the conclusion, someone who knows how to pronounce all of the names of local streets and knows how to bring a smile to the face of his listeners as quickly as he can to his co-host of so many years; and

WHEREAS, Wright has fittingly chosen April 29th, the day after his 70th birthday, to retire, despite having predicted that he would retire closer to his 100th birthday in 2052, leaving many to lament his retirement as they will miss his personality and talent broadcast into their cars, offices and homes- but they will remember him with great appreciation for the contributions that he has made to their understanding of the local community and world around them.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby express its deep and sincere appreciation to Mr. Robert J. Wright for his invaluable contributions rendered on behalf of his service and declare, April 28, 2022 as:

ROBERT J. WRIGHT DAY

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, calling upon all citizens to note this occasion with a sense of appreciation and gratitude. We pray his days are filled with enjoyment and plentiful opportunities to fulfill dreams.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION ZETA PHI BETA 60TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is pleased to acknowledge events of significance that occur in the community, and to recognize the organizations and individuals who are now and for a long time have been in the forefront of positive and worthy activities and deeds that accrue to the benefit of all; and

WHEREAS, such an organization is the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., whose Zeta Iota Zeta Chapter will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary on April 20, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta, Inc. was founded on the campus of Howard University in January 1920 and has thousands of members across the world; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, Zeta Phi Beta has continued its steady climb into the national spotlight with programs designed to demonstrate concern for the human condition both nationally and internationally. The sorority takes pride in its continued participation in transforming communities through volunteer services from members and its auxiliaries. Zeta Phi Beta has chartered hundreds of chapters worldwide and has a membership of 100,000 plus; and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's Southern Region was established in 1929 with the mission to implement and execute meaningful programs and projects throughout Texas and Louisiana in a manner that will engage and encourage Sorority and Auxiliary members in providing superior service to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Zeta Iota Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta was founded in 1962 and is preparing to celebrate its 60th anniversary with a free & open to the public Parade Celebration to be held on April 20, 2022 at 6pm on Pines Road at Jefferson-Paige Road intersection where they will celebrate 60 years of Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood and Finer Womanhood; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in legal session convened, that it does hereby welcome and recognize April 20, 2022 as:

"ZETA IOTA ZETA CHAPTER OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY DAY"

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, urging all citizens to join with the Caddo Parish Commission to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Zeta Iota Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION PASTOR CALVIN AUSTIN, III

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Caddo Parish Commission to give appropriate acknowledgement and recognition to individuals who have rendered invaluable service to the citizens of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, such an individual, the **Reverend Calvin Austin**, was born and grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana's Allendale neighborhood as the son of a school teacher and a pastor. Austin's early life showed him the power of diversity by growing up in a community that enveloped him in different cultures, religious traditions and racial backgrounds and giving him the strength & foundation stand up to injustices; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Austin's job selling the Shreveport Sun in Downtown Shreveport exposed him to more connections and a growing knowledge about the NAACP, an organization that he

has had a long affiliation with from his teen years when he joined as a member of the Youth Chapter to his time as President of the organization many years later; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Austin was barely in his teenage years, but already an active member of the local NAACP, when he heard Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. speak at Galilee Baptist Church. Galilee was also the site where, at 13, he witnessed attacks on members gathering to pray for 4 young girls who died in a church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama, and his involvement in a protest the next day led to his arrest and 45 day stay in jail, during which he was expelled from school; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Austin completed his high school education at New Orleans' L. B. Landry High School before accepting an all-expense paid scholarship to the University of Colorado where he earned his Bachelor's and continued on at the University of Denver to earn a Master's Degree eventually earning several doctoral degrees and in 2004 he would finally receive the diploma, along with an apology from Caddo Parish Schools; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Austin returned to Shreveport in 1998 and has been noted for the use of his lifetime of learning and ability to stand up to injustice to encourage true diversity, expressing that the Civil Rights movement opened up many issues of racism, but communities are still divided and racism exists on both sides, he has championed the importance of voting and considers civic involvement a duty, he has earned a reputation of supporting political candidates based on their strengths and what they bring to the table over race or political party, he has advocated for tolerance and diversity in racial, cultural and religious realms; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby welcome local and state officials, longtime colleagues, co-workers, pastors, friends, and family who are slated to attend a street dedication ceremony for the **Reverend Calvin Austin, III** in honor of his life, his ongoing legacy of inclusion, education, and strength in the face of injustice and its impact on this community, city, parish, and state.

COMMUNIQES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Young said that one of his constituents asked about the status of the tornado sirens. Mrs. Bryant said that the Commission did appropriate \$200,000 for a study, but the RFP has not been issued yet. Mr. Young wanted to know if they could use some of the \$200,000 for the study and the remainder of the funds for the sirens. Mrs. Bryant explained that the sirens will "cost millions". She also said that the study will determine possible alternatives for the sirens.
- Mr. Chavez commended RIPE for speaking out against vaping and tobacco use.
- Mr. Epperson asked that The Clerk of the Commission read aloud the Resolution of Remembrance of Ms. Allene Fields:

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with sadness and appreciation to reflect upon the passing of Mrs. Allene Durden Fields who is now at rest with her heavenly Father; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Fields made a tremendous impact on the lives of so many with her genuine love for the Town of Greenwood, strong faith in God and passion for helping her fellow man, particularly children and the needy ; and

WHEREAS, Faith in God was the source of Allene's humble confidence and satisfaction in helping others. She honored her family and her God with service throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Fields was a compassionate spirit with the strength and conviction of a warrior who was ever loyal and protective of her fellow man. She was a person that puts the needs of others above her own, making her the epitome of a community leader should be; and

WHEREAS, whether directly or indirectly, citizens of Caddo Parish and particularly those in Greenwood, LA had their lives improved by Fields' efforts and will do well to emulate her service to God, family, community, and their fellow man; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of her lasting impact, The Town of Greenwood, Greenwood Support Agency and Daddy D's Produce have joined forces to honor Mrs. Fields with an event that combines her love of Greenwood, children, and God by celebrating her memory with an Easter Egg Hunt at Greenwood Town Park which is free to all children, and also features a plate lunch sale to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its deepest sense of gratitude and celebrates the memory and impact of Mrs. Allene Fields, even as we grieve her loss, we celebrate the indelible

impact that she had on our community and in the knowledge of the eternal rewards that is hers.

Mr. Epperson said that all of the funds raised during the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will go directly to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Mr. Epperson also mentioned that he and Mr. Atkins were invited to a reception honoring the Undersecretary of the United States Air Force. She was in town to speak on women in leadership roles.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

The Clerk of the Commission stated that the March 2022 Financials were attached to the agenda.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Atkins said that he presented a proclamation for Mr. Ted Cox's retirement and read aloud the proclamation:

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission acknowledges that the passage of time brings forth regrettable inevitabilities, among those being the necessity of saying goodbye to cherished friends who have chosen to walk the paths and live the dreams of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Ted Cox, the beloved and respected Judicial Administrator for Caddo Parish Juvenile Court, has now made that choice, ending a career of public service that has spanned 38 years, including 25 years as the Judicial Administrator for Caddo Parish Juvenile Court. Cox's legal service career has featured many highlights in addition to his service at Caddo Juvenile Court, he served as an Assistant District Attorney for Orleans and Caddo Parishes, a Criminal Defense Attorney for the Caddo Indigent Defender's Office, a Legal Advisor to the Shreveport Police Department, and Administrator of the Caddo/Bossier Narcotics Taskforce; and

WHEREAS, Cox's accomplishments in the legal field, impressive as they may be, are a continued reflection of the selfless leadership & honorable character that he has displayed throughout his life's endeavors including his military service, volunteerism and his commitment to his family. He prepared himself for this life with an education that includes a Bachelor's Degree from LSU, a Master of Criminal Justice from University of Southern Mississippi, and a Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School; and

WHEREAS, Cox is a retired Colonel with 37 years of Active Duty service with the National Guard and Reserve Service which included serving in the Vietnam War in positions ranging from Infantry Paratrooper to Brigade Commander of the 95th Training Division, and many leadership roles in between. He would go on to serve during Operation Iraqi Freedom as a Senior Policy Advisor on Juvenile Justice for the provisional government in Baghdad, Iraq. His military career has been recognized with the Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism comes naturally to Cox who somehow found time to serve as a Board Member and Past President of the La. Court Administrators Association, The Downtown YMCA, & the Rutherford House; a member of the Board of Directors of Volunteers for Youth Justice, the Red River Marine Alternative School for Juveniles, La. Association of Drug Court Professionals; and as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Board for the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, the Shreveport Bar Association as the Chair of the Veterans Committee, La. Child Support Enforcement Association, Boy Scouts, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, & the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, Cox has been a dependable and steady anchor in justice and defense, but also to his family, a role which he embraces with pride and derives great joy as husband of Barbara Cox, father to their 4 children and 6 grandchildren and has been known to express his dreams for the future to include highlights such as his now 7-year-old granddaughter playing soccer at the United States Military Academy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby express its deep and sincere appreciation to Mr. Ted Cox for his invaluable contributions rendered on behalf of his service and declare, April 21, 2022 as:

TED COX DAY

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, calling upon all citizens to note this occasion with a sense of appreciation and gratitude. We pray his days are plentifully filled with the fulfillment of dreams and we acknowledge the amazing legacy of his work at Juvenile Court and beyond.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

The President of the Commission opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6213 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for Juneteenth events, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6220 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund for the year 2022 to appropriate funds received from the U.S. Treasury in the amount of \$1,260,238 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6221 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for a Roof Repair Program, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6222 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Ring Doorbell Pilot Program in Caddo Parish, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6223 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Section 8 Fund, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6224 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$6,000 to provide an appropriation for the Greater Shreveport Chamber Foundation, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6225 of 2022, an ordinance amending and re-enacting Section 30-20 relative to Nuisances, to establish a Property Standards Committee to consider property standards cases, including but not limited to dilapidated and dangerous buildings and structures, and otherwise pertaining thereto*

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

ORDINANCES (For Final Passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 6213 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for Juneteenth events, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Substitute motion by Mr. Epperson, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *to englobo and adopt all of the ordinances under Ordinances for final passage.*

Mr. Atkins requested that Ordinance No. 6221 of 2022 be removed from the englobo. Mr. Epperson accepted.

Mr. Hopkins requested that Ordinance No. 6222 of 2022 be removed from the englobo. Mr. Epperson withdrew his substitute motion.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes:
AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8).
NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6213 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR JUNETEENTH EVENTS AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission adopted Resolution 44 in 2020 to recognize Juneteenth Independence Day to be recognized and celebrated in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as an extremely significant day of remembrance and acknowledgment of the history, freedom, culture, strength, perseverance, and achievement of the past, present, and future generations of the African American community; and

WHEREAS, \$12,000 remained from the 2021 budget appropriation for Juneteenth events; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2022 Economic Development Fund Budgets to re-appropriate the remaining \$12,000 from the 2021 budget plus an additional \$8,000 for 2022 Juneteenth Celebration events; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Economic Development Fund</u>	
NGO Appropriations	
Juneteenth Day Celebration events	\$20,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Taliaferro, *that Ordinance No. 6216 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$6,500 to provide an appropriation for Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation of Louisiana and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Young said that this request passed favorably through the Animal Services Committee. WERLA is an organization who provides rehabilitative care to wild animals who are injured or orphaned. He said that their total cost per animal is about \$50, and Animal Services uses this organization for the animals that they cannot take in.

Mr. Kelvin Samuel, Animal Services Assistant Director, said that Dr. Morgan helps Animal Services tremendously through volunteer efforts, relocation efforts, and rehabilitative efforts for the animals they cannot take in.

At this time, Mr. Young's motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Taliaferro, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson and Lazarus (2). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 6219 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation of \$10,000 for the Shreveport Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6219 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION OF \$10,000 FOR THE SHREVEPORT BOSSIER AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Shreveport Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce (SBAACC) is requesting an appropriation of \$10,000 to assist with costs associated with the Minority Business Expo and to support Shreveport Bossier Black Restaurant Week; and

WHEREAS, the mission of SBAACC, since its establishment in 1941, is to serve as the premier voice in Northwest Louisiana for the growth of African American businesses and the community at large through advocacy, entrepreneurship, and economic empowerment; and

WHEREAS, the SBAACC has a membership of over 150 businesses, professionals, and organizations offering a wide variety of services including banking, construction, education, legal, and many more; and

WHEREAS, the SBAACC has partnered with the Caddo Parish Commission to provide the Minority Business Expo and business development workshops for the last several years; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Committee of the Caddo Parish Commission recommends the Commission provide an appropriation of \$10,000 for the Shreveport Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2022 Budget to provide an appropriation of \$10,000 for Shreveport Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Economic Development Fund</u>	
NGO Appropriations –	
SB African American Chamber	\$10,000
Fund Balance	(\$10,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Ordinance No. 6220 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund for the year 2022 to appropriate funds received from the U.S. Treasury in the amount of \$1,260,238 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6220 OF 2022

BY CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE E EDWARD JONES HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE US TREASURY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,260,238 FOR THE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) made available \$25 billion to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo distributed over \$32 million in 2021 of ERAP from the US Treasury and the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has been reallocated ERAP funds previously in 2022 from the State reallocation of \$4,423,024.15 and from the National reallocation of \$851,650.20; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has been awarded an additional National reallocation of \$1,260,238; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2022 Budget in order to appropriate said grant

proceeds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the E Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>E Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund</u>	
Revenues:	
Federal Grant	\$1,260,238
Expenditures:	
Grant Programs	\$1,260,238

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications, which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6221 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation of \$260,000 for a Roof Repair Program, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Jackson said that the \$40,000 will go to the Crime Lab.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes:
AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8).
NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6221 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR A ROOF REPAIR PROGRAM AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Wheel Chair Ramp and Roof Repair Program was established with Ordinance 6176 of 2022; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 6176 identified CAFA revenue as the funding source for this program; and

WHEREAS, CAFA funds of \$56,000 will be used to fund wheel chair ramp repair for seniors and veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission appropriated funds for COVID-19 vaccination program;

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish Commission would like to use \$260,000 remaining from the COVID-19 vaccination appropriation to fund roof repair for the citizens of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, citizen will be selected to qualify for the roof repair program based on income with preference to veterans and senior citizens, if allowable; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2022 American Rescue Plan budget to provide an appropriation of \$260,000 for the Roof Repair Program and reduce the appropriation for vaccine coordination; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2022 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>American Rescue Plan Fund</u>	
Vaccination Coordination	(\$260,000)
Roof Repair Program	\$260,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Ordinance No. 6222 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Ring Doorbell Pilot Program in Caddo Parish, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be delayed to the May 5 Regular Session.

Mr. Young said that none of the sponsors of this legislation are in attendance. He would like to postpone it to the next Regular Session.

Mr. Hopkins said that this ordinance was moved during the Work Session in an englobo, but it was never really discussed. He also explained that monies were already appropriated for this pilot program, but none of that data has been collected just yet.

Substitute motion by Mr. Chavez, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that this program be delayed for five months.*

Mr. Chavez would like this to be delayed so that the appropriate data can be collected. Mrs. Bryant said that they are still working through the eligibility requirements for the program.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if there was any information that could be shared from Administration. Mrs. Bryant said that they do not have a lot of data to share at this time because they are still going through the applications. She also said that they are still working out how much it will cost to install the doorbells.

Mr. Jackson requested that Administration provide the Commissioners with a copy of the application and the eligibility requirements. Mrs. Bryant pointed out that the doorbells are moveable and can be taken with the person if they decide to move.

At this time, Mr. Chavez's substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Ordinance No. 6223 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Section 8 Fund, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that the program is now called Housing Choice Vouchers. He wanted to know if an ordinance is needed to change the name of the fund. Mrs. Bryant said that they can do it internally.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6223 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021 BUDGET TO AMEND THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE SECTION 8 FUND AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has been the recipient of the Section 8 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) since the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Section 8 is a housing choice voucher program that the federal program has for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market; and

WHEREAS, the Section 8 program received more federal dollars in 2021 due to the performance of the program in 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend a budget for revenues and expenditures for the Section 8 Housing Fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Section 8 Fund for the year 2021 as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Section 8 Housing Fund:</u>	
Revenue:	
Section 8 Grant	\$50,000
Section 8 Grant Expenses	\$50,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 6224 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$6,000 to provide an appropriation for the Greater Shreveport Chamber Foundation, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be postponed to the May 5 Regular Session.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *Ordinance No. 6225 of 2022, an ordinance amending and re-enacting Section 30-20 relative to Nuisances, to establish a Property Standards Committee to consider property standards cases, including but not limited to dilapidated and dangerous buildings and structures, and otherwise pertaining thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Hopkins said that this would be similar to the Alcohol Beverage Committee. This subcommittee would only need five members for a quorum versus seven members. He further explained that the committee would make recommendations to the full body on property standards cases.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if this would replace the existing committee. Mr. Hopkins said that this could be discussed in the future.

Attorney Frazier said that the Property Standards Committee under the By-Laws is to evaluate ordinance changes; this committee would hear property standards cases. She also explained that the existing committee could be removed via a By-Law change.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know when the committee would stand up. Mr. Hopkins said that it would take effect thirty days after this ordinance is adopted.

At this time, Mr. Hopkins' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioner Epperson (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6225 OF 2022

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REENACTING SECTION 30- 20
RELATIVE TO NUISANCES, TO ESTABLISH A PROPERTY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER PROPERTY STANDARDS
CASES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DILAPIDATED AND
DANGEROUS BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, AND OTHERWISE

PERTAINING THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission finds that changes in the handling of hearings for violation of parish ordinances regarding property standards, including but not limited to dilapidated and dangerous buildings and structures would be in the best interest of the public, property owners, and the Parish Commission;

WHEREAS, creation of a Property Standards Committee to conduct hearings and make recommendations for penalties would improve and streamline the process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened that Section 30-20 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances be amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

“Sec. 30-20. - Property standards board; committee; attorney.

- (a) The property standards board for the parish shall consist of the members of the parish commission, who, when sitting in that capacity, shall be specifically so convened.
- (b) The attorney for the property standards board shall be the parish district attorney, provided that the board may retain private counsel where deemed appropriate.
- (c) The Property Standards Committee of the Board is hereby created. The committee shall consist of five members of the Parish Commission appointed by the President of the Commission. The purpose of the Property Standards Committee shall be to conduct hearings and recommend actions under this Article to the full commission sitting as the property standards board. The committee shall have authority to conduct hearings regarding violations of this Chapter and to make recommendations to the full Commission sitting as the Board for matters under this Chapter.
- (d) The hearings before the Property Standards Committee shall be conducted as follows:
 - (1) Before the committee considers a matter under this Chapter, the record owner of the property shall be entitled to a hearing before the committee. No order of condemnation and demolition, removal, or sealing shall issue unless a hearing has been held, a recommendation has been made to the full commission, and, after considering the findings and recommendation of the committee, a majority of the parish commission approves such order and action.
 - (2) Any notice of a hearing before the committee shall be given to the record owner in the same manner required by the provisions of this Article for notice of a hearing before the full Board. Additionally, notice shall be given to the record owner of the consideration by the full commission of the recommendation of the committee. Such notices shall be given according to Section 30-24.
 - (3) The owner of the property shall have the right, personally or through counsel or agent, to appear and present evidence relevant and material to the issues the same as a judicial proceeding.
 - (4) The committee shall consider the evidence and argument of the director of public works or his designee and the owner of the property. Should the committee find, by a majority vote of those committee members present, that an order of condemnation is justified, the committee shall make a recommendation to the full commission of the appropriate action under this Chapter.
- (e) The recommendation shall be promptly placed on the agenda of the full Commission which may accept, reject or modify the recommendation. The record owner shall be allowed to address the commission on both the finding of a violation and the recommended order

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications

which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6226 of 2022, an ordinance to authorize the Administrator to execute a pipeline servitude and right-of-way agreement with Magnolia Midstream Gas Services, LLC, regarding a pipeline through and under Parish property located in Sections 31 and 32, Township 17 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6227 of 2022, an ordinance to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6228 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for North Louisiana Crime Lab in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Work Session Minutes from April 18, 2022 be ratified. Motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to reappoint Rickey Hall and Herbert Rogers, Jr. to the North Shreveport Industrial Park Board (terms to expire April 30, 2027) be adopted. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to englobo and adopt the following items:*

- *Appointment of RJ Johnson to the Juvenile Justice Citizen's Advisory Committee*
- *Adopt the recommendations of the Alcoholic Beverage Committee for selling to underage persons during its April 7th, 2022 Meeting:*

Express Mart Valero	7965 Old Mooringsport	1 st Citation	\$250.00
Stonewall Bev. Co.	12800 Mansfield Road	2 nd Citation	\$500.00
Triple J Travel Plaza	8311 Springridge	1 st Citation	\$250.00
Triple J Travel Plaza	8311 Springridge	2 nd Citation	\$500.00
- *Authorize the Parish Administrator to review current NGO Application Process with local professional grant making organizations and make recommendations to the Commission in 30 days.*
- *Confirm Commissioners Taliaferro and Gage-Watts to participate in the Sequential Intercept Mapping Workshop on May 16th and 17th*
- *Authorize Administration to enter into a contract with the African American Chamber of Commerce to administer the Small Business Economic Recovery Program*

Friendly Amendment by Mr. Jackson to amend the action item regarding the NGO application process to make recommendations to the Audit & Finance Committee within 30 days.

At this time, Mr. Young's motion carried as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS

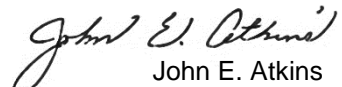
- Mr. Epperson wanted to know the status of the monitors. Mrs. Bryant said that they are working with the City. It is their understanding that it is a wiring issue, not a monitor issue.
- Mr. Jackson said that someone was not able to submit their application for the Summer Work Program. He wanted to know if the deadline has already passed. Mrs. Bryant said that the application deadline was April 15, 2022.

He also mentioned that the law students have been selected to finish their law degree in Shreveport. Mr. Jackson said that Southern University Law Center—Shreveport will receive their full accreditation in the next few years.

- Mr. Chavez invited everyone to Movies in the Park at Southern Hills Park.
- Mr. Hopkins encouraged all the Commissioners to look into Senate Bill 314, which is to create off-track betting in Louisiana. This concerns him because it will take monies away from video poker. He said currently, there is no money coming to local government from that.
- Mr. Young said that the Personnel Policies & Procedures will meet next week to discuss the property standards committee.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


John E. Atkins
President