

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
JUVENILE JUSTICE & RELATED SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 25th DAY OF APRIL, 2023

The Caddo Parish Juvenile Justice & Related Services Committee met in legal session on the above date, at 3:35 p.m., in the Government Plaza First Floor Conference Room, with Mr. Jackson, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Young (5). ABSENT: Commissioner Chavez, and Jones (2).

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

Due to the lack of a quorum the Chair, moved to Public Comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comment was given by Megail Parsons regarding a juvenile justice being placed on a ballot.

The Committee achieved a quorum.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE RULES

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to adopt the Committee rules.* Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Gage-Watts enquired about the Committee Rules, which Mr. Jackson explained the process for the Committee Rules. Mrs. Gage-Watts objected to the adoption of Committee Rules.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to reconsider the Committee rules.* Motion carried unanimously.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to adopt the Committee rules.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Jackson, and Young (4). NAYS: Commissioners Gage-Watts (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Chavez, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *to add a presentation from the Chamber of Commerce to the Committee agenda.*

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.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discuss And Make Recommendations Regarding Potential Public Safety Millage

Ms. Megail Parsons, Juvenile Justice Citizens Advisory Committee (JJCAC) Board Member, enquired about a millage being placed on the fall ballot regarding juvenile justice. Mrs. Parsons explained that the JJCAC has not met as a committee with a new chair and discussed the JJCAC's mission to rally support for the millage. Mr. Cothran indicated that it was implied in the last Juvenile Justice Committee meeting that the JJCAC would use the information it worked on in its report to talk to the public before the millage is moved forward. Mr. Cothran reminded the Committee that the millage failed five times before. Mr. Cothran explained that the JJCAC would provide feedback from the public to the Commission. Ms. Parsons indicated that the JJCAC discussed hosting townhall meetings in each of the Board Members' areas and the urgent progression of placing a millage on an upcoming ballot before the JJCAC was able to talk to the public. Mr. Jackson discussed the process of the Juvenile Justice Committee's decision to continue the JJCAC and for both committees to work simultaneously and concurrently towards the determination of placing a juvenile justice millage on the ballot. Mr. Jackson clarified that the JJCAC's goal is to work independent of the Caddo Parish Commission.

Point of Order by Mrs. Gage-Watts, where the Committee stood on the agenda, which Mr. Cothran clarified that the Committee was under New Business item 7.1.

Mr. Burrell discussed a motion to delay to allow the JJCAC to canvass, review and report back to the Committee. Mr. Jackson indicated that the Juvenile Justice Committee and the JJCAC had a timeline. Mrs. Bryant discussed the deadlines of the State Bar Commission to call an election. Answering Mr. Burrell, Mrs. Bryant indicated that the Administration would like to go into an election with a consistent

consensus from the Committee and the Advisory Committee and that the Administration would like the JJCAC to rally citizen support. Mr. Ken Krefft, JJCAC Board Member, and Ms. Parsons discussed the time frame to rally support. Mr. Burrell suggested that the Committee and the JJCAC work parallel.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

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