

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S  
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THE 5th DAY OF APRIL, 2023

The Caddo Parish Natural Resources Committee met in legal session on the above date, at 1:06 p.m., in the Government Plaza First Floor Conference Room, with Mr. Atkins, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus and Young (5). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts, and Jones (3).

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Discuss Resolutions to Citizens Concerns Relative to Negative Impacts on Residential Properties from Mineral Extraction

Mr. Young requested that Bossier Parish Attorney discuss how Bossier Parish added rules to enforce tolerable levels of noise.

Attorney Patrick Jackson, Bossier Parish Attorney, explained the startup of Haynesville Shale in Northwest Louisiana prompted the Police Jury and Attorney review of the Fort Worth, Texas Barnett Shale ordinances. Attorney Jackson indicated the industry and science of fracking during that time and how Bossier Parish worked with the Louisiana Oil & Gas Association (LOGA), Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association (LMOGA), and other local oil and gas interests to craft a noise ordinance. However, recently their noise ordinance was tested due to the technological advances in fracking operations. Attorney Jackson re-engaged with local and state oil and gas interests to exercise and improve the Bossier Parish ordinance that works with the oil and gas industry. Bossier Parish hired a noise consultant to help draft the ordinance and have staffed sound engineers and a noise control officer to enforce the hard limits set in the ordinance. Attorney Jackson explained that a noise management plan submitted by a company is reviewed by a noise consultant. Attorney Jackson recommended that Caddo Parish do their own due diligence and receive public comment and some buy in from the industry. Attorney Jackson indicated that he would share the draft ordinance information with Caddo Parish Attorneys Donna Frazier and Henry Bernstein. Attorney Jackson suggested that Caddo Parish and Bossier Parish enter into a cooperative endeavor to work with each other on the same ordinance for fracking sites. Attorney Jackson discussed Bossier Parish working with Paloma to mitigate the high ambient level before Paloma does additional site drilling. Attorney Jackson explained options to reduce sound. Mr. Mark Whit, Acoustiblok and Noise Control Systems, discussed sound mitigation and sound control. Mr. Whit advised that he can help with the new ordinance.

Mr. Young and Attorney Jackson discussed Bossier Parish's plans for the Paloma operating site.

Mr. Paul Pratt, lobbyist, indicated that the Commission needs to work with the industry and the citizens in order to reach a happy medium. Answering Mr. Atkins on finding a mutually agreeable process, Assistant Public Works Director Dr. Ken Ward discussed handling noise control and the difference between Bossier Parish and Caddo Parish noise ordinances. Answering Attorney Frazier discussed including measures in a Caddo Parish ordinance that are the same as Bossier Parish ordinance, Mr. Pratt indicated that LOLA, LMOGA and Lobbyists are waiting on that to happen. Mr. Taylor Jamison, Regulatory and Political Affairs Manager with Next Era Energy Resources, indicated that the industry does not want any changes but companies are willing to provide input. Dr. Wilson discussed learning about the oil industry in the visit to Fort Worth with Bossier Parish Attorney Jackson. Mr. Hopkins and Attorney Frazier discussed the overburdening of the oil industry by penalizing all companies for isolated operators.

Mr. Epperson discussed the lack of response from the Office of Conservation and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding the Caddo Parish Resolution No. 17 of 2022 and Resolution No. 15 of 2023 and requested that the Louisiana State Representatives be involved in the Caddo Parish issues. Mr. Patrick Raley, Conservation Shreveport District Manager, indicated that there is a forthcoming response regarding Resolution No. 17 of 2022.

Public comment by Mrs. Tammi Rider regarding noise disturbances in district 8. Mr. Raley indicated that noise can be directed.

Mr. Epperson requested the Clerk to include in the official records any information relative to oil and gas issues that was provided during the meeting.

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LJ Montgomery", written over a horizontal line.

Linda J. Montgomery  
Administrative Specialist I