

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 1st DAY OF JULY, 2024

The Caddo Parish Appropriation Committee met in legal session on the above date at 11:41 a.m., in the Government Plaza Chambers Conference Room, with Mr. Cothran, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Jones, Thomas, and G. Young (7). ABSENT: Commissioners and J. Young (1). Commissioner Blake was also in attendance.

Mr. Thomas gave the invocation and Mr. G. Young led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

There being no Citizens Comments or Agenda Additions, the Committee moved to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Review scores and make recommendations regarding Volunteers for Youth Justice expanded funding, Ordinance 6437 of 2024*

Mr. Burrell questioned the process of considering funding at this stage of the year. Commissioner Jones echoed this concern and asked additional questions. Commissioner Cothran stated that the next round of funding would be before us soon. Administrator Bryant clarified that this would be an amendment to the current year funding and that Volunteers for Youth Justice would likely be able to expend the funds. She also added that it may be worth putting VYJ into a category like Caddo Community Action Agency which does work so closely supportive of Parish functions that it should be considered differently than those NGO's applying during the open grant season. Several members concurred. Commissioner Atkins stated that while not being critical of the organization, they had determined that they would not fund organizations outside of the annual process unless there was an emergency.

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. Burrell**, *to recommend that this request be deferred to the standard NGO process.*

Substitute motion by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. G. Young, *to postpone the motion until the 1st August meeting (August 8th) and have another NGO meeting before then to consider and make recommendation.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts state that this is unusual because the funding request already has the recommendation of the Juvenile Justice Committee and that they considered Juvenile crime to be an emergency.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Burrell reiterated that while the VYJ's work is important, this request is outside of the typical process.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Jones, Thomas, and G. Young (6). NAYS: Commissioner Atkins (1) ABSENT: Commissioners J. Young (1).

At this time, the meeting was adjourned in order for the attendees to attend another committee meeting, so the Commission adjourned.



Jeff Everson
Commission Clerk

DUE TO FAILURE OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT, THE PRECEDING MINUTES WERE BASED SOLEY ON THE NOTES OF THE COMMISSION CLERK WHO WAS PRESENT IN THE COMMITTEE MEETING.