

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 22nd DAY OF MAY, 2025

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mrs. Gage-Watts, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, and G. Young (10). ABSENT: Commissioners Jones and J. Young (2).

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given during previous committee meetings.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *to expand the agenda and add Special Resolution of Recognition for National Public Works Week* be added under Special Resolutions.

At this time, President Gage-Watts opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or opposition to adding this time to the agenda. There being no one to come forward, Mrs. Gage-Watts closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones, Kracman, J. Young, and G. Young being absent (4).

There were no Citizens Comments nor Visitors, so the Commission moved onto the Regular Session Minutes.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Thomas *that the Regular Session Minutes from May 8, 2025* be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones, Kracman, and J. Young being absent (3).

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to englobo and adopt the following special resolutions:*

- *Proclamation National Maritime Day in Caddo Parish*
- *Proclamation May as Lupus Awareness Month*
- *Proclamation National Public Works Week*

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones and J. Young being absent (2).

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL MARITIME DAY IN CADDO PARISH**

WHEREAS, on May 22, 1819, the steamship The Savannah set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first successful transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, thus making a material contribution to the advancement of ocean transportation; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 1933, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America assembled and designated May 22nd of each year as National Maritime Day; and

WHEREAS, during WW II in what became the world's largest sealift operation, more than 250,000 members of the American Merchant Marines served their country, with over 6,700 losing their lives, hundreds being detained as prisoners of war and in excess of 800 ships being sunk or damaged; and

WHEREAS, waterways have greatly contributed to expanding America's economy, developing cities near waterways, and facilitating vast domestic and international commerce crucial to our economy today; and

WHEREAS, the United States Merchant Marines and thousands of other workers in our Nation's maritime industry continue to make immeasurable contributions to our economic strength and ongoing efforts to build a more peaceful world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Merchant Marines also shepherd the safe passage of American goods, move exports to customers around the world, support the flow of domestic commerce

on our maritime highways, strengthen our Nation's economy, bolster job creation, and, along with the transportation industry, employ Americans on ships and tugs, and in ports, like our Port of Caddo Bossier; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission to increase the awareness of the maritime industry within Caddo and Bossier Parishes and the State of Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission joins the President of the United States of America in proclaiming May 22, 2025, as National Maritime Day and calls upon the citizens of Caddo and Bossier Parishes to celebrate this observance.

PROCLAMATION LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that can cause inflammation and damage to any part of the body, including the skin, joints, and internal organs; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of lupus can vary greatly, often mimicking other illnesses, leading to difficulties in diagnosis and delays in treatment; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis, proper medical treatment, and increased public awareness are critical to improving the quality of life for those living with lupus and to ultimately finding a cure; and

WHEREAS, ongoing research and advocacy efforts have led to a deeper understanding of lupus, yet continued public education and medical advancements are needed to support affected individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of America and other advocacy organizations, healthcare providers, and communities across the country observe the month of May as Lupus Awareness Month to bring attention to the impact of the disease and the importance of education, research, and support; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the courage and resilience of those living with lupus and stands in solidarity with individuals, caregivers, and medical professionals who are affected by or working to treat and cure this disease.

WHEREAS, lupus affects approximately 1.5 million Americans and millions more worldwide, with women—especially women of color—being disproportionately affected; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby proclaim the month of May as LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH in Caddo Parish and encourages all citizens to learn more about lupus and support efforts aimed at research, early diagnosis, and effective treatment of this life-altering condition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be included in the official minutes of the Caddo Parish Commission, and that a copy be provided to lupus awareness advocates and local organizations involved in lupus support and education.

PROCLAMATION NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the vital role that public works play in the daily lives of the citizens of Caddo Parish, and the importance of the professionals who plan, build, operate, and maintain the infrastructure essential to our communities; and

WHEREAS, National Public Works Week is celebrated each year during the third full week of May and is sponsored by the American Public Works Association (APWA) to raise awareness of public works and the contributions of public works professionals throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 National Public Works Week theme, "Connecting the World Through Public Works," highlights how public works services connect us all physically, through infrastructure, and inspire collaboration, innovation, and service across communities; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Department of Public Works plays a crucial role in maintaining the Parish's roadways, bridges, drainage systems, solid waste facilities, and rural infrastructure while promoting public safety, environmental stewardship, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated men and women of the Caddo Parish Public Works Department exemplify professionalism, expertise, and a commitment to excellence as they serve the citizens of Caddo Parish year-round—often working in challenging conditions to ensure that vital services continue uninterrupted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission that it does

hereby recognize and proclaim the week of May 18–24, 2025, as:

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and encourages all citizens to recognize and thank public works professionals for their tireless efforts and the essential services they provide that enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Presentations of previously adopted Special Resolutions included Mental Health Awareness Month and Special Resolution of Recognition for the 35th Anniversary of the Sigma Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha. Both special resolutions were read into the record.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Walter B. Jacobs Update

Mr. Rusty Scarborough, Parks & Recreation Department, presented plans for exhibits at the Walter B. Jacobs Nature Center. The presentation detailed the center's designs, features, and interactive exhibits. Mr. Scarborough pointed out that a replica of his hawk will be in the tree at the center.

Several Commissioners expressed enthusiasm for the new facility and its educational opportunities.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know the estimated completion date for the center. Mr. Scarborough said that it should be October 2025.

COMMUNIQUE & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson commended Public Works for all of their hard work during the inclement weather. He thanked Mr. Chris Saunders for his work in making the Memorial Day Program a success.
- Mr. Thomas also thanked the Public Work Department for everything they do, day in and day out.
- Mr. Cothran said that the Memorial Day Program that the Veterans Celebration Committee hosted was touching ceremony for all of the men and women who gave all. The Memorial Wreath laying will be held on Monday at the NWLA Veterans Cemetery. He encouraged anyone who could to volunteer.
- Mr. Kracman wanted to know if both early voting locations would be sent to committee. Mrs. Gage-Watts said that they would both be sent to committee for discussion.
- Mr. Thomas welcomed the IFBB Classic to Shreveport/Caddo Parish, the Red River Speedboat races, and the Mudbug Madness Festival. He encouraged all to attend.
- Mr. Burrell is having a drainage issue in one of the neighborhoods in his district. He asked that Administration look into it.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Gage-Watts highlighted all of the Parks & Recreation programs that will be available to the youth over the summer. She said this information is available on the Caddo Parish Parks & Recreation website.

She also talked about Memorial Day. She said that Memorial Day is to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to keep our country free.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING ORDINANCES

President Gage-Watts opened the public hearing on the following zoning ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6543 of 2025, PZC Case No. 24-45-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the North end of David Raines Road and Audrey Lane, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A Rural Agricultural Zoning District to R-A PUD Rural Agricultural Planned Unit Development Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

Mr. Mike Woods came before the Commission in support of Ordinance No. 6543 of 2025, PZC Case No. 24-45-P and gave the following comment:

I am the owner of the land nearest by the 120 acres, and we are happy to be here before you guys for this vote. We are looking to bring development to that land with homes for sale. Our plat will allow for about 360 new homes to be built there. We're looking for these to be priced in a range of workforce housing to assist people that are working everyday and to get into home ownership because we know it's a nationwide problem with home ownership, and we believe that we can put a dent in the Shreveport area to do that. It has taken a while to get here, but we are here and anticipating that what we're going to do bring to this neighborhood is going to be bringing something that's going to make everyone in that neighborhood proud that this development has been placed there.

- *Ordinance No. 6544 of 2025, PZC Case No. 25-4-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the west side of Ellerbe Road, approximately 825 feet south of East Fournoy Lucas Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A Rural Agricultural District, R-E Residential Estate, R-1-7 Single Family Residential Zoning District to C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

Jonathan Ratliff, Raley & Associates came before the Commission in support of Ordinance No. 6544 of 2025, PZC Case No. 24-4-P and gave the following comment:

I am the project engineer speaking on behalf of Johnathan Gamble. This is his property, the one west of Ellerbe Road. I think we've—you know talked about this a couple of times. It has gone through the City. This has gone through the Parish, but just in case we forgot, this C-1 originally, we would go for C-3, but the goal of this is to provide small lots 100 x 120 C-1 Neighborhood Commercial, so that some small businesses over in the Ellerbe Road area can get to some reasonably priced property to down a small 4-6 man operation in there and allow some growth over in that area. And you know, not make it look so commercialized. We got Kroger Marketplace. We got all those things over there, so this would be a nice addition to a property that is largely unused right now, and it will beautify and make it look good. So, thank you guys.

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

President Gage-Watts opened the public hearing on the following ordinance:

- *Ordinance No. 6541 of 2025, an ordinance to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, pertaining to the granting of an easement and right-of-way for the purpose of constructing and maintaining an oil and gas pipeline within the drainage easement parallel to Antoine Boulevard, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

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

ZONING ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that the following Zoning Ordinances be adopted:*

- *Ordinance No. 6543 of 2025, PZC Case No. 24-45-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the North end of David Raines Road and Audrey Lane, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A Rural Agricultural Zoning District to R-A PUD Rural Agricultural Planned Unit Development Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6544 of 2025, PZC Case No. 25-4-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the west side of Ellerbe Road, approximately 825 feet south of East Fournoy Lucas Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A Rural Agricultural District, R-E Residential Estate, R-1-7 Single Family Residential Zoning District to C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, Mr. Thomas' motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones and J. Young being absent (2).

**ORDINANCE NO. 6543 OF 2025
PZC CASE NO. 24-45-P**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME II OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF CADDO, AS AMENDED, THE CADDO PARISH UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE, BY AMENDING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH END OF DAVID RAINES ROAD AND AUDREY LANE, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA., FROM R-A RURAL AGRICULTURAL ZONING DISTRICT TO R-A PUD RURAL AGRICULTURAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ZONING DISTRICT, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows, to wit:

The official Zoning Map of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Area of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be amended by rezoning property located on the north end of David Raines Road and Audrey Lane, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended **from R-A Rural Agricultural Zoning District to R-A PUD Rural Agricultural Planned Unit Development Zoning District:**

40.13 ACS-SW/4 OF SW/4 OF SEC 8-18-14 & 80.93 ACS. M/L- BEGIN AT SW COR. OF SE/4 OF SEC. 8(18-14), RUN N. 1533.2 FT., THENCE E. 1320 FT., THENCE S. 448.8 FT., THENCE W. 385 FT., THENCE S. 635.6 FT., THENCE E. 385 FT., THENCE S. 448.8 FT., THENCE W. 1320 FT. TO POINT OF BEGINNING, ALSO DESC. AS LOTS 8, 9 & 10 OF ROBERT MANDEL PARTITION; AND SE/4 OF SW/4 OF SEC. 8, Section 8, T18N, R14W, Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the rezoning of the property described herein is approved subject to compliance with the following stipulations:

1. Residential district dimensional standards of the R-1-7 zoning district.

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 become effective ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 6544 OF 2025
PZC CASE NO. 25-4-P**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME II OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF CADDO, AS AMENDED, THE CADDO PARISH UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE, BY AMENDING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED WEST SIDE OF ELLERBE ROAD, APPROXIMATELY 825 FEET SOUTH OF EAST FLOURNOY LUCAS ROAD, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA, FROM R-A RURAL AGRICULTURAL, R-E RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, R-1-7 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO C-1 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that

Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows, to wit:

The official Zoning Map of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Area of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be amended by rezoning property located West side of Ellerbe Road, approximately 825 feet South of East Flournoy Lucas Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended **from R-A Rural Agricultural, R-E Residential Estate, R-1-7 Single Family Residential Zoning District To C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District:**

BEING A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA. SAID TRACT BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 8, RUN THENCE NORTH 89°12'49" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 3092.66 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 00°47'11" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 2653.75 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE TRACT HEREIN DESCRIBED. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN THENCE NORTH 88°57'16" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 214.33 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 00°44'21" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 7.95 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 64°22'19" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 305.10 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 25°37'41" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 42.60 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 64°22'19" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 208.71 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 25°37'41" WEST A DISTANCE OF 224.42 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 88°57'16" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 94.13 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 00°37'04" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 494.30 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 89°22'56" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 210.02 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 00°37'04" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 252.37 FEET TO THE CLOSED AND ABANDONED SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY OF OLD FLOURNOY LUCAS ROAD, THENCE RUN ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY THE FOLLOWING FOUR CALLS: NORTH 67°27'04" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 135.76 FEET, NORTH 60°40'54" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 134.34 FEET, NORTH 53°51'07" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 110.83 FEET, SOUTH 69°00'44" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 20.96 FEET TO THE WEST RIGHT OF WAY OF ELLERBE ROAD, THENCE RUN ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT OF WAY THE FOLLOWING THREE CALLS: SOUTH 17°00'57" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 628.37 FEET, ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT FOR A DISTANCE OF 346.82 FEET (SAID CURVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 619.34 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF SOUTH 33°03'29" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 342.30 FEET), SOUTH 49°06'01" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 77.20 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 267 OF ELLERBE ROAD ESTATES, UNIT 5, AS RECORDED IN BOOK 1750, PAGE 65, OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA; THENCE RUN NORTH 88°57'16" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 111.36 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT CONTAINING 12.608 ACRES. DESCRIPTION OF A TRACT OF LAND ENCOMPASSING THE EASTERLY 12.00 FEET OF LOT 12, AND ALL OF LOTS 13 AND 14 OF FORBING FACTORY SUBDIVISION, AS RECORDED IN BOOK 50, PAGE 459, OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA. SAID TRACT BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A FOUND 1/2" IRON PIPE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 14, RUN THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOTS 12, 13, AND 14 NORTH 88°54'50" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 95.38 FEET TO A FOUND 1/2" IRON PIPE, THENCE RUN NORTH 01°07'26" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 208.47 TO A FOUND 1/2" IRON PIPE ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY OF OLD FLOURNOY LUCAS ROAD (SAND BEACH ROAD), THENCE RUN ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY SOUTH 89°05'17" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 95.40 FEET TO A FOUND 1/2" IRON PIPE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 14, THENCE RUN ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 14 SOUTH 01°07'53" WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 208.76 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT CONTAINING 0.457 ACRES, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA.

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 become effective ten (10) days after

publication in the official journal.

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

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 6541 of 2025, an ordinance to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, pertaining to the granting of an easement and right-of-way for the purpose of constructing and maintaining an oil and gas pipeline within the drainage easement parallel to Antoine Boulevard, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones and J. Young being absent (2).*

ORDINANCE NO. 6541 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT WITH PALOMA NATURAL GAS, LLC, PERTAINING TO THE GRANTING OF AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING AN OIL AND GAS PIPELINE WITHIN THE DRAINAGE EASEMENT PARALLEL TO ANTOINE BOULEVARD, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a request from Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, to grant an easement and right-of-way as depicted on Exhibit "B" and Exhibit "B-1", within a drainage easement running parallel to Antoine Boulevard, to construct and maintain an oil and gas pipeline; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request from Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, and determined it is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo to approve said request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby authorize the easement and right-of-way as depicted on Exhibit "B" and Exhibit "B-1", for the installation and maintenance of an oil and gas pipeline.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Administrator or her designee shall be authorized to do any and all things and to sign any and all contracts and other documents in a form acceptable to the Caddo Parish Attorney necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth herein.

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 become effective immediately upon adoption.

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

There were no Zoning Ordinance for introduction by title, so the Commission moved onto Ordinance for introduction by title.

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6545 of 2025, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas and Economic Development Funds to appropriate funds for Skywest Airlines*
- *Ordinance No. 6546 of 2025, an ordinance declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest in certain surplus adjudicated properties and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

**WORK SESSION MINUTES
NEW BUSINESS**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *to englobo and adopt the*

following items:

- *Work Session Minutes from May 19, 2025*
- *Reappoint Erica Bryant to the Port of Caddo-Bossier Board of Directors. Term to expire May 22, 2031*

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones and J. Young being absent (2).

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that Resolution No. 31 of 2025, a resolution urging and requesting the federal government of the United States to grant federal recognition to the Adai Caddo Indian Nation, and otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Ms. Deborah Garrett came before the Commission and presented the history of the Adai Caddo Indian Nation, highlighting their contributions to Louisiana. She said that two board members drafted a book that will be accepted in the Library of Congress.

Several Commissioners expressed their appreciation for the historical presentation given by Ms. Garrett and pledged support for Resolution No. 31 of 2025.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones and J. Young being absent (2).

RESOLUTION NO. 31 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

A RESOLUTION URGING AND REQUESTING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO GRANT FEDERAL RECOGNITION TO THE ADAI CADDO INDIAN NATION, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Adai Caddo Indian Nation is an Indigenous tribe native to Northwest & Central Louisiana, with deep ancestral roots in the region that predates European colonization; and

WHEREAS, the Adai Caddo people have maintained a continuous presence and cultural identity in this region for centuries, and their historical legacy has contributed significantly to the heritage, culture, and development of Northwest & Central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe is headquartered in Robeline, Louisiana, and has been formally recognized by the State of Louisiana as a Native American Tribe since 1976; and

WHEREAS, the Adai Caddo Indian Nation has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to preserving its cultural traditions, protecting sacred sites, promoting education, and fostering community development; and

WHEREAS, the Nation has consistently served as cooperative and integrated neighbors, working alongside local and regional governments to promote economic growth, infrastructure improvements, and quality of life for all residents in Northwest & Central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, despite its documented history and ongoing contributions to society, the Adai Caddo Indian Nation has not yet been granted federal recognition, which limits access to critical federal resources, protections, and opportunities afforded to other Native American tribes; and

WHEREAS, federal recognition would not only affirm the sovereign rights and identity of the Adai Caddo Indian Nation but also provide a foundation for increased economic development, health care access, educational support, and preservation of cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission stands in solidarity with the Adai Caddo Indian Nation and supports their right to federal recognition as an act of justice, reconciliation, and respect for their enduring contributions to the region and nation.

WHEREAS, the Tribe has always been a documented nation and ally to the Louisiana colony and state providing food, shelter, medical aid, protection, and other necessary support since the 1700s; and

WHEREAS, historical records show the Tribe volunteered to fight alongside the American

colonies as part of the Galvez Expedition in the American Revolutionary War successfully capturing British forts, including Baton Rouge, Natchez, Mobile, and Pensacola denying the British access to the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, countries such as Spain, France, and Britain have long recognized the nation of the Adai Caddo as evidenced in maps, trade agreements, military documents, & other official government records; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census Bureau and the State of Louisiana historically and presently recognize and track the Adai Caddo people via the Adai Caddo State Designated Tribal Statistical Area (SDTSA);

WHEREAS, the U.S. National Park Service, National Park Foundation, and Cane River National Heritage Area recognize the Adai Caddo Indian Nation in its Cane River Creole National Historical Park and Heritage Area literature including the Tribe's current cultural center and activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that it does hereby urge and request the Federal Government of the United States to federally recognize the Adai Caddo Indian Nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and to the members of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be recorded in the official proceedings of the Caddo Parish Commission and communicated to appropriate authorities as a formal expression of support.

There was no Old Business, so the Commission moved onto Communiques & Reports.

COMMUNIQUEES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Thomas said that the NGO Appropriations Committee met and discussed the 2026 Budget process.

- Mr. Epperson said that the Citizens Disaster committee met and scheduled their next meeting for June 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Gage-Watts pointed out that the Governor declared June 19 as the official Juneteenth Holiday, so the Commission will meet on June 16 for its Work Session, then have its Special Session either on that Monday or Tuesday.

- Mr. Atkins said that he was on the NGO Appropriations Committee for several years, and it is his hope that the process will remain disciplined and structured.

- Mr. Cothran said that the Juvenile Justice Committee met today to discuss the Children & Youth Planning Board. He also mentioned that there are several bills in the Legislature that they are monitoring.

- Mr. Lazarus asked about the meetings on June 16. Mrs. Gage-Watts said that information will be forthcoming.

CITIZENS COMMENTS (LATE ARRIVALS)

Brian White came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Thank you. I appreciate it. This is my third time having an opportunity to speak to y'all about a herbicide that's being used outside of its manufacturer's labeling for control of weeds and other things along the rights-of-way right now. It's called dazplam, and it goes under the trade name Espanade. So we've asked February of 2020 and again, in July of 2022, the impacts of it, especially with the high water table that exists here in Caddo Parish. This can be very detrimental to wildlife and other naturally occurring elements for our natural resources. I wanted to bring that to your attention again. I also ask for the Committee to consider--especially for District 2, where I reside—along Smith Lane, there is a speeding issue that exists that we would like your attention in helping us resolved. Now, we've brought it up a couple of times to the Caddo Parish Sheriff. They've been kind enough to assist with a radar screen for a couple of days, if not a week. It either turns into a high scoreboard for the people who come down the street, or it is a useful tool while it is there, but once its removes, it no longer serves the purpose that its there for. Its not a deterrent. We would ask that the Committee consider either a reduction in the speed limit to give the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office more of an incentive to patrol that area to catch the speeds that exist going

up and down to either do that and/or put in a No Thru Traffic sign on Smith Lane and Glenn Road. If you look at it, it's used as a cut through from Shreveport Blanchard Hwy to Pine Hill Road. It is much faster to fly down Smith Lane and Glenn Road than it is to go up to Blanchard Road and spend an extra couple of miles to do the turn. I promise Blanchard would not let that occur inside of the Blanchard City limits. We would ask for your assistance in making that deter itself from Smith Lane. As a last option, the not preferable option, is the ability to either put in a speed bump in two strategic spots or allow the residents there that have this concern to put in one that's gaged for the speed limit that's presently there. The last item that I wanted to bring up for consideration is to make you aware, in the last couple of years, y'all have put a lot of money into the library system that exists here in Caddo Parish. We thank you for that. My family and I made it a point to go there. My wife was deterred from the event due to the overwhelming amount of marijuana smell that existed in the children's section over with the new element—the new branch that exists on North Market. That was a big deterrent to myself and my family, of course for that event. I don't know that there's a lot you can do about that, but I do want to bring it to your attention as perhaps a reason that it's not being utilized to its fullest extent. Again, I'm Brian White and that expires my time.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant to the Commission Clerk


Stormy Gage-Watts
President