

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 6th DAY OF MARCH, 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, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Kracman, Jones, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Cothran (1).

Mr. Jones gave the invocation, and Mr. J. Young led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson *that the agenda be expanded and Special Resolution of Remembrance for Mary Walmsley and Proclamation Honoring Mrs. Pegues as a Centenarian* be added under Special Resolutions for ratification.

At this time, President Gage-Watts opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against adding these special resolutions to the agenda. There being no one to speak, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously by those Commissioners who were present.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Kennedy Daniels came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

I'm a student at Southwood High School, and I'm also a basketball player. Today I'm here to talk about something much bigger than sports. I want to address Amendment #3 and why I believe that charging kids as an adult and locking them up for minor crimes is wrong. I don't think teenagers should be charged as adults. At that age, kids are still figuring things out, and they don't always understand the consequences of their actions. They're still growing, developing, and [inaudible]. Putting them in jail with grown adults who might not care how old they are puts them in danger, not just physical danger—it's about mental, emotional, [inaudible]. They deserve a chance to grow up to learn from their mistakes and to be given a second chance. Instead of locking kids up for minor charges and minor mistakes, we should be looking at ways to help them. We should be focusing on the root cause of the problem, education, and giving them the tools they need to become productive members of society. The reality is many of the people who are in jail today were once kids who made mistakes. Sending kids to jail at such a young age only increases the likelihood that they'll become part of that cycle. I have a question for our leaders, how are you going to ensure that this law doesn't hurt the youth of Caddo? How can we make sure that young people aren't being punished more than they should be and that they have a chance to make things right? Can we make a change? We need to show up at the School Board Meetings [inaudible] at the Capitol and fight for laws that gives kids a chance to make better choices instead of locking them up. Let's support them, guide them, and give them opportunities to succeed. We are the next generation, and it is up to us to stand up for what is right. We can fight for kids to be treated with fairness and understanding and not punish them. Thank you.

Jayden Stewart came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Imagine being just 10 years old and facing adult consequences for a mistake made in the heat of the moment. In Louisiana, a key amendment will soon be voted on and it can change the way we treat children in the justice system forever, which would allow children as young as ten to be charged as adults, which is a serious threat to the well-being in future. It ignores the fact that young minds are still developing and should be given the chance to rehabilitate and not be punished harshly like adults. Scientific research consistently shows that children's brains are not fully developed, especially when it comes to decision-making and impulse control. This means they are more likely to make brash decisions often influenced by peer pressure. Charging them as adults ignores these developmental differences. While they should be held accountable for their actions, they should not be punished the same way as adults who have the ability to weigh consequences more effectively. It's not fair to kids who aren't of age to be surrounded by bad adults that do not guide them in the right direction to be charged with adult crimes. Are these differences do not excuse youth from responsibility for their actions. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized that youth are less blameworthy than adults and more capable change rehabilitation. Kids should be held accountable, but they should have time to change and can be put in rehab to do better. Due to circumstances beyond our control, some kids can make crimes to get by with their normal lives. Without the benefit of reforms, they will not be given a chance for rehabilitation. Instead, they'll be given a pipeline stream to prison. Kids are in danger when going into the real jail system. Youth in the adult criminal justice system face a higher risk of sexual abuse, physical assault, and suicide. Youth who are going to jail are going to jail with people who are sent to jail for various reasons. Some of those could possibly have

charges like sexual assault or physical assault. In those cases, it is possible that people with those charges can take advantage of the kid being there, resulting in abuse and/or death. Kids who are sent to juvenile go because it provides youth support and addresses youth's needs and rehabilitation. Juvenile [inaudible] opposes the treatment of youth as adults. The Juvenile Justice System is designed to emphasize the rehabilitation of their punishment and is better suited to meet these needs. Youth can change and has more time to change than adults. Surrounding kids with certain people in jail could lead to worse behaviors from the kids. If you were an adult and your kids went jail due to shoplifting, would you want them to go to jail? Nobody would, and that is the reason that the Juvenile System is in place. It gives kids a better chance to better to do better than how they were doing when committing the crime. Certain crimes, like shoplifting, should be questioned, instead of just going to jail. Some kids must do that to get through the day sometimes. Society should look at why and adjust those needs. Kids are still developing their minds and have a higher risk to use those impulses to make crimes. The lack of brain development makes children more susceptible to committing crimes. Impulsivity causes adolescent convicts to make irrational decisions, which leads them to commit crimes. Kids' minds aren't fully developed, like adults. They would do certain actions, just for the satisfaction. If what a child does goes wrong and it becomes a crime, they should be given a second chance to behave and improve themselves. To the kid who doesn't do anything bad but wants attention, so he goes and steals a stick of gum at the store, you shouldn't immediately charge them. You should help them and let them have a chance to do better. Kids should be given punishment nonetheless, but they should be open for change too. As you consider the amendment, I ask you to think about the future of our youth. Should we lock them away? Or, should we give them the chance to turn their lives around? Let's choose rehabilitation over punishment. Give kids the opportunity to change.

Breka Peoples came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

I hear so much talk about the NGOs and the millions of dollars they receive for the federal and the state funding, yet, I don't see enough outcome that truly serve our community. When I go out into the neighborhoods, I see real struggles; I hear the concerns of families firsthand. What I know to be true is that our youth are not getting the resources they need to become better citizens than the generation before them. We arguing about funding, but why aren't we arguing about the fact that these resources are reaching the very people they are meant to help? When our kids are being pushed out of school, many of these same organizations who receive six figures turn them around and also charge the parents. For many families, \$30-\$60 might not be a lot to y'all, but when parents are already facing economic hardships—it's the difference between getting help and getting left behind. Now, as we approach the critical election, Amendment #3 is on the ballot. Let me be clear, this amendment is a direct attack on our youth. Our Governor and some of our member on this very body want to push our kids into adult prisons for minor crimes. This is a pipeline to mass incarceration, plain and simple. Many of you leaders are in major churches and faith-based organizations. Are you using your platform to encourage our congregation and communities to vote? Because silence, in this moment, is the same thing as complacent. We must assure that the funding meets the service of our children is being used effectively. We need to be working with the Children Planning Board to oversee these initiatives and hold organizations accountable. If they are receiving money to serve our youth, we need to see measurable results. We need transparency, oversight, and real community impact. We must take a stand; we must fight for our children; and we must demand resources to reach the people who need them, and not just the pockets of those without the struggles. Vote no on Amendment #3. We demand accountability. We want y'all to fight for our kids, and we need y'all. Y'all know our crime is not high with youth in Shreveport and Caddo, but they feel that way down South. Our leaders up North didn't pushed this amendment to be on the ballot—they didn't push it. It's the ones down South, but I need y'all. My Republicans and Democrats—you too, Chris, I need you to take a stand with your people and vote no. Thank you.

Jan Corp came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Last time, I was here, I asked about edible landscape possibilities in people's front yards so no one goes hungry. I still would love to see that not only throughout our cities and towns, but state, everywhere. To scale it down, why couldn't we start with a tree that's edible in everyone's front yard, including public places, public parks, the schools, etc.? Our children need to learn that we are keepers of this world. We're charged with that in Genesis, and we're not doing a very good job of keeping our earth. So this is another step towards that goal. So I ask that you consider planting an edible tree in your front yard. It could be during Love the Boot or Earth Week or Earth Day. So just think about that. We're going to be doing more with this, and I'll bring you more information later. I thank you, John-Paul, for all you've done and everybody else that's interested in having a better world because this is one step. Remember, let's plant friendship trees in every yard. Thank you.

Madison Poche came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

I just have two quick announcements. I guess one is just an update on our disaster response plans. So we now have all of the equipment for backup power and backup water on site at the Highland Center. Morningstar site is fully operational. Our well was dug this week and so by—and now we're into some different approvals, but definitely by summertime, we will be well within our ability to respond to any disasters. Then also here, because next week is Americorps Week, I wanted to take a second to talk about the Americorps program and how it is benefiting Caddo Parish. So, Americorps is a

form of national public service. It's been around for 60 years. It's kind of like the Peace Corps inside of the United States where people can commit to one year full-time service with a modest living stipend. Then they're placed into organizations or public agencies to work on one program that will help the organization be more effective, efficient, or sustainable. So the Highland Center had applied to this program, and we have been managing 8 new jobs in Caddo Parish. Some of these positions are placed in the Highland Center to strengthen programs like our housing and financial services, but most of them are placed around the community. One of them is at Caddo Parish's Juvenile Justice Department, Mr. Randall. Other partners include Basic Necessities, The Regional Diaper Bank, Goodwill's Job Center, which provides workplace development. Many of these positions are also just helping our younger generation who might have literally been checking out folks at the grocery store or working at a fast food counter get the opportunity to work on their professional skills and put their passion into practice and be kind of our next generation of potential leaders. I just wanted to share. This is an opportunity that's been around that we've been working on leveraging, and hopefully, it's also been a sincere partnership with the Parish as well. Thank you.

Jon Glover came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

On Monday, I sat in this setting and heard in exchange about an agenda item. The agenda item dealt with the Pilot that's up in North Caddo Parish. I understood conversations that I had had. I still needed to do some homework, and I did. What I found out in doing that homework, which I probably would have never been able to put together, was the Industrial Development Board and its position and how it was critical in this decision-making process. When the board came together on September 28, 2021, this project began as a pilot. The language of what was left in those minutes were very clear. There was nothing left to anyone's imagination. Again, my effort is always to make sure that I understand fully what we're supporting or not supporting. And thus, I do that homework. I went through—there was an 11-page document—and I highlighted instances that talked about the 2% increase. I learned too, that the increase was not just a flat increase for anyone specifically, but the people who utilize the services at that truck stop. That's what the document said to me. Then, I went to a document from the Commissioner's own Long-Range Planning meeting that you all held back on January 6th of this year. There was a reiteration of what had been done those years before. So, where confusion I left not truly understanding what had transpired. Today, I can stand before you all and tell you all that I do now fully understand the fullness of what was developed, the intent and purpose, the dollars that were going to be part of this situation \$1.821M, and that its intent was to minimize what the Commission would take on, but to also to help us to understand that the taxes were only going to be for those persons who went into that truck stop and bought whatever that truck stop offered as merchandise. I thank you all for having that exchange because it gave me an opportunity to see beyond the exchanging for me to learn more about it now. Gaining what I've learned, I understand, and I appreciate it. I also wanted to in this time, thank you, Madam Chair, for your information with regards to the Shreveport Classic because yet again, it is important for me to have the documentation whereby I can come into this setting. If a question still exists, then I can ask that question, but when I'm not given anything, then I'm definitely gonna stand before you all and ask for an explanation. I want you all to always remember, just because I stand before you and I may have a question about your legislation, I'm not your enemy. I just need to be looked upon as a citizen who is interested in understanding what it is that you all are supporting or not on behalf of the citizens. Thank you.

There were no more Citizens Comments nor Visitors, so the Commission moved on.

REGULAR/SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *to englobo and adopt the Regular Session Minutes from February 20, 2025 and the following Special Resolutions:*

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Judy Durham*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Larry Ferdinand, Sr.*

Mr. Burrell recognized Mr. Ferdinand for his exemplary leadership and dedication to the citizens of Shreveport and Caddo Parish. He will be sorely missed, Mr. Burrell said.

The Commissioners offered their condolences to Mr. Ferdinand's family and friends.

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Mary Walmsley*
- *Proclamation for Mrs. Pegues' 100th Birthday*

At this time, Mr. J. Young's motion unanimously of those Commissioners who were present.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE JUDY DURHAM

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses to honor the memory of a trailblazing leader who left an indelible mark on Caddo Parish, Mrs. Judy Gallagher Durham, a distinguished public servant passed away on February 17th, 2025; and

WHEREAS, born on March 11, 1950, in Shreveport, Louisiana, Judy dedicated her life to the betterment of her community through exemplary public service; and

WHEREAS, she achieved a historic milestone by becoming Shreveport's first female Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) in 1988, at the age of 38, making her the youngest CAO in Louisiana at that time; and

WHEREAS, in her role as CAO, Judy was instrumental in managing a \$333 million budget, showcasing her exceptional leadership and commitment to fiscal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Judy's dedication extended beyond city administration; she served as a senior consultant at Schumpert Medical Center from 1990 to 1993 and later as the Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of the Parish of Caddo, demonstrating unwavering commitment to public service; and

WHEREAS, she was a founder and president of the Youth Enrichment Program in Shreveport during the 1980s, reflecting her passion for empowering the younger generation; and

WHEREAS, Judy's legacy is marked by her pioneering spirit, dedication to community, and the profound impact she had on local government and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to extend its deepest condolences to Judy's family, friends, and all who were touched by her remarkable life;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby honor the life and legacy of Judy Gallagher Durham, recognizing her as a trailblazer, dedicated public servant, and cherished community leader.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Caddo Parish Commission and that a copy be presented to her family as an expression of the Commission's heartfelt sympathy and gratitude for her service.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
LARRY FERDINAND, SR.**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses to honor and remember the distinguished life and legacy of Larry Ferdinand, Sr., a dedicated public servant, community leader, and advocate for progress who made lasting contributions to Caddo Parish and the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Larry Ferdinand, Sr. faithfully served the citizens of Shreveport and Caddo Parish for 6.5 years as a Shreveport City Council Member, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to governance, equity, and the betterment of the community; and

WHEREAS, he further served the City of Shreveport as the Director of Community Development for 4.5 years, working diligently to improve neighborhoods, uplift residents, and foster economic and social growth within the city and parish; and

WHEREAS, his exemplary leadership and dedication were recognized beyond local government, as he was appointed by various Governors of Louisiana to serve on significant boards, including the Southern University Board of Supervisors and the Red River Waterway Commission, where he played a crucial role in shaping policies and initiatives for the betterment of the state; and

WHEREAS, Ferdinand's community contributions are vast and diverse including his membership in Alpha Phi Alpha, his service on the Coordinating and Development Council, and so many other roles formal and informal; and

WHEREAS, Larry Ferdinand, Sr. was a man of integrity, wisdom, and service, who touched countless lives through his dedication to public service, his advocacy for the community, and his devotion to making Caddo Parish a better place for all its citizens and his legacy will continue to inspire future generations of leaders, and his contributions to Caddo Parish will remain an enduring part of the community's history; and

WHEREAS, his family, friends, and the entire community will gather to celebrate his life, with visitation scheduled for March 7, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Winnfield Funeral Home, followed by a family hour from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and a Celebration of Life service to be held at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church on March 8, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., with interment at Lincoln Memorial Park Cemetery;

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to extend its deepest condolences to Larry's family, friends, and all who were touched by his remarkable life;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a part of the official records of the Caddo Parish Commission and that a copy be presented to the family of Larry Ferdinand, Sr. as a token of our respect, appreciation, and remembrance.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
MARY WALMSLEY**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses to honor and remember the remarkable life and enduring legacy of Mrs. Mary Margaret Clay Walmsley, a beloved wife, mother, educator, and community member whose grace, kindness, and dedication touched the lives of many throughout Caddo Parish and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walmsley was the devoted wife of Mr. Hugh Walmsley, who served as the Finance Director for Caddo Parish and later became a Portfolio Strategist and Relationship Manager for Reliant Investments, an organization that has long managed investments for Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, through her husband's distinguished roles in public service and finance, Mary Walmsley became a cherished presence among the Caddo Parish Government family, known for her warm spirit, welcoming nature, sharp memory and steadfast support of her husband; and

WHEREAS, she was beloved by Commissioners throughout the decades, whether she became familiar to them as the friendly face greeting officials at conventions and events sponsored by Reliant Investment Services, as a dedicated educator who once taught Commission President Stormy Gage-Watts in the fourth grade, or as an active member of the Shreveport Opera Guild alongside Lindsay Atkins, wife of Commissioner John Atkins; and

WHEREAS, beyond her professional and civic engagements, Mrs. Walmsley was a loving and devoted mother to her and Hugh's son, Brian, and a faithful and active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, where her faith and commitment to service enriched the lives of many; and

WHEREAS, those who had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Walmsley were forever touched by her affable demeanor, intelligence, wit, and ever-welcoming smile, which left an indelible mark on all who crossed her path; and

WHEREAS, her passing is a profound loss to her family, friends, and the entire Caddo Parish community, but her legacy will continue to be remembered and cherished;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that we do hereby recognize, honor, and celebrate the life and legacy of Mrs. Mary Margaret Clay Walmsley, expressing our deepest condolences to her family and friends while extending our gratitude for her many contributions to our community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a part of the official records of the Caddo Parish Commission and that a copy be presented to the family of Mrs. Mary Margaret Clay Walmsley as a token of our respect, appreciation, and remembrance.

**PROCLAMATION
MRS. PEGUES' 100TH BIRTHDAY**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission notes with great interest and satisfaction those milestone events that occur in the lives of citizens of this Parish, and particularly when those events are unique and singular; and

WHEREAS, such acknowledgment and recognition is due in abundant measure to Ms. Ruth D. Pegues, who on March 9, 2025, will celebrate the attainment of her 100th year of life; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pegues was born a century ago in Trenton, Louisiana. She joined Pleasant Valley Methodist Church at the age of 10 and is still a member today; and

WHEREAS, she taught in the public schools of Desoto, Caddo, and Bossier Parishes for forty years, educating, instilling knowledge, and shaping the minds of young children; and

WHEREAS, the passing of the years has slowed, but not stopped her activities. She still enjoys honoring the memory of her only son, Robert Charles Brown, meeting new people, and spending time with her family and friends.

WHEREAS, on the afternoon of March 9th, the family and friends of Ruth D. Pegues will gather to celebrate her 100th birthday, and in so doing, to express their love and pay homage to her long, active and productive life.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby proclaim and declare March 9, 2025 to be

‘Ruth D. Pegues Day’

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in recognition and honor of her attainment of the age of 100 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission does also offer to Ms. Pegues and her family a prayer that her remaining years will be filled with peace, comfort and contentment.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Village of Hosston Mayor Kim James

Mayor James came before the Commission regarding the TA Express and gave the following comment:

My name is Kim James, and I have the privilege of serving as Mayor of Hosston. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to speak to you this afternoon. I was initially contacted by the President of Edgemont Holdings regarding their interest in building a travel plaza in the Village of Hosston. At that time, our village did not even have a sales tax, making that project less feasible for us. We didn't have any money to do anything. Recognizing the potential benefits of this development, we promptly took action by implementing a sales tax and initiating the annexation of the property. Throughout the process, I, along with my Board of Alderman, Commissioner Hopkins, and the owners of Edgemont Holdings, engaged in numerous meetings and we defined our respective roles. The Village of Hosston agreed to provide water to the travel plaza area in the truck stop where Caddo Parish agreed to basically pay back Edgemont Holdings for bring the infrastructure. This infrastructure is very important to the that area because we had nothing in our town. We had no franchise tax; we had very little franchise taxes, but we had no sales tax. So, we've been basically skimming by. Since the implementation of the sales tax, a total of \$92,833.54 has been collected for the Village of Hosston. Additionally, the extra 2% sales tax that's being asked to pass or be presented—it has no effect on the citizens of Hosston or anybody in Caddo Parish. Only the people that are going to be buying from that truck stop. This type of tax has been successful in larger companies—you know bringing larger companies and infrastructure around, and we hope that you would honor your commitment to Edgemont Holdings. The project represents a significant economic opportunity for our community. Failing to uphold your agreement would only jeopardize the development and could deter other businesses for coming up to do business in Hosston. I respectfully urge the Commission to fulfill its commitment and support the vital project and the growth and prosperity of our community. Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Mr. Jones asked the position of Mayor James with regards to this sales tax. Mayor James said that she is in support of the proposed ordinance. She reiterated that she is not in support of additional taxes on citizens, but this ordinance only applies to purchasing from this truck stop.

Mr. Kracman asked the location of the nearest convenience store to Hosston. Mayor James said the nearest one would be 4 miles up the road to Mira, 7 miles to Vivian, or about 28 miles to Blanchard. Mr. Kracman stated that the nearest one does not have near the amenities as the truck stop. Mayor James agreed. He then wanted to know the current sales tax at the truck stop. Mayor James said that she is unsure because it is out of her jurisdiction. Mr. Kracman stated that the current tax is 10.6%, and this proposed ordinance would bring it up to 12.6%. He also said that the initial conversations he had is that this would not affect local people, it would mainly be for truck drivers and passersby's. Since he has become outspoken about this, there are concerns with how successful the truck stop would be if people knew about the 2% increase. I think the locals are give it an abundance of business, he said.

Mr. Kracman pointed out that this agreement was not a written agreement. Mayor James agreed and said that it was a verbal agreement. Mr. Kracman understood and said that it is “safe to say that a small group of people that entered into an agreement that didn't have the authority to make an agreement.” Mr. Kracman feels that this is cumbersome on the citizens of Hosston and does not believe in corporate welfare.

Mayor James said that it is her understanding that this agreement was made with the Commission as well. She believes that this agreement was brought to the people who have the authority to make the agreement.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that this area is mainly sustained by travelers. Mayor James agreed.

Mr. James Silvia, Edgemont Holdings, stated that they turned a bean field into an 8 acre facility with a \$15M investment. The project aims to stimulate development in North Caddo Parish. Mr. Silvia further stated that the truck stop made \$2M, but there was no mention of the \$2.1M that was needed to get to that profit. He also mentioned that this project has returned several dollars to Hosston within 12 months. Edgemont Holdings plans to expand with an additional 8,000 square feet, but they are having second thoughts due to the Parish not holding up their end of the bargain. Mr. Silvia also pointed out that the gas at TA truck stop is 35 cents cheaper than Mira. They have looked for suppliers to help offset the 12% on groceries. There is a plan, he said, they are not taking advantage of local people. Edgemont Holdings has put in the time and effort for this project and is successful.

Mrs. Gage-Watts welcomed Edgemont Holdings to Caddo Parish. We are open for

business, she said.

COMMUNIQUES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Thomas read aloud the following statement:

I've found that it is easy sit here and govern based on your emotions. But I've learned that you get more done when you base your actions to the decisions placed before you on facts. Madame President, It is a fact that this issue no longer became a "District one" issue when it was brought before the Long Range Planning committee. During that meeting, we were provided with concrete data, including numbers and calculations, which outlined a strategy to both honor our commitments to the developer and benefiting and securing the parish's financial future. After being presented the facts. To the surprise of the chairman at the time, all commissioners except the chair voted to advance this item to the full body. The chairman expressed his astonishment, having anticipated that we would abandon the sensible and logical plan before us in favor of his misguided approach. I don't have to speculate as to why the chair was astonished, he informed us and I quote "I know this is a good thing, but I have to ACT like I'm against this, or else it would be committing political suicide". Madame President, Now, we can stand on political stages all we want, but I won't sit back and watch us commit "Economic Suicide" for this Parish. It is also a fact that the item placed before us happens to be in reference to a TIFF district, Madame President allow me to remind you, our colleagues, and the public of the fact that these unique districts are governed by this entire body, and not one particular commissioner, regardless of the district. Madame President, When the action item reached the full body, it was met with misinformation and misrepresentations regarding its intent and nature. While emotional outbursts may attract attention and incite public unrest, provide for good social media content, and score political points, they seldom lead to factual clarity. Just because someone yells it, does not make it true, just because they keep repeating it does not make it a fact. What is a fact, is that in 2021 The Industrial Development Board and Edgemont Holdings took a bold step to ignite economic development in the village of Hosston, which is now officially recognized as an economic development district? This initiative has laid the foundations to attract more businesses to the area and reduce the need for residents to commute elsewhere. Mr. Clerk, I'd like to request that the minutes from the September 28, 2021 IDB meeting be uploaded and attached to the forthcoming resolutions for clarity. Madame president, It is my opinion, not a fact, that It is irresponsible for any commissioner to instead of properly explaining and informing their constituents on parish business, to instead perpetuate falsehoods, prompting citizens to travel 45 miles to these chambers to echo the misinformation they've been fed. Without the hard work of the late and Honorable Todd Hopkins, the leadership of Mayor Jaynes, Senator Jenkins, Dr. Wilson, and the negotiations of the IDB board, and the generosity and foresight of Edgemont Holdings, there would be no truck stop and no potential for Hosston's future growth. Madame president, I've learned that the business of the Parish extends beyond smiling and taking pictures at the ribbon cuttings. This job requires you to first listen and it requires you observe the data and the facts and have the tough and difficult conversations that hopefully end in a resolution to move forward in the best interest of the citizens of Caddo Parish regardless of the district. Madame President, Typically, we defer to the representative of each district UNLESS they fail to act in the best interests of their constituents. One fact that was stated Monday is that our intentions are focused on providing for the citizens of Shreveport, I'll take that, but know that we are equally committed to also serving the citizens of Hosston and the broader parish community no matter your district and no matter if you voted for me or not. We HAVE to look beyond Black and white and red and blue. What I have observed since taking this seat is a sad game of red light, green light, stop. The same lights show red, and the same lights show green for every item on our agenda. Madame President I urge the public to stop listening to what comes out of our mouth, and pay attention to what's on that board. That will allow the people to see who is here to handle business and who is here to vote no. We need to abandon the political division and board games and work together to actually get some work done and handle the business of this parish. Madame President, I would also ask that you caution our colleagues against any future displays of the behavior that we witnessed here on Monday. I want you to know that I am committed to assisting you in my capacity as Parliamentarian in running a smooth and orderly meeting and that any behavior that is not conducive to such will be subject to action outlined by Article IV of the Rules and By-Laws of the Caddo Parish Commission. Once again, I ask people to pay attention to the board. Madame President, I've been informed by legal on the process going forward and I intend to see it through. I only hope that we can abandon the political stage and honor our promise and move forward in the affirmative. I would like to make it clear that I harbor NO ill will to my fellow colleague but it's important that we hold each other accountable and I look forward to working together to advance our parish and her needs.

- Mr. Epperson offered condolences to the late former Parish Administrator, Judy Durham. He stated that she left a lasting impact on Caddo Parish.

He also reminded everyone that there is an election on March 29, 2025 where there will be four constitutional amendments. He encouraged all to get out and vote.

Mr. Epperson attended the NACo Conference in Washington, D.C. He raised concerns about the potential to privatize the United States Postal Service.

He also met the late Joe Shyne's brother-in-law, Lester Brown, who is a native of Shreveport. Mr. Epperson said that Mr. Brown has a rich history in Caddo Parish. Mr. Brown is a 101 year

old WWII veteran who recently visited Normandy, France where he received a medal for his service. Plans are underway for the Veterans Parade & Honor Ceremony, which Mr. Brown plans to attend.

- Mr. J. Young talked about a situation happening in his neighborhood. He showed photos of house that burned down. This house has become a dumping ground, with discarded items like a television. He said that a person was using meth at this site and used an old freezer to burn garbage. Mr. J. Young describe the situation as scary in contrast to the humorous depiction it might receive on a show like, Reno 911. Mr. J. Young showed photos of a house with graffiti. He said that squatters now have access to the inside of that home. He explained that the current enforcement policy requires the property owner's presence or complaint for arrests. There are several safety hazards, like meth needles, frequent fires, etc. Mr. J. Young talked about Mr. Jim who fears an imminent house fire due to previous incidents in the area. This could be prevented by allowing police to make arrests for trespassing, just like Bossier does.

- Mr. Jones thanked the young people for coming today and expressing their concerns to the Commission. He expressed the importance of considering different perspectives when addressing children's actions. Children should be held accountable, but they also need help understanding the consequences of their action`s. Mr. Jones further explained that their brains are not fully developed. He also talked about how sometimes, it is difficult for a child to find a compatible social group, so they may end up hanging with the wrong people who peer pressure them into wrongdoing. Mr. Jones is concerned with charging juveniles as adults and how children may not have the ability to defend themselves while incarcerated. Mr. Jones said that many individuals make mistakes, especially the youth. He highlighted the importance of receiving a second chance and the need to rehabilitate children, rather than locking them up. Young people, keep speaking! Say it loud and proud and with your chest, Mr. Jones said.

- Mr. Burrell thanked the young people who came and spoke to the Commission today. He said that psychologists and mental health professions testified that the juvenile brain is not developed all the way, and this should be considered. Mr. Burrell also expressed concerns regarding the unfair treatment of juveniles, particularly minorities, who are tried as adults. He said that disparities in incarceration rates between minority and non-minority groups highlight system issues. Mr. Burrell stands with the young people who were in attendance today.

- Mr. Epperson announced that NACo attendees were receptive of the "Veteran Friendly" signs in Caddo. He also talked about tariffs. A presentation was shown and highlighted the detrimental impact of tariffs on trade between the two countries. Copies of this presentation will be distributed to the Commissioners and staff.

- Mr. Jones pointed out that one of his constituents raised an issue about englobo. Since she raised that concern, he has not englobed as much, but he also mentions, "if it pleases the body".

- Mr. Kracman said that there have been two written statements against him, along with a public call for his resignation. He reiterated that the TA Truck Stop has a 10.6% sales tax, and this proposed ordinance would raise it another 2%. He speaks passionately for his constituents. Mr. Kracman also said that he did not have a seat at the table when a deal was made. His constituents are tired of the high taxes. Mr. Kracman reiterated that he is not for corporate welfare, especially not off the backs of his constituents.

- Mr. Lazarus pointed out that 2mg of fentanyl is enough to kill an adult male; forty-three is enough to kill almost 10 million people.

- Mr. Thomas said that he respects all of the Commissioners around the horseshoe. He would like a collaboration and overcome party lines. He would like to work with his colleagues, despite their difference. Mr. Thomas highlight mutual accountability within the Commission as a responsibility of the Commissioners. He stated that this ordinance would be "pennies on the dollar".

- Mrs. Blake talked about the NACo Conference that was held in D.C. which provided valuable insights with regards to blight.

She also congratulated Ms. Krystle Beauchamp for her nomination as the Virginia Sheehee Most Influential Woman.

- Mr. Kracman said that "pennies on the dollar" matter to poor people. He recalled a time when he was poor. Mr. Kracman also stated, "this would political suicide for me to vote for this, even if I did believe in it". Mr. Kracman said that he told the Mayor this as well. He stated once again that he does not believe in corporate welfare.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Gage-Watts thanked the citizens who were in attendance today. The opening statement she made today was for Commission members as well as audience members. Proper decorum will be had in the Chambers.

Mrs. Gage-Watts also thanked the youth for coming today and voiced their concerns regarding Amendment 3. She encouraged all to get out and vote on March 29.

Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know if other organizations could be added to the list of Relocation Assistance. Mrs. Bryant said that additional organizations could be added.

She reiterated her sentiments that she expressed on Monday regarding the collaboration between the governing bodies. There is a pending lawsuit, but it is not a reflection of the Commission body. It is her hope, that the Commission will continue to work together in the future.

There were no Zoning Ordinances & Cases, so the Commission moved onto Public Hearings on Ordinances.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

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

- *Ordinance No. 6517 of 2025, an ordinance relative to the sale of Parish property, to authorize the sale of the Regional Lab building, located at 533 Vine Street, Shreveport, LA, and adjacent parking lots and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6519 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*
- *Ordinance No. 6520 of 2025, an ordinance amending the 2024 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Head Start Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6521 of 2025, an ordinance amending the 2024 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Housing Choice Voucher Program Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6522 of 2025, an ordinance to authorize the transfer and acceptance of donation of a tract of land and temporary construction servitude in J.N. Howell's Subdivisions, Unit No. 3, adjacent to the Parish Health Unit, from Solomon Rental, LLC, 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.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6517 of 2025, an ordinance relative to the sale of Parish property, to authorize the sale of the Regional Lab building, located at 533 Vine Street, Shreveport, LA, and adjacent parking lots and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

ORDINANCE NO. 6517 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO THE SALE OF PARISH PROPERTY, TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF THE REGIONAL LAB BUILDING LOCATED AT 533 VINE STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA, AND ADJACENT PARKING LOTS AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo owns property designated as the "Regional Lab Building," which is located at 533 Vine Street, Shreveport, Louisiana and the adjacent parking lots;

WHEREAS, Brentwood Acquisition-Shreveport, Inc., has offered to purchase the property for a cash price, plus economic development guarantees, that place the purchase price at the appraised fair market value of the property;

WHEREAS, the Parish has had the property appraised and the appraised value of the property is \$1,450,000;

WHEREAS, Brentwood Acquisition-Shreveport, Inc., or a related entity has committed to creating 60 jobs which have been determined to have an economic value of \$270,000 as a result of its use of the Regional Lab and adjacent parking lot;

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission determines that the proposed sale price of \$1,180,000 is reflective of the property's fair market value adjusted by the economic development value of the added employment;

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission determines that the property is no longer needed for public purposes;

WHEREAS, La.R.S. 33:4712 provides for the sale of property by ordinance following notice of the proposed ordinance being published three times in fifteen days, one week apart, in a newspaper published in the municipality;

WHEREAS, that statute also provides that any opposition to the proposed ordinance must be filed with the clerk within fifteen days of the first publication;

WHEREAS, Section 3-11(11) of the Charter of the Parish of Caddo requires the adoption of an ordinance for the conveyance of any lands or property of the parish government; and

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 transfer and sale to Brentwood Acquisition-Shreveport, Inc., of the following property:

TRACT 1: LOTS 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, BELL MONT SUBDIVISION, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Book 28, Page 786 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and

TRACT 2: LOTS 26, 25, 24, and the East 20.00 feet of LOT 23, BELL MONT SUBDIVISION, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as per plat thereof recorded in Book 28, Page 786 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

less and except all mineral interests therein owned by the Parish of Caddo or its authorized designee at a purchase price of \$1,180,000.00 cash which together with economic development guarantees that will equal not less than fair market value for the property.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Administrator or his 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 ten days after its adoption.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Ordinance No. 6519 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* be adopted. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

ORDINANCE NO. 6519 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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

WHEREAS, the hereinbelow described properties are no longer needed for public purposes and should be declared surplus properties; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received offers to purchase its tax interest in the hereinbelow described properties as indicated below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the hereinbelow described properties are no longer needed for public purposes and are surplus properties.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has a tax interest in the hereinbelow described properties which have been adjudicated for the non-payment of Parish property taxes; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby authorize the sale of its tax interest in the hereinbelow described properties.

Property No.1, Lot 1, Block 14, Lake Side Park Subdivision, in the City of Shreveport of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 150, Page 202, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO# 181435-006-0001-00)

Property No. 2, Lot 2, Block 14, Lake Side Park Subdivision, in the City of Shreveport of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 150, Page 202, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO# 181435-006-0002-00)

Property No. 3, Lot 1, School Park Annex, in the City of Shreveport of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 900, Page 497, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO# 181435-012-0001-00)

Property No. 4, Lot 3, School Park Annex, in the City of Shreveport of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 900, Page 497, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO# 181435-012-0003-00)

Property No. 5, Lot 4, School Park Annex, in the City of Shreveport of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 900, Page 497, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO# 181435-012-0004-00)

Property No. 6, Lot 26, Block 13, Mayfair Subdivision, in the City of Shreveport of Caddo Parish, Louisiana as per plat recorded in Book 50, Page 579, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO# 181435-089-0026-00)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Administrator, or his designee, shall be authorized to do any and all things and to sign any and all documents, including Acts of Cash Sale, 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 ten days after publication in the official journal.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6520 of 2025, an ordinance amending the 2024 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Head Start Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

ORDINANCE NO. 6520 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2024 BUDGET TO AMEND THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE HEAD START FUND AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Head Start programs promote the school readiness of infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children from low-income families; and

WHEREAS, the Head Start program is funded through a federal grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); and

WHEREAS, the Head Start program received an additional award from HHS; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the budget for revenues and expenditures for the Head Start Fund to appropriate these funds; 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 Head Start Fund for the year 2024 as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Head Start Fund:	
Revenue:	
Head Start Grant	\$2,400,000
Head Start Program	\$2,400,000

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 Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6521 of 2025, an ordinance amending the 2024 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Housing Choice Voucher Program Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

ORDINANCE NO. 6521 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2024 BUDGET TO AMEND THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM FUND AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

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

WHEREAS, Section 8 funds the Housing 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 Parish received additional funding for the Housing Voucher Program in 2024 due to aggressive leasing which increased HUD funding significantly and increased the number of families we served; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend a budget for revenues and expenditures for the Housing Voucher Program 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 Housing Voucher Program Fund for the year 2024 as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Housing Voucher Program Fund:	
Revenue:	
Section 8 Grant Revenue	\$600,000
Section 8 Grant Expenses	\$600,000

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. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that Ordinance No. 6522 of 2025, an ordinance to authorize the transfer and acceptance of donation of a tract of land and temporary construction servitude in J.N. Howell's Subdivisions, Unit No. 3, adjacent to the Parish Health Unit, from Solomon Rental, LLC, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

ORDINANCE NO. 6522 OF 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER AND ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF A TRACT OF LAND AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION SERVITUDE IN J. N. HOWELL'S SUBDIVISION, UNIT NO. 3, ADJACENT TO THE PARISH HEALTH UNIT, FROM SOLOMON RENTAL, L.L.C., AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Solomon Rental, L.L.C. desires to donate to the Parish of Caddo the following described property, to-wit:

A Tract of land located in part of Lot 2, J.N. Howell's Subdivision Unit No. 3 recorded in Book 5050, Page 279, being a resubdivision of fractional portions of Lots 15 and 16, Block 20, J.N. Howell's Subdivision as recorded in Book "P", Page 911 and Lot 2, J.N. Howell's Subdivision, Unit No. 2, as recorded in Book 2100, Page 465, all in the records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and being located in Section 31, Township 18 North, Range 13 West of the Louisiana Principal Meridian, City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana and more particularly described by a metes and bounds survey as follows:

Beginning at a 3/4-inch iron rod found in place at the westernmost corner of said Lot 2, J.N. Howells Subdivision No. 3, point being at the southeast corner of the right-of-way platted as McNeil Street (apparent 60 ft. R/W), also being on the northeasterly boundary of Lot 1, J.N. Howell's Subdivision Unit No. 4 as recorded in Book 9000, Page 158 of the Caddo Parish Plat Records; thence South 54 degrees 02 minutes 46 seconds East, 146.98 feet to an inside ell corner of said Lot 2, J.N. Howell's Subdivision Unit No. 3 coincident with the northeast corner of said Lot 1, J.N. Howell's Subdivision Unit No. 4; thence proceed westerly and northwesterly with the common boundary line of said Lot 2, J.N. Howell's Subdivision Unit No. 3 and Lot 1, J.N. Howell's Subdivision Unit No. 4 along the following two courses:

1. North 89 degrees 14 minutes 59 seconds West, 40.00 feet to a chiseled "X" in concrete found in place;
2. North 42 degrees 38 minutes 23 seconds West, 116.60 feet back to the Point of Beginning of the Tract herein described, containing 0.039 Acre, more or less.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is constructing drainage improvements at the Caddo Parish Health Unit and Veterans Affairs offices; and

WHEREAS, those improvements require the acquisition of certain property which the owner is willing to donate to the Parish to make the drainage improvements happen;

WHEREAS, the construction of the improvements requires the acquisition of a temporary construction servitude from the same owner; and

WHEREAS, the Parish Charter requires that any acquisition of real property by the Parish be authorized by ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby authorize the transfer and acceptance of the above-described property and temporary construction servitude.

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 take effect immediately upon adoption.

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

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

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6523 of 2025, an ordinance establishing a sales tax within the boundaries of the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District in connection with the pilot agreement with Edgemont Holdings, LLC*
- *Ordinance No. 6524 of 2025, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund and Economic Development Fund to provide an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Shreveport Classing, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that the Work Session Minutes from March 3, 2025 be ratified. Motion carried unanimously*, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that Resolution No. 10 of 2025, a resolution amending Resolution No. 42 of 2024 to extend Caddo Parish's War on Litter be adopted.*

Friendly amendment by Mrs. Gage-Watts *that the War on Litter be extended indefinitely. Mr. Epperson accepted.*

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion carried unanimously, as amended, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that the following resolutions be englobed and adopted:*

- *Resolution No. 11 of 2025, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to direct and authorize the Louisiana State Mineral & Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to accept nominations, advertise for, accept and award bids, and execute all oil, gas, and mineral leases on certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 12 of 2025, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Leases No. 15035 and No. 18798 and No. 20346 from Arapahoe SPV, LLC, and ORX Resources, LLC, to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 13 of 2025, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Leases No. 19480 from BPX Operating Company, to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 14 of 2025, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Leases No. 22029 and 22030 from Mammoth Minerals, LLC, and FPCC USA, Inc., to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

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

RESOLUTION NO. 10 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 42 OF 2024 TO EXTEND CADDO PARISH'S WAR ON LITTER

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission adopted Resolution 35 of 2024 proclaiming May as "War on Litter" month, requesting jurisdictions in Caddo Parish to join in increased efforts to eliminate litter, and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission adopted Resolution 42 of 2024 extended the "War on Litter" through the ends of 2024; and

WHEREAS, litter continues to be a significant problem in Caddo Parish;

WHEREAS, litter is a persistent blight on the parish and municipalities in the parish; and

WHEREAS, such a persistent blight demands a coordinated effort by municipalities, homeowners, neighborhoods, large property owners, unincorporated communities, and other institutions such as churches, schools, homeowner association, and community organizations to increase efforts to eliminate litter in the Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby extend the proclamation of its "War on Litter" beyond 2024 to extend this initiative indefinitely in Caddo Parish or until litter is no longer a problem for our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish Commission urges all municipalities, homeowners, neighborhoods, large property owners, unincorporated communities, and other institutions such as churches, schools, homeowner association, and community organizations to collaborate with the Parish in increasing efforts to eliminate litter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution 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 resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

RESOLUTION NO. 11 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO DIRECT AND AUTHORIZE THE LOUISIANA STATE MINERAL AND ENERGY BOARD AND THE OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES TO ACCEPT NOMINATIONS, ADVERTISE FOR, ACCEPT AND AWARD BIDS, AND EXECUTE ALL OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASES ON CERTAIN MINERAL INTERESTS OWNED BY THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo may own certain mineral rights underlying the following described property, to-wit:

Those certain adjudicated properties located in Section 13, Township 17 North, Range 15 West, described as a tract of land in Lots 24, 25, 26 & 67, Rosewood Estates Subdivision, with Geo. #171513-026-0079, containing a net of .44 acres; that part of Lot 7, Home Acres Subdivision, Unit No. 2 lying South I-220 right-of-way, with Geo. #171513-011-0035, containing a net of .34 acres; Lot 14 & 15, Home Acres Subdivision, Unit No. 2, with Geo. #171513-011-0014, containing a net of 1.51 acres; Lot 2, Wildwood Terrace, Unit No. 1, with Geo. #171513-005-0002, containing a net of .43 acres; Lot 5, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0005, containing .06 acres; Lot 6, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0006, containing .07 acres; Lot 9, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0009, containing .06 acres; Lot 11, Oaklawn

Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0011, containing .06 acres; Lot 12, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0012, containing .06 acres; Lot 13, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0013, containing .06 acres; Lot 14, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0014, containing .06 acres; Lot 15, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0015, containing .06 acres; Lot 16, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0016, containing .06 acres; Lot 17, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0017, containing .06 acres; Lot 18, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0018, containing .06 acres; Lot 19, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0019, containing .06 acres; Lot 20, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0020, containing .06 acres; Lot 23, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0023, containing .06 acres; Lot 24, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0024, containing .06 acres; Lot 25, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0025, containing .06 acres; Lot 26, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0026, containing .06 acres; Lot 27, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0027, containing .06 acres; Lot 28, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0028, containing .06 acres; Lot 31, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0031, containing .06 acres; Lot 32, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0032, containing .06 acres; Lot 34, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0034, containing .06 acres; Lot 37, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0037, containing .06 acres; Lot 43, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0043, containing .06 acres; Lot 44, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0044, containing .06 acres; Lot 45, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0045, containing .06 acres; Lot 51, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0051, containing .06 acres; Lot 52, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0052, containing .06 acres; Lot 56, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0056, containing .07 acres; Lot 58, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0058, containing .06 acres; Lot 64, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0064, containing .06 acres; Lot 69, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0069, containing .06 acres; Lot 78, Oaklawn Village Townhomes, with Geo. #171513-035-0078, containing .06 acres; with Section 13, T17N, R15W containing a total of 7.41 Gross acres and 4.72 Net acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain adjudicated properties located in Section 24, Township 17 North, Range 15 West, described as that certain tract of land in Lot 3, H. S. Dennis Estate Partition, with Geo. #171513-001-0054, containing 1.62 acres, the North 71.3 ft. of South 102.6 ft. of Lot 46, Blk 2, Greenwood Park Subdivision, with Geo. #171513-008-0078, containing a net of .04 acres; Lot 55, Blk. 5, Greenwood Park Addition Subdivision, with Geo. 3171513-013-0055, containing .06 acres; that part of Lots 15, 16, 43 & 44, lying South of I-220, Blk. 5, Greenwood Park Subdivision, Unit 2, with Geo. 3171513-013-0065, containing .12 acres; the North 50.4 ft. of Lot 46, Blk. 2, Greenwood Park Subdivision, with Geo. 3171513-008-0074, containing .06 acres; Lot 28, Home Acres #2 Subdivision, with Geo. 3171513-012-0028, containing .81 acres; Lots 4 and 24, Blk. 1, Greenwood Park Subdivision, with Geo. 3171513-007-0031, containing .40 acres; Lot 54, Blk. 5, Greenwood Park Addition Subdivision, Unit 2, with Geo. 3171513-013-0054, containing .06 acres; Lots 2, 3 & 4, Blk. 5, Greenwood Park Subdivision, Unit 2, with Geo. 3171513-013-0068, containing a net of .09 acres; with Section 24, T17N, R15W containing a total of 3.39 Gross acres and 3.26 Net acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from Cypress Energy Partners, LLC, that the Parish seek public bids for an oil, gas and mineral lease covering said property; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo does not have the knowledge or resources available to determine if it owns the mineral rights and the Parish of Caddo will rely on the expertise and experience of the lessee in determining ownership; and

WHEREAS, it is expressly agreed that any lease granted by the Parish of Caddo and accepted by lessee is without any warranty of title and without any recourse against the Parish of Caddo whatsoever, either express or implied, and it is expressly agreed that the Parish of Caddo shall not be required to return any payments received or be otherwise responsible to lessee therefore; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources, is available upon the request of Caddo Parish to lease the aforesaid property for oil, gas and other minerals if requested to do so by Caddo Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that it does hereby direct and authorize the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources, to accept nominations, advertise for, accept and award bids, and execute all oil, gas and mineral leases on the aforesaid properties of certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a no surface operations provision as follows: Lessee, its successors or assigns, may produce oil, gas and other minerals from the leased premises by drilling from a surface location on other lands, but notwithstanding any other provision of this lease, Lessee, its successors or assigns, shall not use the surface of the Lessor's property for drilling or any other operations without prior written permission of Lessor, which permission may be withheld at Lessor's discretion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a horizontal pugh provision as follows: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, at the end of the primary term or any extension thereof by operations, if the Commission of Conservation of the State of Louisiana establishes a drilling unit which includes a part of the land herein leased, the production of oil, gas and other minerals from such unit shall maintain this lease in full force and effect only as to such portions of the leased land embraced in said pooled unit; and this lease shall expire as to that part of the land herein leased not included in such unit; and lessee, its successors and assigns agrees to relinquish by formal instrument any portion of the leased land not included in a unit created by the Commission of Conservation while this lease is in effect

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a vertical pugh provision as follows: Upon the expiration of the primary term hereof or any extension thereof by operations, this lease shall automatically terminate and be of no further force or effect except as to all that part of the leased premises then included within the geographical boundaries of a producing unit duly established by governmental agency or authority having jurisdiction, from the surface of the earth to a depth of 100 feet below the deepest depth from which any well commenced during the primary term hereof on the leased premises or on lands pooled therewith is completed and from which there is production in paying quantities, such depth determination to be made on a unit by unit basis. In the absence of units so established, this lease shall terminate except as to 40 acres around each producing oil well and 160 acres around each producing or shut-in gas well located on the leased premises, in as near the form of a square as is practicable, from the surface of the earth down to a depth of 100 feet below the deepest depth from which said well or wells are completed and from which there is production in paying quantities, such depth determination to be made on a well by well basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a minimum royalty provision as follows: Royalty of not less than 1/4th or 25%.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a minimum bonus provision as follows: Bonus of not less than \$3,000.00 per acre.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a hard or solid mineral exclusion provision as follows: This lease shall exclude free sulphur, potash, lignite, salt and any other hard or solid mineral. Lessee shall not have any rights to explore, drill for, mine, produce or take any action whatsoever in regard to any such hard or solid mineral deposits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a maximum term provision as follows: Primary term of lease shall not exceed three (3) years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution 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 resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

RESOLUTION NO. 12 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE THE ASSIGNMENT, BILL OF SALE AND CONVEYANCE OF STATE AGENCY LEASES NO. 15035 AND NO. 18798 AND NO. 20346 FROM ARAPAHOE SPV, LLC, AND ORX

RESOURCES, LLC, TO PALOMA NATURAL GAS, LLC., AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is a Lessor in that certain oil, gas and mineral lease from the Caddo Parish Commission to Energy Management Corp., in State Agency Lease No. 15035, dated August 9, 1995, and recorded at Registry No. 1489195, and the Caddo Parish Commission to Tellus Energy, LLC, in State Agency Lease No. 18798 dated October 12, 2005, and recorded at Registry No. 2011624, and the Caddo Parish Commission to Encana Oil and Gas (USA) Inc., in State Agency Lease No. 20346 dated May 12, 2010, and recorded at Registry No. 2292378, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, State Agency Leases No. 15037, No. 18798 and No. 20346 have been conveyed by numerous assignments, bills of sale, conveyances, mergers and Sheriff Sale to Arapahoe SPV, LLC and ORX Resources, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, seeking approval from the Parish of Caddo of a conveyance, assignment and bill of sale of State Agency Leases No. 15035 and No. 18798 and No. 20346, from Arapahoe SPV, LLC and ORX Resources, LLC, to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, dated effective October 1, 2023 and recorded at Registry No. 2948501, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, this approval is expressly granted and accepted subject to the requirement that all terms and conditions of the basic lease will be fulfilled, including but not limited to the full payment of rentals and royalties, regardless of the division of leasehold interests resulting from the instrument.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish of Caddo, in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Administrator is hereby authorized to approve the assignment, bill of sale and conveyance of State Agency Leases No. 15035 and No. 18798 and No. 20346 from Arapahoe SPV, LLC and ORX Resources, LLC, to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution 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 resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

RESOLUTION NO. 13 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE THE ASSIGNMENT, BILL OF SALE AND CONVEYANCE OF STATE AGENCY LEASE NO. 19480 FROM BPX OPERATING COMPANY, TO PALOMA NATURAL GAS, LLC., AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is a Lessor in that certain oil, gas and mineral lease from the Caddo Parish Commission to Camterra Resources Partners, LTD., in State Agency Lease No. 19480, dated August 8, 2007, and recorded at Registry No. 2119596, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, State Agency Lease #19480 has been conveyed by numerous assignments, bills of sale, conveyances and mergers to BPX Operating Company; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, seeking approval from the Parish of Caddo of a conveyance, assignment and bill of sale of State Agency Lease No. 19480, from BPX Operating Company, to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, dated 2-29-24 and recorded at Registry No. 2961302, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, this approval is expressly granted and accepted subject to the requirement that all terms and conditions of the basic lease will be fulfilled, including but not limited to the full payment of rentals and royalties, regardless of the division of leasehold interests resulting from the instrument.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish of Caddo, in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Administrator is hereby authorized to approve the assignment, bill of sale and conveyance of State Agency Leases No. 19480 from BPX Operating Company, to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution 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 resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

RESOLUTION NO. 14 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE THE ASSIGNMENT, BILL OF SALE AND CONVEYANCE OF STATE AGENCY LEASES NO. 22029 AND 22030 FROM MAMMOTH MINERALS, LLC, AND FPCC USA, INC., TO PALOMA NATURAL GAS, LLC., AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is a Lessor in that certain oil, gas and mineral lease from the Caddo Parish Commission to Mammoth Minerals, LLC, in State Agency Lease No. 22029, dated July 14, 2021, and recorded at Registry No. 2852446, and State Agency Lease No. 22030 dated July 14, 2021, and recorded at Registry No. 2852288, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Mammoth Minerals, LLC, has conveyed a portion of their interest in State Agency Leases No. 22029 and No. 22030 to FPCC USA, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, seeking approval from the Parish of Caddo of a conveyance, assignment and bill of sale of State Agency Leases No. 22029 and No. 22030, from Mammoth Minerals, LLC, and FPCC USA, Inc., to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, dated effective 12-11-20 and recorded at Registry No. 2890745, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, this approval is expressly granted and accepted subject to the requirement that all terms and conditions of the basic lease will be fulfilled, including but not limited to the full payment of rentals and royalties, regardless of the division of leasehold interests resulting from the instrument.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish of Caddo, in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Administrator is hereby authorized to approve the assignment, bill of sale and conveyance of State Agency Leases No. 22029 and No. 22030 from Mammoth Minerals, LLC, and FPCC USA, Inc., to Paloma Natural Gas, LLC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution 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 resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that Nicholas McCray, Dawson Jones, Genesis Clay, Madison Coleman, Brooklyn Stephens, Xavier Quarles, Carrine Smith, Taylor Franklin, Ivy Joseph, John T. Foret, II, Landon Gibbs, and Anmelia Kimble* be appointed to the Commission Youth Council. Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Cothran and G. Young being absent (2).

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

COMMUNIQUES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson requested that a copy of Resolution No. 42 of 2025 be sent to Ms. Jan. He reminded the Commissioners that April is Parish Government Month, along with Commissioners for A Day.

- Mr. Thomas requested that a copy of the votes be displayed on the projection screen. He also praised his colleagues for the collaborative spirit. He said that this is the first meeting that everything was voted unanimously in the affirmative.
- Mr. Jones thanked the Parks & Recreation Department for all of their hard work with the youth in Caddo Parish.
- Mr. Epperson announced that PRABA will meet on March 24 at 6:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Blake thanked Mrs. Hayley Barnett with assisting a constituent in her district.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts announced that severe weather is anticipated this weekend. She encouraged citizens to sign up for Everbridge for alerts. She also reminded the Commissioners to file their financial disclosures.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant to the Commission Clerk


Stormy Gage-Watts
President