

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 16th DAY OF JUNE, 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, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked for a moment of silence for the Senator Hoffman and her husband who lost their lives over the weekend.

The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance were given during a previous Committee meeting. There were no Agenda Additions nor Citizens Comments, so the Commission moved onto Visitors.

VISITORS

- LSUS Pilots Baseball Team

The LSU Shreveport Pilots baseball team was recognized for their historic undefeated season and NAIA National Championship. The Clerk of the Commission, Mr. Everson, read aloud the special resolution that was previously adopted. The team and coach expressed gratitude and the support from the City and the Parish. Several Commissioners acknowledged and congratulated the team and coaches for their perfect season.

- Alzheimer's Association

Ms. Rene Calloway from the Alzheimer's Association presented information on the disease and its prevalence in the community. Ms. Calloway shared her personal story and emphasized the importance of education, awareness, and fundraising for research and support. She encouraged all to participate in the Walk to End Alzheimer's event.

Mr. Thomas announced that the Walk to End Alzheimer's will be held on October 18, 2025.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know the difference between dementia and Alzheimer's. Ms. Calloway said that Alzheimer's is a type of dementia.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know how a person would test for Alzheimer's. Ms. Calloway encouraged anyone with a concern to talk with their primary care physician. If there is an issue, there will be testing done. Mr. Atkins then wanted to know the advantages of an early diagnosis. Ms. Calloway said that an early diagnosis can slow the progression of the disease.

- Men's Mental Health Month

Mr. Haseem Jones came before the Commission and gave a presentation on men's mental health. He emphasized the importance of emotional expression and support systems. Mr. Jones encouraged checking in on male friends and family, being a safe space, and seeking professional help when needed.

Mr. Atkins commented Mr. Jones on his mastering of his content, communication style, and connectivity. He encouraged him to "get back in the game".

Mr. Cothran wanted to know how people would get in touch with him. Mr. Jones said that he refers people to Clint Davis Counseling, Jessica Latin, etc. He expressed how important it is to reach out.

Mrs. Gage-Watts mentioned the non-emergency 988 number that a person could dial for services.

Mr. Jones said that outlets such as journaling, gardening, walking, etc. is beneficial to everyone.

**ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that the following items be adopted:*

- *Regular Session Minutes June 5, 2025*

- *Special Resolution SocialCon*
- *Special Resolution Notre Dame High School Reunion*
- *Special Resolution Basic Necessities*

Several Commissioners congratulated and recognized Basic Necessities for its fifth anniversary and its support for low-income families through hygiene supplies. Mr. J. Young is grateful for helping people with needs that they are sometimes ashamed to ask for.

The representatives from Basic Necessities thanked the Commission for honoring them today.

- *Special Resolution Woodlawn High School Reunion*
- *Special Resolution Terrance “Hollywood Bay Bay” Stewart*

Several Commissioners gave accolades to Bay Bay, a.k.a. Mr. I-20, for his contributions to music, entertainment, and community leadership.

Mr. Stewart thanked the Commissioners for honoring him today. He said that his purpose is to inspire and empower. He encouraged young people to pay attention.

- *Special Resolution World Sickle Cell Awareness Day*

SPECIAL RESOLUTION SOCIALCON

WHEREAS, SocialCon 2025 is scheduled for June 7, 2025, at Eleven Events, 1529 Texas Avenue in Shreveport, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, SocialCon is Shreveport’s first social media and digital marketing conference, created by Kalli Combs to elevate local entrepreneurs, creators, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the event brings together renowned social media professionals—including speakers such as D’Audrea Smith, Chanell Sykes, Ariel Lathon and Keynote Speaker Dee-1—to present interactive sessions, workshops, and vendor showcases designed to foster community engagement and digital literacy; and

WHEREAS, SocialCon is hosted by local favorite ScooterMan Pro, who will use his famous energy to set the stage for social media giants like Monty Lans whose social media strategies, coaching and short form video expertise have made the comedian and founder of the Creative Genius Club one of the most sought-after social media professionals in the business alongside social media educating powerhouse and influential rapper with Louisiana roots Dee-1 whose career has seen him carving out previously unimagined creative spaces for engagement and education and making it clear that the 2010 NOLA Underground Hip Hop Artist of the Year and the Harvard fellow creating a new class at Tufts can and should be the same person;

WHEREAS, SocialCon 2025 serves as a platform for Northwestern Louisiana’s creatives to network, discover emerging tools and strategies, and gain practical skills to strengthen their brand and community presence; and

WHEREAS, the conference also celebrates local digital excellence through the inaugural SocialCon Awards—including categories like “TikTok Titan,” “Positive Vibes Only,” and “Content Killer”—highlighting the talents who use digital platforms to uplift and inspire; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission commends Kalli Combs for leveraging their passion and hometown pride to bring this innovative, educational, and community-centered event to Shreveport;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby recognize SocialCon 2025 as a landmark event in digital marketing and community empowerment in Caddo Parish, applaud the organizers and presenters for their commitment to education, creativity, and local economic growth; encourage all residents and businesses of Caddo Parish to attend, support, and benefit from this pioneering conference; and extend best wishes for a successful, engaging, and impactful event.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be placed on record in the official minutes of the Caddo Parish Commission and a copy be presented to the SocialCon organizers during the event.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

SPECIAL RESOLUTION BASIC NECESSITIES

WHEREAS, Basic Necessities, a certified National Diaper Bank organization founded in 2020, has been a cornerstone of support for low-income families across Northwest Louisiana by addressing the critical issue of hygiene insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the organization has distributed more than one million essential hygiene supplies—including diapers, period products, incontinence items, and personal care necessities—to over 7,500 families and individuals across the ArkLaTex region, with 82% of those served residing in Caddo Parish, including 3,500 Caddo Parish households; and

WHEREAS, Basic Necessities partners with 9 local organizations, including The Hub, the Caddo Parish Health Unit, and the Housing Authority of City of Shreveport, and operates in 19 service areas, including a new satellite location in East Carroll Parish, to ensure equitable access to dignity-enhancing resources; and

WHEREAS, the organization plays a pivotal role in maternal and child health, providing postpartum care items and infant supplies to alleviate maternal stress, reduce preventable health risks, and support healthy early childhood development; and

WHEREAS, Basic Necessities engages in impactful advocacy efforts, including public education campaigns and policy initiatives aimed at limiting the cost of hygiene products, expanding critical assistance programs, and promoting hygiene equity as a fundamental human right; and

WHEREAS, the organization has not only transformed access to basic needs for the underserved but also fostered confidence, inclusion, and long-term systemic change within the community; and

WHEREAS, in celebrating its fifth anniversary in 2025, Basic Necessities stands as a model of compassionate leadership, responsive service, and a catalyst for lasting social progress in Caddo Parish and beyond;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission that it does hereby recognize and commend Basic Necessities for its outstanding contributions to the health, dignity, and well-being of the residents of Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Basic Necessities as a token of the Commission's gratitude and continued support.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION WOODLAWN HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

WHEREAS, the Woodlawn High School Class of 1975 holds a special place in the rich educational and cultural history of Caddo Parish, representing a generation of students whose achievements, friendships, and community involvement helped shape the identity of Shreveport and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the year 1975 marked a pivotal time in American and local history, and the members of the Woodlawn Knights graduating class stepped forward into the world with pride, resilience, and determination, embracing their roles as scholars, athletes, artists, leaders, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, since their graduation, the Class of 1975 has continued to reflect the values instilled at Woodlawn High School—integrity, service, excellence, and community—through careers in education, military service, business, healthcare, faith leadership, public service, and more; and

WHEREAS, many members of the Class of 1975 have made lasting contributions to the Caddo Parish community and beyond, raising families, mentoring youth, and supporting civic growth while carrying forward the spirit of the Knights with honor and pride; and

WHEREAS, the 50th Class Reunion, to be held the weekend of July 11–13, 2025, provides a joyful opportunity for classmates to reconnect, reflect, and celebrate five decades of shared memories, lifelong friendships, and the enduring bond that ties them to their alma mater; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission joins in honoring this milestone and commends the planning committee, reunion participants, and all those who have contributed to the success of this historic occasion;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby extend sincere congratulations and heartfelt recognition to the Woodlawn High School Class of 1975 on the celebration of their 50th Reunion, and expresses its deepest appreciation for their legacy, achievements, and continued contributions to the life and spirit of Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the reunion organizers and members of the Class of 1975 as a lasting tribute to their enduring impact and the strength of the Woodlawn Knight tradition.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
TERRANCE “HOLLYWOOD BAY BAY” STEWART**

WHEREAS, Black Music Month is a time of national reflection and celebration of the profound cultural, historical, and artistic contributions of Black musicians, creators, and leaders whose work has shaped American music and inspired generations across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Terrance Stewart—known to the world as “A Bay Bay,” “Hollyhood Bay Bay,” or simply “Bay Bay”—is one such visionary whose influence and contributions have helped define and elevate Southern hip-hop, urban radio, and Black culture for nearly two decades; and

WHEREAS, a native son of Louisiana, Bay Bay rose to prominence from the local airwaves of Shreveport’s 103.7 The Beat, where he connected deeply with the community and became a beloved personality, before expanding his influence to Dallas’s K104FM, where his drive-time program became one of the top-rated in the country; and

WHEREAS, Bay Bay was immortalized in 2007 with the platinum-certified hit “A Bay Bay” by Hurricane Chris, which catapulted him to national recognition and sparked a journey that would span radio, music production, artist development, fashion, film, and community leadership; and

WHEREAS, through his leadership at AnWhat Entertainment and his innate ability to serve as a “dot-connector,” Bay Bay has worked with an extensive roster of influential artists, including 50 Cent, Master P, Nelly, Nipsey Hussle, T-Pain, Rick Ross, Kevin Gates, Megan Thee Stallion, Rod Wave, Fredo Bangz, Dorrough, Lil Boosie, Young Dolph, Jim Jones, Yo Gotti, Future, DaBaby, and Fredo Bangz, Deion Sanders, Shedeur & Shilo Sanders, the Dallas Cowboys, Dez Bryant, and The New Dallas Movement featuring Montana 700, Zillionaire Doe, Headhuncho Amir and many others, shaping the sound and spirit of modern hip-hop and entertainment culture; and

WHEREAS, Bay Bay’s influence reaches beyond music, encompassing entrepreneurship with his culturally inspired clothing line “Get Home Safe,” his forays into acting which show he is a creative force in front of & behind the camera or microphone and all this while retaining his deep commitment to community empowerment, social uplift and devotion to family as a loyal husband & father embodying leadership, integrity and purpose; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the business of entertainment, Bay Bay was awarded an honorary doctorate in Entertainment Business in 2023, further affirming his status as a pioneering cultural curator and advocate for the next generation of creatives; and

WHEREAS, rooted in rhythm, authenticity, and leadership from his days as a drum major and dance committee member at Grambling State University, Bay Bay continues to serve as a bridge-builder and beacon for artistic integrity, creative excellence, and cultural advancement; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to recognize Terrance Stewart’s enduring legacy, his inspirational journey from local talent to national icon, and his ongoing commitment to empowering others through music, media, and community- building;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 16th day of June, 2025 that it does hereby proclaim June 19th, 2025 as:

‘A BAY BAY DAY’

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in honor & recognition of Terrance “A Bay Bay” Stewart for his visionary leadership, cultural impact, and outstanding contributions to the world of music and entertainment, and expresses its deep appreciation for his continued representation of the spirit and creative brilliance of Caddo Parish and the greater Louisiana community and it urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important day.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY**

WHEREAS, June 19th has been designated as World Sickle Cell Awareness Day, an international awareness day observed annually with the goal to increase public knowledge and an understanding of sickle cell disease, and the challenges experienced by patients, their families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Sickle cell anemia is an inherited blood disorder that mostly affects people of African ancestry, but also occurs in other ethnic groups, including people who are of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern descent; and

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease is a complex genetic disorder characterized by chronic anemia, episodes of debilitating pain and damage to vital organs; and

WHEREAS, early identification of a child with sickle cell disease coupled with antibiotic prophylaxis by 3 months of age and early intervention services, helps those with sickle cell disease while researchers continue to search for a cure; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana remains dedicated to the provision of sickle cell screening, education, and medical care for individuals and families living with sickle cell disease through its support of the Louisiana Department of Community Health's Newborn Screening Program and the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish remains dedicated to public health and awareness of conditions like Sickle Cell Disease which impact citizens across parish, state, nation and global communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 16th day of June, 2025 that it does hereby proclaim June 19th, 2025 as:

'WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important day by staying aware of sickle cell disease and, where possible, sharing that awareness others.

COMMUNIQUES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. J. Young announced that the Highland Community Lighthouse will have their grand opening on June 26 at 5:00 p.m. He invited everyone to attend.
- Mrs. Blake announced that Chasing Aces is now open.
- Mr. Thomas shared several community announcements, including Chasing Aces, Juneteenth Day of Service, Let the Good Times Roll, etc.
- Mr. Jones said that he was a judge at BizCamp and commended the students for their presentations and hard work.
- Mr. Epperson announced that the Veterans Celebration Committee will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 18 at 11:00 a.m. He encouraged all to attend.

He also said that the Citizens Disaster Committee met and finalized a resource booklet for the citizens. This book will be distributed to the Commissioners in a timely manner.

- Mr. Burrell thanked everyone who participated in the BizCamp. He said that the program was a huge success.
- Mr. Cothran asked for an update on Job Corps. Mrs. Bryant said that Job Corps is going through the legal process. Mr. Burrell said that the kids are returning to Job Corps.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts gave an update on art-ish and said it was a successful event. She elaborated on Juneteenth, a celebration of freedom.
- Mr. Burrell mentioned that citizens are able to buy and pop fireworks for Juneteenth.
- Mr. Epperson mentioned that Head Start has been fully funded until February 2026.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Gage-Watts

There were no Public Hearing on Zoning Ordinances & Cases, Public Hearings on

Ordinances, Zoning Ordinances for final passage, nor Ordinances for final passage, so the Commission moved onto Zoning Ordinances for introduction by title.

ZONING ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6549 of 2025, an ordinance to amend Volume II Of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, relative to unnecessary and inconsistent zoning districts, with all their provisions included herein, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6550 of 2025, an ordinance to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6551 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. 6552 of 2025, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the 15-foot wide utility easement in the Northwood Trace Subdivision, Unit No. 2, in Section 36, Township 19 North, Range 15 West, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6553 of 2025, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund and the Oil & Gas Fund to provide an appropriation to Northwest Louisiana Food Bank and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There were no Work Session Minutes, Resolutions, Old Business, New Business, Communiqués & Committee Reports, nor Citizens Comments for late arrivals. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant to the Commission Clerk


Stormy Gage-Watts
President