

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 21st DAY OF AUGUST, 2025

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

Mr. Burrell gave the invocation, and Mr. G. Young led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to expand the agenda and add Resolution No. 36 of 2025, a resolution urging and requesting the State of Louisiana to simplify the process of obtaining a protective order, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* under New Business.

Acting President Epperson opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the agenda addition. There being no one to speak, Mr. Epperson closed the public hearing.

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

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Robert Wyandon came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Robert Wyandon, 4748 Rice Road, Shreveport, Louisiana, 71119. I'm here today to comment on the workshop that was on Monday. It's concerning the ordinance that was on the agenda, the 6558 ordinance. And what happened, we had some people here for it, but they were overlooked. We had cards in the box, but they missed us some kind of way. So, we didn't get a chance to make any comments on the ordinance. And there are a couple of things I would like to bring up about the ordinance. I don't know if it's going to do any good. The way it is now, the ordinance is done sporadic. We have where some neighborhoods you might find that you're going to have to get a variance for a mobile home, some you don't. So, I think it needs to be consistent if they're going to, you know, use the ordinance. Another thing was one speaker who was living in a mobile home, and she was complaining about three mobile homes around her. So, I mean, it's a problem and I think we need to go ahead and address this. You had a salesman from Baton Rouge that distributed some pictures of mobile homes and homes and was asking you to distinguish between them. The thing about that is five years from now, the mobile home and the house, if you had them appraised, you would find out the mobile home had depreciated in value, whereas the home had appreciated in value. Another thing I would like to bring up, if I buy a lot in a mobile home park, I can't build a house without a variance. So, I don't see how you're making a difference with the mobile home when in a mobile home park, you need a variance. That's just some of the comments that we want to bring up about that ordinance.

There were no Visitors, so the Commission moved onto Regular Session Minutes.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Regular Session Minutes from August 7, 2025 be adopted.* Motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jones being absent (2).

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that the following Special Resolutions be englobed and adopted:*

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance Shreveport Six*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation Mr. Lorenzo Davenport*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance Ramona Baylor*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for Firefighter of the Year, Aniyah Brown*

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance Thelma Jones*
- *Special Resolution of Welcome Eden Gardens Class of 1970 Reunion*

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

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE SHREVEPORT SIX

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2010, the City of Shreveport was forever changed by an unimaginable tragedy when six young lives were lost in the Red River—an event that came to be known as the “Shreveport Six”; and

WHEREAS, the victims—Dekendrix Warner (15), JaMarcus Warner (14), Takeitha Warner (13), LaDarius Stewart (17), Litrelle Stewart (18), and Shanquilla Warner (13)—were siblings and cousins who perished while trying to save one another from drowning in a section of the river known for its swift currents and sudden drop-offs; and

WHEREAS, this heartbreaking loss deeply impacted not only their family, but the entire Shreveport and Caddo Parish community, revealing a critical gap in water safety awareness and swimming ability among local youth; and

WHEREAS, in the years since this tragedy, community leaders, nonprofits, and concerned citizens have committed themselves to preventing such a loss from ever happening again by promoting water safety and swim education across the region; and

WHEREAS, one such response was the founding of the "Swim for Life" program, which has since trained thousands of students in basic water safety—offered free of charge to ensure equitable access for all children regardless of background or income; and

WHEREAS, another grassroots initiative emerged to teach adults how to swim, inspired directly by the lessons of this tragedy, so that entire families can be better prepared when near water and empowered to act in emergencies; and

WHEREAS, these efforts serve as both a tribute and a living legacy to the Shreveport Six, turning grief into action and heartbreak into healing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Commissioner Grace Anne Blake offers this Proclamation of Remembrance & Respect in honor of the Shreveport Six on this solemn anniversary and support water safety initiatives to ensure that no family ever endures a similar loss.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION MR. LORENZO DAVENPORT

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is proud to recognize and commend Whose Next Barbershop and its owner, Master Barber Mr. Lorenzo Davenport, for their dedication to the youth of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 2025, Mr. Davenport and his team at Whose Next Barbershop hosted a successful Back to School event, providing free haircuts to many Caddo Parish students, ensuring that children returned to school with confidence and pride; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport’s service extends far beyond the barber’s chair, as he uses his platform to mentor and encourage young people, reminding them that they can achieve greatness and pursue positive paths for their futures; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport’s life is a testimony of transformation, turning away from a difficult past marked by youthful mistakes and encounters with the law, and instead embracing his God-given gift as a barber, beginning at the age of nine when he first picked up a pair of clippers; and

WHEREAS, through perseverance and faith, Mr. Davenport has transformed Whose Next Barbershop into a safe space of mentorship, empowerment, and community, where each haircut comes with words of encouragement to “keep dreaming, keep believing”; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport reminds each young client that they do not have to follow negative influences, but instead can aspire to be leaders, professionals, and community builders—the

“next” president, senator, or role model in their community; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to uplifting youth through his craft and his example reflects the highest ideals of citizenship and service, making a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of many in Caddo Parish;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in legal and regular session convened, that it does hereby commend Whose Next Barbershop and its owner, Mr. Lorenzo Davenport, for their charitable Back to School event, their mentorship of Caddo Parish youth, and their outstanding contributions to the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be presented to Mr. Lorenzo Davenport and Whose Next Barbershop as a lasting expression of appreciation and recognition from the citizens of Caddo Parish.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE RAMONA BAYLOR

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with deep respect to remember the life and service of Ms. Ramona Marie Baylor, who was born on September 23, 1970, and peacefully passed from this life on August 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baylor devoted more than 30 years of dedicated service to the City of Shreveport, faithfully working in multiple departments and most recently as a vital part of the Department of Water and Sewerage, Field Operations Division; and

WHEREAS, her colleagues at the City of Shreveport remembered her as a beloved and longtime employee who served with integrity, passion, and unwavering commitment; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Water and Sewerage reflected on her profound impact, stating: “To know the City of Shreveport was to know Ramona Baylor—her impact was that profound. As a vital part of the field operations division and the Department of Water and Sewer, Ramona’s absence will be deeply felt. Her legacy of service, kindness, and dedication will live on in the work we continue to do and in the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing her.”; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baylor was not only a devoted public servant, but also a mother, grandmother, friend, and guiding presence to many, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, strength, and faith; and

WHEREAS, she is mourned by her loving family, including her stepson, Caddo Parish Commissioner Victor Thomas, and by her many friends, colleagues, and neighbors who were blessed to share in her life; and

WHEREAS, her life and legacy will be remembered in services including a Visitation on Friday, August 22, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Winnfield Funeral Home, a Celebration of Life on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Winnfield Funeral Home, and an interment on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. at Lincoln Memorial Park Cemetery in Shreveport, Louisiana; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in legal and regular session convened, that it does hereby honor and celebrate the life of Ms. Ramona Marie Baylor, commend her more than three decades of faithful public service to the City of Shreveport, and extend its deepest sympathy to her family, friends, and colleagues during this time of loss; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be presented to the family of Ms. Ramona Marie Baylor as a lasting expression of respect, remembrance, and comfort from the citizens of Caddo Parish.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR, ANIYAH BROWN

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is always pleased to recognize outstanding public servants who dedicate their lives to protecting and uplifting our community; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Aniyah Brown of the Shreveport Fire Department has been awarded the distinguished honor of 2025 Firefighter of the Year by the Kiwanis Club, not only for Shreveport, but also for the entire Kiwanis Region, which includes Louisiana, Mississippi, and western Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Kiwanis Club, whose mission is to improve the world one child and one community at a time, shares values closely aligned with those of the Shreveport Fire Department: community first, service with honor, integrity, and respect; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Brown's selection is a testament to her selflessness, professionalism, and unwavering dedication to the citizens of Shreveport and Caddo Parish, reflecting her commitment to protecting lives and strengthening the bonds of our community; and

WHEREAS, Shreveport Fire Chief Clarence Reese, Jr. noted that this recognition is not only a celebration of Firefighter Brown's accomplishments, but also a proud representation of what the City of Shreveport and the State of Louisiana can achieve when service is placed at the heart of everything we do; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission deeply values and appreciates the heroic work of Firefighter Brown and her colleagues in the Shreveport Fire Department, whose daily sacrifices safeguard the health, safety, and wellbeing of our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby extend its highest recognition, congratulations, and commendation to Firefighter Aniyah Brown for her extraordinary service and for being honored as the 2025 Firefighter of the Year by the Kiwanis Region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Caddo Parish Commission, with an official copy presented to Firefighter Brown as a symbol of the Commission's gratitude and respect.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE THELMA JONES

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with a deep sense of respect to remember the life of Mrs. Thelma Lee Jones, who was born on July 10, 1932, and transitioned from this life on August 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jones lived a life of steadfast faith, family devotion, and community service, and her memory will be cherished by all who knew her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jones was a longtime and faithful member of Bright Star Baptist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana, where her service, example, and witness of faith left an indelible mark on her congregation and community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Patrick Dennis, Pastor of Bright Star Baptist Church, fondly remembered Mrs. Jones as a "dear saint and servant of the Lord, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and member of Bright Star Church for many years," and extended his sympathy and prayers to Pastor Dr. Timothy Jones, Brother Ennis Jones, and the entire Jones family; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jones' homegoing will be commemorated with services including a Stateswoman's Viewing on Friday, August 22, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at Peaceful Rest Baptist Church, followed by a Family Hour from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., and a Celebration of Life service on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., also at Peaceful Rest Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jones shall be laid to rest at Centuries Memorial Park Cemetery in Shreveport, Louisiana, "until the Redeemer returns"; and

WHEREAS, she is mourned by her loving family, including her devoted son Pastor Timothy Jones, Brother Ennis Jones, her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, the extended Jones family, and her many church and community friends who will hold fast to her memory; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in legal and regular session convened, that it does hereby honor and celebrate the life of Mrs. Thelma Lee Jones, extend its deepest sympathy to her family, and recognize with gratitude her legacy as a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, servant of the Lord, and faithful member of her community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Mrs. Thelma Lee Jones as a lasting expression of respect, remembrance, and comfort.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF WELCOME EDEN GARDENS CLASS OF 1970 REUNION

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is proud to recognize and honor the 55th

anniversary of the Eden Gardens High School Class of 1970, a class whose journey reflects courage, resilience, and unity during a time of profound change in our community; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1970, less than two months before their scheduled graduation, the seniors of Eden Gardens High School were informed they would be transitioning to Captain Shreve High School as part of the federally mandated process of integration; and

WHEREAS, though the students supported the principle of integration, they were deeply saddened by the abrupt and late transition, which meant leaving behind the teachers, classmates, and familiar environment they had cherished throughout their high school years; and

WHEREAS, in response, the Class of 1970 demonstrated unity and courage by staging a peaceful protest, marching from the Cedar Grove neighborhood to downtown Shreveport to give voice to their desire to finish their senior year at Eden Gardens High School; and

WHEREAS, many members of the class have recalled the emotional toll of the transition, from feeling lost and displaced to graduating without a yearbook—a milestone memory that generations of seniors treasure but which was denied to them; and

WHEREAS, despite these challenges, the Class of 1970 found creative ways to preserve their legacy, creating a “memory book” with index cards to capture the faces, names, and bonds that defined their school family; and

WHEREAS, their story is one of both loss and resilience, representing the difficult but necessary steps of progress in education, integration, and equality within Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the 55th anniversary of the Eden Gardens High School Class of 1970 provides a moment not only to honor the students themselves, but also to reflect on their important place in our local history and to celebrate their lasting bonds of friendship, strength, and perseverance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in legal and regular session convened, that it does hereby commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Eden Gardens High School Class of 1970, honoring their courage, resilience, and contributions to the history of education and civil rights in Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be presented to the members of the Eden Gardens High School Class of 1970 as a lasting expression of the respect and recognition of the citizens of Caddo Parish.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Assistant Parish Administrator Clay Walker introduced Mr. Michael Corbin for a brief presentation regarding the “pay as you go” program.

Mr. Corbin explained that this program is a virtual gift card system to help customers manage electricity payments, especially those with non-traditional income or outstanding balances. He also mentioned that if a customer does have an outstanding balance, 20% of the funds on the card will go to the balance and 80% will go toward current usage. Mr. Corbin will provide a one-pager to the Commission Clerk. Mr. Epperson asked that this be included in the Disaster book.

Parks & Recreation presented a video and reported a successful summer with various youth programs, serving thousands of children through basketball, soccer, and empowerment camps. Mr. Wesley emphasized its role in recreation, athletics, health, wellness, and safety, offering diverse activities to keep children engaged and off screens. He also pointed out that the summer doesn’t conclude until Labor Day.

COMMUNIQUE & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Cothran announced that there will be a pickleball demonstration for kids aged 8-18 at Southern Hills Community Center on August 25. He encouraged all to attend and ask questions.
- Mr. Burrell requested Public Works to investigate potential development on Lakeshore Drive, expressing concerns about traffic and drilling near Country Club Marina.
- Mr. J. Young raised concerns about sand trucks using Parish roads near 70th Street and Dixie Garden, potentially causing road damage and safety issues.
- Mr. Epperson requested that the Chair of the Natural Resources Committee schedule a

meeting to discuss issues related to drilling and sand trucks on Parish roads. He also suggested discussing on decommissioning and financial securities for solar facilities. Mr. Atkins said that he will get with the Commission Clerk to schedule that meeting.

There was no President's Report or Public Hearing on Zoning Ordinances and Cases, so the Commission moved onto Public Hearing on Ordinances.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

Acting President Epperson opened the floor for a public hearing on the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6554 of 2025, an ordinance amending and re-enacting Section 35-1 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances pertaining to Schedule of Licenses and Fees, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6555 of 2025, an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 6541 of 2025, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6556 of 2025, an ordinance to close and abandon or release a portion of the 15-foot wide utility servitude on Lot 22 of the Walden Ferry Subdivision, Unit No. 2, in Section 28, Township 17 North, Range 16 West, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6557 of 2025, an ordinance to authorize the lease of the flood acquisition property located at 7533 W. Lakeshore Drive, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no one to speak in favor or against the public hearings, Mr. Epperson closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Kracman, *to englobe and adopt the following ordinances:*

- *Ordinance No. 6555 of 2025, an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 6541 of 2025, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6556 of 2025, an ordinance to close and abandon or release a portion of the 15-foot wide utility servitude on Lot 22 of the Walden Ferry Subdivision, Unit No. 2, in Section 28, Township 17 North, Range 16 West, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6557 of 2025, an ordinance to authorize the lease of the flood acquisition property located at 7533 W. Lakeshore Drive, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

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

ORDINANCE NO. 6555 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 6541 OF 2025, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo passed Ordinance 6541 of 2025 approving a request from Paloma Natural Gas, LLC, to grant an easement and right-of-way, within a drainage easement running parallel to Antoine Boulevard, to construct and maintain an oil and gas pipeline; and

WHEREAS, the surface site portion of the easement and right-of-way in Ordinance 6541 of 2025 were depicted incorrectly in Exhibit "B"; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo would amend Ordinance 6541 of 2025 with the correct description of the surface site portion of Exhibit "B" as attached hereto.

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 and amend Ordinance 6541 of 2025 with the corrected description of the surface site portion as depicted on Exhibit "B", for the installation and maintenance of an oil and gas pipeline.

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 6556 OF 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE AND ABANDON OR RELEASE A PORTION OF THE 15-FOOT WIDE UTILITY SERVITUDE ON LOT 22 OF THE WALDEN FERRY SUBDIVISION, UNIT NO. 2, IN SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 16 WEST, IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a request from Mrs. De Mar Revah Howard to close and abandon or release the 15-foot wide utility servitude and the 30-foot wide building set-back on the west side of Lot 22 of the Walden Ferry Subdivision, Unit No. 2. Mrs. Howard owns said Lot 22 and Lot 1001 of said subdivision and wishes to combine the two tracts to build her house; and

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2004, the Walden Ferry Subdivision, Unit No. 2, was filed and recorded under Instrument No. 1950404, in Book 4050, Page 157, of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana. This subdivision established a 15-foot wide utility servitude and a 30-foot wide building set-back on the west side of Lot 22 of said subdivision; and

WHEREAS, the major utility companies have been polled and none have any facilities located within the 15-foot wide utility servitude on the west side of said Lot 30 or any objections to this closure and abandonment; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Commission approved this proposed closure and abandonment or release at their meeting on July 23, 2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the 15-foot wide utility servitude and the 30-foot wide building set-back on the west side of Lot 22 of the Walden Ferry Subdivision, Unit No. 2, as shown on Exhibit A, is hereby closed and abandoned or released and no longer in effect.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance and plat marked Exhibit "A", displaying the 15-foot wide utility servitude and 30-foot wide building set-back to be closed and abandoned shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

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 of 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 6557 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE LEASE OF FLOOD ACQUISITION PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7533 W. LAKESHORE DRIVE, SHREVEPORT, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is the owner of certain property situated in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, described as follows:

One certain tract of land with legal description LOT 17, HIDDEN HARBOR ESTATES, Section 20, Township 18, Range 15, being more particularly described as follows: Geo number 181520-003- 0017-00, having a municipal address of 7533 W. Lakeshore Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana 71107.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo purchased the aforesaid properties under the FEMA Flood Acquisition Program, and over three-fourths of them are not usable due to flooding, and they have no real market value; and

WHEREAS, the adjacent landowners have each expressed an interest in leasing the properties for the purpose of providing upkeep and maintaining gardens and animals on said property; and

WHEREAS, the lease of said property prohibits any permanent improvements; however, it sets forth that the entire property will be maintained to present a neat appearance for the neighborhood and prevent any overgrowth; and

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

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 lease of property located at 7533 W. Lakeshore Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana 71107, Caddo Parish, Louisiana to the adjacent land owners, David Harris and Lena Harris, for a period of time as deemed necessary by the Caddo Parish Administrator.

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective upon ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6554 of 2025, an ordinance amending and re-enacting Section 35-1 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances pertaining to Schedule of Licenses and Fees, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Atkins asked that Mr. Wesley come before the Commission and provide a summary of the proposed fees. Mr. Wesley explained that six years ago, the department had very limited fees, mainly for specific fields. Since then, programs and services expanded across Caddo Parish in partnership with various sports and recreation organizations. Standard fees are being established to align with practices in other recreation departments, like Bossier Parks, Shreveport Parks, etc.

Mr. Wesley said that the fees include nominal charges for league participation and facility use. Larger events rentals (like weddings or corporate retreats) will have more meaningful fees. Tournament organizers must pay fees since they profit from registration revenue, but casual individual play (like frisbee golf) remains free.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know how the citizens were to pay the fees. Mr. Wesley said that the citizens can call the office to reserve the facility. They pay the required fee in advance, and the pavilion is reserved for their use.

Mrs. Hayley Barnett also explained that the Parks Millage only brings in under \$2M. These fees help offset the expenses for operating costs and programming casts. She also said that small fees

discourage no-shows. For example, if someone reserves a pavilion for free and doesn't show, it prevents others from using it. A nominal fee creates "skin in the game."

Mr. Atkins wanted to ensure small recreational activities, like frisbee golf, weren't burdened with unnecessary charges.

Mr. Wesley said that parish fees are average or below regional standards, with the exception of Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park. WBJ has higher fees due to its state-of-art facility and amenities, which are comparable to similar nature facilities in Arkansas and Baton Rouge.

Mr. G. Young said that taxpayers should not be burdened with additional costs for services they do not use. Users of specific facilities should cover expenses through modest fees. He emphasized that the proposed fees are low and reasonable, noting that family entry to WBJ costs less than a movie outing.

Mr. Cothran asked that Mr. Kelvin Samuel, Animal Services Assistant Director, come up and explain the fee changes within their department. Mr. Samuel explained that adoption fees increased modestly to cover rising costs of vaccinations, rabies shots, microchipping, boarding, and feeding. He said that intake of animals is higher than in recent years, requiring more vaccinations upon arrival to maintain a healthy shelter population. The fee increases are minimal but necessary to remain operational.

Mr. J. Young wanted to know adoption fees are ever waived. Mr. Samuel said that adoption fees are waived during multiple annual events. He also mentioned that they could waive fees for animals based on their length of stay and temperament. The fees are intended to encourage responsible pet ownership and help offset the costs of caring for animals in the shelter.

At this time, Mr. Thomas' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (9). NAYS: Commissioner Atkins (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6554 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REENACTING SECTION 35-1 OF THE CADDO PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO SCHEDULE OF LICENSES AND FEES, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has added several new facilities and services since its entire fee schedule was last updated; and

WHEREAS, fees must be assessed for use of these services; and

WHEREAS, Caddo parish fees should keep pace with fees for the use of similar services and facilities in and around the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish staff and administration has undertaken a thorough review to ensure that the fees presented do keep pace with similar fees in and around the State of Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the noted provisions of SECTION 35-1 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances pertaining to schedule of licenses and fees, is hereby amended to read as contained in the attached "EXHIBIT TO ORDINANCE 6554 OF 2025".

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.

EXHIBIT TO ORDINANCE 6554 OF 2025

Code Section	Description	Amount
CHAPTER 2. ADMINISTRATION		
<u>2-2</u>	Cost of copying records for pages if the number of pages exceeds five	\$0.50 per standard or legal size page
<u>2-2</u>	Cost of copying records as audio cassettes (less than one hour of staff time required)	\$10.00 per cassette
<u>2-2</u>	Cost of copying records as video cassettes (less than one hour of staff time required)	\$10.00 per cassette
<u>2-2</u>	Cost of copying digital records to media (less than one hour of staff time required)	\$25.00 per item of media
<u>2-2</u>	Cost of copying records requiring more than one hour of staff time	\$22.00 per hour of staff time
<u>2-2</u>	<u>Cost of requestor's in-person review of records requiring more than one hour of staff time</u>	<u>\$22.00 per hour of staff</u>
<u>2-3</u>	Application fee for the donation of adjudicated property	\$300.00
<u>2-3</u>	Application fee for the sale of adjudicated property	\$300.00
Code Section	Description	Amount
CHAPTER 8. ANIMALS AND FOWL		
<u>8</u>	Redemption fees for impounded dogs and cats:	
	Base fee	\$50.00
	<u>Impound (fertile)</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>
	<u>Impound (infertile)</u>	<u>\$40.00</u>
	Base fee for 2nd impoundment <u>2nd impound infraction</u>	\$60.00 <u>Mandatory Spay/Neuter</u>
	Base fee for third and subsequent impoundment <u>3rd impound infraction</u>	\$120.00 <u>\$150.00</u>
	<u>Each subsequent impound infraction</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>
	Per day boarding	\$10.00 <u>\$15.00</u>
	<u>Per day quarantine</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
	Rabies Vaccination fee (if needed)	\$15.00
	<u>Microchip</u>	<u>\$15.00</u>
	<u>Return to Owner Bordatella</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
	<u>Return to Owner Cap star (flea treatment)</u>	<u>\$3.00</u>
	<u>Return to Owner Dewormer</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
	Annual permit fees for each pet shop	\$50.00
	Annual permit fees for each dealer in animals	\$50.00
	Annual permit fees for each commercial kennel with 1—49 animals	\$50.00
	Annual permit fees for each commercial kennel with >50 animals	\$100.00
	Annual permit fees for each commercial guard dog service with 1—49 animals	\$50.00
	Annual permit fees for each commercial guard dog service with >50 animals	\$100.00
	Annual permit fees for each grooming/boarding shop	\$25.00 <u>\$75.00</u>
	Annual permit fees for each permanent zoo	\$100.00

	Annual permit fees for each transient zoo, circus, or performing animal act	\$50.00 per day
	Annual permit fees for each wild or exotic animal other than those in zoos, circuses, or performing animal acts	\$50.00
	Annual permit fees for each commercial livery stable	\$50.00
	Annual permit fees for each noncommercial kennel	\$50.00
	<u>Intact male permit</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>
	Initial fee for each dangerous dog registration (includes collar and micro chip)	\$65.00
	Annual fee for each dangerous dog registration	\$45.00
	For each dangerous dog sign	\$20.00 <u>\$25.00</u>
	Dangerous dog collar (replacement)	\$10.00 <u>\$25.00</u>
<u>8-9</u>	Administrative fee for conviction of a violation of chapter	\$20.00
<u>8-101</u>	Base fee for the first impounded or confined livestock animal taken up	\$50.00 per head
<u>8-101</u>	Base fee for each additional livestock animal impounded per trip	\$25.00 per head for horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep or goats, <u>or geese</u>
<u>8-101</u>	Fee for each additional livestock animal impounded per trip	\$10.00 per head for horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep or goats, or geese
	<u>Per day livestock boarding</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
	<u>Livestock adoption fee</u>	<u>\$200-\$500.00 (depends on medical services provided)</u>
<u>8-102</u>	Sheriff or constable fee in case of sale of impounded livestock	5% of the amount of the sale plus \$2.00 for giving the notice

Code Section	Description	Amount
CHAPTER 26. MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC		
26-126	Permits for oversize vehicles or loads	\$15.00
	<u>Mobile Home Moving</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
	<u>Oversize/Underweight Empty Trailer - Less than 79,999</u>	<u>\$0</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 80,000 - 100,000</u>	<u>\$45.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 101,001 - 108,000</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 108,001 - 120,000</u>	<u>\$105.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 120,001 - 132,000</u>	<u>\$135.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 132,001 - 152,000</u>	<u>\$180.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 152,001 - 172,000</u>	<u>\$133.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 172,001 - 192,000</u>	<u>\$285.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 192,001 - 212,000</u>	<u>\$337.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 212,001 - 232,000</u>	<u>\$390.00</u>
	<u>Overweight/Oversized - 232,001 - 254,000</u>	<u>\$443.00</u>

Code Section	Description	Amount
CHAPTER 36. PARKS AND RECREATION		
36-41	Daily fee charged for the use and occupancy of the pavilion for a period of time not to exceed four hours	\$50.00
36-41	Daily fee charged for the use and occupancy of the pavilion for a period of time exceeding four hours	\$100.00
36-42	Daily fee charged for the use of the Earl G. Williamson Park ball field for a tournament	\$50.00
36-42	Use of the Earl G. Williamson Park ball field for a weekend tournament, involving both a Saturday and a Sunday	\$100.00
36-42	Use of the field lights at the Earl G. Williamson Park ball field	\$8.00 per hour
	<u>General Fees-All Parks</u>	
	Chess Clinic	\$20.00
	Band Camp (Two days)	\$20.00
	Financial Literacy Clinics	\$5.00
	Stage Rental (Not Sponsored by Parish of Caddo; four-hour minimum)	\$150.00
	Stage Rental (Not Sponsored by Parish of Caddo; eight-hour minimum)	\$250.00
	Movie Screen and Projector Rental (Parks staff onsite)	\$50.00
	Food/Retail Vendors (All Caddo Parks; not sponsored by Parish of Caddo)	\$200.00/day
	<u>General Fees-Camps/Clinics (per participant)</u>	
	Youth Football Camps/Clinics (Boys & Girls)	\$10.00
	Soccer Clinics (Boys & Girls)	\$5.00
	Jiu Jitsu/Karate Clinics (Boys & Girls)	\$5.00
	<u>General Fees-Leagues (per sport unless otherwise noted)</u>	
	Adult Coed Softball League	\$135.00
	Adult Spring/Fall Men & Women Softball League	\$155.00
	Adult Flag Football League	\$185.00
	Adult Volleyball League	\$85.00
	Youth Flag Football League	\$15.00
	Cornhole League	\$35.00/team
	Pickle Ball League	\$35.00/team
	<u>General Fees-Tournaments (per sport unless otherwise noted)</u>	
	Adult Softball	\$200.00
	Youth Softball/Baseball/T-Ball	\$125.00
	Adult Football	\$200.00
CHAPTER 36. PARKS AND RECREATION (cont'd.)		
	Youth Football	\$145.00
	Adult Cornhole	\$20.00-\$50.00/team
	Disc Golf	\$25.00/participant
	Volleyball	\$100.00
	Pickle Ball	\$95.00/team
	<u>General Fees-Athletic Field Usage</u>	
	Earl G. Williamson Park Ball Field Tournament Rentals	\$150.00/day, \$100.00 deposit
	P.B.S Pinchback Ball Field Tournament Rentals	\$150.00/day, \$100.00 deposit
	Practice Ball Field Rental - EGW/Pinchback Park	Free to all registered league teams
	Additional Ball Field Markings	\$25.00
	<u>Earl G. Williamson</u>	
	RV Camping - Water, Electrical Hookup, Dump Station	\$25.00 (April-September)
	RV Camping - Water, Electrical Hookup, Dump Station	\$20.00 (Oct-March)
	Primitive Camping	\$12.00
	Main Large Pavilion (Off Caddo Lake - 40'x30')	\$300 (4 hours or less)
	Main Large Pavilion (Off Caddo Lake - 40'x30')	\$500/day (more than 4 hours)
	Boat Launch Fee	\$5.00/day
	Annual Boat Launch Permit (July 1-June 30)	\$50.00
	Annual Boat Launch Permit (Veterans and Senior Citizens)	\$25.00
	Disc Golf Course Fee (9 Holes; One (1) Day Tournament)	\$125/\$100 Deposit
	Disc Golf Course Fee (9 Holes; Two (2) Day Tournament)	\$200/\$100 Deposit

<u>CHAPTER 36. PARKS AND RECREATION (cont'd.)</u>		
	<u>Black/Grey Water Dumping Fees (Non-campers)</u>	<u>\$10.00</u>
	<u>Cornhole Court Rental Fees (4 hour-minimum)</u>	<u>\$100.00/\$50.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Cornhole Court Rental Fees (One-day tournament)</u>	<u>\$200.00/\$100.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Cornhole Court Rental Fees (Two-day tournament)</u>	<u>\$350.00/\$100.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Outdoor Basketball Courts Rental Fees -Jr. Court (4 hour minimum or ½ day tournament at 4 hour minimum)</u>	<u>\$50.00/\$25.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Outdoor Basketball Courts Rental Fees -Jr. Court (One-day tournament)</u>	<u>\$125.00/\$50.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Outdoor Basketball Courts Rental Fees -Jr. Court (Two-day tournament)</u>	<u>\$175.00/\$75.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Outdoor Basketball Courts Rental Fees - Adult Court (4 hour minimum or ½ day tournament at 4 hour minimum)</u>	<u>\$75.00/\$25.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Outdoor Basketball Courts Rental Fees - Adult Court (One-day tournament)</u>	<u>\$125.00/\$50.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Outdoor Basketball Courts Rental Fees - Adult Court (Two-day tournament)</u>	<u>\$200.00/\$100.00 Deposit</u>
	<u>Eddie Jones</u>	
	<u>Disc Golf Course Fee (18 Holes; One [1] Day Tournament)</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>
	<u>Disc Golf Course Fee (18 Holes; Two [2] Day Tournament)</u>	<u>\$350.00</u>
	<u>Pinchback</u>	
	<u>Pavilion #1 (Size 24' X 67' 4 Picnic Tables) (4-hour minimum)</u>	<u>\$100.00/\$20.00 per add'l hour</u>
	<u>Pavilion #2 (Size 24' X 30' 4 Picnic Tables) (4-hour minimum)</u>	<u>\$80.00/\$10.00 per add'l hour</u>
	<u>Pavilion #3 (Size 11' X 22' 2 Picnic Tables) (4-hour minimum)</u>	<u>\$60.00/\$5.00 per add'l hour</u>
	<u>Pavilion #4 (Size 11' X 22' 2 Picnic Tables) (4-hour minimum)</u>	<u>\$60.00/\$5.00 per add'l hour</u>

	<u>Walter B. Jacobs Nature Center</u>	
	<u>Admission Fee - Adults</u>	<u>\$8.00</u>
	<u>Admission Fee - Seniors (65+)</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
	<u>Admission Fee - Veterans/Active-Duty Military Personnel</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
	<u>Admission Fee – Students (Pre-School - High School, or ages 3-18, college w/id)</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
	<u>Admission Fee – Age 2 and younger</u>	<u>No charge</u>
	<u>Nature Center -Schools and Groups (educational field trips)</u>	<u>\$2.00 (Administrator may waive)</u>
	<u>Nature Center Full Exhibit Rentals</u>	<u>\$2500.00/day plus add'l staffing cost</u>
	<u>Outreach Programs</u>	<u>\$50.00/hour</u>
	<u>Birthday Parties (Room Rentals) includes nature center, age 3 and up, max 30</u>	<u>\$100.00/hour</u>
	<u>Birthday Party Add-on: group access to exhibit area</u>	<u>\$3.00/youth</u>
	<u>Birthday Party Add-on: live animal encounter (30-45 min.), nature presentation (30-45 min), or Craft Presentation (30 participants max)</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
	<u>Birthday Party Add-on: painting presentation (30 participants max)</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>
	<u>Photography Permit Fee - Single Session (Amateur and Professional)</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
	<u>Photography Permit Fee – Annual Pass (Amateur and Professional)</u>	<u>\$250.00</u>
	<u>Event Center Rental-Educational and Classroom Events</u>	<u>\$50.00/hour, 2-hour min</u>
	<u>Event Center Rental-Meetings and Corporate Events</u>	<u>\$250.00/hour, 2-hour min</u>
	<u>Event Center Rental-Weddings (April-October)</u>	<u>\$350.00/hour, 8-hour min</u>
	<u>Event Center Rental-Weddings (November-March)</u>	<u>\$350.00/hour, 8-hour min</u>
	<u>Set-Up/Cleaning Fee - Weddings and Special Events</u>	<u>\$200.00 flat fee in addition to hourly fee</u>

All event center rental time includes set-up and take down; 20% deposit is required for all weddings and special events at least 120 days out; full payment shall be paid 30 days prior to the event; \$1 million liability insurance, naming Parish of Caddo as the additional insured shall be required for all weddings, special events, and events with alcohol; security shall be required for all weddings, special events, and events with alcohol (Caddo Parish Sheriff or Shreveport Police); applicant is responsible for securing security; requirements for on-site EMS or Fire will be determined based on the event by Caddo Parish Administration.

Code Section	Description		Amount
CHAPTER 40. ROADS AND BRIDGES			
40-2	Permit for installation of structures for ingress and egress to property or street		\$10.00 <u>\$25.00</u>
40-2	Charge for driveway culvert pipe installed by the department of public works (based on 20 linear foot or less for each driveway culvert)		\$30.00 per inch diameter of pipe
40-2	Charge for driveway culvert pipe installed by the department of public works (lengths in excess of 20 linear foot per culvert)(Public Works Maintenance)		\$30.00 per inch diameter of pipe plus 5% per foot in excess of 20 linear feet per culvert
40-2	Permit to lay pipeline parallel to and within right-of-way		
	Length of Line	Size	
	100 feet or less	All	None required
	100 to 200 feet	All	\$25.00
	<u>200 feet or less</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>
	Over 200 feet	All	\$10.00 per 100 feet or fraction thereof
	Over one mile	Less than 8 inches	\$500.00 per mile
	Over one mile	8 to 18 inches	\$1000.00 per mile
	<u>40-5</u>	Right-of-way fee for connection with lines crossing the right-of-way (fee shall be based on the diameter of the casing or the pipe)	\$20.00 per inch in diameter, or fraction thereof
	40-14	Application fee for request to construct any access gate or other improvement designed and intended to restrict and/or regulate vehicular access upon or across any public residential street	\$50.00
	<u>Road-crossing bore permit</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>	

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6559 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. 6560 of 2025, an ordinance to amend Chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo relating to Traffic Schedules to establish a*

schedule for placement of traffic calming devices to include speed bumps and humps, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that the Work Session Minutes from August 18, 2025 be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jones being absent (2).*

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that Resolution No. 33 of 2025, a resolution urging and requesting that the State of Louisiana allocate appropriate attention and resources to repair and maintain I-49, I-220, I-20, and 3132 within Caddo Parish be adopted.*

Mr. Atkins said that this was discussed during the Public Safety Committee.

Mr. G. Young talked about a specific location on I-220 where there are constant accidents. He hopes this resolution will shine a light on that area.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 33 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION URGING & REQUESTING THAT THE STATE OF LOUISIANA ALLOCATE APPROPRIATE ATTENTION AND RESOURCES TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN I-49, I-220, I-20 AND 3132 WITHIN CADDO PARISH.

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the importance of use our voices as elected officials to address matters that are of concern of Caddo Parish citizens; and

WHEREAS, I-49, I-220, I-20 AND 3132 are not only part of the interstate and state systems of transportation, they provide major means of transportation in and around Caddo Parish for parish citizens; and

WHEREAS, many areas of these roads are in dire need of maintenance and repair and in their current state, create transportation obstacles to Caddo Parish citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby urge and request the State of Louisiana to allocate appropriate attention and resources to repair and maintain I-49, I-220, I-20 and 3132 within Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be provided to Phillip DeVllier, Speaker of the Louisiana House, J. Cameron Henry, Jr., President of the Louisiana Senate Governor Jeff Landry and the Caddo Parish Legislative Delegation.

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.

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that Resolution No. 36 of 2025, a resolution urging and requesting the State of Louisiana to simplify the process of obtaining a protective order, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted.*

Mr. Cothran mentioned that this was discussed in the Juvenile Justice Committee and passed favorably.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 36 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION URGING AND REQUESTING THE STATE OF LOUISIANA TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A PROTECTIVE ORDER, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana protective order process is governed by state statutes, specifically Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 46, which details the Protection from Family Violence Act (starting at § 2131), the Protection from Dating Violence Act (§ 2151), the Protection from Stalking Act (§ 2171), and the Protection for Victims of Sexual Assault Act (§ 2181);

WHEREAS, these statutes outline the process for obtaining a protective order, its contents, and the duties of law enforcement and courts in protecting victims; and

WHEREAS, recent upward trends in the numbers of Domestic Violence related incidents in Caddo Parish have been a cause for concern and local leaders have a strong desire to advocate for resources and policy modifications that can help protect and prevent citizens from becoming victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, a timely protective order can play a critical role in the protection of men and women who are at risk of becoming victim of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the current process for obtaining a protective order is considered onerous, intimidating, complicated and slow by many advocates for domestic violence victims, law enforcement and those seeking to reduce instances of domestic violence; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission, acting in due, regular, and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission hereby urges and requests that the State of Louisiana develops and implements a simplified and faster moving process for the issuance of protective orders in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is effective immediately upon its passage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will be forwarded to the Speaker of the Louisiana House, the President of the Louisiana Senate, the Caddo Parish legislative delegation and Governor Jeff Landry.

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 all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

There was no Old Business, so the Commission moved onto New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Appoint John Dansby to the Lakeview Waterworks Board to fill the unexpired term vacated by the late Lita Smith. Term to expire March 17, 2030.*

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mr. G. Young, *to appoint John Dansby to the Lakeview Waterworks Board. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jones being absent (2).*

- *Discussion related to 2025 Precinct Survey exhibits.*

The Clerk of the Commission, Mr. Jeff Everson, explained that four undersized precincts require acknowledgement and approval to continue under exceptions. No immediate changes to district precinct will occur unless the Commission object within the 90-day window.

There were no Communiques nor Citizens Comments for late arrivals. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


Stormy Gage-Watts
President