

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 2025

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mrs. Gage-Watts, President, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1).

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that the agenda be expanded to add the following items:*

- *Adopt amended agenda to correct title mistake in Ordinance No. 6605 of 2025*
- *Special Resolution for Hollywood Quick Stop*
- *Special Resolution for Steve Anderson's Retirement*

Madame President opened the floor for anyone to speak for or against the agenda addition. There being no one to speak, President Gage-Watts closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. J. Young's motion to expand the agenda carried unanimously with Commissioners Jones and G. Young being absent (2).

There were no Citizens Comments, nor Visitors.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Walter B. Jacobs Nature Center Grand Opening- December 4

Administrator Bryant announced that the Walter B. Jacobs Grand Opening will be held on December 4, 2025.

- Juvenile Detention Center census

Administrator Bryant said that there are 11 children in the Detention Center, four of which are OJJ, and one 17 year old. There are 427 children on probation and ten juveniles are at CCC.

- Martha Marak—Northwest Louisiana Food Bank

Ms. Marak was unable to attend today's meeting, but will be here at tomorrow's special session.

- November 2025 Financials

Administrator Bryant said that the November financials are at each Commissioner's stations, as well as, linked on the agenda as an attachment.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Lazarus asked about scheduling another December food distribution. Administration confirmed funds were available and could coordinate another event if the Commission desired, though quick direction would be needed due to ordering timelines. The President noted prior discussion and support for a December event.

- Mr. J. Young asked for an update on the wild hog issues. Administrator Bryant said that Animal Services has been responding to wild hog complaints across the parish. The issue is severe, spanning from north to south and east to west. Administration recommended contracting with an outside company to assist Wildlife & Fisheries. The estimated cost is \$40k and will need to be a 2026 budget amendment. Commissioners discussed the severity of population growth and environmental damage. Mr. J. Young noted hog meat is being processed and donated to needy families.

- Mr. Thomas Recognized World AIDS Day (Dec. 1) and encouraged awareness, testing, and reducing stigma. He also celebrated Southern University's victory at the Bayou Classic and noted the economic impact of such events.

- Mr. Burrell thanked volunteers for successful food distribution events, including District 5's distribution at Sunrise Baptist Church and collaborative efforts at Galilee Baptist Church.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Madame President acknowledged World AIDS Day. She also advised safety due to sleet and hazardous weather conditions.

She also praised youth volunteers from the Caddo Parish Youth Leadership Alliance for assisting both at the Thanksgiving food giveaway and with hot meal distribution on Thanksgiving Day.

There being no Old Business, the Commission moved onto New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 6604 of 2025, an ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of Limited Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2026, of Caddo Parish, Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith* be moved to Thursday's Regular Session for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Kracman (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6605 of 2025, an ordinance declaring the intent of the Parish of Caddo, under LA. R.S. 47:2236 to acquire full ownership interest in a tract of property in the Manchester Subdivision, within Section 26, Township 18 North, Range 14 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's Regular Session for introduction. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioner Jones being absent.

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that the following items be englobed and moved to Thursday's Regular Session for consideration:*

- *Resolution No. 46 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. 47 of 2025, a resolution to opt out of statewide siting requirements, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 48 of 2025, a resolution approving annual payments in lieu of tax in accordance with one or more term sheets between the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority and qualifying entities; and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 49 of 2025, a resolution expressing the support for a performance based grant in favor of Cameron International Corporation for the establishment of new high impact jobs*
- *Advance Special Resolution of Recognition for Calvin Iverson*
- *Advance Special Resolution Recognizing Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day*
- *Authorize Stacy Brown, Visit Shreveport-Bossier, as a Visitor for Thursday's Regular Session*
- *Advance authorization of Administrator to support exempt status of Millennium III Apartments*
- *Advance Special Resolution for Hollywood Quick Stop*
- *Advance Special Resolution for Steve Anderson's Retirement*

At this time, Mr. J. Young's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Kracman (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUE & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson requested prayers for the West Virginia National Guard service member killed on patrol in Washington, D.C., and another critically injured. He highlighted the sacrifices of National Guard members and their importance domestically and abroad. A moment of silence was held in her honor.

- Mr. Atkins thanked CFO Barnett for her continued excellence in managing the Parish's finances and budget.

There were no Citizens Comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance No. 6602 of 2025, an ordinance authorized the lease of flood acquisition property located at 610 Tyre Road, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6603 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, by amending the zoning of property located 10222 Linwood Avenue, Caddo Parish, LA, from C-2 Corridor Commercial Zoning District, to C-3 General Commercial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *End of Year Appointments*

At this time, there was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the Commission adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk