

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 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).

Mr. Cothran 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. Jones, *that the agenda be expanded to add the following items:*

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Curtis Griffin*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for MPC Director Alan Clarke's Retirement*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for HR Director Cheryl McGee's Retirement*
- *Authorize Administrator Bryant to expend emergency housing funds to stabilize Veterans impacted by the recent fire at Woody's Home for Veterans*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Captain Aaron Cornelius*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for Youree Drive Middle School's Football Team*

Madame President opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against adding these items to the agenda. There being no one to speak, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. J. Young's motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Phillip Rozeman came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Thank you. I'm Dr. Phillip Rozeman. I'm a physician, a cardiologist here. I was co-chair of the 2030 Caddo Shreveport Master Plan and currently I'm a board chair of the Louisiana Committee of 100 for economic development. Okay, Phillip Rozeman, 510 Long Leaf Road, Shreveport, 71106. I wanted to talk today just a moment on what's happening in our state in a positive way, which is I've watched what's happening around the state with the Louisiana Committee of 100 and our work with Louisiana economic development. There's tremendous potential that's going in this state that is something I've never seen in my 69 years here on this earth, and I think there's a real opportunity associated with that. Let me, I just wanted to take a second to talk about the context. You know, Shreveport's gone through a lot of changes and a lot of different ways to improve our economy over time. And, this is, I think we're moving into the era of technology of Amazon and the possibility of the data centers. I want Shreveport to reach its great potential, and I've been working on that in my little way for a long time, and I see that we may have a chance here to advance, like all of the rest of the areas of the state, the regions of the state. And I wanted to state in support from a business viewpoint the positivity that can be brought by the technology and the data centers. I just want to close with just a quick story that sums this up for me. You know, we don't always get looked at in Louisiana as the first place to go for people to bring business. It's just a fact. It's something that we've dealt with a long time in this state. But I heard a story, I was talking to the CEO of Entergy, which is the South Louisiana SWEPCO, the energy company, and he said that Meta over in northeast Louisiana came to talk with them, Louisiana wasn't even on the list of the possibilities of having data centers here with Meta. But they found, Meta found, a group of people with government and business working together like they had never seen before, and rapidly were able to break down barriers to meet the needs to make this happen. And that's really a story about Louisiana that they tell now all over the country. But this is an opportunity. I'll just close with this. I think it's an opportunity and as you all begin to vote on different things related to making that happen, I hope you'll think about the long term and keeping families here and attracting people here, the same thing that you've wanted just like me for a long, long time. And so, I thank you very much for what you do. I know it's a hard job and I appreciate your support of things moving forward.

William Bradford came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Good afternoon, members of the Commission, Madam Chair. William Bradford, 333 Texas Street, Suite 700, Shreveport, Louisiana. I wanted to start off and just say that I appreciate each and every one of you and the decisions you have to make related to Resolution 46. I'm here in support of that resolution for a number of reasons, one of which is that I am a citizen here, I'm a professional in this community, I'm an investor in this community, a small business owner. Been in Shreveport since 2009 when I returned to practice law. I sat in leadership here in the City of Shreveport as the city attorney and I've watched opportunities come, I've watched opportunities go. I've learned that sometimes we don't take

the steps we need to take in order to be prepared for good things to happen to us. And so, we have an opportunity today to do just the opposite, to go forward with progress and to really set the tone for what we expect of those who invest into our community. When I was city attorney, I sat right there where Commissioner Atkins is sitting. Today this is a little different. And I watched as a development proposal, that was well-funded and well-intentioned, failed. And the Benson organization and corporate realty from Birmingham, Alabama walked out of the door with a \$140 million investment, because we didn't do a good job communicating and we didn't do a good job collaborating. So often we have a tendency to want to draw our lines in the sand, stand on our sides of the fence, and say "this is what it's going to be", instead of reaching towards the middle and finding compromise. And so, with that, Birmingham saw the error of our ways, took that team in, and last year that facility that was built to accommodate them hosted the NCAA Women's Tournament. They've seen consecutive growth in that market. That was an opportunity lost. When I was city attorney, I also had an opportunity to author legislation for 5G deployment. There was opposition there, but the council took bold steps and adopted legislation that allowed for our service in the community to be improved. As a practicing attorney in private practice, I helped to develop a solar farm in north Caddo Parish, and there was some contention there. But what we did is we sat down with the developer and with the community, specifically Fire District number 8, Chief Joey Ryan, he'll tell you the story. And we asked, "What do you need?" I represented the developer. And they told us and that developer made an investment in that community that helped retire debt on all the fire trucks in that community. We have that type of opportunity here. And as a community, we have to be inviting to new development. We drive the train. We sit with these people and they have to do a better job sitting with us. But ultimately, what you're voting on today opens the door for so much more, so much more capital investment, job creation, and opportunities for us to grow as a community. So, I implore you, please, please pass Resolution 46. Thank you. 48, excuse me 48.

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

Hi there. My name is Robert Lawrence. My address is 618 Cumberland Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana, 71106. I won't spend most of that time. I'm actually here not to address any of you, but to address the people in this room. All of these people behind you work for you. And right now, they are trying to pass a financial agreement that was not uploaded to their agenda within only the last hour. Several people on this council and the city council have signed non-disclosure agreements, meaning that they are not telling you who is coming to Shreveport, what they plan to do with this land, what type of data will be housed on this facility, and most importantly, what you, the people, who all these people are supposed to represent and fight for, will receive. And let me tell you this deal is hidden in secret for a reason. It is hidden in secret because, as the kind doctor mentioned earlier, this is an agreement between government and business. It is not an agreement between government and the people, and the people are who government is supposed to represent. Now, many speakers will speak to the vast issues that come with data centers that will come with these proposed constructions, the harm it will do to local communities. But I'm here to tell you that you all must get together with your friends, your family, your co-workers, your neighbors, and come to every meeting, every city council meeting, the further Commission Parish meetings, the municipal planning meetings, and any other assemblies where they will debate this issue because the only way we will defeat this project is through people power. And that means coming here, speaking. It means organizing in the streets and it means voting people who support this project out of office. You need to go to Louisiana Secretary of State's website, Google these people's names, figure out when they're up for re-election, and start organizing against them. This is the only way we will stop this corrupt business deal that is still shrouded in secrecy. It is the only way we will be able to reclaim the government for the people which the government is supposed to represent. Ask any founding father, they are rolling in their graves as they see backroom deals with undisclosed technology companies. It could be ChatGPT's suicide chatbot. It could be Meta's child sexualization chatbot. Whichever it is, there's many more options to choose from. This is a bad deal for the people of Louisiana. It is a bad deal for the citizens of Shreveport. And these people currently are not working for you. They are working for moneyed interests. The same people who provide money for their campaign, fund with their donations. And you, the people must stand against it. Thank you.

Abby Whittington came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Hello, I'm here to speak against Resolution 48. Abigail Whittington, 654 Columbia Street. Like I said, I'm not going to echo all the things that are wrong with data centers again, because I was here yesterday whenever we voted on this, yesterday. And I called y'all's office about an hour ago, and y'all told me that this will not be voted on today, and then I called again 30 minutes later and then y'all told me it would be voted on again today. So, who knows what's going on here? Anyone? Nobody? Didn't think so. Please think about your community members whenever you vote today. Please. This is going to affect all of us for the rest of our lives and we will remember all of you, and we will vote you out. Thank you.

It was moved by Mr. G. Young, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, to take the agenda out of order and address 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. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioner Kracman being absent.

It was then moved by Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. G. Young, that 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 be adopted.

Mr. Atkins spoke in support of his motion, emphasizing the economic significance of the

proposed pilot program. He stated that the initial phase of the project is projected to involve approximately eight billion dollars in construction costs, which would generate thousands of temporary construction jobs, followed by several hundred permanent positions. Mr. Atkins further noted that the project could result in substantial water purchases from the City of Shreveport's Department of Water and Sewer, contributing to funding needed infrastructure upgrades. He added that the project would significantly increase revenues for multiple entities, including the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, the Caddo Parish School Board, and the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Atkins characterized the proposal as a clear economic opportunity and urged support for new ventures that strengthen the community and tax base.

Mr. G. Young, as seconder of the motion, was then recognized. He stated that while he would have more to say on the matter in his role as Chair of the Economic Development Committee in the future, he wished to offer context regarding the broader economic landscape. Mr. G. Young discussed the rapid growth of artificial intelligence and data centers, noting that AI is already deeply embedded in the economy and is driving unprecedented levels of market valuation. He referenced the widespread presence of data centers across the United States, including significant concentrations in Virginia, and explained the role such facilities play in supporting cloud-based technologies and digital communications. Mr. G. Young acknowledged generational concerns surrounding technological change but compared current apprehensions to historical resistance to innovations such as the automobile, which ultimately became indispensable despite known risks.

Mr. G. Young emphasized that data centers are inevitable and that local governments face a choice between proactively managing their development or having them imposed without local input. He stated that engaging at this stage allows the parish to address concerns related to water usage, utility rates, environmental safeguards, and infrastructure impacts. He further expressed concern about population decline and the loss of young residents, arguing that strategic economic development is necessary to retain talent and stabilize the region. Mr. G. Young concluded by stating that opportunities may exist for incoming projects to assist with improvements to water systems and power infrastructure, and he reiterated his willingness to share information to the extent permitted.

Mr. Epperson was then recognized and asked clarifying questions regarding the scope of the proposed resolution. He inquired whether the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority economic development finance term sheet applied to the City of Shreveport or solely to Caddo Parish. Administrator Bryant clarified that the resolution would apply to data centers located outside the city limits and was intended to allow the parish to compete for major economic development projects, similar to actions taken by neighboring jurisdictions. It was further explained that any projects within city limits would require separate action by the City of Shreveport. Mr. Epperson also asked about the status of city-level consideration and was advised that the matter would be addressed at an upcoming city meeting.

Mr. Epperson then spoke more broadly, stating that he was not opposed to technology and cited his own familiarity with modern devices. He emphasized the importance of including the community alongside government and business in the development process. He expressed concern that confidentiality agreements and limited public information create mistrust among constituents, particularly when project details appear in the media while elected officials are restricted from discussing them. He stressed that public understanding of terms such as "PILOT" and zoning processes is limited and that lack of information leads to confusion and opposition. Vice President Epperson stated that public education and transparency are essential to avoid misinformation and to build community support. He further expressed concern regarding notification distances for zoning changes and noted his prior efforts to expand notice requirements. Mr. Epperson stated that he could not support the resolution at this time, citing the need for additional public engagement and education, but indicated that he remained open to further information.

Mr. Jones was subsequently recognized and requested that representatives come forward to answer questions. He sought clarification regarding the existence of nondisclosure agreements and confirmed that he had not signed one related to the project. Mr. Jones then explained that resolutions of support for economic development initiatives are a customary part of a multi-step process and do not, by themselves, authorize construction or guarantee project approval. He emphasized that additional approvals from other entities, including the City of Shreveport, would still be required. Administrator Bryant confirmed that a favorable vote would not automatically result in the construction of a data center and that the resolution represented only one component of the overall approval process. He referenced prior economic development actions, including the parish's support for SLB, noting that similar resolutions had been adopted before full public disclosure was possible. He explained that limited disclosure was not intended to withhold information from the public, but rather to protect competitive positioning when multiple jurisdictions may compete for the same investment. Mr. Jones stated that the parish is sometimes required to take action within its scope even if the City of Shreveport has not yet completed its portion of a separate process. He observed that the city could ultimately reject a related project at a later meeting, while the parish resolution would still establish parameters that could apply to other qualifying projects outside the city limits. In response, counsel clarified that the resolution under consideration would not apply to the particular data center proposal presented the previous evening, and instead would set general terms for data center projects located outside the city limits, contingent upon meeting stated requirements. Mr. Jones stated for the record that he had not signed a nondisclosure agreement and asserted that he had not acted in secret. He emphasized that he viewed the resolution as an effort to help the parish pursue economic growth and noted concerns about population decline. He described himself as a member of a generation that experienced life both before and during rapid technological growth, and he expressed frustration that commissioners were being accused of improper conduct. He cautioned that failure to act could result in other parishes securing investment opportunities first. Mr. Jones stated that the parish's action would help position Caddo Parish to recruit economic development projects and support revenue growth for public

entities, including schools and infrastructure needs. He referenced water quality concerns affecting residents, including himself, and stated that he supported the effort as a way to help drive change. Counsel confirmed that the resolution was specific to data centers and intended to position the parish competitively.

Mr. Busada further addressed the water-system component, explaining that Shreveport's water infrastructure was built for a larger population with projected growth, but the region has experienced decline. He stated that the system's size and fixed costs remain largely the same regardless of population, meaning fewer customers increase the cost burden on remaining ratepayers. He used an analogy of fixed maintenance costs in an apartment complex to explain that expanding the customer base helps distribute costs and reduces financial pressure on residents. He stated that attracting a major water customer would help offset the costs of maintaining the system and could save residents money over time.

Mr. Burrell was then recognized. He stated that the item came as a surprise to him and, while it appeared on the agenda the prior day, he had not had sufficient time to fully digest it. Mr. Burrell explained that he is detail-oriented and prefers to review matters thoroughly on behalf of his constituents. He asked what effect the resolution would have on the proposed data center project and stated that the discussion appeared focused on a data center rather than broader project financing. Administration clarified that the resolution was intended for any data center project and was not tied to a single specific site, but would apply to qualifying data center projects outside city limits. Mr. Burrell stated that he had familiarity with the Rayville data center development and had contacted officials there to gather information. He noted that public research reflects both potential benefits and concerns. Mr. Burrell stated that his primary concern involved water supply, particularly given existing water pressure issues and Cross Lake conditions, including ongoing needs related to dredging and historical infrastructure delays. He referenced past water pressure challenges affecting firefighting capacity and expressed concern about cumulative demands from other industrial users, including oil and gas operations. Mr. Burrell asked whether Cross Lake would serve as the primary water source for a facility under the resolution and requested information on whether studies had been conducted to ensure adequate supply for residents.

Mr. Brandon Snead, Director of Water and Sewer for the City of Shreveport, to address the questions. Mr. Snead distinguished between water used by some oil and gas operations and treated municipal distribution water, explaining that certain operations use untreated water drawn directly from Cross Lake or collected rainwater sources such as ponds, rather than treated water delivered through the city's distribution system. Mr. Burrell sought clarification that the source of water remains Cross Lake. Mr. Snead confirmed that Cross Lake is the source, and stated that the department had conducted months of modeling and study whenever a large water user is proposed. He explained that the city uses a water and sewer model incorporating valves, pumps, tanks, treatment systems, and the source supply to assess capacity and demand scenarios. Mr. Snead stated that the city can meet projected needs and has significant excess water capacity available for sale. He further stated that the department was working to improve public messaging and education on water system capacity, noting that he had spoken at the Metropolitan Planning Commission and would speak at the City Council if invited. He stated that silting occurs over time but that supply availability was not the limiting issue, and reiterated that current capacity exceeds need. Mr. Burrell stated that he was not opposed to economic development and affirmed support for such projects generally, but reiterated his concerns and the importance of addressing them publicly. During the discussion, additional remarks were made noting that in similar projects, companies may be required to fund and donate necessary infrastructure upgrades, such as equipment or water towers, to support increased demand. It was stated that discussions in similar contexts included provisions requiring companies to pay for and donate infrastructure improvements to the city, and that such improvements could lead to enhanced water pressure in areas near proposed development. Mr. Snead affirmed that infrastructure needs at higher demand levels had been discussed and that potential upgrades would be paid for by the company as applicable.

Mrs. Blake stated she is a lifelong resident of Caddo Parish and described the current economic climate as significantly different from the growth era of her childhood, noting decades of decline. She described the opportunity before the commission as significant and stated that the region functions largely as a service economy without sufficient technology-sector growth. Mrs. Blake spoke from the perspective of a long-time small business owner, describing the importance of new investment for local employers and for retaining young residents. She stated that while it is important to ensure questions are answered, it is also important that the Metropolitan Planning Commission and City Council understand the urgency and "desperation" for growth expressed by the commission. She emphasized the need to move forward, think creatively, and stop missing opportunities. Mrs. Blake stated she would continue to advocate for business and community growth and reiterated that there was nothing being hidden. She stated her support for the resolution.

Mr. Cothran was then recognized. He requested that Justin Dixon publicly explain his organization, its role, and how it conducts business, stating that misconceptions about secrecy persist. Mr. Cothran referenced prior commission actions supporting projects such as SLB and other economic development initiatives. He stated that key concerns he continued to hear related to water and electricity, as well as public safety for nearby constituents. He noted that although he did not observe many constituents from his district present, he emphasized his responsibility to represent residents and requested clear explanation of what the commission was voting for or against.

Mr. Justin Dixon introduced himself as President and CEO of the North Louisiana Economic Partnership, describing it as a private organization supported primarily by businesses and individuals, with the mission of recruiting well-paying jobs and capital investment to Northwest Louisiana. He stated that during his tenure of approximately four and a half years, the organization, working with

partners including the parish, has supported several major projects. He cited Amazon's fulfillment center and stated that job growth there exceeded original commitments. He referenced SLB's redevelopment of the former GM facility and stated that current employment exceeded initial commitments with well-paying jobs and benefits. He also referenced FiberBond and Prolec GE expansions, noting job increases and the relationship to industries supporting data center infrastructure. Mr. Dixon stated that in total these efforts contributed to growth of approximately 4,000 jobs in the region. He stated that a data center would generate substantial short-term construction employment and meaningful long-term employment, including positions attainable with two-year certifications and training through local community colleges. He further stated that workforce participation would primarily come from the region, based on studies discussed, and emphasized that the jobs would benefit local residents. Mr. Dixon then deferred to counsel for explanation of the specifics of the resolution.

Mr. Busada then stated his professional background as a practicing attorney with Butler Snow, with a practice focused on project finance and municipal bond finance across Louisiana. He stated that his work involves negotiating agreements to secure the best outcome for local communities while ensuring incentives are not excessive. Mr. Busada stated he was proud of the agreement framework, describing it as among the most community-beneficial data center incentive packages in the country, and expressed confidence in its value to the community.

Mr. J. Young stated that, although he had not received prior access to the term sheet, he had reviewed it during the course of the discussion and found it to be consistent with typical PILOT term sheets, with customizations reflecting data center job and property value metrics. Mr. J. Young asked whether additional requirements could be included in the final PILOT agreement. Specifically, Mr. J. Young referenced language stating that the term sheet would be subject to additional terms and conditions negotiated into a final PILOT agreement, and requested that the agreement include a requirement for educational meetings with impacted communities, consistent with concerns previously raised about public information and engagement. Mr. Busada confirmed his commitment to ensuring that educational meeting requirements would be included and acknowledged that multiple meetings may be necessary. He described similar experiences in other parishes, including agricultural communities, where residents supported diversification and new industry while seeking assurances regarding environmental protections and continued viability of existing land uses. Mr. Busada stated that data centers are generally among the cleanest industrial developments, describing them as facilities primarily consisting of computers and cooling systems, without chemical manufacturing processes. He stated that companies typically seek to be good community partners, cited examples of community investments and workforce development, and described instances where large construction projects supported local food service providers to supply worker meals.

Mr. J. Young asked two additional questions. First, he asked whether the project would be required to comply with zoning rules, and Mr. Busada responded that it would. Second, Mr. J. Young inquired about sustainability measures, including the potential for solar panels on large rooftops and opportunities to harvest rainwater given local rainfall. Mr. Busada responded that, while rooftop solar could not be confirmed, data center companies have historically entered long-term solar purchase agreements and pursue offsets where possible. Mr. J. Young requested that rainwater capture be considered in negotiated terms to address drainage and potential flooding impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Call for the Question by Mr. Lazarus, seconded by Mrs. Blake. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: Commissioners Cothran and Kracman (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Atkins' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Jones, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson and Kracman (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 48 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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.

WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Finance Authority ("NWLFA" or "Authority") is authorized to acquire and hold property for one or more of its public purposes as set forth in R.S. 9:2341(B) and upon acquisition by NWLFA, such property is declared for purposes of R.S. 9:2347(M) to be public property used for essential and governmental purposes and such property is thereby exempt from all taxes of the municipality, the state, or any political subdivision thereof or any other taxing body; and

WHEREAS, due to the significant economic benefits data centers bring to local communities in the form of increased utility capacity paid for by the data center hyperscaler, high paying jobs, significant capital investment and associated tax revenues, the creation of economic activity for local businesses servicing the construction and operation activities of the data center, and the attraction of supporting economic development projects, North Louisiana Economic Partnership ("NLEP") desires to enhance efforts to recruit one or more data centers (each a "Project") to the region; and

WHEREAS, in order to position the region to compete for these highly sought after economic development projects, NLEP has requested that the Authority agree to provide set terms for an incentive package to be made available to any qualifying entities locating in the Parish of Caddo (the "Parish"); and

WHEREAS, in order to assist in the effort to spur significant economic development to the region, the Authority has agreed to issue one or more term sheets providing for tax abatements in the form of one or more payment in-lieu of tax agreements (a "PILOT Agreement") to Qualifying Entities (defined below), in accordance with the terms provided for in a general term sheet attached hereto and incorporated herein (the "Term Sheet"), which Term Sheet(s) will be subject to the approvals of local governing authorities as required by law; and

WHEREAS, NWLFA intends to take title to the Project(s) and Lease the Project(s) back to the qualifying entity (the "Lessee"), pursuant to La. R.S. 9:2347(M) and will require the Lessee to pay annually to applicable parish taxing authorities, through the designated tax collector, payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes in amounts not to exceed the amount of taxes that would otherwise be due if the Project(s) were not owned by NWLFA (a "PILOT"), in accordance with a Term Sheet, in order to compensate such authorities for services rendered by them to the Project(s), which sum the tax collector shall collect and enforce payment of in accordance with the statutory provisions of La. R.S. 39:1002 as statutory impositions; and

WHEREAS, as an independently existing public trust authorized and empowered under Chapter 2-A of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 9:2341 through 9:2347, inclusive) (the "Act"), the PILOT for the Project may be required by NWLFA in the Parish only if the Caddo Parish Commission, as the governing authority of the Parish, (the "Governing Authority or "Commission") approves of the Authority executing one or more Term Sheets with qualifying entities containing the PILOT provided for in the Terms Sheets, all in accordance with La. R.S. 9:2347(M) and other statutory provisions; and

WHEREAS, this Commission, has found and determined that the economic development benefits emanating from a Project, as outlined above, would significantly benefit the residents of Caddo Parish.

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

Section 1. The foregoing whereas clauses are hereby adopted as set forth in the preamble to this Resolution.

Section 2. This Commission does hereby approve of the Authority providing and executing one or more Term Sheets with qualifying entities containing the PILOT to be paid by the qualifying entities for the Projects in amounts not to exceed the amount of taxes that would otherwise be due if the Projects were not owned by the NWLFA.

Section 3. The Parish Administrator are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to take any and all such action as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 4. If any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this Resolution which validates or makes legal any provision of this Resolution which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this Resolution.

Said Resolution having been read and considered by a quorum of the Commission, on motion to adopt by Commissioner John E. Atkins, seconded by Commissioner Gregory Young, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Jones, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (10).

NAYS: Epperson and Kracman (2).

ABSTAIN: None (0).

ABSENT: None (0).

WHEREUPON, the presiding officer declared the above Resolution duly adopted in full on this, the 4th day of December, 2025.

/s/ Jeff Everson

/s/Stormy Gage-Watts

Commission Clerk

President of the Commission

It was moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that 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 be taken out of order. Motion carried unanimously.*

It was moved by Mr. J. Young, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that 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 be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.*

RESOLUTION NO. 49 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT FOR A PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT IN FAVOR OF CAMERON INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW HIGH IMPACT JOBS.

WHEREAS, the North Louisiana Economic Partnership ("NLEP") is actively working to expand existing businesses in Caddo Parish and to promote economic development throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Cameron International Corporation (the "Company") may be considering a potential expansion of its operations in Caddo Parish, Louisiana (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, NLEP has requested that the Caddo Parish Commission express its support for a performance based grant (the "PBG") to incentivize the Company's potential expansion in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the proposed PBG would be in the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000), payable over a period of three (3) years, contingent upon the Company's agreement to create over five hundred (500) new high impact jobs in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, this Commission has found and determined that such a Project would benefit the welfare of the citizens of Caddo Parish by providing capital investment, as well as providing new high impact jobs and payroll that would benefit the economy of Caddo Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the Parish of Caddo that:

Section 1. The foregoing whereas clauses are hereby adopted as set forth in the preamble to this Resolution.

Section 2. This Commission does hereby express its support for the negotiation and execution of a performance based grant cooperative endeavor agreement with Cameron International Corporation, in an amount not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000), payable over a period of three (3) years, contingent upon the Company's commitment to create over five hundred (500) new high impact jobs in Caddo Parish.

Section 3. The Parish Administrator is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to take any and all such action as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 4. If any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this Resolution which validates or makes legal any provision of this Resolution which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this Resolution.

Said Resolution having been read and considered by a quorum of the Commission, on motion to adopt by Commissioner John Paul Young, seconded by Commissioner Steffon D. Jones, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (12).

NAYS: None (0).

ABSTAIN: None (0).

ABSENT: None (0).

WHEREUPON, the presiding officer declared the above Resolution duly adopted in full on this, the 4th day of December, 2025.

/s/ Jeff Everson
Commission Clerk

/s/Stormy Gage-Watts
President of the Commission

VISITORS

- Visit Shreveport- Bossier's Stacy Brown

Ms. Stacy Brown, representing Visit Shreveport, provided a presentation outlining tourism activity, economic impact, and marketing efforts for Caddo Parish and the region. Ms. Brown thanked the Commission and administration for their continued support and emphasized Visit Shreveport's role as the official destination marketing and management organization, funded through hotel occupancy taxes with a mandate to attract out-of-market visitors.

Ms. Brown reported that approximately 9.7 million domestic travelers visited Caddo and Bossier parishes in 2024, generating approximately \$933 million in overnight visitor spending, representing a \$38 million increase since 2022. She explained that visitor spending supports local businesses, attractions, events, and quality-of-life amenities, while also reducing the tax burden on residents.

The presentation highlighted growth trends, noting that local hotel occupancy increased by 1.8 percent year-over-year, outperforming the national average decline. Hotel demand increased significantly, with more than 50,000 additional hotel rooms sold year-to-date through October compared to the previous year. Ms. Brown discussed Visit Shreveport's data-driven marketing approach, including advertising performance analysis, public relations efforts, and digital engagement metrics.

Ms. Brown also reviewed major initiatives and partnerships, including support for the Boom or Bust Byway, gateway signage projects across multiple parishes, promotion of the Walter B. Jacobs Nature Center, film and entertainment recruitment efforts, and destination development programs such as Destination 318, which provided funding to tourism-related businesses. She highlighted the success of culinary tourism campaigns, which exceeded projected goals with a 6.8 percent increase in restaurant-related visitor spending.

Mr. Thomas thanked Ms. Brown for the presentation and expressed appreciation for the data-driven approach and the positive impact Visit Shreveport continues to have on positioning Caddo Parish as a destination community. No additional questions were raised.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that the Regular Session Minutes from the November 20, 2025 Regular Session be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Gage-Watts, Kracman, and Lazarus being absent.*

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Blake**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that following Special Resolutions be englobo'd and adopted:*

- *Special Resolution of Recognition Calvin Iverson*

Mr. Thomas addressed Mr. Iverson, expressing deep appreciation for his quick and courageous actions and emphasizing that Mr. Iverson acted not out of self-interest, but with genuine concern for others. Mr. Thomas noted the emotional impact of the incident, particularly given that the residents were asleep and unaware of the danger, and stated his desire for Mr. Iverson's actions to serve as an example to the broader community. Mr. Iverson was invited to share his account of the incident.

Mr. Iverson explained that he initially believed someone nearby was burning wood but quickly realized the glow indicated a house fire. He described navigating obstacles, including locked gates and dogs, to reach the residence. Upon entering, he confirmed the occupants were alive and was able to assist in removing them safely from the home.

Additional remarks were provided by community representative Ms. Rachel Jackson, who spoke on behalf of the Stoner Hill neighborhood. She described Mr. Iverson as a dedicated and humble servant to the community whose acts of kindness often go unnoticed and emphasized that this was not an isolated act, but consistent with his character and daily service.

Several Commissioners offered remarks praising Mr. Iverson's bravery and humility. Mrs. Blake highlighted the rarity of individuals who act decisively in moments of crisis, noting that Mr. Iverson represented the small percentage of people willing to step forward and do the right thing. Mr. Jones echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the importance of community awareness and looking out for one another,

and expressed gratitude that all individuals involved were spared serious harm.

President Gage-Watts concluded the recognition by thanking Mr. Iverson for his courage, noting that his actions were driven by heart rather than a desire for recognition, and offering encouragement and prayers on behalf of the Parish.

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition Hollywood Quick Stop*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition Steve Anderson's Retirement*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Curtis Griffin*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for MPC Director Alan Clarke's Retirement*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for HR Director Cheryl McGee's Retirement*

Mrs. McGee addressed the Commission, expressing heartfelt appreciation for the recognition and reflecting on her career in public service, which included service with local, state, and federal government. She stated that Caddo Parish had been the best employer of her career and thanked Parish leadership, department directors, staff, and former Human Resources team members for their support. Mrs. McGee also recognized her family for their unwavering support throughout her career.

Commissioners offered remarks expressing gratitude for Mrs. McGee's dedication, mentorship, and leadership. Several Commissioners noted her kindness, professionalism, and willingness to assist others, particularly new Commissioners and staff navigating human resources matters. Parish Administrator Bryant shared remarks highlighting Mrs. McGee's invaluable support during transitional leadership periods and formally presented a commemorative plaque recognizing her 26 years of dedicated service.

President Gage-Watts concluded by congratulating Mrs. McGee on her retirement, expressing appreciation for her lasting contributions, and wishing her well in the next chapter of her life.

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Captain Aaron Cornelius*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for Youree Drive Middle School's Football Team*

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
CALVIN IVERSON**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission seeks to recognize and honor citizens whose extraordinary actions exemplify courage, selflessness, and service to others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Calvin Iverson demonstrated exceptional bravery when he intervened during a house fire in Shreveport, risking his own safety to assist in the evacuation of a residence that had become engulfed in flames; and

WHEREAS, upon witnessing the fire, Mr. Iverson acted swiftly and without hesitation, entering the dangerous environment to ensure that the elderly couple residing in the home were safely removed from harm's way; and

WHEREAS, his quick thinking, calm demeanor, and courageous response prevented what could have been a tragic loss of life, and his actions reflect the highest ideals of community responsibility and human compassion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Iverson's heroism has earned the deep appreciation of the rescued family, the gratitude of the surrounding community, and the admiration of the citizens of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes that individuals like Mr. Iverson—who act with valor in moments of crisis—embody the spirit of service that strengthens and uplifts the entire parish; and

WHEREAS, the Commission wishes to formally commend Mr. Iverson for his life-saving actions and the extraordinary courage he displayed on that day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby extend its highest honor and deepest appreciation to Mr. Calvin Iverson for his heroic efforts in rescuing and protecting members of our community during a dangerous house fire; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as a permanent record of the Commission's respect and gratitude for his bravery, selflessness, and exemplary citizenship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Iverson as a lasting testament to his courage and service.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY**

WHEREAS, each year on December 7th, the United States pauses to observe National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, honoring the 2,403 service members and civilians who lost their lives during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, that fateful morning forever changed the course of American history, drawing the United States into World War II and inspiring a generation of courageous men and women to defend freedom across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the bravery demonstrated by the United States Navy personnel, Army soldiers, Marines, airmen, civilian workers, and the countless individuals who responded during and after the attack stands as a testament to the enduring spirit, resilience, and unity of our nation; and

WHEREAS, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day provides an opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who served during World War II—particularly the Greatest Generation—whose actions preserved liberty for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the significance of this solemn day and honors the veterans, survivors, families, and all those whose lives were forever changed by the events at Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, the Commission also acknowledges the continuing responsibility to educate future generations about the importance of this historic event to ensure that the heroism and sacrifices of December 7, 1941, are never forgotten.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby formally recognize National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and encourages all citizens of Caddo Parish to take time on December 7th to honor the memory of those who perished, reflect upon the sacrifices of America's service members, and recommit ourselves to the principles of freedom and unity that define our nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as a lasting expression of the Caddo Parish Commission's respect and gratitude for the heroes of Pearl Harbor and all World War II veterans.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
HOLLYWOOD QUICK STOP**

WHEREAS, Hollywood Quick Stop, located at 3840 Linwood Avenue in Shreveport, Louisiana, has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the residents of Caddo Parish through entrepreneurship, community engagement, and local investment; and

WHEREAS, Eric "Hollywood" Stephens, the founder and owner, has shown extraordinary leadership by fostering a business environment rooted in integrity, dignity, and cooperative workmanship, serving as a role model for aspiring entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, Hollywood Quick Stop has provided opportunities for parish residents, supported youth initiatives, and hosted local events that promote unity and pride throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the store's success embodies the spirit of Caddo Parish—resilient, innovative, and community-driven; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission meeting in legal and regular session this 4th day of December, 2025 that it does hereby proclaim does hereby proclaim December 17, 2025 as

HOLLYWOOD QUICK STOP DAY

throughout Caddo Parish, and encourage all residents to recognize and celebrate the significant contributions of Hollywood Quick Stop to the people and prosperity of our community.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
STEVE ANDERSON'S RETIREMENT**

WHEREAS, Pastor Steve Anderson has served the Shreveport–Bossier community with exceptional dedication, integrity, and spiritual leadership for more than four decades through his work in gospel broadcasting; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Anderson began his radio career over 40 years ago and has remained a trusted, steady, and influential voice on KOKA 980 AM/93.3 FM, offering daily encouragement, prayer, and inspiration to listeners across Caddo Parish and beyond; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, Pastor Anderson has uplifted countless families, strengthened faith communities, and provided a platform for ministries, leaders, and organizations who rely on gospel radio as a vital tool for outreach and connection; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to excellence in broadcasting has set a standard of professionalism, compassion, and spiritual integrity that has left an indelible mark on the culture of gospel media; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Anderson's warm presence, unwavering faith, and heartfelt delivery have comforted the grieving, encouraged the struggling, and inspired hope in generations of listeners; and

WHEREAS, his leadership and contributions extend far beyond the microphone—through pastoral care, community engagement, mentorship, and service that has strengthened the moral and spiritual fabric of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Anderson will be retiring at the end of this year, concluding over 40 years of extraordinary service and marking the end of a broadcast era cherished by the people of this parish;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby honor, celebrate, and express its profound appreciation to Pastor Steve Anderson for his decades of faithful service, his commitment to uplifting gospel radio, and his enduring impact on the citizens of Caddo Parish; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission extends its heartfelt congratulations on his retirement and best wishes for continued blessings in the years ahead.

THIS PROCLAMATION is hereby issued on this 4th day of December, 2025, by the Caddo Parish Commission.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
CURTIS GRIFFIN**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission seeks to honor the memory of citizens whose lives and accomplishments have left a lasting impact on Caddo Parish and whose examples continue to inspire generations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Griffin, born in Saline, Louisiana, later made Shreveport his home, where he began his lifelong career in contracting and roofing, becoming a trailblazer in his field through his unmatched work ethic and unwavering determination; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin made history as the first certified African-American roofer in Caddo Parish, breaking through social, economic, and political barriers with perseverance, faith, and an unshakable commitment to excellence; and

WHEREAS, his remarkable achievements were recognized on April 6, 2017, when his story and contributions were featured as an exhibit at the Louisiana State Museum in Shreveport—an honor that preserved his legacy and highlighted his pioneering role in the roofing and contracting industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin built his business and reputation through integrity, craftsmanship, and resilience, never giving in to outside pressures and continually demonstrating what is possible through hard work and steadfast dedication; and

WHEREAS, the foundation of Mr. Griffin's success was rooted in his faith in God and the unwavering support of his family and friends, a testimony that with spiritual grounding and strong community backing, any individual can break the proverbial glass ceiling in their chosen vocation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin's life stands as an inspiration not only to the roofing and contracting community but also to countless individuals who strive to overcome adversity, pursue their goals, and uplift others along the way; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to honor Mr. Griffin's legacy and extend heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and all who were touched by his life and example.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby honor and remember Mr. Curtis Griffin for his pioneering achievements, his commitment to excellence, and the enduring legacy he leaves within Caddo Parish and beyond; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as a permanent expression of the Commission's respect, appreciation, and remembrance of Mr. Griffin's life, accomplishments, and contributions to the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Mr. Griffin as a symbol of the Parish's gratitude and sympathy.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
MPC DIRECTOR ALAN CLARKE'S RETIREMENT**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission seeks to recognize individuals whose dedication to public service has greatly benefited the citizens of Caddo Parish and the overall quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alan Clarke has faithfully served the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), the City of Shreveport, and the Parish of Caddo with professionalism, integrity, and vision throughout his distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, the MPC advanced numerous initiatives to promote responsible land use, coordinated growth, development planning, zoning modernization, and long-term community improvement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clarke's stewardship extended not only to the MPC but also to the Caddo Parish Planning and Zoning Commission, where his guidance, technical expertise, and commitment to balanced development strengthened cooperation between city and parish planning efforts; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Mr. Clarke was widely respected for his fairness, his steady and thoughtful approach to resolving complex planning issues, and his dedication to engaging citizens, developers, and public agencies to ensure that planning decisions served the best interests of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, his contributions have played a key role in shaping the future growth and character of Shreveport and Caddo Parish, leaving a lasting legacy of improved planning standards, enhanced public processes, and a stronger foundation for future development; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to express its sincere gratitude for Mr. Clarke's leadership, professionalism, and decades of service to the citizens of Caddo Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby extend its heartfelt appreciation and highest commendation to Mr. Alan Clarke upon the occasion of his retirement from the Metropolitan Planning Commission and for his dedicated service to the Caddo Parish Planning and Zoning Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution serves as a permanent expression of the Commission's gratitude and a tribute to Mr. Clarke's enduring contributions to the responsible planning and future prosperity of Caddo Parish; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Clarke as a symbol of respect, appreciation, and best wishes for a rewarding and well-deserved retirement.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
HR DIRECTOR CHERYL MCGEE'S RETIREMENT**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission desires to recognize individuals who have dedicated their careers to public service and whose leadership has made a lasting impact on the operations and employees of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cheryl McGee has faithfully served the Parish of Caddo with distinction, culminating in her tenure as Director of Human Resources, where her guidance, professionalism, and commitment to excellence have strengthened the Parish's workforce and improved the quality of services delivered to the citizens of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Mrs. McGee has provided steadfast leadership in employee relations, recruitment, professional development, workplace policies, and benefits administration,

ensuring that the Parish remained a supportive, equitable, and forward-thinking employer; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McGee has been highly regarded for her integrity, compassion, and dedication to fostering a positive and productive work environment, earning the respect and admiration of colleagues across every department of Caddo Parish government; and

WHEREAS, her commitment to public service and her unwavering support of the Parish's employees have contributed greatly to the stability and success of Parish operations, making her retirement both a moment of celebration and a heartfelt farewell from those whose lives she touched; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is grateful for Mrs. McGee's many years of dedicated service and wishes to extend its sincere appreciation for her contributions, leadership, and friendship throughout her distinguished career.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby extend its deepest gratitude and highest commendation to Mrs. Cheryl McGee upon the occasion of her retirement as Director of Human Resources for the Parish of Caddo; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as a permanent expression of the Commission's appreciation for her outstanding service, commitment, and loyalty to the employees and citizens of Caddo Parish; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. McGee as a token of respect, admiration, and best wishes for a fulfilling and joyous retirement.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
CAPTAIN AARON CORNELIUS**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission wishes to honor the life, service, and memory of citizens whose dedication to the safety and well-being of the community has left a lasting impact on Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Captain Aaron Cornelius faithfully served the Caddo Sheriff's Department with courage, integrity, and professionalism, exemplifying the highest ideals of law enforcement and public service; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Captain Cornelius dedicated himself to protecting the citizens of Caddo Parish, mentoring fellow officers, and promoting public safety with unwavering commitment and selflessness; and

WHEREAS, Captain Cornelius earned the respect and admiration of colleagues, community members, and all who had the privilege of serving alongside him through his steadfast dedication, leadership, and devotion to duty; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to the Caddo Sheriff's Department and the citizens of Caddo Parish reflect a life committed to service, honor, and the protection of others, leaving a legacy that will endure in the hearts and memories of all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission joins the family, friends, and colleagues of Captain Cornelius in mourning his passing while celebrating his life, leadership, and lasting impact on the community he served so faithfully.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its profound sorrow at the passing of Captain Aaron Cornelius and extends its deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as a permanent expression of the Commission's respect, admiration, and remembrance of Captain Cornelius' life, service, and legacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Captain Cornelius as a tribute to his dedication and a token of the Parish's gratitude for his service.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
YOUREE DRIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL'S FOOTBALL TEAM**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission takes pride in recognizing the achievements of students and athletic programs within the Parish who demonstrate excellence, teamwork, and commitment to their school and community; and

WHEREAS, the Youree Drive Middle School football team completed an extraordinary undefeated season in 2025–2026, showcasing skill, dedication, sportsmanship, and resilience on the field; and

WHEREAS, the team capped their remarkable season by winning the Caddo Middle Schools Football City Championship on November 20, 2025, defeating Broadmoor STEM Academy and claiming the title of City Champions; and

WHEREAS, the players, coaches, and staff of Youree Drive Middle School have worked tirelessly throughout the season, demonstrating discipline, determination, and teamwork, and setting an example for all student-athletes in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, this historic accomplishment not only highlights the athletic talent of the team but also fosters school spirit, unity, and pride within the students, faculty, families, and the entire Caddo Parish community; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of the coaching staff, alongside the hard work and perseverance of each player, has made this undefeated season and city championship a memorable and inspiring achievement worthy of formal recognition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby extend its congratulations and highest commendation to the Youree Drive Middle School football team for completing an undefeated season and winning the 2025–2026 Caddo Middle Schools Football City Championship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as a permanent record of the Commission's recognition and appreciation of the team's outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Caddo Parish; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Youree Drive Middle School football team, coaching staff, and school administration as a token of the Commission's pride and admiration.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission on this 4th day of December, 2025.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Administrator Bryant announced an upcoming parish food distribution scheduled for December 20, maintaining the same times and locations as prior events. Commissioners were advised to notify administration promptly if any changes were requested to allow sufficient time for public notice.

She also expressed appreciation to parish departments and staff for their coordinated efforts related to the opening of the Walter B. Jacobs Nature Center. Communications, Facilities and Maintenance, Parks staff, Finance Administration, and Public Works were recognized for their contributions, including logistical support during inclement weather. Administration reported that the event was successful and well received.

During the report period, Commissioners requested that Mr. Clarke come forward. Mr. Thomas used the opportunity to formally acknowledge Mr. Clarke during what was noted as his final Commission meeting prior to retirement. Mr. Thomas thanked Mr. Clarke for his many years of service, professionalism, and guidance, particularly regarding adherence to parish regulations and development standards. Several Commissioners joined in expressing appreciation for Mr. Clarke's expertise, mentorship, patience, and dedication throughout his tenure.

Mr. Clarke addressed the Commission, reflecting on his years of service and expressing gratitude for the support he received from the Commission through both challenging and successful periods. He noted the progress achieved during his leadership, the importance of the Commission's role in parish governance, and his pride in representing Caddo Parish both locally and nationally. Mr. Clarke described his service as an honor and expressed appreciation for the relationships formed during his career.

Administrator Bryant also reported that the Parish had recently undergone a bond rating review and successfully maintained its AA+ bond rating. Administration acknowledged staff efforts involved in responding to detailed inquiries during the process and expressed appreciation for the work completed to support the favorable outcome.

Mr. J. Young congratulated administration on the successful grand opening event earlier in the day and requested that a meeting be scheduled in January with project architects to review and discuss the pickleball complex design, allowing Commissioners the opportunity to provide input. Administrator Bryant confirmed the request would be accommodated.

Mr. Cothran requested clarification regarding tax-related matters previously discussed. Administrator Bryant explained that the matter involved a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement,

which provides for a reduction in assessed property taxes based on job creation rather than a full tax exemption. It was further clarified that under the approved resolution, the PILOT agreement would extend for a term of twenty-five years, with tax revenues still distributed among taxing authorities.

COMMUNIQUES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner comments continued with remarks recognizing a community-based initiative involving Representative Daryl “Joy” Walters and an event held at Angola that supported family connection and community restoration. Commissioners emphasized the importance of programs that assist individuals in re-entering society and promote healing in difficult circumstances. One Commissioner shared personal reflections on the significance of such moments and expressed interest in working with Representative Walters in the future.

Mr. Burrell also congratulated Representative Walters, noting that he viewed the program as meaningful and impactful, particularly for children with incarcerated parents. Mr. Burrell then requested additional clarification from administration regarding Resolution No. 48 and the associated PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) program. Administrator Bryant explained that the resolution established terms for the PILOT framework related to data center projects, and that while the framework had been approved, additional actions could be required depending on future circumstances and any separate items that may require Commission approval. She advised that there would be a process to determine any next procedural steps should a data center project proceed under the outlined terms. Mr. Burrell further discussed potential scenarios in which related matters could return before the Commission, including appeals involving parish zoning or special use processes, and contrasted parish procedure with processes occurring within the City through the MPC and City Council.

Mr. Jones offered acknowledgments and announcements. He thanked Mr. Randall and Juvenile Services for stepping in during a previous food distribution event when he was unexpectedly unable to attend due to a funeral obligation. He also thanked staff for ensuring the site remained organized for collection and cleanup. Mr. Jones further praised Parks and Recreation and commended the successful opening of the Walter B. Jacobs Nature Center, describing the facility as a significant improvement and an investment that would benefit residents, schools, and visitors. He expressed enthusiasm for future educational and recreational use.

Mr. Jones announced an upcoming listening session hosted by the Louisiana Task Force on Fatherhood Engagement scheduled for Saturday, December 6 at 11:00 a.m. at the Goodwill location at 800 West 70th Street, inviting fathers and father figures from surrounding parishes to participate. He emphasized the importance of supporting entire families and creating safe spaces for men to engage in meaningful dialogue and development. Mr. Jones also congratulated summer program participant Nevin Oliver on his upcoming graduation from ULM and recognized the Parish’s investment in youth workforce development. He additionally thanked Representative Walters for her leadership and noted the positive impact the father-daughter initiative had on families in the community.

It was noted that the Commission President had stepped out and, therefore, a President’s Report would not be presented.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

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

- *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*

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

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

WORK SESSION MINUTES

RESOLUTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas**, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *to englobo and adopt the following ordinances:*

- *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*
- *Work Session Minutes December 1, 2025*
- *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 solar siting requirements, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *End of the Year Appointments*
- *Authorize Administrator Bryant to communicate support of the tax-exempt status of Millennium III Apartments*
- *Authorize Administrator Bryant to expend emergency housing funds to stabilize Veterans impacted by the recent fire at Woody's Home for Veterans.*

At this time, Mr. Thomas' motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Gage-Watts, Kracman, and Lazarus being absent.

ORDINANCE NO. 6602 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE LEASE OF FLOOD ACQUISITION PROPERTY LOCATED AT 610 TYRE ROAD, 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:

The West 322.08 feet of the North 165.0 feet of the South 330.0 feet of the North Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana LESS AND EXCEPT all buildings and improvements located thereon. Municipal Address: 610 Tyre Road, Shreveport, LA, Geog. Number 161423-0-39.

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 610 Tyre Road, Shreveport, LA, Caddo Parish, Louisiana to the adjacent land owners, Christopher Shane Rogers, for a period of time as deemed necessary by the Caddo Parish Administrator.

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 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 6603 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME II OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF CADDO, AS AMENDED, THE CADDO PARISH UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE, BY AMENDING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED 10222 LINWOOD AVE, CADDO PARISH, LA., FROM C-2 CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO C-3 GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

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

The official Zoning Map of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Area of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be amended by rezoning property located enter general location, Caddo Parish, LA, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended from C-2 Corridor Commercial Zoning District to C-3 General Commercial Zoning District:

LOT 3, PROCELL PARK, 161414-18-3, LOT 4, PROCELL PARK, 161414-18-4, SECTION 14, T16N, R14W, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA.

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

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 46 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 3, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, described as Lot 3, Arnolds Southern Hills Subdivision, with Geo. #161403-028-0003 and containing .22 acres; from the SE/corner of Lot X, run West 36.65 ft., thence South 36.90 ft., thence Northeast 49.43 ft., to the POB of Brookwood-Southern Hills Subdivision, Unit #7-A, with a Geo. #161403-040-0026 and containing .02 acres; from the SE/corner of the NW/4 of NW/4 of Section 3, T16N-R14W, thence run North 92.40 ft., to the POB, thence run North 84 Deg. 49 Min. 36 Sec. West 44.01 ft., thence run North 6 Deg. 57 Min. 46 Sec. East 62.15

ft., thence run South 85 Deg. 20 Min. 56 Sec. East 37.54 ft., thence run South 0 Deg. 58 Min. 30 Sec. West 62.40 ft., to the POB, with a Geo. #161403-000-0138 and containing a net .03 acres; and the following property owned by the Parish of Caddo and described as Lot 2, Climastor Subdivision, with a Geo. #161403-052-0002 and containing 2.01 acres; begin at the SE/corner of Lot 1, Commercial Developers Subdivision, being on the West ROW line of Baird Road and run South 00 Deg. 53 Min. 44 Sec. West along said ROW a distance of 388.78 ft., thence run North 89 Deg. 06 Min. 16 Sec. West 768.61 ft., thence run North 27 Deg. 08 Min. 17 Sec. East 182.77 ft., to most Southerly corner of Lot 1, Climastor Subdivision, thence North 27 Deg. 08 Min. 17 Sec. East along East line of same 248.58 ft., thence South 89 Deg. 18 Min. 40 Sec. East 577.86 ft., to the POB; with a Geo. #161403-000-0178 and containing 5.99 acres; all the above described property located in Section 3, T16N, R14W containing a total of 8.30 Gross acres and 8.27 Net acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from Expand Gulf Coast, 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. 47 OF 2025

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO OPT OUT OF STATEWIDE SOLAR SITING REQUIREMENTS, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Act No. 279 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature (the "Act") enacted solar facility siting requirements found in La. R.S. § 30:1144, which states that "any solar power generation facility with a footprint of seventy-five acres or more which is not located wholly within an industrial-zoned area or a Louisiana Economic Development certified site shall comply with the standards set forth in this Section"; and

WHEREAS, the Act also states in La. R.S. § 30:1142(B) that "any parish that has adopted solar ordinances may by resolution opt out of the siting requirements of this Part. Upon submission of such resolution so passed to the Louisiana Department of Conservation and Energy, the siting standards of this Part shall not apply to that parish"; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission adopted comprehensive solar energy regulations on November 20, 2025, in addition to already established zoning ordinances, establishing requirements for utility-scale solar power generation facilities within the parish; and

WHEREAS, these regulations will provide protection for property owners while allowing for responsible solar development; and

WHEREAS, maintaining local control over solar facility siting allows Caddo Parish to address the unique characteristics of the parish and the need to balance agricultural preservation, property rights, and economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission finds that its solar ordinances protect the health, safety, and welfare of parish residents and property owners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission, in regular and legal session convened, that:

Section 1. The Caddo Parish Commission hereby elects to opt out of the statewide solar siting requirements set forth in La. R.S. § 30:1144, pursuant to the authority granted in La. R.S. § 30:1142(B).

Section 2. The solar siting standards contained in Part 3 of Chapter 12 of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes shall not apply within Caddo Parish.

Section 3. The Parish Administrator shall submit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Louisiana Department of Conservation and Energy

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

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

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *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*
- *Ordinance No. 6605 of 2025, an ordinance declaring the intent of the Parish of Caddo, under L.A.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*

CITIZENS COMMENTS (LATE ARRIVALS)

Francis Kelly came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Hi, good evening. Thank you. I'm here because I'm very concerned. Oh, my name and address. Francis Kelly, 935 Linden Street, Shreveport, Louisiana. I'm very concerned. I don't know what exactly the resolution was that was passed today. I understand it was added to the agenda at the last minute, and I came here as soon as I could. And this room was packed last night with people that are very concerned about data centers, very concerned about the economic impact, our natural resources, pollution, just like what this impact could be on our community as a whole because of how massive these projects are and the impacts we've seen in other communities around the country. I don't, again, know exactly how this resolution fits into the proposed project by an entity that we don't even know who the end user will be. Everything is under NDAs, and there's just a lot of distrust in the community because there hasn't been transparency around it and I don't know, again, what role the Commission plays in this, but, you know, seeing just briefly now the text of the resolution saying that, you know, data centers are a great thing and we should be trying to make it easier for them to come here, when they create very few permanent jobs and use massive amounts of water and electricity. And there was huge opposition here last night in this very room. Every community member that spoke was in opposition. Just very, very real concerns. And so, I really want, you know, this Commission to kind of explain to the public, people would be here if they had known about it. Again, like I found out at the very last minute, and of course, I was here for three and a half hours last night along with, you know, I mean this whole room was full. Just to understand what's happening and to say that like we need to be really careful with these kinds of things. And there is, you know, potentially an economic bubble with all of this AI stuff. Like, nobody's really made any money off of it yet. There's a lot of companies like investing in each other and moving stuff around. And so, if something gets built and then that company goes out of business and we're left with the long-term impacts of that, I mean, I think there are really very real legitimate concerns about this and the citizens deserve to understand what's going on and we really need to have a longer conversation about the potential impacts of this. I mean, we were told last night it would be the second biggest thing to ever happen in Louisiana if this center gets built. And that's really scary to just like go into that without having a real democratic process where the community is informed. We look at the facts, we talk to experts, and we really take our time to make a good decision. So, I know the timing of this, the timing of last night, like I don't know how connected they are, but, you know, the fact that it wasn't on the agenda and then it was, I know it's a resolution, but I'm really concerned. I'm really concerned about, you know, these massive tax exemptions that I understand are state law and just like what is the impact going to be on the long term. So, I guess what I'm asking for is could there be further discussion? Could be there be an opportunity for citizens to come and like ask questions to understand what's going on to share like our perspectives, which are really well-informed. So that's what I wanted to ask for. Thank you.

Abby Whittington came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Abby Whittington, 654 Columbia Street. I just want to say thank you, Mr. Epperson and Kracman, for voting no and having a backbone, other than everyone else that's sitting here still. I don't know how many people need to come here to let y'all know, thank you for leaving in the middle of this, by the way, that this is not going to be good for our community and we don't want this. Like she said, so many people were here last night, and this wasn't even on the agenda until 20 minutes beforehand. What are y'all going to do to let the community members know what's coming to their community? I don't even have much to say other than most of you have failed at your jobs today. Thank you.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk

Stormy Gage-Watts
President

This is only a draft. The Commission will vote to adopt these minutes during the January 8, 2026 Regular Session.