

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 9th DAY OF APRIL, 2025

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. G. Young, 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).

The Pledge of Allegiance and invocation were given during a previous Committee meeting. There were no Agenda Additions.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Signora Thomas came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

I'm Signora Thomas. I'm at 610 East Texas Street, Suite 12, Shreveport, Louisiana, zip code 71101. I am here on behalf of 6th District Congressman Cleo Fields. I am new to the staff and I wanted to introduce myself as the new regional representative. I'm looking behind me. I see my predecessor, Miss Lindora Baker, who slipped away from us. But I am here just to say that we are here. We are here to serve you and your constituents in any way possible. We work on federal issues, your social security, IRS, VA benefits, those types of things. So, if you run across people, I did email most of you today to let you know how to contact me. Hopefully you got it. A couple came back, but hopefully you got it and you'll be able to reach out. If you come across someone, please refer us. They do need to live in our district, though. Okay, alright. Any questions? I'm so happy to see so many familiar faces here. So many. And I just look forward to working with you.

Lyndon Johnson came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Thank you, Mr. President and the Commissioners. I stand before you today, Lyndon Johnson, 4700 Line Avenue, representing the Louisiana Rouxgaroux. On August 27, 2025, which was after the 2025 football season, the National Arena League awarded full franchise membership to sole owner Keith Carter, which means that any debt that was established was before him. That means that he was an investor with the team in 2025. He became the owner after the football season. He was granted that by the league itself, and his plan was to have a team here in the spring of 2026, which we have and you've seen. The team resides in Caddo, practices in Caddo, and only plays the games in Bossier Parish. The request that we sent out to Caddo Parish had three components. Provide Title I students in Caddo Parish with access to professional football experiences, sponsoring youth football camps in Caddo Parish, and then funding to promote affordable, family-oriented entertainment. Shreveport is classified as a tier 4 metropolitan area, which commonly supports professional teams such as the National Arena League, Minor League Baseball, and the American Basketball Association. Public investment is not to sports for-profit organizations. You take the Buffalo Bills, Tennessee Titans, Baltimore Ravens, all collectively have raised 2.6 billion, billion dollars in public funding for stadium construction and renovations. In the state of Louisiana, our taxpayers pay 400,000 dollars a year for the New Orleans Saints and the Pelicans. Locally, YMCA Youth Sports Complex, the city of Shreveport put in 1.5, Caddo Parish Commission put in 2 million towards a softball and baseball facility. Caddo Parish funded in 2008 the 39th Bassmaster Classic, in which the launch was from the Red River on the Bossier side and the weigh-in was at the Century-Tel, now called Brookshire's Arena. Later on in 2012, Caddo Parish also funded the 42nd Bassmaster, which the launch was also in Bossier on the Red River south marina. And every other year, Caddo Parish funds the Barksdale Air Force Show. It's not new that government helps for-profit organizations in sports because what it does, it helps as economic benefits to increase sales tax, hotel occupancy, and visitor spending. So, you've heard 100,000s, you heard billions, and all we asked for was 32,500. There was a lot of, I would say, defective comments that came out. One was it's illegal for the parish to do that. Well, the attorney made it clear by Louisiana statute that it can be done. It just makes, you have to make sure that the ask is lower than the return on investment. Commissioners asked for an economic impact study, which everybody was given one. It wasn't hidden. It wasn't that I just gave it to purchasing, I mean the finance department, and nobody saw it and they just said, "Well, they turned it in." Everybody got a chance to look at it. There came questions about that as well. But we did not ask for any money for any type of operational. It was to improve the quality of life for our kids in this community with football camps and also to bring them to the game. One of the concepts of the game is bringing high school bands, let them perform during halftime. Also, cheerleader squads, elementary, middle school, high school, bringing in some of the flag football teams and middle school teams, just making it into a family event. If you come to any of the games, we have a game next Friday, next Saturday on the 18th, come out and see for yourself the fun that's shown at the game in Bossier. Thank you.

David Hackney came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Hey, good afternoon. My name is Dave Hackney. I live at 9660 Railsback Ridge, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106. I spoke here the other day at the work session. This is kind of a follow-up. Listening to you, and I'm speaking in support of Resolution 27 of 2026. It's a resolution you have proposed, President Young, which is a resolution against the Senate legislation to make the Louisiana Senate a concurring body for Caddo-Bossier Port Commissioners. I think I got that right. By the way, that sailed through the Senate today. I think the vote was 36 to nothing. So, we're on the losing end of this argument with the Senate. I don't think having Baton Rouge and people from all over the state approving port

commissioners for Caddo-Bossier is a good thing. Caddo-Bossier is funded by taxpayers in Caddo-Bossier, so we should be the people doing it and unfortunately the governing boards which are Caddo Commission, Shreveport City Council, Bossier City Council, and Bossier Police Jury, those are the four entities that nominate and select port commissioners. You were citing a bunch of data for the movie industry. I'm an engineer. I like data. It removes the personality aspect of this. I've studied the port. The last 10 years or so, the port has not been a good investment. They haven't produced a lot of jobs. They've produced some jobs, but they're getting 9 million dollars a year tax money from Caddo and Bossier people. Are we getting 9 million dollars-worth of anything from the port? I don't think so. And I think we should have that conversation and look at the port commissioners and the accountability. There's one thing that's real disturbing. In the legislation that created the port, it said the port, it shall not be subject in any respect to the authority, control, or supervision of any local regulatory body or political subdivision. That's a very troubling statement. I don't know how that got in there, but it is. And so, the only recourse we have is holding our port commissioners accountable. If you look at other ports in the state, they have a bigger turnover in commissioners. The port commissioners at other ports turnover more frequently. I mean, you can go to the Louisiana Department of Administration and look at all the employees and all the commissioners, and four or eight years is typical service. Mrs. Bryant, you've been a commissioner for 20 years at the Caddo-Bossier Port, and she's not the senior-most one. There's other people that have more time. I think that would be something to go for is term limits. I mean, that's a common thing in, you know, councils and city councils and commissions. If any of you read the article I posted, one of the things I quoted was the U.S. Department of Transportation publishes a report of the top 150 ports in the nation. There's a little over 300 ports. First question you might have, why 150? Why not publish a report with the top 100 or something? 150 covers 99% of the waterborne traffic. So, if you're not in the top 150, if you're the bottom 150, you're less than 1% of the total thing. The Caddo port is not in the top 150. Louisiana has, I believe 11 ports in the top 150 and 5 in the top 13. If Caddo port doubled its barge traffic, it still would not be in the top 150. It takes about a million tons a year of waterborne traffic to get into the top 150. They're about 400 tons. They average less than 1 barge a day, per year, 250 to 300 barges. I've looked at a lot of data and there hasn't been growth, and so I think there needs to be review. Thank you.

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

Good evening, Commissioners, Jon Glover, 9100 Walker Road, Apartment 217, Shreveport, Louisiana, zip code 71118. Please excuse my voice, I have bronchitis. I am just interested in knowing what you all are doing on my behalf as Commissioners for me, myself, and the Parish as a whole. You know, as I looked at today's agenda, you all have about 11 pieces of legislation that you all are going to consider for adoption. Of those items, some are opposing some legislations and some are supporting some legislations. I will ask that when you get to those items that you will tell me your positions on why you oppose, why you support these pieces of legislation. There is a piece of legislation that I will be speaking to when the public hearing is open for the arena team, football team, because I'm interested and I have gained a lot of information since the day we were here, the last when it was first introduced for you all's consideration for funding. It is so important for us all to understand that when we as a citizen, myself as a citizen, stand before you, it is only to gain insight, information to what you all are proposing to do on behalf of all of us here in Caddo Parish. I do want, though it is an introduction for a piece of legislation, I want someone to, when it comes forth, to tell me specifically where Ordinance 66'13, and like I said it's for introduction, it is asking you all to consider this legislation for a welcome sign on I20 eastbound. I just need to know where you're going to be placing that or were you even considering that location, because I know that at the Texas line, there's a welcome to Louisiana thing. Then you got Greenwood next. Then you have Shreveport. So, I'm just trying to figure out where are we positioning ourselves with this particular legislation. As I said, I have been here and I have written notes for each of these as they were spoken to. But I just want to see what has transpired since the last time I stood before you asking you all to not to just say we adopt yea or nay, but tell me what it is that you're adopting, what it is that you are going to be doing on my behalf. Again, I am just one citizen, but pretty sure that every citizen in Caddo Parish would like to know those same things. When you all propose legislation, be whatever it is, help us to understand your position and why you're proposing it. Thank you.

There were no Visitors.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

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

- *Regular Session Minutes—March 19, 2026*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for the AmeriCorps Southern University Foster Grandparent's Senior Volunteer Program*
- *Special Resolution Recognizing Parish/County Government Month*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for Mr. Dother Sykes*

Mr. Sykes addressed the Commission and expressed heartfelt gratitude to those who have supported him throughout his journey. He acknowledged his mother for her guidance and discipline, his father, who was unable to attend, and most notably his wife, whom he credited as instrumental to his

success. He also recognized his children as a source of motivation and inspiration, emphasizing his desire to set a positive example for them. Mr. Sykes further expressed appreciation for his extended family, friends, and management team, noting that his accomplishments are rooted in the support system surrounding him.

He spoke about his commitment to representing Shreveport with pride and ensuring that local talent receives the recognition it deserves. Mr. Sykes highlighted the abundance of untapped talent within the community, particularly among aspiring artists, athletes, and creators, and emphasized his dedication to investing in and supporting the city's future. He closed his remarks by thanking the Commission for the opportunity and again acknowledged his family members in attendance.

Commissioners offered congratulatory remarks recognizing Mr. Sykes' achievements and impact. Mr. Burrell commended him and noted the longstanding presence of the Feaster name within the arts community, expressing appreciation for his work and contributions. He also encouraged Mr. Sykes to remain involved in efforts to grow the local film industry.

Mr. Thomas congratulated Mr. Sykes and emphasized the importance of fully recognizing the breadth of his work, including his contributions beyond stunt performance. He highlighted Mr. Sykes and his wife's influence in digital media and social platforms, noting their role in positively promoting Shreveport and encouraging him to continue representing the community.

Mrs. Gage-Watts praised Mr. Sykes as an example of how individuals from Caddo Parish can succeed on any stage. She commended his role in inspiring future generations and expressed pride in seeing his family present and invested in the community.

Mr. Jones reflected on Mr. Sykes' remarks about his children as motivation and noted the broader impact of his success on youth in the community. He emphasized the importance of recognizing local "hidden gems" and using such moments to inspire young people to pursue opportunities beyond traditional paths. Commissioner Jones also offered words of encouragement, expressing hope for Mr. Sykes' continued success and growth.

Mr. Cothran congratulated Mr. Sykes and remarked on the visible support from his family and friends, emphasizing the importance of love and community in achieving success. He asked Mr. Sykes what advice he would offer to young people interested in pursuing a similar path.

In response, Mr. Sykes encouraged aspiring creators to begin immediately, using available tools and staying true to themselves. He advised young people to remain authentic, avoid negative influences, and keep faith at the center of their efforts. He stressed the importance of perseverance, individuality, and maintaining a positive impact through their work.

Additional remarks were provided by Attorney Frazier, who expressed appreciation for the joy and positivity Mr. Sykes and his family bring through their content, noting the value of such contributions in a stressful society.

The Commission presented Mr. Sykes with a commemorative token of appreciation, recognizing his accomplishments and contributions to the community.

In closing, the President reflected on the Commission's broader initiative to cultivate and grow the film and entertainment industry within Caddo Parish. He emphasized the significance of recognizing local talent and outlined ongoing efforts, including youth talent development initiatives and competitions. The President highlighted the economic potential of the entertainment industry and expressed confidence in the community's ability to build a sustainable, homegrown industry. He noted that individuals like Mr. Sykes will play a key role in advancing these efforts and reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to supporting such initiatives.

Mr. Sykes expressed his appreciation once more, and the recognition segment concluded.

- *Special Resolution for Autism Awareness Month*
- *Special Resolution Recognizing Dr. Alexander Mikaberidze as LSU-Shreveport's first Boyd Professor*
- *Special Resolution for Caddo Day at State Capitol*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Shreveport City Marshall's Assistant Chief Deputy Kirby Dawson*

At this time, Mr. Jones' motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
FOSTER GRANDPARENT'S SENIOR PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program for its (46) forty-six years of exceptional service in Caddo and Bossier;

WHEREAS, service in AmeriCorps promotes bridge-building, collaboration, and leadership skills, and AmeriCorps programs bring the people of the United States together from different backgrounds, generations, and geographic locations;

WHEREAS, for more than 5 decades, millions of AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the Foster Grandparent program have played an important role in strengthening communities by sharing their experience, knowledge, and accomplishments with the individuals they serve;

WHEREAS, this nationwide program offers seniors, who are (55) fifty-five years of age or older, the opportunity to serve as mentors, tutors, and caregivers to economically disadvantaged youth one-on-one, helps to improve behavioral and educational outcomes for students with special and exceptional needs, helping children who suffer from abuse or neglect, and provide support to children of veterans or who have a deployed family members; and serving over 280,000 special needs children through a network of various organizations; and helping to guide students to higher academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, the AmeriCorps Seniors SUSLA Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program matches the willingness and capacity of Caddo/Bossier FGP's volunteers to devote their time, experience, and compassion with the needs of children to learn and prepare for the life ahead of them; and

WHEREAS, this program continues to fulfill its mission of providing guidance and support to disadvantaged children, enriching your life while enriching the lives of others. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers who serve with in the Foster Grandparent program provide the kind of comfort and love that sets a child on a path to a successful future. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers themselves report better health and longevity having served their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 9th day of April, 2026, that it does hereby proclaim May 1, 2026 as:

“AMERICORPS SENIORS FOSTER GRANDPARENT VOLUNTEER DAY”

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish to celebrate, commend and congratulate the AmeriCorps Seniors SUSLA Caddo/Bossier Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program for its (46) forty-six years of exceptional service to children and hereby extend best wishes for continued success in the future.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
PARISH/COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH**

WHEREAS, each spring the National Association of Counties calls attention to the role that the nation's 3,069 county and parish governments play in the lives of the citizens of this nation, declaring April as “National County/Parish Government Month” and staging activities and events that focus on county-level programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana, with its historic and singular ‘parish’ governmental structure serving as a unique yet functionally equivalent partner to the nation's counties, enthusiastically participates in the aims and objectives of the observance; and

WHEREAS, counties fulfill a vast range of responsibilities and deliver services that touch nearly every aspect of our residents' lives; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish also recognizes its role and responsibilities in addressing and meeting the needs of the community, and even the region, and to protect and enhance the health, well-being and safety of the citizens in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of National Association of Counties President James Gore, NACo is highlighting the role county/parish government and celebrating the role of county/parish governments in connecting, inspiring and leading; and

WHEREAS, the nation is celebrating 250 years of independence this year and counties/parishes have a long and rich history of serving more than 330 million Americans both historically and in present day as they provide essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties/parishes across the country to actively promote programs and services to the public we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby proclaim the month of April, 2026, as

‘PARISH GOVERNMENT MONTH’

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in an effort to focus public attention on the role and scope of Caddo Parish Government, in all its aspects, and urging all citizens to recognize and reflect upon the invaluable role that Parish government plays in their lives.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
MR. DOTHER SYKES**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is proud to recognize and commend Mr. Dother Sykes, an accomplished stunt performer, actor, and creative professional whose work in film and television has brought distinction to himself and recognition to the Shreveport-Caddo Parish community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sykes has built an impressive career in the entertainment industry, contributing his talents to major motion pictures and television productions, including *Sinners* (2025), *Civil War* (2024), *Parish* (2024), and *Oracle* (2023), where he has performed high-level stunt work integral to dynamic, action-driven storytelling; and

WHEREAS, through his work on *Sinners*, Mr. Sykes was part of a historic and globally celebrated production that earned widespread acclaim, receiving sixteen Academy Award nominations and winning four Oscars, including Best Actor, Best Original Screenplay, Best Cinematography, and Best Original Score; and

WHEREAS, *Sinners* further distinguished itself across multiple award platforms, including the NAACP Image Awards, where it garnered numerous honors, and its stunt ensemble—of which Mr. Sykes was a valued member—received recognition for Outstanding Stunt Performance, highlighting the skill, precision, and teamwork essential to cinematic excellence; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his stunt work, Mr. Sykes has demonstrated remarkable versatility as an actor, appearing in productions such as *Waco: The Aftermath*, *I'm a Virgo*, *Leverage: Redemption*, *Queen of the South*, *Marvel's Cloak & Dagger*, *NCIS: New Orleans*, *The Break Up*, *Snitch*, *Mega Storm: Days of Destruction*, *Treme*, *Friday Night Lights*, *Streets of Blood*, and *Disaster Movie*; and

WHEREAS, his extensive stunt career also includes contributions to major productions such as *Lioness*, *The Channel*, *Emancipation*, *A Day to Die*, *12 Years a Slave*, *Lee Daniels' The Butler*, and *Battleship*, as well as notable roles in *The Walking Dead*, *Queen Sugar*, *Queen & Slim*, *The Purge*, and *Transit*; and

WHEREAS, further exemplifying his creative talents, Mr. Sykes has expanded his contributions to the industry by serving as a director, writer, and producer for *The Break Up*, demonstrating his commitment to storytelling and excellence across multiple disciplines; and

WHEREAS, through his dedication, talent, and professional achievements, Mr. Sykes serves as an inspiration to aspiring artists and performers throughout Caddo Parish and beyond, reflecting the rich creative spirit of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby recognize and honor Mr. Dother Sykes for his outstanding achievements in film and television and for his contributions to the arts and entertainment industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission commends Mr. Sykes for representing Caddo Parish with excellence on a national and international stage and wishes him continued success in all future endeavors; and that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Mr. Dother Sykes as an expression of the Commission's admiration and appreciation.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, every person deserves the chance to reach for their highest hopes and fulfill their greatest potential. On National Autism Awareness Month, we reaffirm our dedication to ensuring that belief is a reality for all those who live on the autism spectrum -- including 1 in 31 children, up from 1 in 68 just 6 years ago. And we uphold our obligation to help make sure every man, woman, and child, regardless of ability or background, is accepted for who they are and able to lead a life free from discrimination and filled with opportunity; and

WHEREAS, from home to school and in businesses and communities around the nation, people living with autism spectrum disorder contribute in immeasurable ways to our society. They remind us each day that every person is born with unique talents and should be treated with respect, play an active role in planning for their futures, and feel empowered to fully participate in and contribute to their communities. When those with autism have access to equal opportunities, we all do better, and that begins with making sure our country lives up to its commitment to ensure all things are possible for all people; and

WHEREAS, Americans with autism play an important role in our national story, and in their daily lives they embody the belief at the heart of our founding: that in America, with hard work and equal access, all people can realize their aspirations. Today, and every day, let us reach for a future in which no person living on the autism spectrum is limited by anything but the size of their dreams -- one in which all people have the opportunity to live a life filled with a sense of identity, purpose, and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that it does hereby proclaim April, 2026 as National Autism Awareness Month and urge citizens and

organizations to participate in activities and demonstrations that provide a special opportunity to educate the community about autism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that it does hereby proclaim April, 2026 as

'AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges citizens and organizations to participate in activities and demonstrations that provide a special opportunity to educate the community about autism.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
DR. ALEXANDER MIKABERIDZE**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is proud to recognize and commend Dr. Alexander Mikaberidze upon the distinguished honor of being named Louisiana State University Shreveport's first Boyd Professor, the highest academic rank awarded within the Louisiana State University System; and

WHEREAS, the title of Boyd Professor is reserved for faculty members who have achieved national and international distinction for outstanding research, scholarship, and contributions to their respective fields, representing the highest standards of academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mikaberidze, a renowned historian and scholar, has earned international acclaim for his expertise in European and Napoleonic history, authoring and editing numerous influential books and publications that have significantly advanced historical scholarship; and

WHEREAS, through his dedication to teaching, research, and mentorship, Dr. Mikaberidze has enriched the academic environment at LSU Shreveport, inspiring students and colleagues alike while elevating the university's reputation both nationally and globally; and

WHEREAS, his achievement as LSU Shreveport's first Boyd Professor marks a historic milestone for the institution and reflects the growing academic excellence and prestige of higher education in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mikaberidze's accomplishments bring great pride to the Shreveport community and serve as an inspiration to students, educators, and scholars throughout the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby recognize and honor Dr. Alexander Mikaberidze for his exceptional achievements and for being named LSU Shreveport's first Boyd Professor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission commends Dr. Mikaberidze for his dedication to academic excellence and his contributions to the advancement of knowledge, which reflect positively upon LSU Shreveport and the entire Caddo Parish community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission extends its best wishes for his continued success and future contributions to scholarship and education; and that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Dr. Alexander Mikaberidze as an expression of the Commission's admiration and appreciation.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission, in regular session convened on this 9th day of April, 2026.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
CADDO DAY AT STATE CAPITOL**

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
SHREVEPORT CITY MARSHALL'S ASSISTANT CHIEF DEPUTY
KIRBY DAWSON**

WHEREAS, it is with profound sadness that the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the passing of Assistant Chief Deputy Kirby Dawson, a dedicated public servant whose life was marked by honor, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of the citizens of Shreveport and Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Chief Deputy Dawson faithfully served with the Shreveport City Marshal's Office, rising through the ranks to the position of Assistant Chief Deputy, where he distinguished himself as a respected leader, mentor, and protector of the community; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Kirby Dawson exemplified the highest ideals of law enforcement, demonstrating professionalism, courage, and compassion in the execution of his duties, earning the trust and admiration of his colleagues and the public alike; and

WHEREAS, his leadership within the Marshal's Office helped strengthen public safety efforts and foster a spirit of cooperation and service, leaving a lasting impact on the department and those he served alongside; and

WHEREAS, beyond his professional accomplishments, Kirby Dawson will be remembered for his character, kindness, and dedication to family, friends, and community, touching the lives of many through his service and personal relationships; and

WHEREAS, the loss of Assistant Chief Deputy Dawson is deeply felt across Caddo Parish, and his legacy of service and commitment will continue to inspire all who knew him;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby honor and commemorate the life and service of Assistant Chief Deputy Kirby Dawson, expressing its deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues during this time of mourning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission extends its gratitude for his years of dedicated service and recognizes the enduring legacy he leaves within the Shreveport City Marshal's Office and the community he so faithfully served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be presented to the family of Assistant Chief Deputy Kirby Dawson as an expression of the Commission's sympathy and respect.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission, in regular session convened on this 9th day of April, 2026.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Parish Administrator Erica Bryant advised commissioners that an email had been sent regarding CMAR and asked members to notify administration if they had not received it or had questions. She also reported that Mr. Kent Rogers had been requested as a visitor for the April 20 meeting to provide an update on I-49 and noted that administration would continue working on the additional matters raised during the prior work session and would report back as more information became available.

COMMUNIQES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson requested that funeral information for Deputy City Marshal be placed on the Commission's website so the public would be aware of the arrangements.

He also noted that Cherokee Rhone, who lives in his district, previously expressed interest in being involved in youth-oriented events of that nature and asked that his contact information be shared with Mr. Wesley. Administration agreed to follow up on the matter.

Mr. Epperson also welcomed Ms. Thomas and recalled her longstanding experience as a respected and articulate local news commentator. He asked that information regarding the effort to secure a commemorative postage stamp in honor of Col. Steven dePyssler be provided to her so it could be coordinated with Congressman Fields' office in Washington, D.C. He also requested that she be given copies of the Caddo celebration book to better familiarize her with parish initiatives.

In addition, Mr. Epperson referenced House Bill 613, legislation concerning citizenship identification, and noted that information available through the Clerk's Office regarding birth and death certificates could be useful to constituents and might also be appropriate to include in the parish's disaster response and recovery materials. He further thanked administration and engineering staff for their work in addressing drainage concerns raised by citizens in his district.

- Mr. Burrell referenced a prior request for information concerning oil and gas activity near Lakeshore Drive and Fairway Drive. He explained that activity had been observed near the Shreveport Country Club Golf Course on Lakeshore Drive and that concerns had been raised by the surrounding community because work appeared to be progressing without public awareness of final approvals. Staff reported that, because the site was within the city, the parish had limited authority over the project. Staff further advised that conversations with city personnel indicated that the city was aware of the activity and was monitoring for possible ordinance issues such as road damage, noise, and other impacts, but did not at that time have objections to the work. Mr. Burrell expressed concern about the apparent access route and the traffic impacts on Lakeshore Drive, describing it as an older, hilly area where entering and exiting can already be hazardous. Staff agreed to communicate those concerns to the City's Public Works Director so that matters such as sight distance and traffic access could be evaluated. Mr. Burrell stated that he would continue pursuing the issue.

Mr. Burrell also used the opportunity to acknowledge Ms. Thomas, the new representative for Congressman Cleo Fields, noting her prior experience in Shreveport media and communications and expressing confidence that she would serve the district well.

- Mrs. Gage-Watts then delivered the report of the Economic Development Committee meeting held earlier that day. She stated that the committee had discussed several major initiatives focused

on strengthening growth and investment in Caddo Parish, including Opportunity Zones, the possible expansion of the local film industry, and a proposed bond election. She reported that the committee received an update on Opportunity Zones and discussed how those areas could be better marketed to encourage private development, job creation, and reinvestment in underserved parts of the parish. She further reported that the committee approved a request for administration to pursue a feasibility study concerning expansion of the film industry in Caddo Parish, with the study to examine economic impact, workforce needs, infrastructure requirements, and long-term sustainability. In addition, the committee approved a request for administration to move forward with calling a November 3 election to consider issuance of \$42 million in general obligation bonds. She stated that the discussion reflected a commitment to building a stronger and more competitive economic future for the parish.

- Mr. Thomas reminded the public about the Bug Bazaar to be held at Sci-Port that Saturday and encouraged families to participate. He also encouraged parents to bring their children to Huntington High School afterward to audition for Caddo's Rising Stars. He emphasized the importance of taking advantage of Sci-Port's educational opportunities, especially as summer approached.

Mr. Thomas also recognized three LSU Shreveport students for their accomplishments at the 11th Annual Regional Scholars Forum, noting that Da Vinci Sarda won the Three-Minute Thesis competition and that Sadie Lyons and Nudish Ratad also brought honors back to the university. He further announced that he and Commissioner Gage-Watts would be co-chairing the Walk to End Alzheimer's, stated that Shreveport had led the region in fundraising the previous year, and said efforts were underway to exceed that record. He invited both walkers and sponsors to participate and also announced that the Appropriations Committee would meet on April 22 at 1:00 p.m.

- Mr. Atkins asked administration for a status update regarding the Sanders matter, specifically referencing the trial, the Attorney General, and attorney's fees. Legal counsel advised that a hearing had been held earlier that morning on the issue of attorney's fees and whether the Attorney General would be required to pay them. Counsel stated that evidence had been presented and that the judge had taken the matter under advisement and would issue a ruling at a later date.

- Mr. Kracman thanked the President for attending the Blanchard Warriors game the previous evening and expressed appreciation for his support. In response, the President reflected on the growth of Blanchard since his earlier years there and noted the area's significant residential and economic development. He also commented on the diversity of those in attendance at the event and stated that commissioners should not be narrowly defined by appearances or assumptions made from their seats on the dais. He spoke about the importance of fairness, inclusiveness, and working together as a team, and he became emotional while speaking about the work Mr. Kracman does with children who face significant disadvantages.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In his report, President G. Young reminded the Commission that the following week would be Caddo Day and stated that members of the leadership team and administration were preparing presentations to share with colleagues. He encouraged commissioners to attend and emphasized the Commission's ongoing efforts to improve efficiency and build a stronger Caddo Parish. The President also reflected on the committee work that had been underway, noting that most committees had either met or were actively developing ideas and initiatives. He expressed appreciation for commissioners' participation and addressed criticism regarding committee meetings being held in the rear conference room, noting that such meetings had been held there in prior years and were not a new practice. He stated that his focus remained on the outcomes of meetings rather than the location and expressed confidence that the challenges associated with the rear conference room would be addressed.

At the President's request, administration provided an update regarding technical improvements for the rear conference room. Staff explained that quotes were being obtained and that administration was working with a company to install audio and video equipment, including microphones and cameras, in a manner that would support recording and streaming for both chamber meetings and meetings held in the smaller room. The President thanked staff for their efforts and patience in working toward a better long-term solution.

The President also encouraged attendance at the upcoming installment of the Caddo Rising Stars competition and stated that the Commission intended for the event to continue on an annual basis and grow into a premier opportunity for young talent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING ORDINANCES

President G. Young opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the following zoning ordinances and cases:

- *Ordinance No. 6609 of 2026, in regards to Zoning Case 25-28-P, 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 on the west side of Akinson Drive, approximately, 1,440 feet south of West*

70th Street, Caddo Parish, Louisiana., from I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning to I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning (SPUD) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 6610 of 2026, in regards to Zoning Case 25-29-P, 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 on the north side of Southern Loop, approximately 1,050 feet east of Wallace Lake Road Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from C-2 Corridor Commercial (PUD) 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 zoning ordinances, the President closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

President G. Young opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6611 of 2026, an ordinance to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*
- *Ordinance No. 6612 of 2026, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund to provide an appropriation of \$32,500 for the Louisiana Rouxgaroux Football Team, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

Jon Glover came before the Commission and gave the following comment in opposition to Ordinance 6612 of 2026:

Jon Glover, 9100 Walker Road, Apartment 217, Shreveport, Louisiana, zip code 71118. I'm speaking to the Ordinance 6612 of 2026. Having said a couple of weeks ago when this was introduced to you all, the body asking for your support in allocating this 32,500 dollars, we heard quite a bit of information. We heard that this number was going to be for marketing, and then I heard the Title I spectrum of the conversation itself. Now, as the weeks went on, I actually had an opportunity to hear one of the investors, owners, or whatever he may have referred himself to, was speaking to the 32,500. It was he that said in an interview on Mike and Aaron on KEEL radio, that he didn't need the 32,500, but if he were given the 32,500, he would indeed use it. He said, but it was not something that he needs. In that meeting that the presentation was done, it was also alluded to that Bossier was waiting for you all to make a decision as to how much you all were going to put forth or how you were going to act on this particular legislation. Well, that gentleman from Bossier was on KEEL and said we have never been approached. See, if I'm going to be, as a citizen of Caddo, to meet such, then I'm going to have some reservations about this legislation being approved by any of you all on this dais, because we've had too many moving parts. Now granted, we're not saying that you can't or you won't, but we're saying that think about how it was presented to us, not just you all, but the citizens as a whole. So, if there are those twists and turns that makes me or bring pause to me, then you're going to have to help me understand how you can get around it. You're going to have to help me understand what it is that you will all be utilizing to say yea or nay. But at the end of the day, each of you represent your constituents. That is true. But you also represent the Parish as a whole. So with me, one citizen, whose voice you have heard, not just today, but a couple weeks ago as well, you have to give some consideration to what you're proposing. And then, two, give consideration to my voice, because I'm here to cause any dissatisfactions with you as with regards to me, myself, and my conversation, but to let you know as a constituent, I actually read your agendas. I actually do homework on what I'm coming before you all. So, I don't come with empty conversation. It is not to antagonize. It's not to intimidate. It's none of that. It's just me, a citizen, saying, "Help me understand your position as representatives, elected representatives, as you perform your duties for the citizens of Caddo Parish." Thank you.

Lyndon Johnson came before the Commission and gave the following comment in support of Ordinance 6612 of 2026:

Lyndon Johnson, 4700 Line Avenue. In the radio conversation that she was talking about, the issue was about needing the money for operational use. No, we don't need the money for operational use. And if that was the case, we never would have asked for it. We asked for the money. If you remember back, Keith came down here early on and showed y'all and gave every last on of y'all a packet saying "unity in the community." And in that, it was about sending kids to the game. They was going to discount tickets for kids to come to the game. He was actually, and he told on the radio show, that one of them said that she can, she would actually put up 1,000 dollars, and she would get 9 other people to put up 1,000 dollars, and he said, "Okay, you do that then I will match that." That's what that conversation was about. We came here basically asking for the 32,500 for the three reasons I spoke about earlier. One, for the Title I students, for them to be able to come to the game. Two, for football camps during the summer. And for three, then if there was money left over for marketing and to bring more people into Shreveport-Bossier area, to fill up the hotels, for sales. That's it. There was nothing else to that. And I want to make sure that the public knows this, because I keep hearing about, "Why they want to use our taxpayer dollars, my dollars that I work hard

for?” You didn’t work for economic development money. This fund is funded by video poker. If you don’t play that video poker machine, it’s none of your money. And so all you’re doing is reinvesting that money from video poker back into something that will bring more people into town that might play more video poker, might play the slot machines. Not the economic, but the NGO comes from riverboat. People that goes on the boat that gamble. That’s where that money comes from. The Parish set it up perfectly before I was on and that’s how it is now. You have riverboat for NGOs, and you have video poker for economic development. How better else can you put it? And all you’re doing is reinvesting right back into the community to bring more people back into town to actually spend more money. Thank you.

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

ZONING ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. J. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6609 of 2026, in regards to Zoning Case 25-28-P, 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 on the west side of Akinson Drive, approximately, 1,440 feet south of West 70th Street, Caddo Parish, Louisiana., from I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning to I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning (SPUD) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.*

**ORDINANCE NO. 6609 OF 2026
ZONING CASE 25-28-P**

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 ON THE WEST SIDE OF AKINSON DRIVE, APPROXIMATELY, 1,440 FEET SOUTH OF WEST 70TH STREET, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA., FROM I-2 HEAVY INDUSTRIAL ZONING TO I-2 HEAVY INDUSTRIAL ZONING (SPUD) 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 on the West side of Akinson Dr, approximately, 1,440 feet South of West 70th Street, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended **From I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning District To I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning District (Spud)**

4.116 ACS. M/L - S. 250 FT. OF N. 1620.93 FT. OF LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7, PARTITION OF DINKINS LAND, SEC. 29(17-15), SEC 29 T17N R15W, CADDO PARISH, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the rezoning of the property described herein is approved subject to compliance with the following stipulations:

REQUESTED USES & ORDINANCE RELIEF: The applicant is requesting the following use to be allowed within the I-2 zoning district.

- Vehicle Dealership – Enclosed

PROPOSED SITE AMENITIES: Proposed Site amenities in exchange for ordinance relief include the following.

- Operational plan that reduces consumer exposure within a heavy industrial district.

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.

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Ordinance No. 6610 of 2026, in regards to Zoning Case 25-29-P, 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 on the north side of Southern Loop, approximately 1,050feet east of Wallace Lake Road Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from C-2 Corridor Commercial (PUD) Zoning District to C-3 General Commercial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.*

**ORDINANCE NO. 6610 OF 2025
ZONING CASE 25-29-P**

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 ON THE NORTH SIDE OF SOUTHERN LOOP, APPROXIMATELY 1,050FEET EAST OF WALLACE LAKE ROADCADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA., FROM C-2 CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL (PUD) 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 on the North side of Southern Loop, approximately, 1,050feet East of Wallace Lake Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended From C-2 Corridor Commercial (PUD) Zoning District To C-3 General Commercial Zoning District:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1, SOUTHERN LOOP SUBDIVISION, AS RECORDED IN BOOK 9000, PAGE 192 OF THE RECORDS OF CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA; RUN THENCE NORTH 00°47'10" EAST A DISTANCE OF 222.59 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 89°20'15" EAST A DISTANCE OF 744.16 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 00°47'55" WEST A DISTANCE OF 566.75 FEET TO THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SOUTHERN LOOP, THENCE RUN ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY THE FOLLOWING TWO CALLS: NORTH 80°00'10" WEST A DISTANCE OF 117.81 FEET, NORTH 75°48'40" WEST A DISTANCE OF 34.64 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 00°47'55" EAST A DISTANCE OF 312.64 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 89°17'39" WEST A DISTANCE OF 594.11 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 1, THENCE RUN NORTH 00°47'10" EAST ALONG SAID EAST LINE A DISTANCE OF 3.87 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT CONTAINING 5.000 ACRES. SECTION 19, T16N, R13W, 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.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that Ordinance No. 6611 of 2026, an ordinance to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted. Motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.*

ORDINANCE NO. 6611 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO DEEM PROPERTY SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY OWNED BY THE PARISH OF CADDO AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo owns the following equipment: "1000 kw Caterpillar #3512, Diesel Generator, 3 Phase 480 Volts, 1404 hours"; and

WHEREAS, that equipment is no longer being used; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo no longer needs the above equipment, and said equipment should be deemed surplus, obsolete, or unused for present and future parish needs; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is authorized to dispose of certain supplies, materials, and equipment determined to be surplus;

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo desires to dispose of the above-listed equipment by public auction via surplus record website; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission concurs with the finding that the items described above are surplus and are no longer needed for public purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that the property "1000 kw Caterpillar #3512, Diesel Generator, 3 Phase 480 Volts, 1404 hours", is no longer needed for parish public purposes and is declared surplus property which is to be disposed of by public auction via surplus record website.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the items described above are being offered on an "as is" basis, without warranty of title or recourse whatsoever.

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

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

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

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

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Ordinance No. 6612 of 2026, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund to provide an appropriation of \$32,500 for the Louisiana Rouxgaroux Football Team, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be removed from the agenda. Motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.*

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION BY TITLE

- *Ordinance No. 6613 of 2026, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Public Works Fund and the Capital Outlay Fund to provide an appropriation to install welcome sign on I-20 East bound and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6614 of 2026, Zoning Case PZC 25-5-P, 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 on the west side of Wallace Lake Road, approximately 1,415 feet north of Mayo Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-E, Residential Estate Zoning District to C-1, Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District and I-1, Light Industrial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6615 of 2026, Zoning Case PZC 26-6-P, 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 on the west side of Box Road, approximately 1,700 feet south of Mt. Zion Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from C-4 Heavy Commercial Zoning District to I-2, Heavy Industrial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6616 of 2026, an ordinance declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest in certain surplus adjudicated properties and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

**WORK SESSION MINUTES
RESOLUTIONS**

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

- *Work Session Minutes—April 6, 2026*
- *Resolution No. 21 of 2026, a resolution to authorize the acceptance of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire*
- *Resolution No. 22 of 2026, a resolution supporting House Bill 73 and Senate Bill 1 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature relating to electronic method of voting for members of public bodies and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 23 of 2026, a resolution supporting House Bill 193 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature providing that executive directors of certain Louisiana Sickle Cell Disease Organizations are members of the Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 24 of 2026, a resolution opposing House Bill 140 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature relating to time limitations for juvenile delinquency proceedings and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

Discussion on Resolution No. 24 centered on House Bill 140 and its potential impact on juvenile justice procedures. Juvenile Justice Director, Mr. Andrew Randall, explained that the proposed legislation would extend certain time periods in juvenile proceedings, including increasing the period from 48 hours to five days before a continued custody hearing would be held after a child is brought into detention. It was further explained that the legislation would extend deadlines for prosecutorial actions and defense responses, potentially lengthening the time juveniles remain in detention facilities and thereby increasing costs to the parish. Mr. Atkins asked who was advocating for the change, and it was explained that the bill was coming through the state, reportedly through the Office of Juvenile Justice.

In addition to the financial concerns, the President emphasized the moral and constitutional concerns associated with delaying the time before a juvenile appears before a judge, noting that justice delayed can become justice denied. He stated that the issue was not only one of fiscal responsibility but also one of protecting the rights of children. Mrs. Gage-Watts added that the proposed change would also place additional strain on families.

- *Resolution No. 25 of 2026, a resolution opposing House Bill 340 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature relating to time of reappraisal of property for ad valorem tax purposes, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 26 of 2026, a resolution opposing House Bill 737 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature removing the requirement for submission of evidence of immunization against meningococcal disease as a condition of school entry, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 27 of 2026, a resolution opposing Senate Bill 170 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana providing new requirements for Commissioners of the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

Discussion then turned to Resolution No. 27, with Mr. Burrell expressing concern that the matter appeared to involve a loss of local control in favor of state authority. Questions were raised regarding whether members of the local legislative delegation were supporting the measure. It was noted that the legislation had reportedly passed the Senate without objection and that it had been introduced by Senator Presley.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.

RESOLUTION NO. 21 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE
LOUISIANA COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is required to complete the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire which addresses the Commission's compliance with various State and Federal laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the questionnaire, the questionnaire must be presented to and adopted by the Commission by means of a formal resolution in an open meeting; and

WHEREAS, the completed questionnaire and a copy of the adoption instrument must be presented to the Commission's auditor at the beginning of the audit which is anticipated to begin in April 2026; and

WHEREAS, the questionnaire has been completed and is now hereby presented for adoption; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, hereby accepts the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as presented and accepts full responsibility for the Commission's compliance with the laws and regulations addressed by the questionnaire.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 22 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 73 AND SENATE BILL 1 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE RELATING TO ELECTRONIC METHOD OF VOTING FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC BODIES AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, House Bill 73 of the 2026 Regular Session amends Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:14(C) to clarify that members of a public body may vote by electronic voting machine, provided that such voting publicly displays how each individual member votes and that such votes are recorded as required by law; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1 of the 2026 Regular Session further clarifies that any vote by an individual member of a public body that is displayed and recorded using electronic voting machines satisfies the *viva voce* voting requirements of the Louisiana Open Meetings Law; and

WHEREAS, the use of electronic voting systems by public bodies enhances transparency, accuracy, and efficiency in the conduct of public meetings while preserving the public's right to observe how each elected official votes; and

WHEREAS, clarification of the legality of electronic voting protects public bodies from unnecessary litigation and promotes consistent compliance with the Open Meetings Law across the State of Louisiana; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its support for House Bill 73 and Senate Bill 1 of the 2026 Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature relating to electronic voting by public bodies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission urges the Louisiana Legislature to enact House Bill 73 and Senate Bill 1 to provide clarity and uniformity in the application of the *viva voce* voting requirements of the Open Meetings Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

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. 23 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 193 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE PROVIDING THAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF CERTAIN LOUISIANA SICKLE CELL DISEASE ORGANIZATIONS ARE MEMBERS OF THE LOUISIANA SICKLE CELL COMMISSION, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, House Bill 193 (2026 Regular Session) addresses the makeup of the Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission; and

WHEREAS, the bill ensures that executive directors or designees from local and regional sickle cell organizations around the state will have a voice on the Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission; and

WHEREAS, having that voice would be of direct benefit to Louisiana citizens with sickle cell disease as these persons are responsible for the hands-on aid provided to most citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its support of House Bill 193 and urges the Louisiana Legislature pass this legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

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. 24 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 140 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE RELATING TO TIME LIMITATIONS FOR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PROCEEDINGS AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, House Bill 140 (2026 Regular Session) addresses the time limits juveniles can be held in custody pending proceedings; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 140 increases the time juveniles can be held in custody, in most cases by doubling the amount of time; and

WHEREAS, increasing the holding time for juveniles will not only impair the rights of the juveniles, it will also increase the financial burden on state and local governments that fund juvenile detention facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its opposition to House Bill 140 and urges the Louisiana Legislature to reject any legislation that increases the holding time for juveniles in custody pending delinquency and other types of proceedings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission encourages the Legislature to preserve and respect the existing statutory framework of time delays in juvenile matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

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. 25 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 340 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE RELATING TO TIME OF REAPPRAISAL OF PROPERTY FOR AD VALOREM TAX PURPOSES, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, House Bill 340 (2026 Regular Session) addresses the time of reappraisal of property for ad valorem tax purposes; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 340 increases the reappraisal time from every four years to every five years; and

WHEREAS, increasing the reappraisal time will negatively and directly affect parish revenues and parish revenue projections, particularly where projects have been undertaken based on four-year reappraisal projections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its opposition to House Bill 340 and urges the Louisiana Legislature to reject any legislation that increases the property reappraisal time for ad valorem tax purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission encourages the Legislature to preserve and respect the existing statutory framework of four year reappraisals for ad valorem tax purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

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. 26 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 737 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE OF IMMUNIZATION AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AS A CONDITION OF SCHOOL ENTRY, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, House Bill 737 (2026 Regular Session) addresses the removal of meningococcal disease from the list of vaccines required for school attendance; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Society for Meningitis Prevention, "meningococcal meningitis is a devastating and unpredictable disease that can kill in a matter of hours or leave survivors with lifelong disabilities, including brain damage, hearing loss, learning disabilities, or limb amputations"; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Society for Meningitis Prevention, “adolescents and young adults are at increased risk because of how they naturally socialize – sharing drinks, living in close quarters, and having frequent close contact. These are normal behaviors parents cannot realistically control;” and

WHEREAS, U.S. meningococcal disease cases have risen sharply since 2021 and now exceed pre-pandemic levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its opposition to House Bill 737 and urges the Louisiana Legislature to reject any legislation that removes immunization against meningococcal disease as a condition of school entry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission encourages the Legislature to preserve and respect the existing statutory framework requiring immunization against meningococcal disease as a condition of school entry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

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. 27 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 170 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA PROVIDING NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS OF THE CADDO-BOSSIER PARISHES PORT COMMISSION AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 170 (2026 Regular Session) addresses appointments to the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 170 adds the requirement that appointees have expertise in expertise in economic development, transportation, logistics, or commercial real estate; and

WHEREAS, other types of expertise would be helpful to port commission members and should not only be limited to expertise in the afore-mentioned fields; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 170 adds the requirement that appointees be confirmed by the Louisiana Senate; and

WHEREAS, port commission decisions are primarily local in nature and directly affect the local tax base and local neighborhood makeup; and

WHEREAS, giving senate confirmation power over appointees expands the power of state lawmakers over those local decisions and dilutes the appointment power of local lawmakers; and

WHEREAS, because the electorate has adequate remedies if dissatisfied with the appointments made by their local elected officials, there is no need for the participation of state elected officials in the appointment process of a body that makes local decisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its opposition to Senate Bill 170 and urges the Louisiana Legislature to reject any legislation that adds requirements to the appointment of Caddo-Bossier Port Commission members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission encourages the Legislature to preserve and respect the existing statutory framework of the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution or the application

thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

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

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

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that Resolution No. 29 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the execution of a cooperative endeavor agreement for disbursement of funds from the Parish of Caddo Economic Development Trust Fund, with the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana and Edgemont Holdings, LLC (the "company") relative to reimbursement to the company for infrastructure improvements for The Travel Center Project located in the southwest quadrant of the Interstate 49/La. Hwy. 2 Interchange, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be adopted. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Kracman (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 29 OF 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT FOR DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS FROM THE PARISH OF CADDO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND, WITH THE I-49 NORTH CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, STATE OF LOUISIANA AND EDGEMONT HOLDINGS, LLC (THE "COMPANY") RELATIVE TO REIMBURSEMENT TO THE COMPANY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE TRAVEL CENTER PROJECT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUADRANT OF THE INTERSTATE 49/LA. HWY. 2 INTERCHANGE, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo Economic Development Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund"), established, held, and maintained by the Parish pursuant to La. R.S. 33:9038.34(O) and authorized by Ordinance No. 6193 of 2022 adopted by the Caddo Parish Commission on March 3, 2022, which constitutes a special trust fund for the furtherance of economic development, is funded by the additional two percent (2%) sales and use tax levied in and by the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana (the "District"), Resolution 2 of 2025, adopted by the governing authority of the District, effective on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), the District, and Edgemont Holdings, LLC (the "Company") desire to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement ("CEA") to disburse funds from the Trust Fund to the Company to further reimburse the Company for Infrastructure Improvements related to the travel center project, the aggregate amount of reimbursements from the Trust Fund and other sources not to exceed \$1,821,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby authorize the Parish Administrator to execute the cooperative endeavor agreement with the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana and Edgemont Holdings, LLC (the "Company") to disburse funds from the Parish of Caddo Economic Development Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund") to the Company for Infrastructure Improvements (as defined in the CEA) related to the travel center project, the aggregate amount of reimbursements from the Trust Fund and other sources not to exceed \$1,821,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any agreement or documents in connection with the agreement must be approved by the Parish Attorney before execution by the Parish Administrator.

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.

COMMISSION ACTING AS GOVERNING AUTHORITY I-49 NORTH CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that the I-49 North Corridor*

Economic Development District Resolution No. 1 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the execution of a cooperative endeavor agreement for disbursement of funds from the Parish of Caddo Economic Development Trust Fund, with the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana and Edgemont Holdings, LLC (the "company") relative to reimbursement to the company for infrastructure improvements for The Travel Center Project located in the southwest quadrant of the Interstate 49/La. Hwy. 2 Interchange, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be adopted. 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: Commissioner Kracman (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Epperson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**I-49 NORTH CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 1 OF 2026**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION ACTING AS GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE I-49 NORTH CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT FOR DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS FROM THE PARISH OF CADDO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND, WITH THE PARISH OF CADDO, STATE OF LOUISIANA AND EDMONT HOLDINGS, LLC (THE "COMPANY") RELATIVE TO REIMBURSEMENT TO THE COMPANY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE TRAVEL CENTER PROJECT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUADRANT OF THE INTERSTATE 49/LA. HWY. 2 INTERCHANGE, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo Economic Development Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund"), established, held, and maintained by the Parish pursuant to La. R.S. 33:9038.34(O) and authorized by Ordinance No. 6193 of 2022 adopted by the Caddo Parish Commission on March 3, 2022, which constitutes a special trust fund for the furtherance of economic development, is funded by the additional two percent (2%) sales and use tax levied in and by the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana (the "District"), Resolution 2 of 2025, adopted by the governing authority of the District, effective on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), the District, and Edgemont Holdings, LLC (the "Company") desire to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement ("CEA") to disburse funds from the Trust Fund to the Company to further reimburse the Company for Infrastructure Improvements related to the travel center project, the aggregate amount of reimbursements from the Trust Fund and other sources not to exceed \$1,821,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission, as the governing authority of the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana, in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission, as the governing authority of the I-49 North Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana, does hereby authorize the Parish Administrator to execute the cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana and Edgemont Holdings, LLC (the "Company") to disburse funds from the Parish of Caddo Economic Development Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund") to the Company for Infrastructure Improvements (as defined in the CEA) related to the travel center project, the aggregate amount of reimbursements from the Trust Fund and other sources not to exceed \$1,821,000.

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.

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Jones**, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *to adopt the 2026 Internal Audit Plan: 1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Assessment – Advisory and 2. Public Works Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit (CVEU) – Assurance. Motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners present.*

COMMUNIQUES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Burrell asked administration whether it would be possible to obtain a traffic count for Lakeshore Drive, specifically between Jewella Avenue and Interstate 220. Administration stated that it would look into the request.
- Mr. Young informed the Commission that he had recently been advised by the operator of

a local homeless shelter that some state and possibly federal funding typically relied upon by shelters may be unavailable that year. He cautioned that this could create both a moral issue and a public safety concern if shelters were unable to continue housing individuals who would otherwise be left on the streets. He mentioned Hope Connections as one example and suggested that the issue may extend more broadly across homeless service providers. He encouraged fellow commissioners to begin considering whether the parish might be able to assist in addressing the shortfall.

There were no Citizens Comments for late arrivals. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


Gregory Young
President

