

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 2ND DAY OF MARCH, 2026

The Caddo Parish Public Safety Committee met in legal session on the above date at 3:00, p.m., in the Government Plaza Chambers, with the following members present constituting a quorum: Commissioners Blake, Cothran, Kracman, G. Young (4). ABSENT: Commissioner Epperson (1).

Commissioner Grace Anne Blake gave the invocation, and Commissioner Chris Kracman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no Public Comments nor Agenda Additions, so the Committee moved onto New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Identification of Priorities, partners and parties necessary to advance discussions in assigned subject areas of Public Safety to include requests for additional information.*

A Committee Worksheet outlining the different responsibilities of the Committee was given to each Committee member. Commissioner Ron Cothran explained that he broke up the responsibilities of the Public Safety Committee into different areas, and asked the Committee members to choose a particular area which they would like to address. The areas are Laws Pertaining to Animal & Fowl, Disaster Response & Emergency Relief, Constables/Justices of the Peace, and Criminal Justice.

Mr. Kracman said that he would like to take on the area of Constables/Justices of the Peace. He asked Parish Attorney Donna Frazier for an update on litter and blight abatement classes for those officials. Mrs. Frazier said that they have not heard from the person from the office of the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Louisiana who they had previously requested to give the classes. Mr. Kracman explained that the Commission had given a raise of \$50 per hour to constables and justices of the peace for litter and blight abatement, however those officials had expressed that they were unsure how they could adjudicate these issues.

Mrs. Blake said that she would like to cover the area of Laws Pertaining to Animal & Fowl. She said that she would meet with Director Travis Clark and Assistant Director Kelvin Samuel of Caddo Parish Animal Services to hear their goals and learn how she could assist them.

Mr. Cothran said that he would assume the area of Criminal Justice. He welcomed any additional Commissioners to share their insight on these areas.

- *Discussion of Domestic Violence Registry Resolution including potential recommendations.*

Mr. Cothran highlighted a draft resolution which Mrs. Frazier had prepared which would urge the state legislature to enact a statewide domestic violence registry similar to that of Tennessee's "Savanna's Law." He explained that there has been a significant increase in domestic violence in Caddo Parish. He said he will at some point have Shreveport Chief of Police Wayne Smith come before the Committee to share information on the issue. He highlighted how domestic violence reports continue to occur on a regular basis and that he hopes this legislation would help reduce these occurrences by giving people notice. He also said that they must do some additional education regarding the issue.

Mrs. Blake said that she completely supports and agrees with the draft resolution and will look into Savanna's Law to further her understanding.

Commissioner Gregory Young asked for clarification on which area of responsibilities of the Committee Mrs. Blake asked to assume. Mr. Cothran answered that she chose the Laws Pertaining to Animal & Fowl. Mr. G. Young said that he would have a later conversation with Mr. Cothran regarding how he could be of use to the Committee.

Mr. Cothran asked Mrs. Frazier to give a brief overview of the draft resolution and Savanna's Law. She explained that the law is from Tennessee and is effective as of January 1st of this year. The law requires repeat individuals with at least two domestic assault convictions to register with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation so that the state is able to track persistent offenders. She explained that the victim's consent is required for the offender to be registered. The law was prompted by the murder of Deputy Savanna Puckett in 2022 by a former partner with a history of domestic violence which Puckett was not aware of.

Mr. Cothran explained that the Public Safety Committee has many responsibilities and that not all of the pertinent issues can be handled at the Committee. He said that the Committee members will have to do a lot of work outside of the Committee and do their due diligence. He asked Commission Clerk Jeff Everson if there was anything he would like to share concerning the Committee Worksheet. Mr. Everson explained that the worksheet was not complete, but that the document would eventually contain links to relevant parties and ordinances. He mentioned feedback had been received that attaching a map showing

exactly where Caddo Parish's laws apply and where they do not. He said they want this document to be a helpful reference point, as the Committee's responsibilities are very broad. He welcomed anything that would be helpful in building out the reference sheet.

Mr. Kracman asked if they had a specific legislator in mind to champion the proposed legislation. Mr. Cothran said that he has thought of one or two legislators but has not contacted them yet. He said he wanted the Committee and the body to be on board with it before putting it out there.

Mr. G. Young said that he anticipates and looks forward to good things coming out of this Committee. He said public safety has to be their number one priority. He said he appreciates the Committee's commitment.

Mr. Cothran said that he hopes that what citizens and the Commission want will all be encompassed by this Committee. He said that this Committee is effectively starting from zero, and that they will have to do a lot of work to reach their goals.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20, p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. McGee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "C." and the last name "McGee" clearly visible.

Clayton McGee
Administrative Specialist